

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	1
Chapter 1: Framing the Assisted Suicide Debate	5
Effective Dialogue Tactics.....	6
Starting the Conversation.....	7
Three Possible Positions.....	9
D = S - M	14
Chapter 2: The Split Position.....	17
False Freedom	18
QUIT.....	21
Terminal Prognosis	23
Test the Limit.....	24
Uncertain Prognosis	25
The Desire to Die is Transient	26
Assess for Ableism.....	28
Incurable Condition	29
Test the Limit.....	29
Possibility of Future Treatments.....	30
Compare with Other Permanent Suffering	30
Assess for Ableism.....	32
Unbearable Suffering.....	33
Test the Limit.....	34
Physical Pain	34
Psychological Suffering.....	37
Assess for Ageism	38
Quality of Life.....	38
Test the Limit.....	39
Suicidal Regret	40
Disability Issues Drive Assisted Suicide.....	41
Lethal Judgments	42
Suicide is a Symptom, Not a Solution	43
Human Beings are Equal, an Assisted Suicide Regime is Not	43

Chapter 3: The Total Choice Position	47
Should We Ever Prevent Suicide?.....	48
What is “Rational” Suicide?.....	50
Our Duty to the Suicidal.....	52
Love is Greater than Philosophy.....	57
Chapter 4: The Social Consequences of Accepting Assisted Suicide	61
The Slippery Slope.....	62
Euthanizing Children.....	63
Involuntary and Non-Voluntary Euthanasia.....	65
When Your Life is Too Expensive	67
Parents Versus Children.....	68
Suicide on Demand.....	68
Effects on Suicide Prevention	71
Effects on Medicine	72
Conversation Starters	74
Chapter 5: The Pro-Life Position.....	75
The Pro-Life Position is Not Vitalism	76
Refusing Burdensome Treatment.....	76
Side-Effects of Pain Management.....	77
Solutions: How Should We Respond to the Suicidal?	78
Psychological Health Resources	78
Pain Management	79
Palliative Care	80
Dignity Therapy.....	81
Suffering Unleashes Love and Creativity	84
Conclusion.....	89
Acknowledgements	91
About the Authors.....	93
Endnotes	95