

DYING TOGETHER : THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

Dr Jérôme SOBEL, President
EXIT A.D.M.D Suisse Romande



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Nothing to disclose



DYING TOGETHER:THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

Obituary

Sandra et Michel **GLADOVIC-GUIGNARD**, et leur fils Alexandre;
Michèle **BINCZAK-GUIGNARD**, et sa fille Delphine;
Florian **DAVID**,
ainsi que les familles parentes, alliées et amies,
GUIGNARD, BOURQUIN, BIEDERMANN, TRACHSEL et **GRASS**,
ont le chagrin de faire part des décès de

Marcelle et Jean-François **GUIGNARD**

endormis paisiblement dans leur 90e année.

Une cérémonie du souvenir aura lieu au temple de Clarens, avenue Eugène-Rambert,
le jeudi 24 novembre 2011, à 14 heures.

Domicile de la famille: «Biensis» Avenue du Sacre du Printemps 6, 1815 **Clarens**.

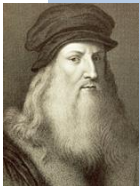
*Comme une journée bien remplie
Donne joie à dormir,
Une vie bien remplie
Donne joie à mourir...
Léonard de Vinci*

24heures Newspaper Tuesday 11/22/2011

DYING TOGETHER:THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

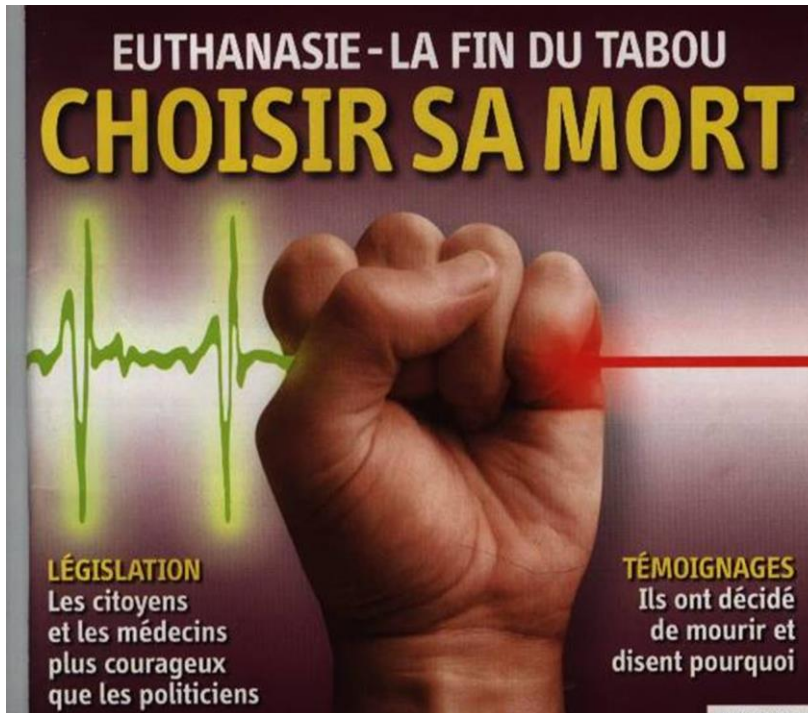
Fell asleep peacefully aged 90

*“As a well-spent day
Brings happy sleep,
So a life well spent
Brings a happy death...”*



Leonardo da Vinci

DYING TOGETHER: THE MYTH AND THE REALITY



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ARTICLE 115 OF THE SWISS PENAL CODE

“Anyone with a selfish motive who incites a person to commit suicide or who helps that person, to commit suicide, if the suicide is consummated or attempted, will be punished by a maximum of 5 years reclusion or imprisonment.”

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INTERPRETATION ART 115 OF THE SWISS PENAL CODE

If there is no selfish motive, the group of federal experts confirmed that assisted suicide is, in such cases, legal and accordingly, not punishable.

As suicide is an act, which is not punishable in the Penal code, why should assisted suicide with no selfish motive be liable to punishment? This legal reasoning led to the non-modification of article 115 by the group of federal experts.

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The Federal Tribunal confirm the binding nature

of a medical order to obtain the fatal potion

The FT confirm that every human

being capable of discernment – even if suffering from psychic problems – has the right, guaranteed by the constitution and the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) to decide the manner and the timing of their own death. This right of decision falls under the right to self-determination under the terms of article 8 ch 1. ECHR, provided that the person concerned is in a situation freely to make a choice and to act in accordance with the decision.

The FT stresses

that for the person who wishes to die there is no right to be accompanied. The FT points out that assisted suicide for a person with psychic problems is delicate and that any evaluation **necessarily requires a detailed report by a psychiatric specialist.**

FT 03.11.2006

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CONDITIONS FOR REQUESTING AN ASSISTED SUICIDE



1. Be a member of the association ***EXIT Suisse romande*** for French-speaking Switzerland
2. Be resident in Switzerland
3. Be capable of making decisions
4. Submit a written request or notarised document with full medical records
5. Either be suffering from an incurable disease, severe disability or unbearable pain, or
6. Be suffering from multiple debilitating conditions linked to old age

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MULTIPLE DEBILITATING CONDITIONS LINKED TO OLD AGE

Old age: *“the winter of life”*

Progressive dependence: permanent inability to complete at least two everyday activities without help

1. Getting dressed and undressed
2. Getting up, sitting down and going to bed
3. Eating
4. Maintaining personal hygiene
5. Going to the toilet
6. Getting around
7. Progressive deafness and/or blindness

➡ Physical restrictions and psychological suffering

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THE MYTH OF PHILEMON AND BAUCIS

Once upon a time, many years ago, Zeus and Hermes decided to walk upon the earth in disguise to test the hospitality of its inhabitants. However, they were turned away from all the doors they knocked on. At the end of the day, they arrived at a humble farm. Zeus knocked at the door and someone came to answer it. The man was called Philemon and had lived there in poverty since his marriage to Baucis, his wife. The old couple invited the gods to stay the night and share their modest meal. Then a miracle happened: no matter how many cups of wine were poured, the level of liquid in the pot did not go down at all. The elderly couple were frightened and spent the rest of the night praying silently. In the early hours of the morning, the gods revealed their identity to Philemon and Baucis, who were even more terrified by the news. But the gods only wanted to thank them for their hospitality and they transformed the ancient farm into a splendid temple. Then the gods asked Philemon what else he desired. After consulting Baucis, Philemon revealed the wishes they shared to the gods: “We would like to be your priests and watch over your sanctuaries and, since we have lived our lives with one heart, we wish for both of us to leave this world at the same time. I never want to see my wife’s funeral pyre and never want her to have to bury me.” Thus, Philemon and Baucis officiated in the temple of Zeus for many years, until the day when, worn out by age and the passing of time, Baucis saw Philemon covering himself with leaves and the ancient Philemon saw Baucis covering herself with leaves too. “Farewell, my husband”, “Farewell, my wife”, they said to each other at the same time and, also at the same time, the wood enveloped them to make them disappear. Then the elderly couple, in a final embrace, were transformed: he into an oak, she into a linden, and their branches still entwine today in our countryside.



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13 COUPLES

Average age for men	86 years
Average age for women	82 years

Members of EXIT for 8 years on average (shortest 1 month, longest 19 years)

- 12 couples with children
- 1 couple without children
- 10 assisted suicides at home
- 3 assisted suicide in healthcare institution

DYING TOGETHER: THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

Cécile Allaz
Pierre Allaz
EMS Les Baumettes
Avenue des Baumettes 120
1020 Renens

Renens, le 3 mai 2012

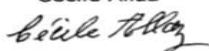
Madame, Monsieur

Nous soussignés, Madame Cécile Allaz et Monsieur Pierre Allaz, sommes atteints dans notre santé de façon irrémédiable.

Notre qualité de vie devient de plus en plus difficile, tant sur le plan physique que psychologique. C'est pourquoi nous demandons que l'association EXIT A.D.M.D. nous aide à mettre un terme à notre existence ensemble.

Les personnes qui seront présentes lors de notre autodélivrance ne sont nullement impliquées dans notre choix de mettre fin à notre vie en toute sérénité.

Cécile Allaz



Pierre Allaz



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SPECIMEN NOTARISED DECLARATION FOR A COUPLE

We, the undersigned, Mr and Mrs, are suffering from a incurable illness.

Our quality of life is becoming more and more limited, both physically and psychologically. For this reason, we are asking the association EXIT A.D.M.D. to help both of us end our lives together.

We have considered our decision carefully and we hereby declare that the people present at our self-deliverance will not be implicated in any way in our choice to end our lives with total peace of mind.

Finally, we hereby release all doctors who have treated us from medical confidentiality.



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Légalisation numéro 1'272.-

Vu exclusivement pour légalisation de la signature apposée d'autre part.

Signataire	Mode d'identification	Constatation de l'authenticité
Mme Cécile Vénérande Allaz	Carte d'identité	Par comparaison après confirmation du signature

Chavannes-près-Renens, le huit mai deux mille douze.



DYING TOGETHER: THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

Légalisation numéro 1'273.-

Vu exclusivement pour légalisation de la signature apposée d'autre part.

Signataire	Mode d'identification	Constatation de l'authenticité
M. Pierre Paul Allaz	Carte d'identité	Par comparaison après confirmation du signataire

Chavannes-près-Renens, le huit mai deux mille douze.



Valérie Haas, notaire



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EXIT ADM.D Suisse romande

Secrétariat

Case postale 110

1211 Genève 17

18 MAI 2012

Je soussigné Hella Bécile demande qu'EXIT
ADM.D me prête assistance pour mettre fin
à mes jours.

- Je suis membre de votre association depuis
l'année 2004 et déclare être tout à fait lucide et
déterminée dans la requête que je vous adresse.
Ma décision est mûrement réfléchie et je déclare
que les personnes présentes lors de mon
autodélivrance ne sont nullement impliquées
dans le choix de mon geste.

Renens le 9.4.2012

Bécile Hella

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18 MAI 2012

DECLARATION

Je soussigné Pierre Allaz demande qu'EXIT ADMD me prête assistance pour mettre fin à mes jours.

Je suis membre de votre association depuis le
et déclare être tout à fait lucide et déterminé dans la requête
que je vous adresse.

Mes souffrances, tant physiques que psychiques, sont
intolérables et ma qualité de vie est devenue pour moi
inacceptable.

Ma décision est mûrement réfléchie et je déclare que les
personnes présentes lors de mon autodélivrance ne sont
nullement impliquées dans le choix de mon geste.

Renens, le 3 mai 2012

Pierre Allaz



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DECLARATION

I, the undersigned, P. A., am asking EXIT ADMD to help me end my life.

I have been a member of your association since ... and declare that I am completely rational and certain of the request I am making of you.

My pain, both physical and psychological, is unbearable and my quality of life has become unacceptable.

I have considered my decision carefully and hereby declare that the people present at my self-deliverance will have played no role whatsoever in my choice of action.

Renens, 3 May 2012

Signature:



DYING TOGETHER:THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

DR JACQUES DUBI
GENERAL PRACTITIONER, ACCREDITED
BY THE SWISS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (FMH)
TEL. +41 (0)21/691 87 22
FAX +41 (0)21/691 87 04

CH-1024 ÉCUBLENS
ROUTE DU BOIS 17

5 July 2012

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

Re: Mr Pierre ALLAZ, born on 06.11.1917
Current address: Fondation des Baumettes
Av. des Baumettes, CH-1020 Renens

I, the undersigned medical practitioner, hereby certify that the above-named patient has a partial but sufficient capacity to understand the issues of assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia.

The following diagnosis has been made for him:

- Memory problems with moderate senile dementia, mainly typified by memory loss, an impaired ability to perform tasks, and moderate temporo-spatial disorientation
- History of complex partial epileptic seizures with secondary generalisation due to chronic subdural haematoma of the right convexity
- Hypertension (being treated)
- History of choledocholithiasis, treated with ERCP and papillotomy in 1999
- Laparoscopic cholecystectomy performed in 1999
- Transvesical prostatectomy performed in 1978
- Severe involutional melancholia

As such, the necessary conditions for assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia are satisfied from a legal perspective.

[Signature]

Dr Jacques Dubi



DYING TOGETHER:THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

DR JACQUES DUBI
GENERAL PRACTITIONER, ACCREDITED
BY THE SWISS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION (FMH)
TEL. +41 (0)21/691 87 22
FAX +41 (0)21/691 87 04

CH-1024 ÉCUBLENS
ROUTE DU BOIS 17

5 July 2012

MEDICAL CERTIFICATE

Re: Mrs Cécile Allaz, born on 09.09.1920
Current address: Fondation des Baumettes
Av. des Baumettes, CH-1020 Renens

I, the undersigned medical practitioner, hereby certify that the above-named patient has a complete capacity to understand the issues of assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia.

The following diagnosis has been made for her:

- Urinary incontinence ("urge" type)
- History of a brief depressive reaction following the institutionalisation of her husband
- Moderate gastroesophageal reflux
- Severe involuntional melancholia

As such, the necessary conditions for assisted suicide and voluntary euthanasia are satisfied from a legal perspective.

[Signature]

Dr Jacques Dubi



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Cantonal
Vaud
Boulevard de la Gare 1

OFFICE OF THE CANTONAL EXAMINING MAGISTRATES
SPECIAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
MONITORING AND MINORS

Av. de Longemalle 1
CH-1020 Renens

REGISTERED MAIL
PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL

Mr
Jérôme SOBEL
Rue Bellefontaine 2
CH-1003 Lausanne

Our ref.
File no.: PE12.013788-EMM
(to be mentioned in all correspondence)

Your ref.

Date
27 November 2012/fml

S U M M O N S

(art. 201 of the Criminal Procedure Code – CrimPC)

Dear Doctor Sobel,

You are summoned to appear in person at my hearing

on **Friday, 11 January 2013 at 3:30 p.m.**

In my office at Av. de Longemalle 1, CH-1020 Renens, Canton of Vaud

to be heard as a person who has been called to provide information. Please release yourself from medical confidentiality.

Reason: a hearing as part of the investigation conducted following the death of Cécile and Pierre ALLAZ.

On your appearance, please present this summons, a form of identification and the enclosed summary of rights and responsibilities form, signed and dated.

[Stamp: Office of
the Cantonal
Examining
Magistrates]

(L.S.)

The Prosecutor
[signature]
Eric MERMOUD
pp Francine Morattel, Secretary

Enclosed: Summary of rights and responsibilities form

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Canton of
Vaud

**OFFICE OF THE CANTONAL EXAMINING MAGISTRATES
SPECIAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
MONITORING AND MINORS**

Av. de Longemalle 1
CH-1020 Renens

COPY

**"NO PROCEEDINGS "
DECISION
(art. 319ff.CrimPC)**

Our ref.
File no.: PE12.013788-EMM
(to be mentioned in all correspondence)

Date
30 January 2013/fml

Investigation opened following the death of Pierre and Cécile ALLAZ discovered on 24 July 2012 at the Les Baumettes nursing home in Renens.

Identity of the deceased

Pierre ALLAZ born on 6 November 1917, resident at Fondation les Baumettes, Etablissement medico-social, Av. des Baumettes 120, CH-1020 Renens, Canton of Vaud.

Cécile ALLAZ born on 9 September 1920, resident at Fondation les Baumettes, Etablissement medico-social, Av. des Baumettes 120, CH-1020 Renens, Canton of Vaud.

Facts

Spouses Cécile and Pierre ALLAZ died on 24 July 2012 at the Les Baumettes nursing home in Renens after taking a lethal dose of sodium pentobarbital during an accompanied self-deliverance organised by the association EXIT. The investigation was opened to examine the circumstances of the assisted suicide of these two people and also because Cécile ALLAZ was not suffering from an incurable illness with fatal prognosis.

Reasons (art.319 ff. CrimPC)

The investigation made it possible to establish that, although Cécile ALLAZ did not have an incurable illness with a fatal prognosis, she was still suffering from multiple debilitating conditions. The spouses had been married for some 68 years and could not imagine dying without each other. They had joined the association Exit in 2004. The people who assisted them, who met with the spouses regularly over a period of several months, were able to ascertain their ability to make decisions and their firm resolution to end their lives together. The facts do not constitute any kind of criminal offence. The proceedings must be abandoned.

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The medical records seized and sequestered under card no. 218 must be returned to the Les Baumettes nursing home.

Applicable articles of law

Articles 267, 319, and 423 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrimPC)

Decision

The prosecutor:

- I. Rules that criminal proceedings shall be abandoned
- II. Lifts seizure no. 218 concerning the medical records and rules that they be returned to the Les Baumettes nursing home as of this definitive and binding ruling.
- III. Asks the State to cover the procedural costs.

The Prosecutor

[signature]

Eric MERMOUD

Copies are to be issued to the following for information:

Dr Jacques DUBI, Route du Bois 17, CH-1024 Ecublens

Ms Christiane BOULAY, Route du Camping, PO Box 26, CH-1807 Blonay

Ms Gabriela RENAUD, Ruelle de Chaucey 4, CH-1807 Blonay

Dr Jérôme SOBEL, Rue Bellefontaine 2, CH-1003 Lausanne

APPEALS

Under articles 393 ff. of the Criminal Procedure Code, this decision can be appealed. Appeals must be justified and addressed in writing to the Chamber for Criminal Appeals of the Cantonal Supreme Court, Palais de justice de l'Hermitage, Rte du Signal 8, CH-1014 Lausanne, within 10 days of notification or the communication of the decision being contested. The costs of the ruling by the Chamber of Criminal Appeals can be charged to the appellant (art. 428 para.1 CrimPC).

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INDIVIDUALS ASSISTED SUICIDE

(2015) 213 people

127 women average age 79 years 59.60%
86 men average age 78 years 40.40%

Reasons for requesting an assisted suicide

Cancers	88	41,31%
Multiple debilitating conditions	60	28,17%
Neurological conditions	31	14,55%
Ophthalmic conditions	11	5,17%
Respiratory conditions	10	4,69%
Cardiovascular conditions	9	4,23%
Hepatic conditions	2	0,94%
Renal conditions	1	0,47%
Psychiatric conditions	1	0,47%

DYING TOGETHER

(2003-2015) 13 couples

13 women average age 82 years
13 men average age 86 years

Reasons for requesting an assisted suicide

Multiple debilitating conditions	10
Neurological conditions	7
Vascular conditions	4
Cancers	2
Respiratory conditions	2
Renal conditions	1

DYING TOGETHER: THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

Obituary

Le matin du 10 février 2016, après 67 ans de vie commune, entourés de l'amour de leurs proches,

Madame Anne-Lise BURGER
et
Monsieur le professeur Michel BURGER

ont quitté ce monde ensemble en sérénité.
Sont profondément touchés et admiratifs devant leur courage,
leur fils et leur belle-fille Alexis et Brigitte **Leela Burger**,
leurs petits-enfants Laura **Burger Chakraborty** et son mari Dipanjan **Chakraborty**, Raphaël **Burger** et Eve **Burger**.

Nous remercions sincèrement les intervenants d'Exit pour leur dévouement et leur humanité.

Une cérémonie aura lieu lundi 15 février à 10 h 30 en la chapelle B du centre funéraire de Montoie à Lausanne.

Cet avis tient lieu de faire-part.

24heures Newspaper Tuesday 02/12/2016

DYING TOGETHER:THE MYTH AND THE REALITY

**SWITZERLAND IS THE ONLY COUNTRY
IN THE WORLD
WHERE
THE MYTH HAS BECOME REALITY...**