

ASSISTED SUICIDE ADVOCATE DR. JACK KEVORKIAN DIES

Dr. Jack Kevorkian, assisted suicide crusader, died at age 83 in a hospital in Detroit on June 3, 2011. Kevorkian was known as “Dr. Death” since he killed or helped some 130 people commit suicide. A study of the deaths of 69 persons whom Kevorkian assisted to commit suicide in Oakland County, Michigan from 1990-1998 found that 75% were not terminally ill, and five revealed no anatomical disease at autopsy. Dr. Kevorkian once spontaneously told a CNN interviewer, “The single worst moment of my life ... was the moment I was born.” In April, 1999, Dr. Kevorkian was convicted of killing Thomas Youk, a victim of Lou Gehrig’s disease, by lethal injection. The event was shown on the CBS television show “60 Minutes.” Kevorkian was sentenced to 10 to 25 years in prison, but was released in 2007, claiming failing health.

Unfortunately, Dr. Kevorkian’s place appears to have been taken by Dr. Lawrence Egbert, dubbed “The New Doctor Death” by *Newsweek* magazine. Dr. Egbert says that as the medical director of the Final Exit Network, he helped “direct the deaths of nearly 300 people across the country.” The Final Exit Network instructs people how to commit suicide so that they will appear to have died from natural causes. Dr. Egbert was criminally charged in Arizona and Georgia for his role as medical director of the Final Exit Network. Egbert was cleared of all charges in the Arizona case, while the Georgia case is still pending.

Some suggest that with the “Culture of Death” being well established by the abortion movement, and the “sanctity of life” norm being replaced by the “quality of life” in medical ethics, a “perfect storm” to further the assisted suicide-euthanasia movement has developed. The storm may also be fueled by the facts that populations of most Western societies are aging, and the cost of medical care continues to rise.

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