

Sociology 418/818
Death and Dying
Written Assignment #4
Due November 21, 2019

Caitlin Doughty's *From Here to Eternity* provides vivid glimpses into funeral rites and practices throughout the world including the U.S., Indonesia, Mexico, Spain, Japan, and Bolivia. Based on your reading, please answer the following questions.

1. What ritual, tradition, or funerary custom(s) described in the book appealed to you most? Why did you find this tradition or traditions appealing? Would you consider adopting it as part of your own end-of-life plans? Why or why not?
2. Did you find any of the customs particularly upsetting, frightening, or distasteful? Why or why not? Have those difficult passages in the text altered or shifted your thinking about death?
3. Which of the practices described in the book do you believe have the greatest potential to take hold in most parts of the United States? Which do you think are least likely to take hold? What U.S. culture, laws, or customs have guided your assessments?

You should be able to complete this assignment based on the readings we have read throughout the semester. Please reference work using either American Psychological Association (APA) or American Sociological Association (ASA) style, whichever is most widely used in your academic field. Style guides from both organizations are posted on Blackboard.