

Jess: Well, that's a custom that's been established many years ago.

That's the last--the final night that they're going to be with that remains--it's respect. And the next day is a dinner for the public--out of--

Bob: Well--why wouldn't it be all right to just play a little rock and roll music, instead of--

Jess:--Well--

(That wouldn't be respectful--)

Jess: No, that wouldn't be no respect, no.

Mrs. Stegall: It's like an old-fashioned wake that white people have.

(That's what I was going to ask you, then, from your experience in the Osage country or out here--do any of the white people around here have these all night services, or have they ever had--I've wondered myself how the all night services got started among the Indians--)

Bob: I've never heard of it among the whites. We always have had this custom--to sit up with--somebody sit up with them. There's nobody going to steal them. Why? Why do they have to sit up with them.

(Well, there's a lot of segments of white culture that--)

Jess: It's out of showing respect for the family.

Bob: Well, they're not going to get out of there and get away from you.

Mrs. Stegall: It's showing respect, though.

Jess: It's showing respect--the last respect to the family that's bereaved.

Bob: Jess, whenever that soul leaves your body, you're just a pile of stuff there worth about forty-nine cents.

Jess: Yeah, but we don't look at it that way. You must remember that that deceased person might have two or three daughters--a boy, or a son, or something like that--that are in there bereaved and grieved, you know. And that's the ones they want to show respect for--to be in company with the bereaved folks, you know, in seeing the last night the final remains of that body.