

21 August 2025

Padre John,

Thank you for your kind and sentient thoughts on the practice of state sponsored senicide. I apologize for my late reply.

Your frustration is mutually shared with others aware of the inhumanity of penal elder abuse. Unfortunately Between the Bars media has limited reach, however soon the plight of geriatric prisoners will be brought to social media, which I believe will be titled "They are killing grandpas with our tax dollars." A taxpayer watch group is puting together an effort for greater exposure of this inhumane and prodigal practice. I'm sure they will welcome your input.

To your question on how I minister other prisoners: most of my energy is devoted to the elderly cause and the elderly themselves, which are truly a marginalized and forgotten class of prisoners, most are indigent. Because I have some financial resources and and occasional financial honorariums for my essays I work with the prisoner clerk in our building. He identifies those elderly who need necesities from the prison store, then anonymously through him we help them. They have no idea who the benefactor is; only that someone cares.

Almost all elderly are in a state of Learned Helplessness where they are afraid, or unable, to defend themselves I fight for them e.g. file general grievances, report to guards bullying and extrotion by other prisoners, and report guards that abuse the elderly.

Although I am old myself I take heed in Poet Dylan Thomas's "Do not go gentle into that good night .."