

Reflection: MAD, euthanasia and suicide



Causes of suicide (Mediresource)

- a. Unbearable emotional or physical suffering
- b. Psychiatric illness: depression, anxiety, schizophrenia, psychosis
- c. Losing hope or the will to live
- d. Long term difficulties with relationships with friends and family
- e. Significant losses in life: death of a loved one, loss of an important relationship, loss of employment
- f. Loss of self-esteem, negative thoughts of one's value
- g. Substance abuse (primarily alcohol abuse)
- h. Family history of suicide

Causes of euthanasia (in the world)

- a. Unbearable emotional or physical suffering
- b. Depression, anxiety, fear of suffering, existential crisis
- c. Despair, tiredness of living
- d. Loneliness, fear of being a burden, fear of losing one's social contacts
- e. Mourning, loss of autonomy, various handicaps
- f. Feeling of loss of dignity, anorexia
- g. Alcoholism (The Netherlands)
- h. Effect of euthanasia and assisted suicide laws: 6.3% rise in suicides, assisted or otherwise, in the US where assisted suicide is legal (Southern Medical Journal)