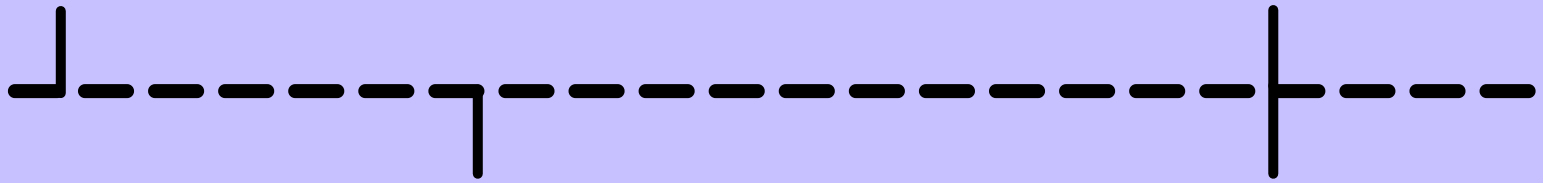


EUTHANASIA SLIPPERY SLOPE

CASE STUDY: THE NETHERLANDS

2002: Euthanasia became legal in the Netherlands (1)

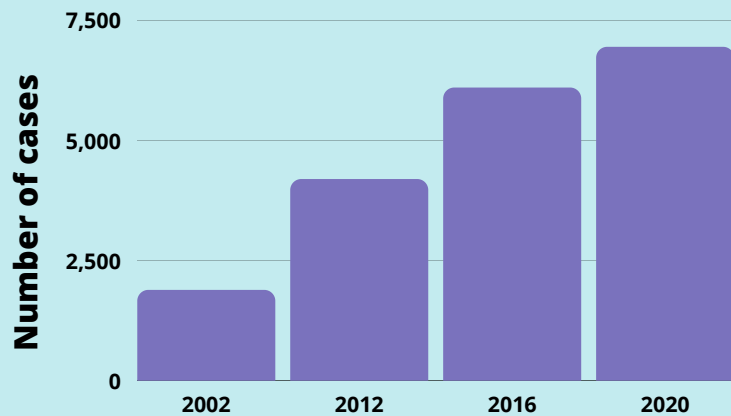
2020: The Dutch courts allow for patients with severe dementia to be euthanised based on a prior written request alone, and without having to follow up if the patient still wished to go through with it (3).



2005: The "Groningen Protocol" comes into effect, allowing infants/newborns to be euthanised (1)

2020: The Dutch government approved plans to move to allow euthanasia for children under 12 years of age (2)

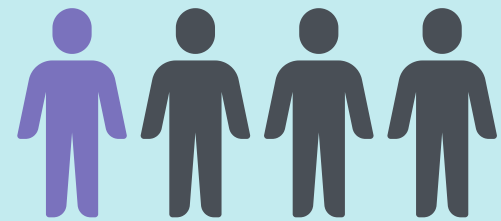
NETHERLANDS EUTHANASIA FACTS:



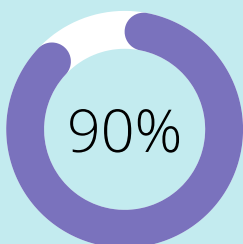
• Since legalization, the cases of Euthanasia have **more than tripled**. (1)

With 6938 cases in 2020. (7)

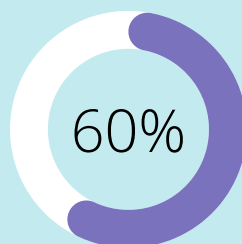
• 1 in 4 Physicians who receive a Euthanasia request have experienced difficulty in the decision making process, especially determining a patients voluntariness of request and determining if patients suffering was hopeless and unbearable. (5)



• A 2015 survey of Doctors, from the Royal Dutch Medical Association (6) found,:



90% felt that the burden put on doctors to perform euthanasia is underestimated



60% felt "pressured into euthanasia by their patients or by the family"

"Doctors are pressured by patients or their loved ones to perform euthanasia, and this pressure has increased in recent years"

- 'Clear patient communication regarding euthanasia' study (4)

References:

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4. <https://www.knmg.nl/web/file?uuid=17890a81-43a2-4c9f-a9fc-c4cec39e7757&owner=5c945405-d6ca-4deb-aa16-7af2088aa173&contentid=67477>
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6. <https://www.alliancevita.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/euthanasia-in-the-netherlands.pdf>
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