



Speech by

**Hon. PETER BEATTIE**

**MEMBER FOR BRISBANE CENTRAL**

Hansard Thursday, 2 March 2006

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## **MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

### **Safe Youth Parties Task Force**

**Hon. PD BEATTIE** (Brisbane Central—ALP) (Premier) (9.48 am): I was disgusted to learn of the violence meted out at a Redcliffe party on the weekend where a man was stabbed and others injured at the hands of gatecrashers. Queenslanders have the right to not only feel safe but also be safe in their homes. Such cowardly actions of a few are distressing to many.

Queensland police have a highly successful Party Safe Program with simple steps to help plan for a safe and successful event. Most importantly, it recommends those planning a party register the function with local police. I urge Queenslanders planning their event to follow these guidelines.

The Safe Youth Parties Task Force was established by the Minister for Police and Corrective Services, with the member for Mount Ommaney, Julie Attwood, as chair, to investigate the problem of out-of-control parties. While I understand that out-of-control youth parties may be less prevalent than some media reports suggest, nevertheless the outcomes are extremely serious, as we saw at the weekend. The task force is looking into the laws, police powers and other community actions that may be needed. It is due to report its findings at the end of March. People planning parties need to acknowledge the risks and do all they can to have a safe and fun event. The message is simple: contact local police for more information and resources.