

Submission
No 10

INQUIRY INTO FUNERAL INDUSTRY

Organisation:

Name: Mr Tad Slufinski

Telephone:

Date Received: 12/05/2005

Theme:

Summary

TAD SLEPINSKI

15th April 05.

Attention ARTHUR CHESTERFIELD EVANS
Enquiry into FUNERAL INDUSTRY.

Dear Sir,

We had attended to arranging funeral services for my wife's mother MRS ANNA DABKOWSKI aged 82 yrs in February 2004 at PINE GROVE CEMETRY in Minchinbury NSW. (Western Sydney). MRS DABKOWSKI requested that when she is buried she would like a front loader bucket full of sand to be filled around her coffin in the funeral plot. We asked Pinegrove if they could arrange this. They quoted us \$320 or so to do this. A bucket load of sand costs about \$25. When given this quote we asked if it would be okay for us to get our own sand and fill the plot after services were done. They said no. They also quoted us a ridiculous amount to re do the landscaping around the plot where my wife's father was already buried and the site needed to be disturbed to accommodate her mother's funeral. I have a lot of handy man skills and offered to do the landscaping myself. They said no, we had to do it through their contractor. The whole process to us was very upsetting as we knew we were being taken advantage of and could do nothing about it. They had a complete monopoly of control over what happened and could charge whatever they wanted to. Hoping your enquiry can bring some more realistic pricing to funerals.

Thankyou
Tad Slepinski