**Short Articles and REVISED Tweets on Assisted Suicide**

(for bulletins, (e)newsletters, websites, social media, etc)

**Assisted Suicide Being Considered in NY**

Legislation has been introduced in New York State that would authorize assisted suicide by allowing doctors to legally prescribe a deadly dose of pills at the request of a patient with a terminal diagnosis. While proponents may call it “death with dignity” or “aid in dying,” in reality these proposals would authorize the direct and intentional taking of human life. Catholic teaching upholds the dignity of all human life from the moment of conception to natural death. Find out more and contact your legislator: [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/)

 (to use on social media) #noassistedsuicideny

Tweet (you can add your own hashtag to this 109 character tweet): Death with Dignity means proper care, not a lethal drug dose. [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/) #noassistedsuicideny

**Assisted Suicide is NOT Mercy for the Dying**

Catholic teaching holds that assisted suicide is gravely immoral, both for the patient who is assisted and any persons who assist. It violates the sacred value of human lives, particularly those who are vulnerable due to illness, age or disability. As Christians, we are called to reach out in love and compassion to persons who are ill and suffering. Legalizing assisted suicide means abandoning those persons who are most in need of our assistance, support, and mercy. Find out more and contact your legislator: [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/)

(to use on social media) #noassistedsuicideny

Tweet (you can add your own hashtag to this 111 character tweet): Assisted suicide is NOT mercy for the dying, it’s abandonment. [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/) #noassistedsuicideny

**Alternatives to Assisted Suicide**

Public policies regarding the end of life should focus on alleviating suffering for those who are dying, through increased access to quality palliative care. There are alternatives to assisted suicide. We must do all we can to reduce suffering and promote the loving option of palliative medicine and hospice care.

Find out more and contact your legislator: [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/)

(to use on social media) #noassistedsuicideny

Tweet (you can add your own hashtag to this 124 character tweet): Policy should focus on alleviating suffering, not eliminating the sufferer. [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/) #noassistedsuicideny

**Pope Francis on True Care for the Dying**

Palliative care is an expression of the truly human attitude of taking care of one another, especially those who suffer. It is a testimony that the human person is always precious, even if marked by illness or old age. *Pope Francis, March 2015* There are alternatives to assisted suicide. We must do all we can to reduce suffering and promote the loving option of palliative medicine and hospice care.

Find out more and contact your legislator: [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/)

(to use on social media) #noassistedsuicideny

Tweet (you can add your own hashtag to this 130 character tweet): The human person is always precious, even if marked by illness or old age. *Pope Francis* [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/) #noassistedsuicideny

**Fatal Flaws in Assisted Suicide Bills**

The proposal to legalize doctor-assisted suicide in New York State contains fatal flaws. It allows patients to fill a physician’s prescription for a lethal dose of medication, and then ingest those pills at home, with no oversight by a doctor or nurse, no safeguards, and no accountability. What if a child got his hands on those pills first? Or what if the patient later changed her mind and decided not to take the pills? Who would know if someone else decided to trick or coerce the patient into taking the pills? Find out more and contact your legislator: [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/)

(to use on social media) #noassistedsuicideny

Tweet (you can add your own hashtag to this 92 character tweet): NY “Aid in Dying” bills have fatal flaws. [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/) #noassistedsuicideny

**Prevent Suicide, Don’t Assist Suicide**

Nothing in proposed NY legislation to legalize assisted suicide requires that patients be counseled or screened for clinical depression before they are handed a lethal prescription. Yet mental health professionals know that a large number of suicides could be prevented with the right therapeutic intervention. New York State recognizes suicide as a critical public health concern, and works to prevent it. Government should not reverse course now and send the message that some suicides are acceptable. Find out more and contact your legislator: [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/)

(to use on social media) #noassistedsuicideny

Tweet (you can add your own hashtag to this 101 character tweet): NY should be preventing suicide, not assisting it. [nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/](http://www.nyscatholic.org/stop-assisted-suicide/) #noassistedsuicideny