

How well do you know the Catholic faith? Well, let's find out..."

This is a very important question. *Is it permissible to offer assistance in dying?*

A) To bring about death directly is always against the commandment "You shall not kill" (Ex 20: 13). In contrast, to stand by and help a dying person is humane and even obligatory. .(CCC 2278-2279) What really matters is whether a dying person is killed or allowed to die and thus accompanied. Someone who intentionally brings about the death of a dying person (euthanasia) breaks the Fifth Commandment. Someone who helps another person in the dying process obeys the commandment "Love you neighbor". In view of the certain impending death of a patient, it is therefore legitimate to withhold extraordinary medical procedures that are not proportionate to the expected outcome. The patient himself must make the decision to forgo "extraordinary" measures or must have stated this intention in an advance directive. If he is no longer capable of doing so, those who are legally entitled must represent the express or probable wishes of the dying person. Ordinary care of a dying person should never be discontinued: this is commanded by love of neighbor and mercy. Meanwhile it can be legitimate and in keeping with human dignity to use painkillers, even at the risk of shortening the patient's life. The crucial thing is that the use of such medications must not aim at bringing about death, either as an end in itself or as a means of ending pain.

B) The Church doesn't talk about this issue, every human being is the Lord of his/her life and can do whatever she/he wishes to do.

C) The Church doesn't have a problem with Euthanasia.

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I have a question about abortion. Why is abortion unacceptable at any phase in the development of the embryo?

A) God-given human life is God's property; it is from the first moment of its existence and not under the control of any human being. "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you" (Jer 1:5).

B) The Church gives full freedom to the mother. It is up to the mother to make the decision.

C) We should not talk about that at the church.

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