

ASSISTED SUICIDE LAWS

BLACK AND LATINO PEOPLE REJECT ASSISTED SUICIDE



ANITA CAMERON'S STORY

“As a Black Latina, I could never wrap my head around the assisted suicide phenomenon. I thought that it was some odd thing that privileged White people were into.”

Anita is professionally and personally aware of the fact that Black and Brown people strongly oppose assisted suicide. A Massachusetts 2012 referendum on assisted suicide revealed majority Hispanic towns voted as much as 69% against assisted suicide. A Massachusetts precinct that voted 99% for Barack Obama also voted 72% against assisted suicide. Towns with wealthy and white populations throughout the state voted for it.

Legislators, many of whom are from the same demographic as those pushing for assisted suicide, may ignore the fact that Black and Brown communities reject assisted suicide and for good reason Anita is concerned that the rampant disparities in health care and our profit-driven health care system will put pressure on her communities to choose death over care.

Anita Cameron is the Director of Minority Outreach for the disability rights organization, Not Dead Yet and lives in Rochester, New York.