

Alexa Prickett

Professor Thoma

COMN 2300

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Debate #3 Speech Brief

Second Negative Speaker:

Introduction - (30 secs)

- This debate is about how physician assisted suicide should not be legal.
- This is important because...

Roadmap - (30 secs)

- First, I will be refuting the new argument given by the other side
- Second, I will critique the other side's main case
- Third, I will defend our main case
- Lastly, I will add a new argument to our case

Refutation of New Arguments - (30 secs)

Refutation of Main Case - (1 min)

Defense of Main Case - (1 min 30 sec)

- If physicians assisted suicide is legal, doctors will have to commit murder...
- Legalization of physician assisted suicide is worse because...
- The impacts of this becoming legal would cause a shortage of doctors...
- Doctors would have to go against their oath of doing no harm and they would be going against their morals of saving lives...

New Argument - (30 sec)

- Legalizing physician assisted suicide would allow patients to die early in life
- If they die early, patients wouldn't live to see a cure or be able to go through medical trials
- If we don't have the patients (or doctors) to do trials, trials won't happen and cures and treatments won't be found

Conclusion - (30 sec)

- Physician assisted suicide being legal would cause many problems...
- This is important because...

FULL VERSION:

Introduction - (30 secs)

- Today, we are focusing on why physician assisted suicide should not be legal. This is important because doctors will not want to break their oath or participate in murdering their patients. Even the American Medical Association believes it is wrong for doctors to kill.

Roadmap - (30 secs)

- First, I will be refuting the new argument and the main case given by the other side
- Second, I will defend our main case
- Lastly, I will add a new argument to our case

Refutation of New Arguments - (30 secs)

- Says that this is less hurtful for their loved ones, I don't think this is the case because suicide is immoral and them choosing to die at like the flip of a switch would not allow loved ones to have closure.

Refutation of Main Case - (1 min)

- Currently, hospice care is useful. Many people put their loved ones in hospice care for a reason. This also allows for family members to have closure with their loved ones before they pass.
- Medicine is not prolonging suffering because it allows them to feel better in the current time. Doctors try to make their patients feel as comfortable as possible and if there was a better option, doctors would use that.
- Tries to give patients more control, what about patients that physically cannot have control like people who are in comas, they physically cannot control what happens to them.

Defense of Main Case - (1 min 30 sec)

- If physicians assisted suicide is legal, doctors will have to commit murder. Our uniqueness is that we currently have a sufficient number of doctors working in the United States. Going on to our links, if doctors are told that committing murder is a part of their job description, it will cause depletion in their mental health and cause them to work in poor conditions. If this is the case, this would lead to many doctors leaving their jobs.
- The impacts of this becoming legal would cause a shortage of doctors. Doctors would end up leaving their jobs which would cause a short-term shortage, but it would also cause a long-term shortage because if physician assisted suicide is legal, people wouldn't want to go to medical school and work in the medical profession. Also, having a shortage of doctors would be dangerous because there would be fewer doctors available to help individuals who are in need of serious and immediate care. In a survey conducted by the American Medical Association, they found that 75% of the respondents decided to go into medicine to help people and to save lives, not end them.
- Doctors would be going against their morals of saving lives. Doctors would also have to go against their oath of doing no harm that they took when they first became a doctor and entered the world of medicine.

New Argument - (30 sec)

- Legalizing physician assisted suicide would allow patients to die early in life when they could have the possibility of living a longer life.
- If patients are killed early enough, they wouldn't live to see a cure or be able to go through medical trials to help future patients with the same ailment.
- If physician assisted suicide is legal, we wouldn't have the patients or doctors (because they'd leave the field) to do trials. If trials don't occur, cures and treatments won't be found for the patients that are fighting for their lives and for those diagnosed with these illnesses in the future.

Conclusion - (30 sec)

- Physician assisted suicide being legal would cause many different problems. If this is the case, the country would have a short-term and a long-term shortage of doctors and there wouldn't be enough doctors to take care of the hundreds of thousands of patients in need.