

\$1 million in grants from Soros's Project on Death in America and the free-market malthusian Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and its "Last Acts" project, among others. Byock told Oregonians that the hospice movement is promoting a new, better dying experience in hospitals (with hospice rooms).

The battle around the suicide law, now in effect, is not over. It is already reported that the Oregon Health Plan, which won't even cover basic items such as hearing aids for the state's poorest people, will pay for them to commit suicide. Measure 16's authors, Barbara Coombs Lee and Eli Stutsman, who designed the law to prohibit lethal injections (to quell the image of Nazi doctors), now say that a new interpretation of the law might let doctors give patients "suicide drugs" via existing intravenous lines and through lethal inhalants—like the portable poison gas chambers and lethal IVs employed by Jack "Dr. Death" Kevorkian (*Oregon Health Law Manual*, Vol. 2, 1997).

Days after the vote, several Republican state legislators proposed a special session to amend the law, and to debate its possible expansion to allow the use of lethal injections. Jack Kevorkian's accomplice, attorney Geoffrey Fieger, was in Portland calling for patients to have the right to "suicide help"

at any time (why wait until they are terminally ill?), with doctors and nurses giving the lethal injections.

The LaRouche movement alone has pointed out that the "solutions" promoted by both sides, embrace as positive, Hitler's notion that some lives are "not worth living." No matter how earnest the patient's plea for mercy, these "solutions," born of a culture of pessimism that cripples our vision of what medical science can do to relieve suffering, are wrong. They deny that we, as a nation, are capable of producing a better notion of mercy, than a mercy that kills. Under the culture of pessimism, a human life is deemed "too costly" or "not worthy" of society's support, if a person is hospitalized twice within six months for chronic illness. The patient will not die of his disease; he will be murdered by a barbaric social Darwinian economic policy.

Unless such economic policies, and euthanasia laws such as Oregon's, which they spawn, are reversed, we shall soon see the implementation of the Nazi arguments of the death "ethicists": If suicide is a "right" or is "morally correct" for those with a poor quality of life, then "all suicide prevention is wrong," and suicide may even be considered morally "obligatory."

Soros funds campaign for assisted suicide

When speculator George Soros isn't sucking the lifeblood out of countries with currency speculation, he promotes his own personal solution for the sick and suffering millions among us, by pushing death. His Project on Death in America has distributed tens of millions of dollars to promote his "culture of death" in U.S. medicine, while his Open Society Institute funds the nation's most aggressive euthanasia stormtroopers, such as the following:

Oregon Death with Dignity Legal Defense Fund: (\$250,000) To defend Oregon's 1994 physician-assisted-suicide law against legal challenges and repeal in the Ballot Measure 51 campaign.

Compassion in Dying: (\$150,000) CID boasts that it "facilitates" scores of "rational suicides," many for "psychic pain." Its founder, Unitarian Universalist minister Ralph Mero, promotes his favorite "suicide" method: "There is nothing like applesauce and barbs [barbiturates]—it's calm, peaceful. You take the pills in the applesauce, have a sip of Chivas Regal. . . . Say your goodbye. Within minutes, you're gone. . . . It's something to see." CID spearheaded the Washington and New York "physi-

cian-assisted-suicide" cases which the U.S. Supreme Court decided in June. Mero founded Washington's Hemlock Society in 1988 and authored its defeated 1991 ballot initiative to legalize assisted suicide. Barbara Coombs Lee, the author of Oregon's Measure 16 suicide law, is now CID's executive director, overseeing several national campaigns to expand state euthanasia laws.

The Death with Dignity Education Center: (\$100,000) Founded in 1994 by Hemlock Society attorney Michael H. White, after Hemlock's "death on demand" California ballot initiatives failed in 1988 and 1992. Among its board members are:

Dr. Timothy Quill, who proposes "lethal treatment" as a legitimate care option for terminally ill patients or for those who refuse life-sustaining treatment when they find standard methods of care "unsatisfactory in the context of their own situation and values."

David Mayo, who says he is "totally sympathetic to voluntary active euthanasia," but wants doctors to distinguish between patients worth saving and those who say their lives are "not worth living."

Maggie Pabst Battin, who asks in her *Suicide: The Philosophical Issues*: "Can suicide be morally correct, or . . . even obligatory? Then we must look at our policies and practices with regard to heroism, self-sacrifice, self-senicide or killing oneself in old age, voluntary capital punishment, and even the fundamental distaste for life."