



Media Release

Street gathering to challenge Federal law

This Saturday marks the 10th anniversary of the world's first voluntary euthanasia legislation. The Rights of the Terminally Ill Act passed by the NT Government came into effect on 1st July 1996. To mark this important anniversary, Exit International and the NT Voluntary Euthanasia Society will hold a street walk and lunch time rally at Raintree Park Friday 30th June.

Exit Director Dr Philip Nitschke said that the gathering would be used to celebrate this world leading achievement by the Northern Territory, and to focus attention on the ongoing attempts of the Federal government to frustrate and thwart the plans of elderly and seriously ill Australians who seek end of life choice.

“Not only did the Federal government crush this Territory initiative with the adoption in Federal Parliament of the Kevin Andrews Bill in 1997, but they have since passed the Suicide Related Materials Act in 2006 which now makes it impossible for adult Australians to even discuss how they might achieve a peaceful death.

Exit plans to draw attention to this new oppressive anti free-speech Federal legislation by providing restricted information to those who gather at Raintree Park.

“Federal Government legislation prohibits the use of a carriage service (telephone, email or fax) to send or receive information on end of life methods. Anyone who talks on the phone about the Raintree gathering will risk a possible penalty of \$110,000 under this new Federal law”.

Supporters will gather at the Roma Bar in Cavenagh Street at 10am Friday 30th June, prior to a walk down the Darwin Smith Street Mall to Raintree Park gathering at midday.

For Information: Exit International (Dr Philip Nitschke) 0407-189-339 or 08-8983-1929

29th June, 06