

North American Association of Christians in Social Work (NACSW

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"A Vital Christian Presence in Social Work"

#### HUMAN RIGHTS PERSPECTIVE IN PREFERENCE FOR END OF LIFE DECISIONS

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#### Presentation

Human Rights Perspective in Preference for Making End-of-Life Decisions



### **Social Work Profession**

Human rights perspective as the basic principle undergirding the formulation of

- \* social work policy in designing programs
- \* social work practice in implementing services
- \* social work research in theory based and methodology (NASW Code of Ethics, 1999).

# The Universal Declaration of Human Rights

"The recognition of the inherent and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world" (Preamble, 1988).



#### **Ancient Traditions**

Human rights as a basic principle of social justice in society.

- \* Hamurabi Code
- \* Old and New Testament writings
- \* Koran,
- \* Teaching of Confucius,
- \* Hindus Vedas,
- \* Native American legends. (Shiman, 1997).



### Faith Beliefs Human Rights and Social Justice

- \* For Christian faith-based communities Social Justice and Human Rights are rooted in the
  - -Bible
  - -Christian teachings of tradition.



## Is there an authentic way for the Christian to die?

\* End-of-life decisions reflect not only the meaning we find in dying, but also the meaning we have found in living.

\* Keep insights about authentic Christian life foremost when making decisions about authentic Christian death.

(William e. Stempsey