**Discussion Topics, Chapter 26, Caring for People Who Are Terminally Ill**

| Topics for Discussion | Learning Objective(s) |
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| 1. Mary Linger is 39 years old. They were diagnosed with cancer 3 years ago and underwent chemotherapy and radiation. Recently it was discovered that their cancer has spread to other organs of their body, and they have been told they are going to die. Mary asks their husband to bring them a tape recorder. They says they wish to record their thoughts and feelings, and to leave a personal message for each of their children in their own voice. Their husband responds to this request by telling them, “There’s no reason for you to be thinking about doing this kind of thing. You’ll be out of here in no time, and you’ll be just fine.”   1. What stage of the grieving process is Mary going through, and how do you know this? 2. What stage of the grieving process is Mary’s husband going through, and how do you know this? | 2, 3 |
| 2. You have taken care of 43-year-old Marjorie for over 5 years in the Layton Nursing Center. You are the same age, and have a lot in common. You have, therefore, grown very fond of Marjorie and spend time visiting and caring for them. Recently their health status has declined, and they have been told they are terminally ill. You know Marjorie will go through the grieving process, and you are very anxious to be supportive of them.   1. What concerns will you have caring for Marjorie, and how will you address those concerns? 2. How will you help yourself deal with Marjorie’s dying process and eventual death? | 4, 7 |
| 3. You have been assigned Mrs. Harding’s care. They are terminally ill and are receiving palliative care. The nurse tells you that they have arranged for a living will and are a DNR.   1. What is a living will? 2. What does DNR mean to your care of Mrs. Harding? | 5 |