

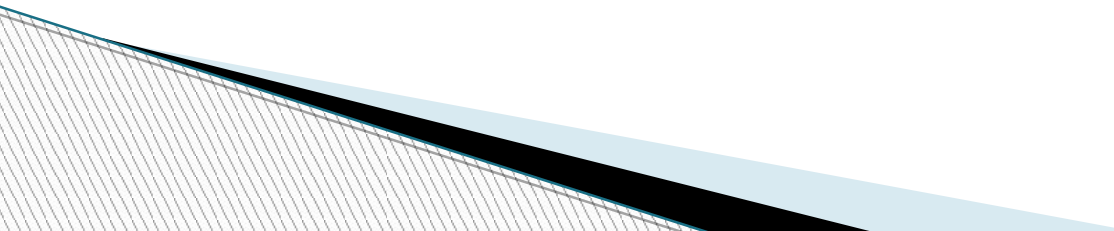
# Alex Schadenberg International Chair Euthanasia Prevention Coalition

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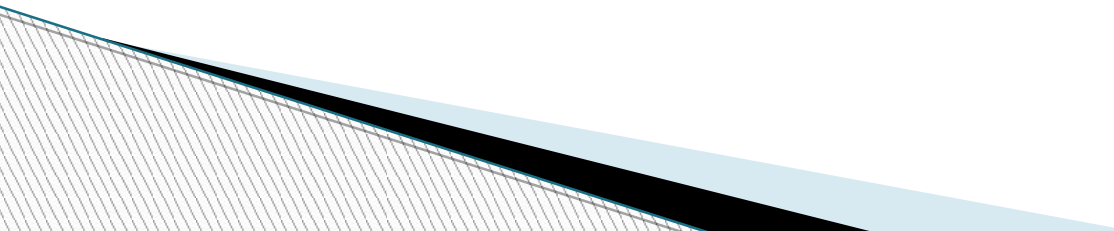
# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ The philosophical and social lie.
  - ▶ What does it mean to legalize euthanasia and/or assisted suicide.
  - ▶ Doctors gain the legal right to lethally inject or prescribe lethal drugs to their patients.
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# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ How do the laws work in most jurisdictions?
  - ▶ (Switzerland is different than the rest of the world.
  - ▶ The culture tells us that these are autonomous deaths, that euthanasia or assisted suicide creates some sort of right to decide.
  - ▶ Choice and autonomy are only the flags that the death lobby waves to make us support giving doctors the right, in law, to cause our death.
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# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ Assisted suicide laws are actually about the rules that a doctor must follow to cause your death.
  - ▶ Is it safe for patients when doctors or assisted suicide groups have the right to kill their patients?
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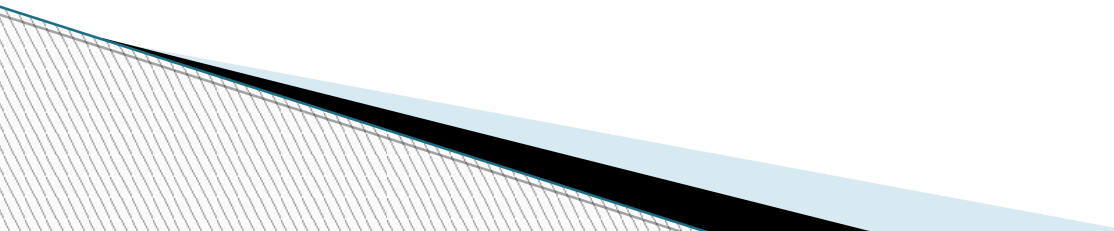
# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ The Belgian euthanasia law and the studies that uncover abuse of the law.
- ▶ *New England Journal of Medicine* (NEJM) March 19, 2015. *Recent trends in Euthanasia and Other End-of-Life Practices in Belgium.*
- ▶ Canadian Medical Association Journal (CMAJ) May 17, 2010.
- ▶ *British Medical Association Journal* (BMAJ) October 5, 2010.

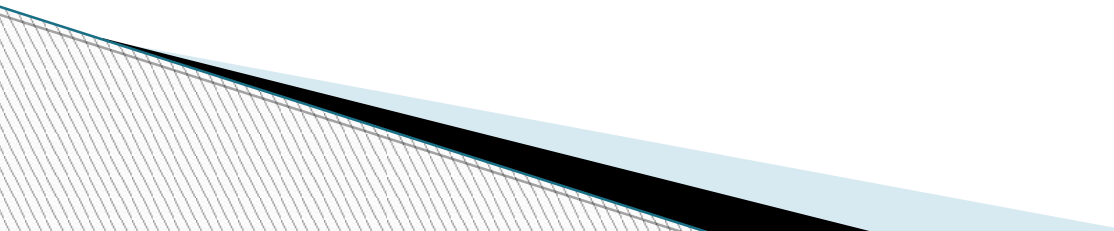
# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ The Netherlands euthanasia law and the studies that uncover abuse of the law.
- ▶ The Lancet – July 11, 2012, *Trends in end-of-life practices before and after the enactment of the euthanasia law in the Netherlands from 1990 – 2010.*

# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

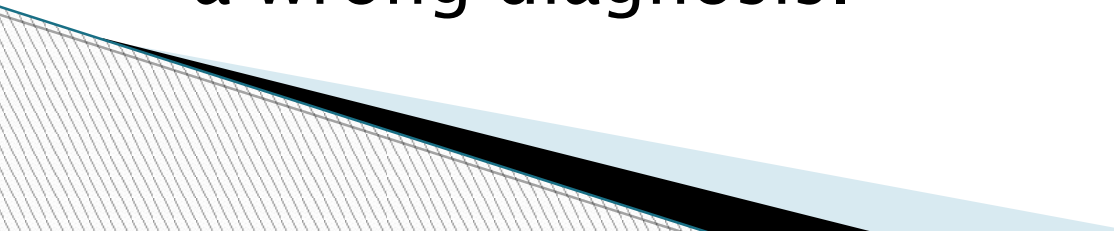
- ▶ Netherlands:
  - ▶ Recent case of a woman with dementia who died by forced euthanasia.
  - ▶ The “final frontier” euthanasia for a “completed life.”
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# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

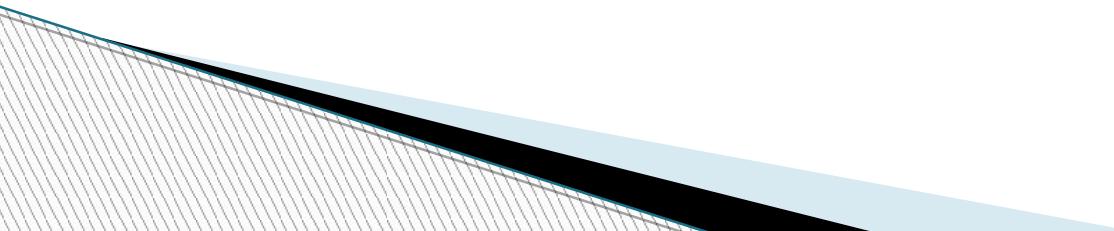
- ▶ Switzerland's assisted suicide law.
  - ▶ **“selfish motives?”**
  - ▶ The role of the Swiss assisted suicide law in promoting the legalization of assisted suicide and euthanasia on a world-wide basis.
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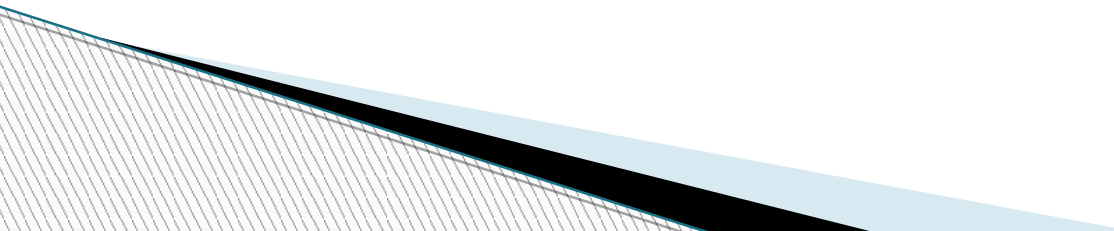
# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ Switzerland cases.
  - ▶ August 2015: A healthy depressed British woman died by assisted suicide at Dignitas.
  - ▶ Feb 2014: Oriella Cazzanello (85) (Italian) was healthy but asked for assisted suicide because she was unhappy about how she looked.
  - ▶ April 2013: Pietro D'Amico (62) (Italian) died by assisted suicide at Dignitas after receiving a wrong diagnosis.
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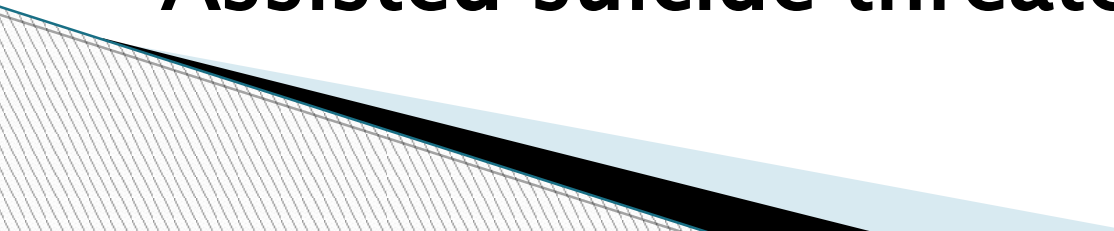
# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ A 2014 study examined 1301 Swiss assisted suicide deaths and found that 16% of the people who died had no underlying illness and some of the deaths were listed as “weariness of life.”
  - ▶ July 11, 2016 Larissa Bieler wrote about assisted suicide and palliative care and questioned whether death by lethal drugs is part of an enlightened society.
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# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ The Euthanasia Deception documentary.
  - ▶ Is based on real life stories of people who have direct life experience with euthanasia and assisted suicide.
  - ▶ We need to tell stories about how euthanasia and assisted suicide is not a freedom (freedom is a lie) but rather an abandonment.
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# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ The truth about euthanasia and assisted suicide in relation to the nature of the human person.
  - ▶ Human beings are physical, psychological, social and spiritual beings. When we experience physical suffering, we will also experience psychological suffering.
  - ▶ We are interdependent beings.
  - ▶ **Assisted suicide threatens all of our lives.**
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# Euthanasia & Assisted Suicide

- ▶ Compassionate Community Care.
  - ▶ **The only real way to stop euthanasia, assisted suicide and other killing is by loving the other.**
  - ▶ We are challenged as a people who respect human life, to love the other and to be with the other.
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