



World Right-to-Die Newsletter

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PARIS: NEW VENUE FOR THE 2008 WF CONFERENCE

For several reasons the 2008 World Federation meeting will NOT be held in Cartagena, Colombia, as announced previously. Instead, you won't be too disappointed to know that we will meet in beautiful Paris in November. This gracious invitation was issued by ADMD France by its president, Jean-Luc Romero. Specific dates will be announced in the Spring Newsletter with registration information.

In addition to the graceful Eiffel Tower—which you can actually ice skate under—stay long enough to see the Musée d'Orsay, the Louvre, the Sacre Couer, the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame, the Pompidou Center and the romantic River Seine. Mes amis, let us practice our Français and be ready for a rendezvous in November!



DR. RODNEY SYME

Syme says: *"I've provided Steve Guest with the advice and medication and I have done the same with Peter Hammond. I intend to keep on talking and acting in good medical faith and the authorities can jolly well come and get me...I'm not doing it quietly any more."* Syme admits to having prescribed morphine and sedatives "numerous times" to patients over the years. *"I've sailed close to the wind, no doubt about it, but the law is hypocritical and I'm not the only doctor who is operating in this murky terrain. It's just that I'm prepared to say so publicly."*



DR. PHILIP NITSCHKE

Dr. Philip Nitschke repeated what he did in 1997 by running for a seat in the Australian Parliament against Kevin Andrews, the legislator who was responsible for reversing the first law in the world, The Rights of the Terminally Ill Act of 1995 passed in the Northern Territory. Dr. Nitschke was the only doctor who would help people under this act and did provide assistance to four terminal patients before it was rescinded in 1997 by the Federal Parliament. He won 4% of the vote this time.

ONE AUSTRALIAN DOCTOR SAYS "ARREST ME"; ANOTHER SAYS "ELECT ME"

Dr. Rodney Syme, long-time activist, practicing physician in Melbourne, Australia, and vice-president of Death with Dignity Victoria (DWDV), challenged the authorities to arrest him. He has publicly stated that he has provided advice and medication to dying patients. His picture and statement are on the front page of the Australian magazine, *The Bulletin* (Nov. 6, 2007). He has admitted to giving advice and medication to Steve Guest, a 58 year old cancer sufferer who fatally overdosed in 2005 after speaking publicly in support of voluntary euthanasia. Syme was present at Guest's death and has also admitted to helping 76 year old Peter Hammond who suffers from Motor Neurone Disease.

WORLD FEDERATION TO EXPAND SERVICES

The WF Board met in Strasbourg in October, in conjunction with the Europe RTD conference that was graciously hosted by ADMD France. Partly because of the strength and energy of Europe RTD, the WF Board felt challenged to clarify and expand its objectives and services. Our mission continues to be to make it possible for all competent adults who are suffering from incurable illnesses to have the option of self-determination in dying as an individual choice.

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