Watts v Morrow [1991]

Evidence

Mr. Watts, the complainant, asked Mr. Morrow, the respondent, to do a house revision. The analysis stated that the house was in good condition and had only small flaws that could have been rectified during minor maintenance operations with the house. However, it turned out that the revision was not thorough and additional flaws were detected when the house was already bought. The repair cost Mr. Watts more than \$30,000 and that led to the complaint made by Mr. Watts to the inspector.

Problematics

The complainant asked for a reimbursement of losses for the reparation and the refund of emotional inconveniences he had as a result of living in a house that was under reconstruction.

The respondent, on the other hand, stated that he could not be liable for any kind of frustration or anxiety Mr. Watts experienced, and that the reimbursement should be made by the deduction of the sum needed for the repair from the house's price.

Resolution

The Court decreed that the diminution in the price of the house should be used and not that the complainant got a moderate reimbursement for his inconveniences during the repair. It was also stated that each case of emotional or physiological damage was specific and no formula of reimbursement applied to each case can be founded.

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