

APPG for Dying Well Minutes Meeting 15th July Webinar

Officers present: Fiona Bruce MP, Baroness Campbell of Surbiton, Rosie Cooper MP, Lord Curry of Kirkharle, Baroness Finlay, Sally-Ann Hart MP, Sir John Hayes MP, Baroness Hollins, Rachael Maskell MP, Robin Millar MP, Baroness Stroud, Sir Desmond Swayne MP, Derek Thomas MP, Stephen Timms MP

Participants:

- Danny Kruger MP (Chair of APPG for Dying Well)
- Baroness Jane Campbell of Surbiton DBE (Long term campaigner for disability rights and against assisted suicide, founder of 'National Centre for Independent Living' and of 'Not Dead Yet', member of the House of Lords)
- Dr Miro Griffiths MBE (research Fellow in disability studies at Uni of Leeds, activist and writer on disability issues, advisor to DHSC and the European Commission, and member of the Equalities and Human Rights Commission)
- Dr Peter Scott-Morgan (Scientist and world expert in the unwritten rules that drive civilisation and currently leads an international team pioneering the application of cutting-edge Artificial Intelligence to extreme disability)
- Phil Friend (Co-convener of 'Not Dead Yet', ex-social worker with children, and one of the UK's foremost consultants on disability matters.)

Opening Remarks: Danny Kruger MP

Introduction: Baroness Jane Campbell of Surbiton

- The story of 'Not Dead Yet' and her campaigning against assisted suicide

First guest speaker: Dr Miro Griffiths

- Marginalisation of disabled people
- The 'Assisted Dying Bill' is not safe, and this is not a safe time to introduce this Bill for disabled people during a pandemic
- Impact on medical practice and attitudes
- Contradictions within the Bill

Second guest speaker: Dr Peter Scott-Morgan

- Difficulty of accurate diagnosis of time left to live
- His story of MND paralysis and how he still enjoys life

Third guest speaker: Phil Friend

- Issue of trust and relationship between doctors and patients
- Coercion and financial abuse
- Concerns about safeguards

Q&A section

Thanks and closing remarks: Danny Kruger MP

- End of meeting -