



Speech by

**Mrs J. SHELDON**

**MEMBER FOR CALOUNDRA**

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Hansard 11 June 1999

**PERSONAL EXPLANATION**

**Sunshine Coast University Council**

**Mrs SHELDON** (Caloundra—LP) (9.52 a.m.), by leave: Today in this House I was misrepresented by the member for Nicklin. As a Sunshine Coast member of Parliament, I have every right to question a Minister who is making decisions that can influence in any way the education of children and adults on the Sunshine Coast.

I understand that no current member of the Sunshine Coast University Council wishes to retire and that one or more people will be pushed off the council in order to make room for the wife of the member for Nicklin. I have never questioned the merits of the wife of the member for Nicklin on this position. I asked the Minister whether he had made this appointment on merit. I have every right to draw to the attention of the House any concerns people may have, particularly concerns they may have about the politicisation of the Sunshine Coast University Council by this Labor Government, because it is a known fact that the member for Nicklin's vote put the Labor Party into Government.

Further, I make representation that the rules regarding the citizen's right of reply in this House have been breached today by the member for Nicklin. I will be writing to the Speaker, asking for his ruling in this regard. There are clearly set-out procedures for how a citizen may use a right of reply. Somebody's husband reading a personal explanation into this House is not one.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Order! That is not a personal explanation.

**Mrs SHELDON:** The rules of the House have been breached and I ask the Speaker to rule on the matter. I will make that ruling known to members of the House.

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