

**JBM Kuks**  
**Workpiece for the EBN-Examination**



## Moral Discussions Between Respect for Life and the Individual's Autonomy





# Male \*1942

**1995/9 First symptoms**

**1996/3 Diagnosis ALS predominated with bulbar symptoms**

**1997/1 Request for Euthanasia. GP Refuses.**

**1997/2 Suicide Attempt**

**1997/3 Request for Euthanasia. Neurologist considers.**

**1997/4 Procedure for Carefulness**

- Psychiatrist
- Second-Opinion Doctor (SCEN)
- Several interviews patient/family
- Consultation of Pharmacist

**1997/5 Clinical Euthanasia**

- Ambulant patient gets infusion
- Call in of municipal coroner
- Brought in to Court -> Prosecution of Doctor
- Court decides to Acquit



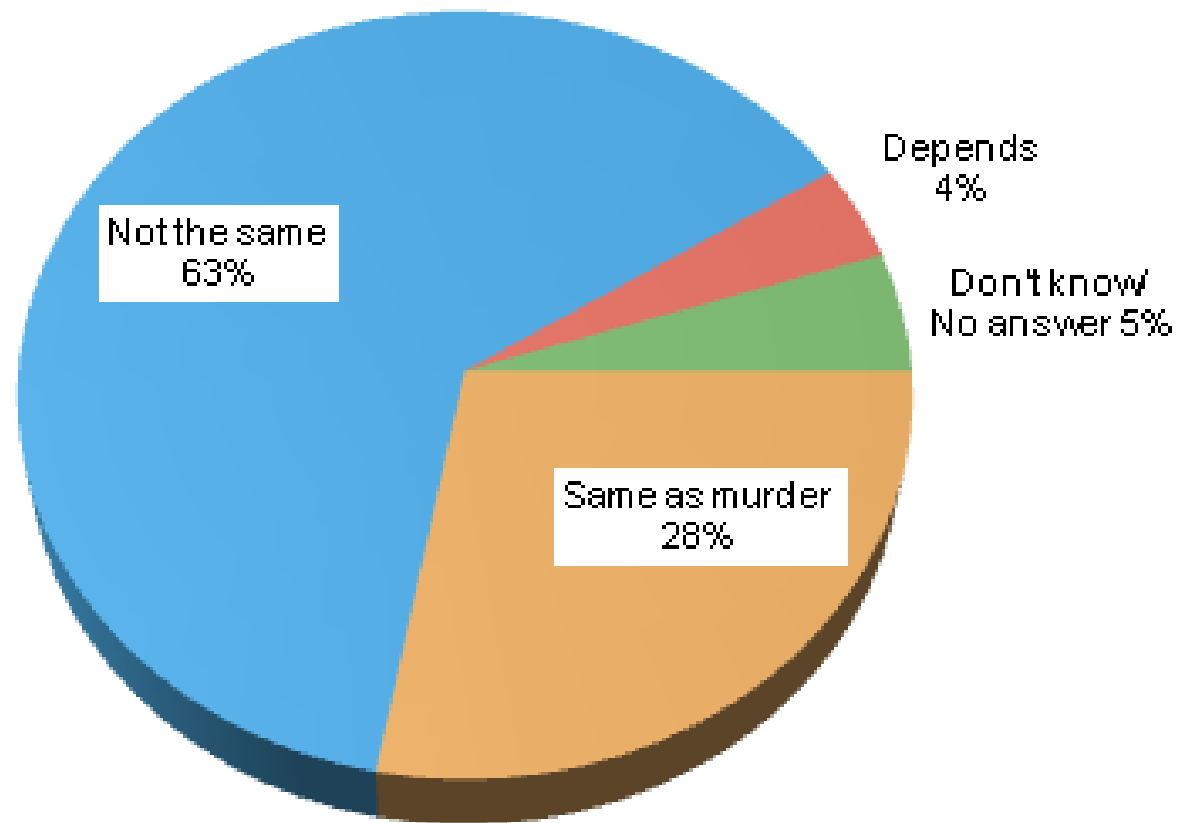
**Palliative Care**



**Physician Assisted  
Suicide  
or  
Euthanasia**



In your opinion, is a doctor injecting a terminally ill person with a lethal dose of drugs at the person's request the same thing as murder, or not?



Source: CBS News 3/05

# Problems

- **Respect for life vs Individual's Autonomy?**
- **The position of palliative Care?**
- **Where lies the legal difference between Euthanasia and 'Murder'?**
- **How to deal with patients harming themselves by taking their own right?**
- **What should be the Doctor's Role in Physician Assisted Suicide or Euthanasia?**
- **Should Euthanasia be taken out of the hands of Doctors anyway after legalizing?**