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Professor Thoma

COMN 2300

4/13/22

Group 5 Debate #1 Speech Brief

Third Affirmative Speaker:

Introduction (30 sec)-

- This debate is about how physician assisted suicide should be legal
- This is important because...

Roadmap (30 sec)-

- First, I will be refuting “ _____ ” given by the other side
- Then I will be comparing our own case to the other side’s argument
- Next, I will be explaining our advantage and why it matters

Refutation of new argument (30 sec)-

- Going against the idea “ _____ ” given by the other side....

Main case comparison (2 min)-

- The amount of people that are suffering for an elongated amount of time is important because...
- Our plan works because everything will be regulated and planned and....
- The other side's uniqueness is not true because....
- The other side's links will not work because....
- Even if those links do work, our plans impact is more effective because...

Advantage (30 sec)-

- Our advantage has to do with the financial burden...
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Conclusion (1 min)-

- Our ideas and plan to legalize physician assisted suicide is more important because...
- This will affect more individuals in a positive way instead of negative...
- *Explain what the other side did or didn't do in debate

- *Other necessary details from debate

FULL VERSION:

Introduction (30 sec)-

- We are focusing on physician assisted suicide and how it should be legal for certain individuals and how it is important. It is important because people who are ill and suffering are not only suffering themselves but causing distress for family members and loved ones.

Roadmap (30 sec)-

- First, I will be refuting certain points given by the other side
- Then I will be talking about our own case
- After that, I will be explaining our advantage and why it matters

Refutation of new argument (30 sec)-

- Going against points given by the other side....
 - This is not coercing
 - Doctors have to be certified in this so they are signing up for this and there are doctors that support this
 - The procedure might be expensive but not compared to every other bill
 - Mental health part, “not in the right head space”, that’s why we have a power of attorney
 - “its unethical to have someone have authority to end someone's life” we already have that

Main case comparison (2 min)-

- The amount of people that are suffering for an elongated amount of time is important because not only are the patients suffering, but their family members are as well when they are watching their loved one going through a fatal illness. Also, many people are fatally ill and have to sit and wait

knowing that their death is approaching which causes many more problems....

- Our plan works because everything will be regulated and planned. These regulations include a doctor that is certified in the procedure, another certified doctor watching over the procedure to make sure everything is done correctly, and our plan also requires conformation from the patient, their power of attorney, and at least two doctors that are certified in the procedure. Also, the patient must be terminally ill and have a lifespan prediction of a year or less so that that procedure will only be done for patients that have a short amount of time left and not for other patients that can still live their lives.
- The other side's uniqueness is not true because the pain-control that doctors are able to provide do not necessarily control pain enough to the point where the patient is comfortable. Also, if patients are sitting uncomfortably for long periods of time, they feel like death is the only escape when it death is the ultimate end of the journey.
- The other side's links are not true because when physician assisted suicide is legal, there will be many different restrictions, that we have previously stated, that will be put in place. Physician assisted suicide won't be completely normalized (it will be available) because it will occur in dire situations. Since it will only be available in certain situations, patients won't believe that assisted suicide is the only option.
- Even if the other side's links do work, our plans impact is more effective because there will be many different restrictions and rules put in place. This won't allow for the average person to ask for a physician assisted suicide. In our plan, physician assisted suicide is only allowed for a select few and with these rules put in place and when they are well known, patients won't find it the only way to escape their pain. Our plan's impact is more effective because it will help the selected suffering patients and their families, not hurt loved ones of patients that have other escape options.

Advantage (30 sec)-

- Our advantage has to do with the financial burden that would not be left on the family when the patient passes sooner than their predicted lifespan.
- When a patient is terminally ill, the patient and their families spend an extreme amount of money on medical bills, treatments, and hospital stays. Also, many family members of terminally ill individuals have to either quit

their jobs or work less due to their loved one being sick. A lower income means less money to pay for these bills on top of normal everyday payments that people have to make. For example, a report given by *U.S. News* states that cancer patients in the United States are paying \$21 billion a year. Overall, having someone in the hospital and fighting a disease creates a large financial burden on their families and if the patient is allowed to pass on their own terms, it would allow for the families to not have such a big financial burden sitting on their shoulders on top of their loss of their loved one.

Conclusion (1 min)-

- There are so many people in this country that are terminally or fatally ill that are given a predicted death date. Every day, that date creeps closer and closer knowing that it is coming sooner than they would have expected. Patients sit in their hospital beds every day wondering if they will pass today, tomorrow, or next week. If fatally ill patients have the option for physician assisted suicide, they would be able to pass and end their suffering on their own terms instead of impatiently waiting for that day to come on its own, without knowing when it'll creep up. Our ideas and plan to legalize physician assisted suicide is more important because it would allow fatally ill patients to pass sooner if they would like and it would cause less suffering for the patients and their family members.