



Speech by

**MIKE REYNOLDS**

**MEMBER FOR TOWNSVILLE**

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Hansard 19 November 1998

### **MULTICULTURALISM**

**Mr REYNOLDS** (Townsville—ALP) (10.28 a.m.): In the past 24 hours we have heard some very contrasting speeches in this House. At 9.35 a.m. yesterday we heard the Premier, Peter Beattie, enunciate the celebration of diversity, which incorporates our rich and different cultures and backgrounds, of which we are proud. He explained this Government's commitment to multiculturalism and stressed that we all have to work harder than ever before to foster knowledge, understanding and acceptance.

At 11.48 p.m. we heard the member for Lockyer's disgraceful attack on Australia's multicultural policy. He emphasised the need for a return to that hoary old policy chestnut, the policy of assimilation, and he attempted to give this Parliament some old, negative stereotypes to attack Australia's successful policy on multiculturalism.

I wondered why there were six One Nation members in the House at that time last night. We know they were in the House because they salivated as they listened to the member's attack on multiculturalism.

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