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Suicide Tourism

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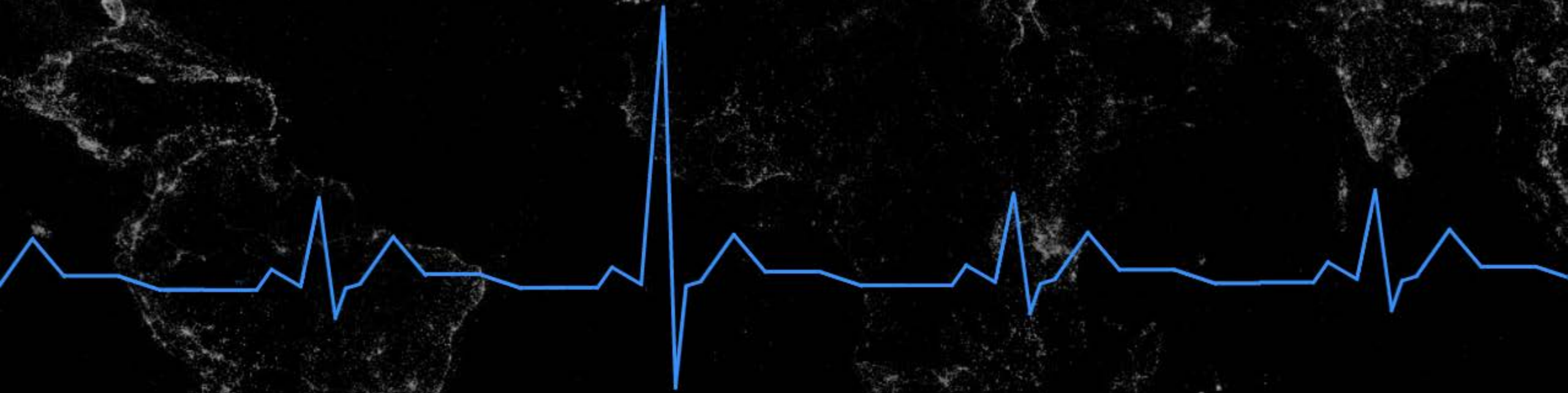
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Suicide Tourism



Emma Anderson, Bethany Ebben,
Abby Sherman, and Johnna Vanstrom

Suicide Tourism: Definition



When a suicidal individual travels from one jurisdiction to another in order to legally receive assistance in his/her suicide from another individual.

Overview:

- History
- Current State
- Ethics
- Alternatives
- Social Action

A Historical Perspective: Spike of Acceptance¹²

- Disease model of suicide in the 1800s
- Rights movements from the 1900s
- Gradual legalization of today



Brittany Maynard³



Current State

- Switzerland⁸
 - Not clearly regulated
 - “Selfish motives”
 - Residency
- Peaceful Exit International⁷
 - Nembutal
 - Mexico, Switzerland, China, Macedonia, and Thailand
- Other Jurisdictions⁶
 - 5 U.S. States



DIGNITAS!



- Founded in 1998
- Accompaniment of self-determined end of life.
- Two locations
- Over 5500 members in 60 countries
- 2,000 deaths in first 16 years

Secular Worldview I, 13

- Ludwig Minelli's views
 - Right to life
 - No religion - “Atheist” determination
 - Too many failed suicides

Popular Thoughts

- Prolonged suffering
 - Autonomous
- Compassionate act
 - Fear
- Financial and emotional drain
 - Dignity

Christian Worldview

Through God's
Eyes

- Genesis 1:27

Value of Pain

- I Peter 4:12-13



Social Work Values^{4,11}

Dignity and Worth of a Person:

- Slippery Slope- vulnerable populations
- Relief of Suffering- people unable to consent for themselves

Personal Autonomy

- Importance of Human Relationships:
 - Doctor-Patient Relationship

Alternatives:



Hospice^{10, 15}
Pain Clinics²

A Potential for Action 14



If you feel so moved, consider signing a petition for the Canadian Parliament to block Supreme Court rulings that legalize Physician-Assisted Suicide.

