

# Suicide for the disabled

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11.28.13  
SIR - Scope, the disability charity, strongly welcomes the Prime Minister's opposition to legalising assisted suicide (report, March 26). The law as it stands provides crucial protection to people who feel under pressure to end their life.

This issue tells us a lot about public attitudes towards disabled people. Why is it that when people who are not disabled want to commit suicide, we try to talk them out of it, but when a disabled person wants to commit suicide, we focus on how we can make that possible?

The ban on assisted suicide sends a powerful message countering the view that if you're disabled it's not worth being alive.

There are loud, well-organised and influential voices calling for the legalisation of assisted suicide for terminally ill adults. But a lot of disabled people have been left feeling very concerned by suggestions that a change could be one step closer.

We hope, therefore, that politicians will follow David Cameron and decide against changing a law that works.

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