



Speech by

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LEGISLATIVE STANDARDS AMENDMENT BILL

Dr PRENZLER (Lockyer—ONP) (9.02 p.m.): This Bill removes the specific reference to Aboriginals from the Legislative Standards Act and replaces it such that all legislation will be drafted to ensure that all are treated equally regardless of race. What a bold step towards reconciliation! I have found it amusing that for so long now One Nation members have been branded as racists. We have been ridiculed, harassed, had Labor Party supported hooligans break the law by disrupting lawful political assembly and even suffered physical abuse because of lies spread by those afraid that we are racist.

The establishment did not like One Nation coming along and starting to get the people thinking, getting them to ask questions and become interested in what their elected representatives were doing. Both sides of politics knew that we had policies. Both sides of politics knew that our philosophies came straight from the people and were responses to what they had been crying out for for many years. As legitimate attacks could not be made, we were unjustly branded as racists, and this false tag was used by the "Laborals" for all they could get out of it.

Before I go on, I will clarify again what racism is. According to the Macquarie Dictionary there are three parts to the definition: firstly, the belief that human races have special and different characteristics which determine their particular cultures, usually involving the idea that one's own race is better than the others; secondly, offensive or even violent behaviour towards members of another race arising from such a belief; and, thirdly, a policy or system of government and society based upon it.

Interestingly, it is the Labor, Liberal and National Parties that have been the law makers in this country and State, not One Nation. It was the Labor, Liberal and National Parties that decided, quite arrogantly I believe, that Aboriginals as a whole were not capable of achieving that which non-Aboriginals can achieve. They decided that all Aboriginals are unable to work hard, make money and buy a house and a car and make something of themselves. They decided that the entire Aboriginal race is inferior to non-Aboriginals. Then they developed and passed laws which confirmed their belief; they made special laws for Aboriginals. They have lived up to the first definition, that of believing one's race to be superior to another, and the third definition, that of a policy or a system of government and society based on it.

The separation or division of people based on race is known as apartheid—another apt description of the policies of successive Governments. One Nation has never attempted to do any of those things. We have merely called for equality for all Australians. I have heard the false arguments before so let me do away with some now. We are for the equality of all Australians and, yes, we are aware that many Aboriginals are more disadvantaged than others. However, Aboriginals do not have a monopoly on being disadvantaged. Many non-Aboriginals are also disadvantaged. No, our policy will not leave all Aboriginals to die in squalor and poverty but will treat them with some dignity and respect.

Surely helping those who need help simply because they need help, rather than judging them based on race, is fairer and more workable for all. It ensures that no-one receives more than anyone else who is in the same predicament. It puts everyone on the same, equal footing and it removes the message currently sent to all Australians that Aboriginals are inferior and need extra help. Neither Aboriginals nor non-Aboriginals are superior or inferior to one another and neither should receive any

greater or lesser aid than the other. The only way to achieve reconciliation is through equality. There is no other way. I will say it again: the only way to achieve reconciliation is through equality.

Although this Bill was introduced by a member of this House who is no longer a One Nation member—perhaps that is a good thing—the philosophies behind his introduction of this Bill are the same as ours, namely, equality. We support this Bill strongly and completely. It is as clear to me as it is to many others that division based on race is racism. Therefore, let us remove racist laws from Queensland and replace them with laws that regard everyone to be equal before and under the law regardless of race, colour, descent, ancestry, ethnicity or ethnic origin and nationality or national origin. Let us support this Bill and remove racism from our legislation. Once and for all, let us take the first real step towards reconciliation—equality.

In conclusion, One Nation believes in multicultures, but we do not accept multiculturalism or the divisions that this policy has caused in our society. Equality for different races is the only real path towards reconciliation. I commend the Bill to the House.
