

**Submission
No 103**

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

Organisation: A. O'Hare Funeral Directors Pty Ltd.

Date Received: 6 September 2018



A.O'HARE
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

The Director,
Regulation Committee, Parliament House,
Macquarie Street, Sydney NSW 2000.

5 September 2018

We are writing to you on behalf of our community, to voice our concerns over changes made to burial ownership. The Catholic community cherish the resting place of their loved ones, and the rights to lay them in peace for eternity.

We can guarantee that you will not get the support of any of our community members, if you choose to promote the notion to renew the grave ownership to anything other than perpetuity.

It is beyond words, why the community have not been notified of this change, and why we constantly have to be notified of government changes to burial practices through the media. Where is the support from CCNSW who should focus on their stakeholders? What support or voice have we got when it comes to dealing with our communities' angst from the decisions made by government?

It is important in these circumstances, that we have our cultural and religious beliefs respected. The Italian and Catholic community are strong on their customs, and their love towards family. It is important that we have the support from our leaders on any changes that may impact our way of mourning and bereavement of loved ones.

It would be advisable that you have leaders from the Catholic church, the CEO of CCNSW and our community to be in one public forum, where we can discuss the changes that are being proposed. It is important that we understand the nature of the change, the effects and what this means for our future generations.

It is evident, that the land space at Rookwood is diminishing rapidly. This is causing concern to community. However, it is more concerning to think that burying our loved ones in below ground burials or crypts may be one that cause more heartache. Why now has this become the only option we are faced with?

What happened with the Fernhill, we should be looking to acquire new land not dig up bodies. The community will be really hurt, if this process moves forward. Have we considered the emotional and financial impacts on families and future generations? There are so many questions that we have, but we struggle to find the answers.

Yours faithfully

Rosa Peronace
Managing Director/Owner