May 17, 2022

Will Oregon Be Medical Suicide Mecca?

Oregon doctors are now allowed to give patients suicide pills even if they don’t live in the state. Will Oregon become a medical suicide mecca? Medicine is on a slippery slope. Hippocrates wrote that “life is sacred” and according to the Hippocratic Oath, a physician never gives his patients any kind of herb to soothe his pain “if it might take away his breath” “even if he begs for it.”

As we’ve seen in Europe, countries that embrace indirect euthanasia move easily into explicit euthanasia, including for patients simply unhappy with life. Oregon recommends that death certificates report the underlying illness as the cause of death and mark the manner of death as “natural.” There is nothing natural about suicide and there is something distinctly unnatural about doctors helping patients kill themselves.