

# Death on Demand and the Duty to Die

## The Problem of Euthanasia and Physician Assisted Suicide

An Order of Malta Program on Assisted Suicide Featuring Fr. Tad and Wesley Smith

When: Wednesday October 24, 2018 at 7:00pm (doors open at 6:30)

Where: The Eden Resort and Conference Center - 222 Eden Rd Lancaster, PA 17601

Come to this Order of Malta Defense of the Faith presentation and learn what you **MUST** know from two national experts on the topic of **Physician Assisted Suicide**.



### About the Speakers



Rev. Tadeusz Pacholczyk, Ph.D. is a priest of the diocese of Fall River, Massachusetts. Fr. Tad studied for 5 years in Rome where he did advanced work in dogmatic theology and in bioethics. He has given presentations and participated in roundtables on contemporary bioethics throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. From stem cell research to organ donation, abortion to euthanasia, he offers a clear and compelling analysis of modern bioethical questions, addressing issues we may confront at one time or another in our daily living. His column is entitled, "Making Sense Out of Bioethics" and is nationally syndicated in the U.S.

Wesley J. Smith is an award winning author and a legal consultant to the Patients Rights Council, a senior fellow in Human Rights and Bioethics at the Discovery Institute, and a special consultant for the Center for Bioethics and Culture. Smith appears regularly on national media outlets, has published hundreds of articles and opinion columns that have appeared nationally and internationally, and is an international lecturer and public speaker.



To register, visit: <https://maltaevents.ticketleap.com/ptb/>

For more information contact Dan Krieger at [maltaeventslanc@gmail.com](mailto:maltaeventslanc@gmail.com) or 717.406.2622

## About the Program

Come to this Order of Malta Defense of the Faith presentation and learn what you **MUST** know from two national experts on the topic of **Physician Assisted Suicide / Euthanasia**:

Rev. Tad Pacholczyk, a bioethicist from the National Catholic Bioethics Center, will discuss the problem of assisted suicide from a moral perspective: Why is assisted suicide morally wrong? How is it different from palliative care and pain management? Shouldn't people have the ability to choose their own demise?

Mr. Wesley Smith, a legal consultant to the Patients' Rights Council (a leading organization fighting assisted suicide), will discuss the current politics surrounding the topic: What is leading to the legalization of assisted suicide and what can be done to stop its progress?

Never has this topic been timelier. The Federal government leaves it up to the states to make certain exceptions to the general prohibition on Physician Assisted Suicide. Currently six states and the District of Columbia have made exception with their assisted suicide laws, and additional states (**including Pennsylvania**) have had similar bills pending in the legislature. This movement will continue to spread quickly under the euphemistic "dying with dignity" rubric. It is sold initially as a "compassionate" policy to assist the "suffering" of terminally ill persons. In reality, even in the States with assisted suicide laws, persons who have a serious disease but are not yet seriously suffering from it are availing themselves of assisted suicide. The threat is real, and the experience already in Europe (especially the Netherlands and Belgium) is that there is a **VERY Slippery Slope**. Things quickly degenerate to "quality of life" issues, depression, "lack of personal fulfillment", and, yes, economic rationales ("why spend so many resources on an old, incompetent, impaired or otherwise useless person, etc."). One's "Right to Die" very quickly descends into one's "Duty to Die."

- Come hear answers to the questions:
- Why can't someone suffering from a painful disease be able to choose a peaceful death instead of prolonging their suffering? Shouldn't someone have the right to decide his own end?
- What about a person's quality of life? Doesn't that matter?
- What does the current political landscape surrounding the topic look like in Pennsylvania? At the national level? Globally?
- What can I do to protect myself or a loved one?
- What can I do to help protect those most vulnerable to these policies promoting?

Have a question on the topic you would like answered? Email it to us in advance. Send your questions to: **maltaeventslanc@gmail.com** Your name and personal info will be kept confidential. Due to the number of questions we have received, not all questions will be able to be answered. Questions will also be accepted the night of the event, time permitting.