

WAVES News

Media Watch - Week to 25/7/2015

- 19 July. [ABC.net.au: 'I'd rather be dead': Euthanasia inquiry to examine Melbourne woman's plea to die](#). 78 year old Melbourne writer Edel Wignell would rather die than endure any more of the debilitating pain that has dominated her life for 30 years. This story quotes Rodney Syme.
- 23 July. Canberra Times: [Conversation continues on end of life options for the ACT](#). University of Canberra associate professor in the school of law and justice, Dr Wendy Bonython, believes the ACT will have to wait for the states to make laws on voluntary euthanasia or assisted suicide before it becomes an option to pursue locally. She was addressing the second end-of-life forum hosted by Labor Member for Ginninderra Mary Porter.
- Also in [SMH](#)
- 23 July. Herald Sun: [Palliative care staff under huge strain, inquiry told](#). "NURSES and doctors fear they could be held accountable if they gave pain relief that caused the death of an already dying patient, according to experts.... Up to 84 submissions have been received by the inquiry, with at least 10 opposed to assisted suicide." Submissions will be accepted until July 31
- 23 July. SMH: [Nurses afraid of giving medication to patients about to die, senior doctor says](#)
- 24 July. [ABC.net.au: Euthanasia inquiry told medical professionals uncomfortable giving elderly patients pain relief for fear of prosecution](#). The Alfred hospital's director of palliative care, Dr Michelle Gold, told the inquiry legislation should be clarified so doctors and nurses felt more comfortable treating dying patients...."Sometimes I'm concerned that drugs will be withheld or not given, or lower doses given, because there is that fear."
- 24 July. The Advocate (Tas): [Michael Caton's latest movie deals with big themes](#)
- 27 July. NT News: 'Dr Death' finds funny side of AMA exclusion. (Scan below thanks to Judy Dent.)

Also of Interest:

- City News: [Review of Last Cab to Darwin](#). Also reviews in [Cairns Post](#), [Weekly Advertiser](#),
- 22 July. The Citizen: [Sex Party's inaugural MP gets to grips with political realities](#). Interview with Fiona Patten. Some discussion on VAD.
- 23 July. [It's Complicated](#) by SIOBHAN O'DWYER. In a small scale study, she interviewed 21 Australians providing care for a family member with dementia. (Thanks to iolanda DWDnsw for this alert)