

**Submission
No 99**

**INQUIRY INTO CEMETERIES AND CREMATORIA
AMENDMENT REGULATION 2018**

Name: Mrs Cheryl Daniel

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When this proposal first came up I did not believe it would EVER be passed. Firstly because it is first & foremost mercenary; secondly it pits the haves & the have nots financially & lastly it is obvious that no one in the position to make these decisions has given the matter any real thought. In Europe & especially on the small island nations bodies are buried standing up. I have seen vision & while it was a bit of a shock, there is nothing wrong with a standing burial. We have plenty of allowance around graves that is not needed. My husband pointed out that we have state forests in close vicinity of the cities & towns that could stand to "give" 50 acres or so to the cause. Some of the state forests I have seen are nothing to boast about (neglect). The city graves could be re-worked to standing graves. Overall outside the major cities, the country towns do not have this problem of running out of space. Why are you forcing it onto all of us if not for greed? Very importantly, what about historic graves like at Rookwood? What are your plans there? I have relatives buried there that come into this category & some not far behind. I can't imagine not being able to visit or future generations who have delved into their past histories who will never be able to see the final resting places. I have seen what happens to historic graves when Council have a bright idea. My relatives buried in a country town near Forbes had a bright idea of removing all the graves dated in the 1800s, and putting names onto a plaque, so that the grounds could be made into a park. It was the most disgusting vandalism I have experienced with total neglect of the "park" and the plaque very very disturbing, that our ancestor's remains were treated with such disregard. Still don't know what was done with the remains. Please don't let this happen. IN THE END WHAT IT WILL BOIL DOWN TO IS OWNERS OF CEMETERIES WILL GET ADDITIONAL POUNDS OF FLESH BY REGULAR RE-FINANCING OF THE GRAVE SITE AND IT WILL BE THE FINANCIALLY WELL OFF WHO WILL BE ABLE TO CONTINUE TO PAY. How will relatives know when the 25 years is up? What sort of records will be kept to notify the next of kin etc that payment is due? What about encouraging cremations & reduces the costs? Will these plots also be re-cycled after 25 years. This is probably the worst law passed in my living memory. Please reverse it. I want to be advised of this outcome please.