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**CTV/NATIONAL ANGUS REID POLL**

**- CANADIANS' VIEWS ON EUTHANASIA -**

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This National Angus Reid Poll was conducted by telephone between October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 1997 among a representative cross-section of 1,515 Canadian adults.

These data were statistically weighted to ensure the sample's regional and age/sex composition reflects that of the actual Canadian population according to the 1991 and 1996 Census data.

With a national sample of 1,515, one can say with 95 percent certainty that the results are within  $\pm 2.5$  percentage points of what they would have been had the entire adult Canadian population been polled. The margin of error will be larger within regions and for other sub-groupings of the survey population.

## CANADIANS' VIEWS ON EUTHANASIA

A large majority of Canadians – three in four – support the concept of terminally ill people having the “right to die”, echoing the level of support measured in a 1993 Angus Reid survey.

This finding emerged from a National Angus Reid Poll conducted among a representative cross-section of 1,515 Canadian adults between October 23<sup>rd</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>, 1997.

Below are the highlights of the survey:

- ◆ Three-quarters (76%) of surveyed Canadians said they support the “right to die” for people who wish to end their own lives rather than enduring the full course of a terminal illness, versus 21 percent who voiced opposition to this idea. This level of support is identical to that measured in a March 1993 sounding on this same question. (Table 1)
- ◆ Support for euthanasia for the terminally ill is widespread among Canadians from all walks of life. Regionally, the level of support ranges from the two-thirds mark in Manitoba/Saskatchewan and Atlantic Canada (68% and 65% respectively) to fully eight in ten residents of Quebec and British Columbia (84% and 82%).
- ◆ From a generational perspective, support for the “right to die” for the terminally ill declines with age: while fully eight in ten (81%) respondents under 35 expressed support, this number decreased among those 55 and older (69%, though still a solid majority).

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