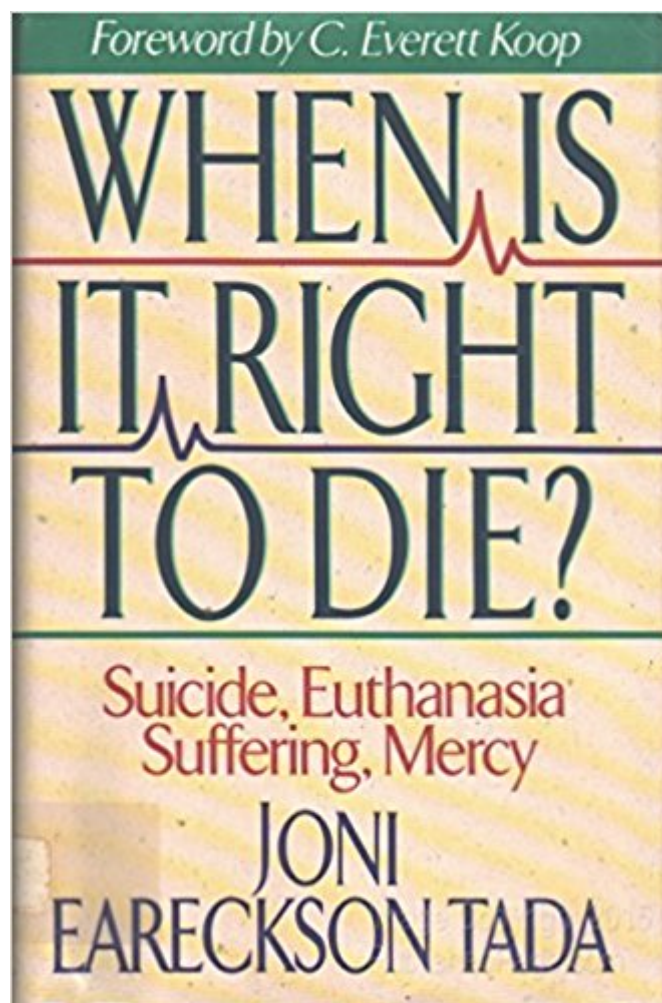


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# When Is It Right To Die?: Suicide, Euthanasia, Suffering, Mercy



## Synopsis

Joni Eareckson Tada was confronted with these questions not only as she struggled against her own paralysis, but as she sat in her wheelchair by the bedside of her dying father. So much suffering, so much pain, she thought. Why not end it all quickly. Painlessly? More and more people who are terminally ill are choosing assisted suicide. Other groups such as the elderly, the disabled, or even the depressed or suicidal are being swept up into this movement of self deliverance. These are tempting enticements to those who hurt. When is it right to die? Counterbalances such quick fix advice with alternatives of hope, compassion, and death with real dignity. Tada offers to help those who are assisted death measures on their state ballots and wonder when legalized suicide will become a reality. Behind ever booklet printed by a right to die or a right to life group is a family. A family like yours. A disabled person like Joni. In her warm, personal way, Joni takes the reader into the lives of families, the elderly, the disabled, and the terminally ill, and lets them speak about assisted death. What they say is surprising. For those who agonize over the when and the how of dying at the time when assisted suicide is being openly debated, when is it right to die give guidance toward answers that are ethical, appropriate, and right in an age of advanced medical technology, who has not pondered the questions, how do I want to die? Can I control the way I will one day die? This book is for those who want help for the single national issue that will personally touch everyone's life. Tada doesn't give pat conclusions. She doesn't hold to the position of life support when death is imminent. Instead she gives warm comfort from God and her experience and practical help to meet the hard, cold realities for those facing or considering, death. Not a dissertation on ethics, this book is filled with personal stories of real individuals facing life- and death questions and finding hope.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Tada ( Joni ) frames her view of the "right to die" issue in the context of personal growth through tragedy--her own as teenage victim of an accident that left her a quadriplegic and other episodes involving those close to her--into an enabling Christian faith. Considering the situations of those who are "periodically tempted to detour their extreme suffering or mental anguish" by initiating death, she suggests that guidance (and reasons to live) can be found in family members, friends and God. In a compassionate response to proponents of "suicide machines" and assisted death, the author advocates such alternatives as hospice care and refers frequently to the advice and consolations provided by Scripture. Tada, president of Joni and Friends, an organization that helps the disabled, delivers an eloquent, persuasive testimony. \$85,000 ad/promo; author tour. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This book argues against the practice of euthanasia from a decidedly Christian point of view. Tada bases her arguments on the implication that euthanasia is the "ultimate expression of selfishness" and that persons entertaining such thoughts are being tempted by the forces of evil. While Tada is undeniably self-righteous in tone, readers should note that she writes with personal authority, having been paralyzed in a diving accident in her teens. Libraries seeking to balance their euthanasia collections should consider this for purchase, along with Robert Wennberg's similarly argued *Terminal Choices* ( LJ 11/15/89). For the opposite point of view, libraries should consider Derek Humphry's *The Right To Die* ( LJ 9/1/86). See also David Cundiff's *Euthanasia Is Not the Answer* and Judith Ahronheim & Doron Weber's *Final Passages* , reviewed this issue, p. 85.--Ed.-Jennifer Amador, Central State Hosp. Medical Lib., Petersburg, Va.Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This book can be especially helpful to parents with a handicapped child. Joni Eareckson Tada, well known author and speaker, suffered a permanent spinal injury in a diving accident when she was in her teens. This book, written more than two decades later, addresses the difficult topics of suicide and euthanasia, suffering and mercy. The book is divided into three sections. Part 1. A Time to Live, Part 2. A Time to Choose, and Part 3. A Time to Die. Joni's story and experiences run through out the book along with stories about others who are handicapped or dying. She offers

practical and specific information and help for those who are depressed, considering suicide; those who want to die. She speaks from her Christian faith with a strong belief in God and notes that there is "an intelligence behind moral evil." He "is the devil. He was called the tempter by Jesus. There is no truth in him and his goal is death. Pg.97. The devil tells us all kinds of lies "No one cares." "There is nothing more to expect from life." "I can't live with this depression." And the biggest life of all, "Nothing awaits me after death." This book published in 1992 continues to help people with handicaps, people with depression and those who are nearing death. There is excellent information in here from a Christian perspective. Joni's life is a testimony in itself to the fact that every life has a God given purpose.

When Is It Right to Die?: Suicide, Euthanasia, Suffering, Mercy Bought this book when caring for my mom who was confined to a bed, unable to do anything for herself and could not communicate. This book helped answer some hard questions....good.

Bought used and was glad I pursued the book. Deals with death and dying issues from a conservative Biblical view. As a MS pt. myself and a family member with Alzheimer's I found Biblical answers to end of life questions that assured me when and how one has the right to die. All while not playing God or going against God's will for one's life.

Of course this person has right to speak on these subjects and the rest of us to listen. However, she does it with great grace and humility and faith, which makes it an important book. Sad to see it out of print, and this has many important things to say on these vital topics. Her strong quotation from the Bible makes it difficult to sidestep these issues. Her advocacy with these sensitive issues makes this read even more relevant and touching. Find and read and be blessed.

I will recommend it to my friend. i will come next time . Everything with this product is perfect. arrive on time. my husband think it is amazing ,

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