

Law on assisted dying

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However, even if it were the case that nearly half of GPs would want an assisted suicide for themselves (report, February 5), this is not a reason to change the criminal law. There is an important difference between saying we would want something for ourselves and saying that the law should be changed for everyone.

The reason why parliamentarians decisively rejected a Bill in 2015 to legalise “assisted dying” (which in law is assisted suicide) is because a change in the law would not only affect the determined few but the whole of society, including the sick and vulnerable. Campaign groups have repeatedly failed to produce a Bill with sufficient safeguards worthy of the name.

Lord Carlile of Berriew
London SW1

D Td 7.2.2019

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