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The politics of a good death: A comparative study over policies towards end-of-life care

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The idea of death as a self-governed process is one created by different kinds of social movements and historical processes and is deeply intertwined with the emergence of palliative care as a new medical expertise capable of providing individualized care for terminally ill patients. Health has become a transactional zone between political concerns for the fitness of the nation for the population and techniques of self-government for the care of self (Rose, 2015), palliative care can also be considered as a transactional zone between political concerns and techniques of self-government. It is important to note that the palliative care model had a global impact in creating the new end of life care strategies, policies, and movements. The relationship between palliative care and quality of death can be seen in The Economist's 2015 Quality of Death Index revealing the direct connection made between palliative care dissemination and quality of death improvement in different societies. This brings us to our problem: there seems to be a tendency to universalize and nationalize palliative care as a political solution for death. In order to understand the impact of policies based on a globalized, unified model of palliative care, the study will be conducted in two different contexts that follows the same directives from the World Health Organization (WHO) such as Brazil and United Kingdom to provide a better understanding of the impacts of a globalized palliative care model.

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