



# ACHIEVING THE RIGHT TO DIE

Campaigns for assisted dying in England and Wales

Presented by Richy Thompson

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*curious*

## ABOUT ME

- Director of Public Affairs and Policy, Humanists UK
- Manage our public affairs, policy, campaigns, media, and legal work
- Have worked with individuals like Paul Lamb, Jane Nicklinson, Omid T, and Noel Conway - all members of ours
- Been involved in our human rights legal cases on abortion, marriage, education - as well as managing our interventions in the Omid and Conway cases
- Provide the Secretariat for the 100-strong All Party Parliamentary Humanist Group



## WHAT I'M GOING TO TALK ABOUT

- Recent history of political campaigning around assisted dying
- Explainer of the various legal cases that are going on - and what they might achieve
- The role that Humanists UK has been playing in all this



# ARTICLE 8 OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

## Right to respect for private and family life

1. Everyone has the right to respect for his private and family life, his home and his correspondence.
2. There shall be no interference by a public authority with the exercise of this right except such as is in accordance with the law and is necessary in a democratic society in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country, for the prevention of disorder or crime, for the protection of health or morals, or for the protection of the rights and freedoms of others.

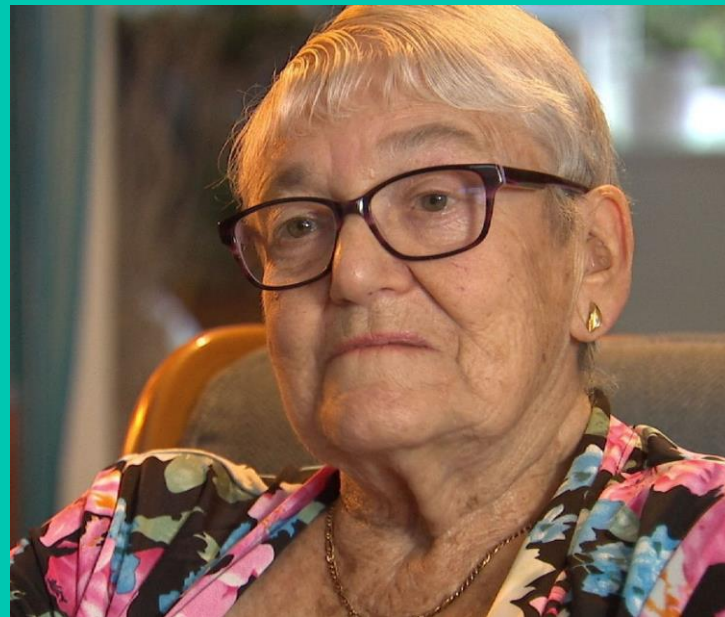


## HUMAN RIGHTS ACT 1998

- Section 6(1): ‘It is unlawful for a public authority to act in a way which is incompatible with a Convention right.’
- Section 4:
  - ‘(1) Subsection (2) applies in any proceedings in which a court determines whether a provision of primary legislation is compatible with a Convention right.
  - (2) If the court is satisfied that the provision is incompatible with a Convention right, it may make a declaration of that incompatibility.
  - (6) A declaration under this section (“a declaration of incompatibility”)—
    - (a) does not affect the validity, continuing operation or enforcement of the provision in respect of which it is given; and
    - (b) is not binding on the parties to the proceedings in which it is made.’



## DIANE PRETTY



## DEBBIE PURDY



## NICKLINSON/LAMB





## PARLIAMENT



## CONWAY/OMID



## WHERE NOW?

