

Synopsis

Since the introduction of plans for voluntary assisted dying and the passing of the *Voluntary Assisted Dying Act 2017* (Vic), a ‘new moment’ in the governance of life and death has opened up within the Australian context.

With the opening of this new moment, critical scholarship on topics related to or ‘adjacent’ to the questions that the voluntary assisted dying regime itself raises should be brought to bear on the regime and on this new era for law, healthcare and questions of justice.

This collection brings together critical perspectives on voluntary assisted dying itself, and on various practices ‘adjacent’ to it; including questions of state power, population ageing, the differential treatment of human and non-human animals at the time of death, the management of healthcare processes through silent ‘workarounds’, and the financialisation of death.

Acknowledging that voluntary assisted dying legislation is now part of most jurisdictions around Australia, this collection provides an overview of the Victorian regime in particular, and then introduces diverse critical views, broadening our engagement with euthanasia and voluntary assisted dying beyond the limited, but important, debates about its particular enactment in Australia.

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