

“It wasn't the father saying that he wanted to die.”

My husband and I own two elder care facilities in Washington State where assisted suicide is legal.

Our assisted suicide law was passed by a ballot measure in 2008. During the election, the law was promoted as a right of individual people to make their own choices. That has not been our experience. Four days after the election, an adult child of one of our clients asked about getting the pills (to kill the father). It wasn't the father saying that he wanted to die.

Since our law was passed, we have also noticed that some medical professionals are quick to write off older people as having no quality of life whereas in years past, most of the professionals we dealt with found joy in caring for them. Our clients reciprocated that joy and respect.

Someday, we too will be old. I, personally, want to be cared for and have my choices respected. I, for one, am quite uncomfortable with these developments.

Elizabeth Benedetto - Seattle, WA

Tell your legislators and the governor that you don't want assisted suicide.



Elizabeth and Juan Benedetto

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