

Texts referred to in the talk:

- ✓ "Julie James: Why my son had the right to die",
<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4964094.ece>
- ✓ John Harris, "No reason to challenge family's decision"
http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/comment/columnists/guest_contributors/article4965753.ece
- ✓ "Second-class life' not enough for injured rugby star Daniel James'",
<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/health/article4964392.ece>,

Quotations cited in the talk:

- ✓ "I think it is perfectly intelligible that somebody would prefer death - particularly a formerly very active young man - to continued existence almost totally paralysed. We can understand why that would be a rational choice to make. [...] There have been many cases of competent people fearing a particular unpleasant sort of continued existence, wanting to arrange their death in circumstances that they would find more tolerable than allowing death to come upon them willy-nilly. [...] Although this young man was not dying, [...] it is all a matter of degree. We are all dying. It is just a question of how long it has to be before you regard yourself as dying. [...] If you find life intolerable, then it is intolerable. The only legitimate reason is not that our life is coming to an end. Very often, your life is intolerable precisely because it isn't coming to an end."

(Harris, "No reason to challenge family's decision")

- ✓ "*Have your say*" column following the article "Julie James: Why my son had the right to die";
<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article4964094.ec>
(excerpts)

As a fellow young man and rugby player, i can completely symphathise (sic) with Dan and how he must have felt, poor man, may you rest in peace Dan and know you were loved (Gary, London, UK).

I'm overwhelmed by the strength and dignity shown by Dan's parents. I hope he's in a better place. (Leenie, Worcester, UK)

What a brave family you are and what you did for your son is amazing. God bless you all. (Kulbinder Singh, kent, england)

AG: Katerina Kolarova
Crip and/or Queer, or People with Disabilities? Questioning the Discourse of
"Integration" in Relation to (Physical) Disabilities
9 July 2009

Such unconditional love is a rare commodity in todays (sic) society & Dans (sic) family gave it in spades. I can only sit back in sheer amazement at the strength of this wonderful family ...(Ally, Oxfordshire)

True love shown by Dan's parents, the hardest decision they will ever have to make and one that could only have been made with unconditional love for there (sic) son. I wish the family well and that this will not descend into another condemnation of a brave family's decision. (Lee Pike, Harlow, England)

We should all be humbled by such an example of courage, love and dignity. Only the greatest love for their son could have given Dan's family the courage to allow and assist him in achieving his own intelligently considered but heartbreaking decision. My heart goes out to his family. (Richard Blevins, Cranleigh, Surrey, UK)

Imagine how much better off our entire world would be if every child had a parent that loved them as much as Mr. & Mrs. James loved their son. (Phil Barber, Naples Florida, USA)