Conclusion
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in Rational Suicide, Irrational Laws: Examining Current Approaches to Suicide in Policy and Law

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This chapter recommends that assisted suicide should be limited to people who are terminally ill. Although people who are competent should not be involuntarily committed because they are suicidal, assisted suicide should not be expanded to those with chronic, incurable conditions. If it is expanded in this way, it must include people with psychiatric disabilities. However, there are many ways to provide assistance and support to people with chronic and intractable medical and emotional conditions. Our society generally refuses to provide this support, even when it is less expensive, for a variety of reasons. For some people who are suicidal, government nonintervention suffices, but for others, neither radical autonomy nor coercive beneficence serves their needs.