Common Sense



Death of a Cemetery

February 28, 2025

Not everything worth fighting for, or against, is being taken up President Trump and Elon Musk. There are other battles. For a moment, at least, let us direct our attentions closer to home to consider the causes taken up by, say, the Institute for Justice and Pacific Legal Foundation.

Unlike a taxpayer-funded NGO, always on the march to push big government or social decay, these organizations go to bat for people around the country who are being abused by ocal governments.

As an example, take a current IJ case, Brooks Township in Michigan, which has been <u>struggling</u> to prevent Peter and Anna Quackenbush from opening a business: a cemetery.

This was to be a "green" burial forest that the township board blocked because it disliked the idea.

After losing a court fight over a proposed ban of all new cemeteries as a way to block Peter and Anna's particular cemetery, the township is now seeking to impose an ordinance dictating that "No new cemetery shall be created, installed, constructed or instituted ... unless a written cemetery permit has first been approved and issued by the Brooks Township Board under this Ordinance."

In other words, a *de facto* ban by a Board that has made clear its determination to stop Peter and Anna from opening a cemetery on their own property. If this ordinance is allowed to stand, no permit will be issued to them. It'll be the end of the cemetery.

Worth fighting against.

This is Common Sense. I'm Paul Jacob.