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The Italian Penal Code

TITLE 4. Crimes Against Religious Sentiment and Reverence for the Dead

Chapter 2. Crimes Against Reverence for the Dead

Article 407. Violation of Burial Places.

Whoever violates a tomb, sepulcher or urn shall be punished by imprisonment for from one five years.

Article 408. Vilification of Tombs.

Whoever, in cemeteries or other places of burial, commits acts of vilification on tombs, sepulchers or urns, or on things designed to show respect for the dead, or for the protection or ornament of cemeteries, shall be punished by imprisonment for from six months to three years.

Article 409. Disturbing a Funeral or Funeral Service.

Whoever, apart from the case designated in Article 405, prevents or disrupts a funeral or a funeral service shall be punished by imprisonment for up to one year.

Article 410. Vilification of a corpse.

Whoever commits an act of vilification on a corpse or its ashes shall be punished by imprisonment for from one to three years.

If the offender disfigures or mutilates the corpse, or in any way commits acts of brutality or obscenity on it, he shall be punished by imprisonment for from three to six years.

Article 411. Destruction or Removal of a Corpse.

Whoever destroys, suppresses or removes a corpse, or any part thereof, or removes or disperses its ashes, shall be punished by imprisonment for from two to seven years.

The punishment shall be increased if the act was committed in a cemetery or other place of burial, storage or custody.

Article 412. Concealment of a Corpse.

Whoever conceals a corpse, or a part thereof, or hides its ashes, shall be punished by imprisonment for up to three years.

Article 413. Unlawful Use of a Corpse.

Whoever dissects or otherwise uses a corpse, or a part thereof, for scientific, or instructional purposes, in cases not authorized by law, shall be punished by imprisonment for up to six months or by a fine of up to 200,000 lire.

The punishment shall be increased if the act was committed on a corpse, or on a part thereof, which the offender knows to have been mutilated, concealed or removed by others.