

Title: My Right to Die: Examining Euthanasia through the Lens of Metaphysics
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The past one hundred years have introduced a drastic change in ethical norms, with emphasis on the roles of liberalism and autonomy. One such example that illustrates the trend in valued norms is euthanasia. Historically, tradition has considered acts like euthanasia as taboo. However, in the past thirty years, surveys have indicated a new view on euthanasia. For example, a Gallup survey in 2017 reported that 73% of Americans supported the legalization of euthanasia should the patient request it (Shayanian). One indicator that motivates the trend among the populace is the dominating philosophical paradigm that society normalizes. Moral frameworks are rooted in a civilization's understanding of reality. The ethics that is formulated and justified by various paradigms depends on how existence is conceived. By deconstructing the ontological framework of the Western paradigm, one can denote how scientific naturalism affects the debate regarding the morality of euthanasia (Dowbiggin 43). The proposed study will analyze the relationship between metaphysics and ethics by examining the various paradigms that offer perspectives on euthanasia. We will examine significant ethical theories and their arguments for and against euthanasia and examine their metaphysical parameters. On a grander scale we will examine epistemic constructions that affect ethical theories, deriving principles to analyze how positions on euthanasia are adopted.

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