News from the Field
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Australia Debates Assisting People to Die
The heated debate over assisted suicide and euthana- sis is becoming quite bitter following the death of Noreen Zapt, a 70-year-old academic, who feared she had reached a happy life, but enough of and who did not want to wait until it is too late to

be dignified. Aloisi summarized a workshop presented by Cat Australia, a group who help PM; Zapt's medical career is that instruct people how to kill them-

selves or others, and patients groups. The group led by Dr. Lippert, helped four people die in 1995 in the

state of New South Wales. Lippert acknowledged having met with a couple of weeks prior to their deaths, and on

some that she had been considering whether to

take her life, but she had not opened as being argument to do so as she would have with a younger person. She also said that while terminally in which elderly people kill themselves remain near the frequency of euthanasia

is increasing.

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National Institutes of Health Bioethicist

Cities Society Should Screen About

The Blind and Disabled

Dr. M. Bick, a bioethicist with the U.S. National Institute of Health (NIH) in Bethesda (University of Rhode Island's 10th Honors Colloquium) that society would benefit if it were to prevent the birth of blind and disabled children. But noted that the decision would be made by the child's

parents, and not the government. Bick argued the common-held notion that his position would result in greater incentives for future generations

than are already disabled—namely, that they would be treated as second-class citizens. Bick asserted that his views were "unrepresentative" in a reproductive sense, and that he views simply retained the "weary choice of most parents not to intentionally bring a

seriously disabled child into the world. Bick asked, if considered a majority to be born with a

senile capacity disability, be it in the birth of a non-disabled person, then why not prevent these conditions in someone who will be born?"