

Media

YouTube overreact to Assisted Suicide issue Removes film of the international launch of the 3D printed Sarco euthanasia machine

10 years of film posted by Exit International documenting the history of the right to die movement has been removed as the Exit account was closed without warning. No explanation has been provided by YouTube despite repeated request by Exit International.

The most recent film blocked by the internet giant dealt with coverage of the Exit NuTech conference in Toronto in October 2017, where the 3D printed liquid nitrogen euthanasia machine designed by Dr Philip Nitschke, and described by Newsweek as a "the (Tesla) model *S* of death machines, a sleek spaceship for journeying to the great beyond" was launched.

The link to the Sarco launch now states: "This video is no longer available as the YouTube account associated with this material has been terminated".

Speaking from Amsterdam, where Exit International is based, Director Dr Philip Nitschke said it was another example of abuse of power by the internet giant.

"YouTube has long tried to depict itself as a champion of free speech, but at the first hint of trouble over a sensitive political issue like assisted suicide, they immediately reach for the censor's brush".

"This is presumably part of an attempt to resurrect the YouTube public image after the Logan Paul debacle where the received global criticism for hosting film showing a Japanese suicide site. Now it seems they will block any content of this important contemporary issue."

Dr Nitschke noted though that Exit International was the only international pro voluntary euthanasia/ assisted suicide organisation that so far had been targeted.

"I am in constant contact with assisted suicide groups around the world and many have expressed alarm at this development, and fear similar treatment directed at their YouTube internet presence".

Exit International is now seeking an alternative internet platform where video on developments in assisted suicide can be hosted.

Dr Nitschke is currently travelling to New Zealand where the trial of Exit representative Suzy Austen accused of importing euthanasia Nembutal and "assisting" an elderly and sick Exit member is about to start.

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