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# Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide

## Lessons from Belgium

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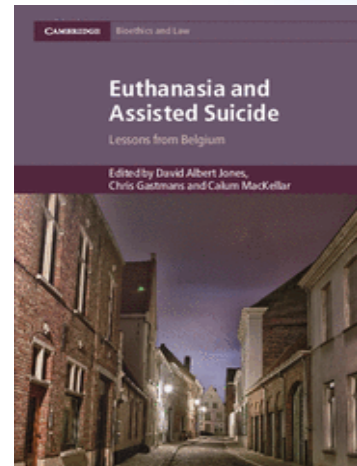
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Examining the evidence from Belgium – one of only five countries where euthanasia is practised legally – an international panel of experts considers the implications of legalised euthanasia and assisted suicide. Looking at the issue from an international perspective, the authors have written an invaluable in-depth analysis of the ethical aspects of this complex area. The discussion forms a solid foundation for informed debate about assisted dying. With contributors from a broad range of disciplines, this book is ideal for students, academics, legislators and anyone interested in legal, medical, social and philosophical ethics. A vital and timely examination of a growing phenomenon and one of the most challenging ethical questions of our time.

Introduction; Part I. Euthanasia Legislation in Belgium and its Applications: 1. A discussion of the legal rules on euthanasia in Belgium briefly compared with the rules in Luxembourg and the Netherlands; 2. The Belgian experience of euthanasia since its legal implementation in 2002; 3. Ethics and the psychiatric dimensions of physician assisted suicide: a view from the United States; Part II. Euthanasia and End of Life Care: 4. Assisted dying – the current situation in Flanders: euthanasia embedded in palliative care; PostScript: death as disruption or disruptive dying? Some further reflections since 2013 'Assisted dying – the current situation in Flanders: euthanasia embedded in palliative care'; 5. The practice of continuous sedation at the end of life in Belgium: how does it compare to UK practice, and is it being used as a form of euthanasia?; 6. 2002–2016: fourteen years of euthanasia in Belgium: first-line observations by an oncologist; 7. 'A last act of grace'? Organ donation and euthanasia in Belgium; Part III. Euthanasia and Particular Vulnerable Groups: 8. A life worth living? Disabled people and euthanasia in *Belgium*; 9. Euthanasia in patients with intolerable suffering due to an irremediable psychiatric illness: a psychiatric perspective; 10. Euthanasia in children: keep asking the right questions; 11. Euthanizing people who are 'tired of life'; 12. Euthanasia in persons with severe dementia; Part IV. Euthanasia in Belgium: A Philosophical and Bioethical Discussion: 13. Some possible consequences arising from the normalisation of euthanasia in Belgium; 14. Euthanasia and assisted suicide in Belgium: bringing an end to interminable discussion 15. Psychiatric patients and the culture of euthanasia in Belgium; Final conclusions on final solutions



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