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Introduction
In this report we will be discussing the arguments for and against euthanasia, with reference to recent case studies. We will also be reviewing if a change in policy would be appropriate at this time and we will be producing a proposed change to the current euthanasia policies. We will be reviewing this as a recent case study has brought about many questions as to whether assisting in a person’s death should be illegal. The main arguments for euthanasia are that people have a lack of quality of life and that they deserve dignity in their death. The main arguments against euthanasia include the fact it can devalue a person’s life and all of the religious views.
Glossary
In this report I will discuss the following terms:

• Euthanasia
  The term euthanasia means to intentionally terminate a person’s life, sometimes not always at that person’s request.

• Assisted Suicide
  The term assisted suicide means to help a person commit suicide, if they are unable to finish it themselves.

• Voluntary Suicide
  Voluntary suicide means to take your own life without the help of anyone else.

• Psychological
  Psychological refers to a person’s mind and/or emotions.

• Genetic
  Genetics refers to a person’s genes and/or DNA.

• Left/ Right Realism
  The terms left and right realism relates to two different extreme political views; both on opposite sides of the spectrum.

• Biological
  In terms of criminology, the biological theory’s refers to criminal behaviour that could be caused due to a fault in the brain.

• Sociological
  In terms of criminology, the sociological theory’s refers to criminal behaviour that could be caused do to a person’s geographical location.

• Individualistic
  In terms of criminology, the individualistic theories refer to criminal behaviour that could be caused due to a fault in emotions or a way a person thinks.

• Values
  Values are standards or principles of behaviour. These values can affect a person’s outlook on life.

• Norms
  Norms are informal standards set by society.

• Morals
  Morals are a person’s own principles of what is right and what is wrong.

• Precedents
  Precedents are a legal decision that must be followed in similar cases. Precedents are set by judges.

• Judiciary
  Judiciary is another term for all judges collectively.
Current Legal Stance

Euthanasia
Psychology.org states that “the term “euthanasia” refers to the intentional termination of a person’s life” (Psychology.org, 2017). Currently in the United Kingdom it is illegal to assist in an act of euthanasia. Although there are no current laws against euthanasia, if a person has participated they will be charged with manslaughter or murder and could face up to life in prison. (Kamouni, 2016)

A major case that affected the laws on euthanasia was the case of Kay Gilderdale. Her daughter suffered with many long term illnesses and from the age of 15 years old was paralysed. In her 30s, Kay’s daughter made the decision that she would end her life but she needed her mother’s help. The night in which the daughter died, Kay herself had to finish the process of injecting her daughter with morphine. She was later charged with murder although she pleaded guilty on assisted suicide. (Hirsch, 2010)

As the case progress it brought into question if the laws on euthanasia should be changed.

Assisted Suicide
Under the Suicide Act of 1961 assisting a person to commit suicide is a criminal act and is punishable with up to 14 years in prison. (InBreif, 2017)

In 2010 a mother was charged with attempted murder after injecting her son with a lethal dose of heroin. Her son was resuscitated at that time however a year later she tried again and this time succeeded. Her son, who had suffered major head injuries, was in a deep coma and was believed to never wake up. The mother, who was convinced he would never recover, was originally sentenced to a life sentence with a minimum of 9 years, under Schedule 21 of the Criminal Justice Act 2003; however this sentence got reduced to a minimum of 5 year. (Lloyd, 2010)

This case was the first involving a mercy killing and it became the centre of a large debate: Should the current laws be changed? Many points were made as to why the mother should not have been charged with attempted murder as she was not going to commit a murder again. After much discussion no changed were made and a mandatory life sentence is still in place.

Voluntary Suicide
At the moment in the UK it is legal to voluntarily take you own life. (NHS, 2014) This was after a change in law in the 1980s. Before then it was illegal to commit suicide and a person could be punished with a prison sentence if the suicide attempt was not successful. These changes were made to the Suicide Act of 1961.

The Possible Causes of the Crime

Biological
The biological theory states that a person is more likely to commit a crime if they have any mental abnormalities (Cowrey, 2016).
Genetic
The genetic theory states that criminality is based on a person’s DNA. The genetic theory works alongside the nature side of the nature and nurture theory. The nature theory overall states a person is born evil and it is in their blood to commit crimes. This DNA could be passed down from a parent’s DNA. An example of this would be if a parent is a known shoplifter, the genetic theory states that their child will also be a shoplifter.

Physiological
The physiological theory can be broken down into three basic theories: Psychodynamic, behavioural and cognitive.

Psychodynamic
The psychodynamic theory was developed by Sigmund Freud. He proposed the idea that crime is due to mental issues that a person may suffer with. He also suggested that a person’s actions are controlled by their subconscious mind.

Behavioural
The behavioural theory, also known as the social learning theory, was developed by Albert Bandura and believes that a person’s behaviour is directly affected by the absence of the motor reproduction.

Cognitive
The cognitive theory was developed by Jean Piaget in 1936. He believed that cognitive development is a process within the mind that results from the maturing of a person’s biological aspects in their brain.

Cause of Crime
It states that Mr P suffered severe head trauma some years before his wife’s death. His family states that after this injury he showed more impulsive behaviour and his personality changed. This is also shown in the case of Fred West. At the age of 19 Fred West was in a motorbike accident that left him in a coma and caused damage to his brains. After the accident his family and friends claimed his full personality had changed. He would have violent outbursts, and was more aggressive.

It is believed that if a person suffered with a damaged frontal lobe, this could have major contributing factors towards criminal behaviour. This is due to the fact that the frontal lobe controls a person’s emotions. By damaging it, a person can lose control over their emotions; the most common symptom of a damaged frontal lobe is aggressive outbursts (Clooney, 2005).

We can see much similarity between the case of Mr P and Fred West. This supports the biological theory as it supports the belief that if a person commits crime it is due to a fault in their genetics; of which both Mr P and Fred West showed signs off.

Cause of Criminality
This theory suggests the causes of criminality are that a person is born evil and that it is in their genetic makeup. This theory shows that a person with a superego may be more likely to commit crimes.
**Positives and Negatives**

This theory can be scientifically proven by looking into a person’s brain; however can also be quite hard to prove. One point put across is that a person with a damaged frontal lobe of the brain is more likely to commit crimes, however not everyone who have suffered head injuries have become criminals.

This theory also states that you can predetermine who will be a criminal by looking into their DNA. Although resent medical advancements makes this possible, it would be hard to examine every person in the world to determine if they will become a criminal. Also, like stated before, not everyone with brain damage become criminals.

By saying a person is born evil, it could bring about stereotypes. By suggesting ‘evil’ DNA can be passed down from parents, this could place a divide between family member of criminals and the general public.

By being able to determine what parts of the brain controls our actions and emotions, this theory has helped in the development of effective treatments for mental illnesses. On the other hand, this theory its self is to over simplistic; there is too much emphasis on biology when it has been proven that humans have just a bigger impact on each other’s actions and behaviour.

**Left and Right Realism**

**Left Realism**

Left realism has a better understanding of people and why they do the things they do. In regards to punishments for criminals, they are more likely to focus on the rehabilitation of a person, other than a long prison sentence.

This may effect a change in policies as left realists are more likely to see punishments as too harsh and will be willing to make sentences more focused on helping a person instead of punishing them.

In regards to the case in question, a left realist government would be more likely to legalize euthanasia within the UK and would set up more help services for those going through it. This is because they would try and emphasis with a person and try understand their situation instead of judging them.

**Right Realism**

Right realism is harsher towards criminals and makes a point that every criminal is bad and deserves the worst punishment possible for a crime. Right realists state that crime is a personal choice made by the criminal and they must face the consequences, regardless to the situation.

The may effect a change in policies as right realists are more likely to increase prison sentences and make more things illegal. Right realists are also more likely to remove any support set up to help criminals.

In regards to the case, a right realist government is more likely to charge anyone involved with euthanasia with murder and give them a life sentence in prison. They are also more likely to make it harder for people who want euthanasia to receive the help needed. This is due to the fact they would see it straight as murder and are less likely to try and understand the situation a person is in.
**Individualistic**
The individualistic theory states a person is more likely to commit a crime if they suffer from personality faults.

**Psychodynamic**
The psychodynamic theory was created by Sigmund Freud and states that a person who commits crime does so due to personality traits picked up in childhood from a lack of love. Freud states that a person is likely to commit crime if they have had a poor childhood.

**Behavioural**
The behavioural theory was created by Albert Bandura and states that a person is likely to commit crime dependant on their learning experiences. Bandura believed a criminal’s behaviour is due to their reactions and will learn through modelling behaviour portrayed from family, friends and the media.

**Cognitive**
The cognitive theory, developed by Lawrence Kohlberg, states a person who commits crimes does so due to their moral development and information processing.

**Causes of Crime**
The individualistic theory states that a person’s actions depend on their personality and their upbringing. When looking at the case we see that Mr P had very traditional views towards women; this caused many disagreements between the couple. We also see that Mrs P’s children stated he was controlling towards their mother. These traits in personality may have come from behaviour he experienced at home as a child and whilst he was growing up. There are no mentions on how his family treat him whilst he grew up so we cannot say that he was abused as a child, although his views on life may have come from family members.

**Causes of Criminality**
The individualistic theory states that mistreatment can cause criminal tendencies. It also states that this mistreatment can course personality faults and can affect a person’s mental process. It has also been stated that a low intelligence may be a cause of criminality.

**Positives and Negatives**
The individualistic theory focuses on individuals, meaning it can offer the specific support needed for a person. However this also means treatment for criminals, under this theory, can be very time consuming.

The individualistic theory states that the best form of treatment/punishment for a criminal is rehabilitation. This can help criminals find different ways to deal with the trauma of their past. However this can also build stereotypes of criminals. For example it states if a person has a bad upbringing they are going to commit crime in later life; however not all people from these sort of backgrounds turn out as bad people. On the flip side some people who have brilliant upbringings commit crimes in their later life.
The individualistic theory can also be seen as giving excuses for criminals as to why they commit the crimes they do.

**What Policies Would be Used?**

**Biological**
People who support the biological theory say that a person commits crime due to a biological fault and their response to dealing with criminals can be seen as right wing. People who support the biological theory would support the idea that all criminals should be locked up as there is nothing that can be done to help them. On the other hand some may suggest medication as a way to medically treat criminality; this is achievable as if someone has a problem with their genetics, due to medical advancements, they may be able to treat it with medication.

In the case of Mr P, the biological theory states that he may have murdered his wife due to the brain damage he suffered. They would recommend that either medical alterations be done on his brain to change the way his genetics work, and/or that he be put in prison as he is untreatable.

**Individualistic**
People who support the individualistic theory say that a person commits crime due to their thought process and any psychological problems. They are more likely to support left wing beliefs on how criminals should be treated. As they believe criminals are psychologically wrong, people who support the individualistic theory are more likely to suggest that people who commit crimes need support in changing the way they think. Some ways of achieving this are rehabilitation and counselling.

In the case of Mr P, the individualistic theory states that he may have murdered his wife because of the way he thinks. This may be due to his upbringing or the people he was raised around. They would recommend that he is set to rehab to find the root cause of his criminality and then they would offer support in ways he could deal with that.

**Sociological**
The sociological theory suggests a person is more likely to commit a crime if they live in a bad area and/or they come from the lower class.

**Strain Theory**
The strain theory was developed in 1957 by Robert K Merton and he suggested that an individual is put under pressure by society to achieve goals set out by society. This can lead to crime as if a person lacks to means to reach these goals they may resort to criminal methods. An example of this would be if society puts across that owning a certain pair of shoes is what is acceptable, however a person cannot afford these shoes themselves, they may resort to crime to either get the money to buy the shoes or they may just steal the shoes.

**Social Reaction Theory**
Social reaction theory, also known as the labelling theory, suggests that the more a label is put on an individual, the more they are likely to act upon that label. An example of this would be if in a relationship a person is constantly labelled as a cheater, they are more likely to go out and cheat on their partner.
**Culture Conflict Theory**
Culture conflict theory suggests that crime is caused due to a clash of values and morals that can arise when different social groups have different ideas of acceptable behaviour. This conflict could result in criminal behaviour.

**Social Disorganization Theory**
Social disorganization theory suggests that an individual’s actions are based on the social order of a community.

**Realism Theory**
The realism theory is separated into two sections: left realists and right realists.

**Right Realism**
Right realists emerged in the 1970s and 1980s and have a zero stance tolerance on crime. They believe crime is caused due to three defining factors: biological differences, socialisation of the underclass and a rational choice to offend.

**Left Realism**
Left realists believe crime is caused due to deprivation from relatives. They also believe that crime mainly affects people from a working class background.

**Causes of Crime**
The sociological theory suggests a person is more likely to commit crime due to their social upbringing and social setting; however we are not reviled anything about Mr Ps area. From this we can come to a conclusion that he may have been brought up in a bad area with a low income. This could have led to him killing his wife as she was a wealthy business woman and he would gain financially from her death.

We could also believe he is from a culture in which women have less rights then men, and/or it is looked down on when a woman earns more than a man. This may have led to Mr P murdering his wife and he may not have agreed to her earnings and her job.

**Causes of Criminality**
The sociological theory suggests a person is more likely to commit crime due to their financial situation and/or there view on the world. It also suggests, much like the individualistic theory, that a person is influenced by their family, friends, media and/or their local area.

**Positives and Negatives**
The sociological theory suggests a person can easily be changed through rehabilitation and a change of circumstances, giving them an overall second chance. However this can be seen as too soft on criminals and may also be seen as giving them an excuse for committing a crime.

This theory can also give people a better understanding as to why crime occurs as it is not narrow minded; it can also pin point where a crime is more likely to occur and/or who participated in that crime. This is a positive as it can help to police when focusing on areas of crime. However this may also be seen as stereotyping and much like the labelling theory, this can encourage people to commit more crimes, just because they are in a bad area.
How Theories Help to Make Policies
Theories can help make policies as they can work on the root cause of a crime rather than the end outcome. This means that more facilities can be put in place to help criminals, such as rehabilitation centres and counselling services.

Broken Window Theory
The broken window theory suggests the basic idea that if a window is broken and not repaired, the rest of the surrounding windows are more likely to be broken. However if a window is broken and repaired straight away, the rest of the windows are less likely to be broken. (Wilson, J. 2012)

Theories over Time

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Nature Theory
The nature theory was the first ever theory as to why people commit crimes. This theory is the most basic theory and is that a person is born evil, it is in their nature to commit crimes, and they should be locked up for life.

Nurture Theory
The nurture theory led on from the nature theory as people started to realise that after spending some time in prison, criminals can change and become normal, functioning members on society. The nurture theory was then developed as they realised that a person’s upbringing can have a large impact on their later actions.

Psychodynamic Theory
Sigmund Freud suggested that criminality could be linked to a person’s mental process and traits that they learn whilst growing up. This theory then developed into the psychodynamic theory. This theory led on from the nurture theory as it believed that when a person is raised in a bad environment, this can affect their mental process and then can lead to criminality.

Social Disorganisation Theory
The social disorganisation theory bounced off the theories before it as it states a person who commits crime, does so due to the area they live in. Whilst the other theories stated that it was a
mental and genetic process, this theory states that a person is directly affected by the culture and the environment in which they live.

**Strain Theory**
In the 1950s many people came to countries like America and the United Kingdom in a hope to find a better life. When this was not achieved, they would have a strain on them to reach their better life, and could lead them to crime. This is how the strain theory was developed.

**Interactionism Theory**
The interactionism theory led on from the strain theory and it was believed that this increase in crime, due to the strain on people who had moved for a better life, was then effecting how other people reacted; the interactionism theory suggests that individuals shape society and in turn are shaped by society. Meaning if more crime was occurring then society’s views on crime had changed.

**Culture Conflict Theory**
Due to the crime rates increasing, from what was now called the strain and interactionism theories, many conflicts amongst communities and different cultures arose. These crimes were blamed on the people who had travelled from different cultures for a better life and a conflict started to arise between the different cultures. This was later called the culture conflict theory.

**Social Reaction Theory (Labelling)**
The social reaction theory then bounced off these theories and said that crime was occurring due to people being told they are criminals. At this time the media would portray many different stereotypes of people; these stereotypes then led to the labelling theory arising. Labelling theory states that the more a person is called something, the more likely they are to commit a crime. The media was portraying people from different cultures as criminals and the labelling theory states that if they are called criminals for too long, they will then turn to crime.

**Behavioural/ Social Learning Theory**
The behavioural theory leads on from the labelling theory as it states that a person’s actions have a direct link to what they observe throughout their lives. Much like the labelling theory, if a person is to grow up surrounded by media that portrays a bad image on a certain group of people, that person is more likely to have a stigma towards that same group of people.

**Cognitive Theory**
The cognitive theory went against the behavioural theory as it states that a person will react to a situation as it comes and will then learn from it. It believes that a person will only commit crime if they are put into a situation in which they need to and then will learn from their actions.

**Realism Theory**
The realism theory came about a similar time as left and right realism. This was after many years of theory’s being developed as to why people committed crimes. Realism took a stance on this and reverted back to the nature and nurture theory and that all criminals should be punished in one way or another.
Policy Implications and Strategies for Tackling the Problem

Social Changes
Throughout time there have been many changes to the way society sees different behaviours and actions. This is due to the norms, morals and social values changing over time. This has affected many different laws and behaviours; where in one time something was seen as illegal it is now a common occurrence in today’s society.

Social Values, Norms and Morals
These have changed over time due to the views of society changing. The values, norms and morals of society are standards of behaviour that have been set; in recent times these standards are mainly set by the media’s representation on certain issues. These can effect what a person believes and the way they live as they may want to fit in with society.

The Death Penalty
For many years, if a person was to commit a serious crime, like murder or rape, they would be sentenced to death for it; and although this is still the case in many countries, it has now been repealed in the UK. This was due to society’s views on the death penalty changing.

The first attempt to repeal the death penalty took place in 1938 and was largely backed up by MPs; however the general public disagreed with the decision. This attempt to real the death penalty failed because of society’s views on capital punishment.

As time went on and many miscarriages of justice occurred, the public’s opinion on the death penalty changed; meaning that it was finally repealed.

Homosexuality
Throughout time society’s views on homosexuality has taken drastic turns. In the 1950s, if a person was to make it public that they were a homosexual they would receive a backlash from the community as this was not socially accepted. At points in time a person could be sent to prison or even killed for being homosexual as in the past it has been illegal to be a homosexual.

AS society’s views have changed on homosexuality the laws around it has. As it became more excepted, homosexual couples started to gain the same rights as heterosexual couples. Until recently gay couples were unable to get married and could only enter into a civil partnership. This was changed as society’s views changed.

Another changed for the LGBT community in the United Kingdom was the legal age of consent. Whilst the age for heterosexual relationships was 16 the legal age of consent for homosexual relationships was 21. As it was more accepted in society, the legal age was made the same as that of a heterosexual.

Euthanasia
As time has gone on, euthanasia is more of an issue now then it was many years before. This is due to many social changes that affect the way that society views it.

One reason for these changes are that in years before people where a lot more religious then society is now. If a person was to take someone’s life, even if that’s what they wanted, then this would have
been seen as murder. In many religious they believe that the only person who can take someone else’s life is God. As society is not as religious many people do not have the worry that they are disobey the word of God.

Another factor is that there has been much medical advancement. In years before if a person was to get an illness they would die off that illness; however as time has gone on, medical advancements means that if a person gets a long term illness then they can be kept alive. This has made the need for people wanting the end their own life more prominent as people are being kept alive, even if they are in pain.

People also have a different outlook on life now as they did many years ago. In recent years people are devaluing life and the meaning that it has meaning they are more likely to end it if they had a reason to. This devaluation could be due to current political and social changes that have put a strain on society.

Whilst medicine has advanced and a person is able to be kept alive, there are many costs that are involved with this. One of them may be that they may have to spend their life wired to a machine and for many people that is not a way to live, meaning it may encourage them to end their life. Also there is the cost of people caring for them. A lot of people may feel guilty about having loved ones caring for them, sometimes 24/7, and may want to end their lives to give their loved ones a better life.

**Law Making Process**

Before any bill can become a law it must go through the law making process. During this process any alterations that are needed will be made. At any point the bill can be disregarded and may not make it to being a law.

**Consultation Stage**

To start with the public will be made aware of the idea to create a new law. At this point the public will have time to bring forward their own concerns, and suggest any adjustments needed. The new law will pass this stage as the public are able to be involved, bringing forward new ideas.
First Reading
This stage will make a notification to the houses that a proposal has been made. The bill will be read out to the houses and copies of the bill will be made. This is so that members of the houses can be fully aware on the details of the bill and the proposed change. The euthanasia bill will pass through this stage as there are no changes or debates at this point, and all bills get passed forward.

Second Reading
The second reading is where the main debate takes place. This is when elements of the bill will be put forward and any changes will be suggested. These changes will then get further debated. At this point amendments can be made and if the houses do not approve of the bill it can be dismissed.

The euthanasia bill may struggle at this point as not all members of the houses may agree with the initial changes proposed. In previous debates regarding euthanasia, it was brought to light of members of the houses who have personal reasons to be for and against euthanasia.

Committee Stage
At the committee stage the bill is examined in detail and any changes are considered. No bills are dismissed at this point. The committee will then report back to the house with suggested amendments to the bill. These amendments are then debated by the house and then will be voted on. As no bills are dismissed at this point, the proposal made will progress forward.

Report Stage
At this point the bill will be presented to the houses and will explain any suggested amendments. These amendments will be debated and voted on by the houses. At this point more changes can be suggested; in which these changes will also be debated and voted on.

The euthanasia bill may struggle at this point as it may be altered a lot from the original bill. It may also be disregarded by the houses.

Third Reading
At the third reading the bill is re-presented to the houses and a final vote is taken as to whether the bill will pass forward and become a law. The euthanasia bill may struggle at this point as it could be disregarded if the houses do not vote in favour for it.

Royal Assent
For a bill to finally become a law it must be presented to the monarch, who is currently the queen in the United Kingdom. The monarch will then approve or disapprove of the bill; however if a bill does progress this far then there is a high chance the monarchs will be in favour. Throughout the pass 100 years a monarch has never dismissed a bill. This is because it may bring in to question the power that the monarchs currently have and how much power the monarchs should have.

Judicial
When the bill becomes a law, everyone must follow it. However judges have the power to set precedents. A precedent allows a judge to interpret a law his own way and any precedent set must be followed by judges in a lower court. This means that a judge has the power to alter laws as they see fit.
**Alterations**
At any point where the houses are debating the bill, alterations and amendments can be made. These amendments can by the end completely change the initial bill. Every time an amendment is made it must be passed to the alternate house in which they will debate the proposed alteration.

**Different Houses**
Within parliament there are two different houses; the House of Lords and the House of Commons. A bill must go through each stage in each house before it can become a bill. If any changes are made it will be passed back to the other house in which they will debate it. This is the longest part of the law making process as a bill can be altered many times. Overall the House of Lords has less power than the House of Commons; meaning if a decision cannot be made, the House of Commons will make decide the overall outcome.

**Who is currently affected by the situation? How are they affected?**

**Possible Causes of Criminality**
There are many reasons in which a person may commit Crimes. These reasons may have been an effect on a person’s upbringing, social views, norms and morals. These possible causes include:

- Lack of Social Control
- Bad Environment
- To gain status
- Self-interest (ie. Drugs, addictions ect.)
- Way of life
- Born mad or bad
- By copying others
- Labelling
- To control others

**New Policy Proposal**
I suggest that a new policy should be made in which a person who assists a person in dying can be protected. This new policy will include helping people who have provided someone with drugs or who has assisted them in flying to Switzerland. This new policy would not cover protecting people who have assisted someone in dying, however the person suffering with an illness has not been able to give their consent, or have not been able to finish the process, so someone else has stepped in.

**Impacts from New Policy**
In regards to the new policy, a person who assists someone with euthanasia will be protected for being charged with murder. I propose that no charges are brought against them, as long as it can be proven that the one suffering with an illness, wanted to end their life; this should be in some form of paper work, i.e. a will. If a person wants to end their life due to an illness they should have to go through a set amount of counselling to ensure this is what they want.

If a person assists someone in dying, however there is no proof that the person involved was able to give consent, then they should have to go through the procedures that are used today. This is
because with no proof, then the case could be treated as murder. We see this in the case of Mr P; as there was no proof that his wife wanted to end her life, until proven otherwise in a court of law, he should get trail with murder.

**Impacts**

**Victims**
This new policy proposal will affect the victims as they will not have the worry that a loved one will end up on trial for murder. This can make the process easier and a lot less stressful.

**Perpetrators**
This new policy proposal will affect the perpetrators as they will not have to worry about a criminal trial after helping a loved one ending their life, as long as the appropriate procedures are carried out. After the event has taken place, a perpetrator will be feeling the loss of their loved one and will struggle even more if they have to go through court; this policy can prevent this.

**Society**
This new policy will affect society as less people on a whole will be on charged with murder after helping a loved one die. This can reduce crime figures and can overall reduce criminality within society.

**Conclusion**
A new law would be needed due to current laws on euthanasia not being clear. By having a clearer law, less people would be prosecuted for other crimes; an example of this would be that less people would be charged with murder when they have taken part in euthanasia.

Another reason why a new law is needed is it would help victims of euthanasia deal with their pain and suffering. This would be because they would not have to be worried about being charged with murder if they helped a love one die.

There are also many changes in society such as the population are overall aging and illnesses are a lot more prevalent. This is due to the medical advancements. However this also means that people are living longer as they are being kept alive, even if they are in pain. By creating a new law this could make people feel more comfortable if they are considering euthanasia. There is also a constant changing attitude within society, meaning that the laws must be kept up to date with what society believes. This would reduce criminality as societies construct of what attempted murder is has changed.
Reference Page


