



THE CANADIAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION
L'ASSOCIATION CANADIENNE DES COMMISSAIRES D'ÉCOLES CATHOLIQUES

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October 22, 2009

The Right Hon. Stephen Joseph Harper, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Building
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa ON K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister,

The Canadian Catholic School Trustees' Association joins with the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops and Catholic organizations across Canada in opposing the passing of Bill C-384, an Act to Amend the Criminal Code on the right to die with dignity. This Bill aims at legalizing euthanasia and assisted suicide in Canada.

We have some understanding that the Bill is being introduced as a means of relieving the suffering of others. We cannot support legislation which allows for the euthanizing of a human being. The killing of another person because that person may be seriously ill, elderly, or depressed is not acceptable. Compassion for these people must be shown in our ongoing care, effective pain control and social, emotional and spiritual support. The very nature of euthanasia and assisted suicide goes against respect for life.

We pray that Members of Parliament and Senators will consider the profound impact that Bill C-384 would have on the lives of individuals, and on the wider community, if it passes into legislation.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Regis O'Connor
President, CCSTA

Enlivened by the Word of God and our tradition, we promote and protect the right to Catholic education in Canada.

We speak as one.

Animés par la Parole de Dieu et notre tradition, nous assurons la protection et la promotion du droit à une éducation catholique au Canada. Nous parlons à l'unisson.