

Australia Dossier by Allen Douglas

Mont Pelerin health policy is murder

Don't take a tourist trip to Australia or New Zealand and fall ill . . . for you might not come back.

Based on the idea of *imago viva Dei*, that man is created in the living image of God, the Council of Florence of 1439-41 gave rise to sovereign nation-states. Until then, human life under oligarchical rule had been tenuous, as when Roman emperors used to turn their "thumbs down" in the Colosseum. But, in recent years, as the "globalization" dogmas of the British Crown's chief economic warfare unit, the Mont Pelerin Society, have taken over more and more governments, the oligarchy's power to give "thumbs down," has come back.

Nowhere in the Western world is this as stark as in Australia and New Zealand, whose governments have routinely started denying their citizens (and foreign visitors) medical care—and thus killing them—in order to save money. Take the New Zealand case of Rau Williams, 61, who died on Oct. 12 after his "health provider," Northland Health, decided, based on a "point system," that he would no longer receive dialysis. As a horrified nation followed the case in the media, his family fought heroically to get him treatment, but in vain. They appealed to Northland Health, which fought them in court; to New Zealand's Human Rights Commission, which spurned them; and to New Zealand's Court of Appeal, which turned them down in an emergency sitting. They even brought in a doctor from Australia, and secured a dialysis machine from private sources, but Northland Health refused to let the Australian doctor treat Williams. Williams had mild dementia and diabetes, so the New Zealand government pulled the plug on him as "not

worth saving," a judgment emphasized by Associate Health Minister Tuariki Delamere, who said that "health rationing" is now a fact of life.

Meanwhile, in Australia, the Mont Pelerin-dominated Federal government has slashed health care over the past two years, and the death rate has started to skyrocket. This is most clear in the state of Victoria, whose premier, Jeff Kennett, was installed by members of Mont Pelerin think-tanks in 1992, and who immediately started closing down hospitals, which has led to the following, partial list of recent deaths in Victoria:

Mrs. Bon Rodell, who died after spending nearly 21 hours on a hospital trolley waiting for a bed, because of bed elimination.

Edward Strehling, 59, a heart attack victim who was sent home by doctors and placed on a waiting list for an operation. He died a week later, of multiple heart attacks.

Claude Giles, 78, a pneumonia patient who died on Aug. 14 after spending 30 hours on a trolley waiting for a bed at Frankston Hospital. A relative said that the death could have been avoided. "I blame the government" for his death, the relative said.

Mrs. Kusuma Ekanayaka, 54, who was visiting from Sri Lanka, and who fell ill on the evening of April 21, with vomiting and headaches. Her family took her to the hospital at 9:30 p.m., but the staff said she would have to wait, "because there were another 10 patients in front of her." Mrs. Ekanayaka soon lapsed into unconsciousness, and died three hours later, shortly after she was finally admitted. Said a

relative, "If they had done something the first time, I think they could have saved her."

Nine intellectually disabled male patients between 30 and 40 years of age, who died on April 8, 1996, when a fire destroyed their residential complex for disabled people, after Kennett cut staffing levels by 50%.

Newborn babies. According to a 1997 report by the Council of Obstetric and Pediatric Mortality and Morbidity, the mortality rate for newborn babies in Victoria increased 14% between 1993 and 1995, while it dropped in every other state.

These deaths tell only part of the story, particularly in New Zealand, which also boasts the highest youth suicide rate in the Western world and the highest waiting lists in the world for operations: 200,000 of its 3.25 million citizens are presently waiting for surgery, during which wait, numbers of them, particularly heart patients, die.

In both countries, the genocide can be traced directly to the Mont Pelerin Society, whose chief financier during its start-up period in the 1950s, was Queen Elizabeth II's personal financier, City of London figure Harley Drayton. Kennett's mass murder was scripted by the 1992 report, "Towards a Healthier State: The Restructuring of Victoria's Public Health Services," drafted for him by Mont Pelerin think-tanks, while every step of the infamous "New Zealand reforms" in health care were directed by New Zealand's three members of the Mont Pelerin Society: businessman Alan Gibbs, who wrote the first "health reforms" report in 1989; Health Minister Simon Upton, who started implementing Gibbs's report in 1990; and Roger Kerr, executive director of Mont Pelerin's main New Zealand front, the Business Roundtable, which sponsored numerous papers promoting health reforms.