



Speech by

**PHIL REEVES**

**MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD**

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Hansard 20 October 1998

**MANSFIELD ELECTORATE**

**Mr REEVES** (Mansfield—ALP) (10.12 a.m.): I am pleased to inform the House that, contrary to media speculation at the time of the court case, I am still here and here to stay to represent the people of the Mansfield electorate. After continuing to read and listen to hypocritical statements regarding my win, I believe I must now bring some truth to the argument.

Fact 1: Judge Mackenzie ruled that the preference cards used were legal and that my result would stand. Fact 2: Mr Carroll, my Liberal opponent, used a preference card which had no Liberal Party recognition. Our card clearly stated that it was from the ALP. Fact 3: If the people do not want political candidates to lobby for preferences, we would have to get rid of the entire preferential system. This would result in the adoption of the first-past-the-post system. Failure to do this will continue the situation whereby candidates rightfully must be able to lobby for preferences. Fact 4: Our aim was to ensure that One Nation did not gain the balance of power in the Queensland Parliament. Had the Liberals won this seat, One Nation would have gained the balance of power in this Parliament. Fact 5: It was Mr Carroll and the coalition that gave One Nation preferences which ensured that it won 11 seats in this Parliament. Had they not done so, as the recent Federal election illustrated, One Nation would be an irrelevant force.

Much has also been expressed about the actions of my booth workers. I find it mighty offensive and defamatory to many of my family members and friends that it is implied they acted improperly. At no time did they or did I want them to give the appearance of representing anyone other than me. Anyone who knows my family and friends would realise that the very last thing they would want is to pretend that they were part of One Nation. I hope this brings a bit of balance to the argument. I sincerely thank everyone who has contacted me to offer support and congratulations. I also express thanks for the personal support that my family and friends have given me over the past three months. I look forward to representing the people of the Mansfield electorate over the next three years.

Time expired.

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