



Lots to report since our last update. We are preparing ourselves for the next NSW Bill and updating our campaign materials and contacting MPs to determine whether they are supportive. We have been trying to get information from federal election candidates but they are proving frustratingly elusive. The results of the ABC Vote Compass survey show support for voluntary assisted dying is now close to 90%, making it inexplicable that MPs continue to oppose these laws.

### [ABC Vote Compass - Public Support for VAD approaching 90%.](#)

The ABC Vote Compass Survey has shown a huge increase in public support for voluntary assisted dying, up from 75% in 2016. The survey has been completed by over 1 million voters and shows very high levels of support across the political spectrum. It also shows support above 70% among those with religious faith, confirming that the opposition of the church hierarchies does not reflect the “views from the pews”

Click here to read the results: [Vote Compass Results](#). Complete the Vote Compass Survey yourself: [Take Vote Compass Survey](#)

### [Federal Election - Saturday 18 May - Candidates views on VAD](#)

While assisted dying laws are a state responsibility, the views of our Federal MPs are still important in determining the rights of the NT and ACT to pass VAD laws and also in helping “set the tone” for MPs of all political

**persuasions across the country. The influence of the churches on our political parties has done great damage to the campaign for assisted dying laws and we should try to encourage MPs who support VAD at all levels of government.**

**We have sought views of candidates in certain key NSW electorates and done some analysis of the NSW Senate candidates. It is surprisingly hard to flush out the candidates' views and we have only produced scorecards for the electorates of Warringah and Wentworth and for the Senate. We hope to produce scorecards for Robertson, Cowper, Farrer and others if we can get enough responses. To view the results check out our Federal Election webpage here - [Federal Election Candidate analysis](#)**

### **NSW Election - Upper House Results**

The Upper House results were declared on 15 April. The Voluntary Euthanasia Party did not win a seat but increased its vote and gained valuable exposure for our cause. The final three seats were won by the Animal Justice Party and two One Nation representatives. We were very pleased that Paul Green from Fred Nile's Christian Democratic Party was not re-elected. Our Vice President Shayne Higson ran an excellent campaign for the Voluntary Euthanasia Party which ensured that assisted dying laws remain in the public eye.

The new Parliament is now sitting. Its time to start contacting MPs about voluntary assisted dying laws. Use this quick-link to send an email to your local member - [Contact your MP now](#)

### **Report from Annual General Meeting - Saturday 27 April 2019**

We had 60 members and supporters at our AGM on 27 April 2019. See our [AGM webpage](#) for an overview of the event. We are delighted to welcome our two new directors, Julie Hanley and David Pieper and thank retiring director, Dee Johnson for her wonderful contribution over many years. We had a wonderful presentation from guest speaker, Dr Jill Gordon and a terrific audience Q&A. We discussed a few important books about end of life issues (links below). We are setting up a webstore so you can purchase T-Shirts and other DWD merchandise and Advance Care Planning materials - details soon.

Click here for our AGM webpage - [2019 AGM](#) and the presentation slides - [AGM Presentation](#)

Links to books - [Dr Charlie Corke - Letting Go](#), [Professor Ken Hillman - A Good Life to the End](#), [Atul Gawande - Being Mortal](#), [Jonathon Haidt - The Righteous Mind](#)

### **Membership Renewals**

Thank you to everyone has renewed their membership. We really value your support. If you haven't yet done so, use this [link to renew your membership](#).

### **Supporting our next campaign**

We are building our campaign war chest. Can you contribute to help us fight for voluntary assisted dying laws? Any amounts you can contribute would be greatly appreciated. Use this link to [donate now](#)

**DONATE**

Thank you for your continued support.

**Penny Hackett**

**President Dying with Dignity NSW**

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