



The Changing Landscape of Funerals

Sunshine Coast Regional Council

15 September 2020

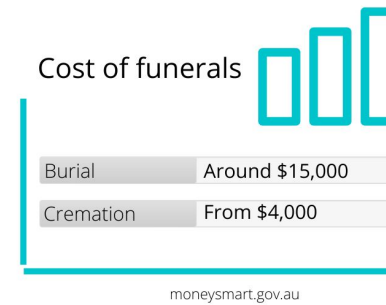
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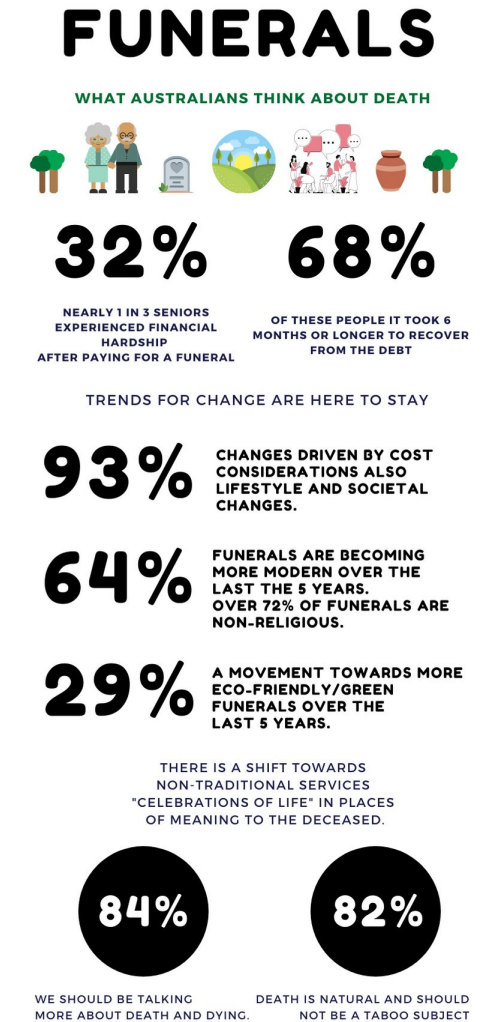
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Times are changing



- Funerals are expensive
- This places an unnecessary stress on loved ones
- Traditional funerals are not meeting the changing needs of Australian people
- Lack of choices that align with cultural and eco values
- Need access to clear information to enable people to make informed decisions



Australian Seniors Cost of Death Report 2019

Changes on the Sunshine Coast

- The two biggest funeral providers in Australia are ASX-listed companies that account for a third of the entire market.
- These companies now own the two largest family owned and operated funeral businesses and infrastructure on the Sunshine Coast.
- Expensive for-profit traditional model dominant the market.
- Lack of transparency; it difficult to understand what's driving up the price of funerals.
- “One size fits all approach” does not serve a community well.



Listening to the community

Most funeral businesses are now owned by large companies and we believe they lack care and connection with the community in which they operate because of the profit focused service they provide.

The 'one size fits all' approach does not serve a community well.

Funerals are expensive and do not offer much in the way of eco/green options. There is no real choice.

There seems to be little or no support for families choosing home vigils who only choose some services such as transportation or cremation only.

There is little transparency around what is driving the high cost of funerals.



Photo by Rose Spriet USC 2020

Speak Out and Up

- Greater transparency about choices and costs.
- Access to clear information about choices, process, requirements and costs makes it difficult for people who are experiencing loss and grief.
- Organisers of a funeral should have 24/7 access to information.
- Community conversation about natural burials and eco-choices.



When you stay
silent you are part
of the problem.
Not the solution.

Attributed to Natasha Cloud

References

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