

SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT,
PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE,
CHRIS HYNDS,
ROOM T3.40,
EDINBURGH EH99 1SP

4/12/12.

DEAR CHRIS,

PE 1442 - THE BODY UPON DEATH BECOMES
PART OF THE ESTATE.

THANK YOU FOR SENDING COPIES OF THE RESPONSES TO MY PETITION THAT WERE REQUESTED BY THE PUBLIC PETITIONS COMMITTEE, THEY ARE AS ONE WOULD EXPECT, VERY COMPREHENSIVE, FROM PROFESSOR RA WOOD HM INSPECTOR OF ANATOMY FOR SCOTLAND, ALISON KERR, CHIEF MEDICAL OFFICER, PUBLIC HEALTH & SPORT DIRECTORATE & PROFESSOR SUE BLACK, DIRECTOR OF THE CENTRE FOR ANATOMY & HUMAN IDENTIFICATION UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE.

IT MAY BE THAT THE WORD INVOKE WAS WRONG PERHAPS IMPLIMENT MAY HAVE BEEN MORE APPROPRIATE, HOWEVER THE INTENT HAS DEFINATELY BEEN UNDERSTOOD. THERE IS MORE THAN A SLIGHT INFERENCE THAT MY SOLIC INTENTION WAS AIMED AT BODIES WILLED FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH, THAT CERTAINLY HAD AN IMPACT BUT NO MORE SO THAN THE OTHER METHODS & WISHES OF PEOPLE, AS I SAID IN MY STATEMENT THAT DONATION TO MEDICAL USE WAS PERHAPS THE MOST SECURE, AS ALL THREE RESPONDERS CLEARLY AGREE. AN INCREASE IN THE DONATION OF MEDICALLY EDUCATED PEOPLE COULD BE A BENEFIT, MY OWN G.P. PRACTICE WERE NOT REALLY WELL INFORMED IN REGARD TO BODY DONATION AS WAS APPARENT WHEN I CHECKED UP MY DONATION REQUEST WAS ON MY FILE AND I DONATED A COPY OF DUNDEE UNIVERSITIES EXCELLANT BOOK 'IN MEMORIAM' TO THEM.

BY FAR THE MOST ALTERED METHOD (ONLY BY WORD OF MOUTH TO ME) IS FROM SCOTLANDS TWO MAIN RELIGIOUS BELIEFS THAT OF PROTESTANTS & CATHOLIC, PEOPLE OF THESE BELIEFS ARE MOST FEARFUL OF BEING CREAMED WHEN THEY DEFINATELY WISHED BURIED.

THIS IS WHERE YOUR WILL & I NOTICE FROM ALISON KERR RESPONSE THAT THOSE PEOPLE Aged 65 & OVER THOSE THAT HAD MADE A WILL HAD GONE UP TO 69% THAT WAS IN 2006, WHICH IS A VERY GOOD SIGN OF INTENTION.

NEVER AT ANY TIME DID I SUGGEST THAT THE LAW SHOULD NOT BE RESPECTED AND UPHOLD, MY INITIAL SENTENCE SAID THAT, BUT THE MAIN POINT HAS ALWAYS BEEN AS WITH EVERY OTHER PART OF YOUR ESTATE ALL THINGS BEING EQUAL, YOUR LAST WILL & TESTAMENT MAYS WHEN YOU WERE OF SOUND MIND SHOULD BE CARRIED OUT.

I AM SURE THE COMMITTEE WILL APPRECIATE & I HAVE NO FIGURES TO PROVE THIS, THAT WHEN A WILL IS CONTESTED THESE OCCASIONS OF THE 69% WILL BE VERY MUCH OF A MINIMUM AMOUNT. INDEED THE SAME IN DEPTH LEGAL INVESTIGATION WOULD ENSUE ON A METHOD OF BODY DISPOSAL AS INDEED A PROPERTY OR HERITABLE PART OF THE ESTATE.

IN A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY THERE WILL BE DIFFERENCES BUT MINORITIES ARE NOT THE NORM MAJORITIES ARE, OUR LAWS CAN OR WOULD COVER THE MINIMUM CHALLENGED OCCASIONS, & SETTLED EVENTUALLY WITHIN THAT LAWS.

NO DISRESPECT TO THE EMINENT RESPONDERS BUT I AND MY SUPPORTERS STILL URGES YOU THE PETITIONS COMMITTEE TO PUT IN MOTION THE REQUIRED LEGAL PROCEDURES TO IMPLEMENT THE PETITION.

MAYBE THE CURRENT DISCUSSION ON RECOMMENDING THE DUTY TO INSTRUCT ON DISPOSAL WITH THE NEAREST RELATIVE AS ALISON BERR REFERS TO IN HER RESPONSE PARTICULARLY IN REGARD TO CREMATION WHERE THIS IS CLEARLY NOT DESIRED.

NOT DESIROUS OF INCURRING PARLIAMENTARY EXPENSE BUT WE FEEL THAT A CITIZENS RIGHTS ARE AS PARAMOUNT IN DEATH AS IN LIFE.

YOURS SINCERELY

DOUGLAS REID.

RESPONSES RECEIVED TODAY & READ MANY THANKS,
PROFESSOR A. P. PAYNE, UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW
LADY CLAIR OF CANTON SCOTTISH LAW COMMISSION