



Australian Rational Suicide/ Euthanasia Workshops

Exit International Director Dr Philip Nitschke will run the first of four Australian workshops on Rational Suicide/ Euthanasia in Perth on Monday 1st June.

The Australian series follows the European Workshop in Dublin this week, and coincides with the publication in the 1st June update of the Peaceful Pill eHandbook of new material on available methods.

Speaking from London, Dr Nitschke said that there had been significant developments in the international assisted dying movement over the past year.

“The issue is no longer just about helping those who can prove they are terminally ill. It is about a much bigger issue; the right of every rational adult to a peaceful death, *at the time of their choosing, and for whatever reason.*

Dr Nitschke said that at the last Perth Workshop, Nigel Brayley had attended, and went on to suicide when he realised he was facing a long jail term over the deaths of two of his previous partners.

“A decision to die rather than face 20 years in a West Australian prison could be seen by many as a rational act. It is for that same reason that Exit supports the right of prisoners incarcerated for ‘life without parole’ to be provided with the means to end their lives.

Dr Nitschke said that Australian rational suicide workshop will provide practical detail on available end of life options. Exit members will also be advised on recent important developments on the common practise of using helium gas for a peaceful, reliable and lawful death. Gas manufacturers, Worthington's announcement last month that following complaints by the NZ coroner, they will now add 20% air to their cylinders, will effect Australians seeking this option. Facilities will be provided at the workshops so that Exit members can have their gas cylinders tested.

Dr Nitschke said that his support for the concept of rational suicide was one of 12 new charges brought against him by the Australian Medical Board. These charges are scheduled to be heard in front of the NT Medical Tribunal in Darwin in November.

The Exit Rational Suicide Workshop will be held from 9am to 1pm at the Wembley Centre. 40 Alexander St, Wembley.

Workshops will follow in:

Sydney June 9,

Canberra June 10

Melbourne on June 12

See: <http://exitinternational.net/meetings/workshops/> for details

NOTE: The June 1 Update of *The Peaceful Pill eHandbook* & the Australian Workshop series will feature:

- **The June 2015 update of the *Peaceful Pill eHandbook* features details of the Mexican kid on the block who was able to help Alzheimer's sufferer Sandy Bem - Read Sandy's story in the New York Times nyti.ms/1e7C49r Isn't it time for that Mexican holiday?**



- The June 2015 update of the *Peaceful Pill eHandbook* provides details of important changes to Balloon Time Helium and shows you how to avoid trouble.



Testing Balloon Time Helium cylinders for Oxygen contamination

The manufacturers of Balloon Time disposable helium cylinders have announced that their cylinders may now contain as much as 20% air. While the presence of 20% air will not effect the use of this gas to inflate toy balloons, it will no longer be of use by those planning to use this gas to end their life. Details on these changes, techniques for testing to ensure the purity of your Balloon Time gas, and alternative gas sources, will be addressed in detail in the May update

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