



Speech by

PHIL REEVES

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

Hansard 27 August 1998

MANSFIELD ELECTORATE

Mr REEVES (Mansfield—ALP) (2.20 a.m.): Today I stand to defend the suburb my electorate is named after, Mansfield, from a vicious attack by the councillor for Chandler, Michael Caltabiano, the Liberal Deputy Leader in the Brisbane City Council. Recently, the Liberal councillor stated in the Southern Star that the name Mansfield devalues peoples' properties. He supported people who are endeavouring to change their block name from the suburb of Mansfield to the suburb of Carindale.

I am extremely proud that I represent both the suburb and the electorate of Mansfield. I find this attack by a public office holder highly offensive. He should leave his snobbish attitude for when he is attending the cocktail parties of the Liberal Party and not use a public paper to belittle the people of Mansfield.

Mr Schwarten: There is nothing wrong with Carindale.

Mr REEVES: There is nothing wrong with Carindale. The suburb of Mansfield was gazetted on 15 April 1967. The suburb was named after the then Governor of Queensland, Sir Allan Mansfield, who was a former resident of the area. Mansfield has a diverse population with 74.4% of the people born in Australia and a larger than average population born overseas. This diversity is its greatest strength.

As a strong supporter of public housing, I am proud of the fact that Mansfield has 10.5% of its population in public housing compared with 4.9% of the overall population of Brisbane in public housing. As many members would know, Mansfield is regarded as the Bible Belt because of the number of churches that have located their southside headquarters in the suburb. So is the councillor saying that these churches are devaluing and blackening the name of Mansfield?

I believe that Mr Caltabiano is being a vengeful soul because he happened to be the campaign director for my predecessor at the June election. He has taken his anger at defeat out on the people of Mansfield. The people of Mansfield can rest assured that they now have proper and effective representation at both the local and State level by Kerry Rea and me. Shortly they will have that representation at the Federal level when Kevin Rudd becomes the new member for Griffith in October. In the meantime, I will defend the people and the suburb of Mansfield.

Time expired.
