

Federacja
Polskich Organizacji
w NPW



Federation
of Polish Associations
in NSW

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Dear Sir/Madam

RE: Request to correct the phrase "the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland" in review/article "This film will hold you in a morbid spell" published on 8th of February 2024 in the Australian.

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/arts/review/the-zone-of-interest-will-hold-you-in-a-morbid-spell/news-story/cc44ca2a9d6863a2c49d4d3439b5415b>

As the President of the Federation of Polish Associations in NSW, I am writing on behalf of our Committee and Member Organisations to protest against using an erroneous phrase "**Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland**" in the above mentioned article.

Language and words have extraordinary power, especially in journalism. They should be precise and factual. In this instance however, they are a distortion of facts and imply that Poland was responsible for concentration camps and Holocaust.

The above mentioned phrase/expresssion is misleading to Australian public, offensive to the Polish community (some of our members have survived the WW II and have experienced those atrocities).

The Australian Press Council guideline and the official UNESCO definition of Auschwitz-Birkenau unequivocally indicate the need to avoid potentially offensive terminology and use a more accurate and appropriate description of "German Nazi concentration camps" and adding location as "occupied Poland" if necessary.

Therefore, the Federation of Polish Associations in NSW formally lodges the objection and protest against the use of the expression "Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland" and demands that you place an appropriate disclaimer, correction and apology to the Polish Community as soon as possible.

Yours faithfully,

Adam Gajkowski

President of Federation of Polish Associations in NSW

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