

Respect Life Society Bulletin – August 28, 2016

More about Physician Assisted Suicide from New Yorkers for Life - It sends the message that suicide is acceptable. New York State rightly spends millions of dollars each year to prevent suicides with anti-bullying campaigns in schools, awareness training in prisons, toll-free hotlines and extra safety precautions on bridges. It makes no sense to recognize suicide as a statewide critical public health concern while simultaneously promoting it as “dignified and humane” for certain populations.

It discriminates against people with disabilities. Patients with a terminal illness often become disabled as their disease progresses. Others may come to devalue their lives and see them as having less “quality”. While the rest of society receives “suicide prevention” education and services, these persons – and only these persons – will be granted “suicide assistance”. That is discrimination based on disability.