



Speech by  
**Jeff Seeneey**

**MEMBER FOR CALLIDE**

Hansard Thursday, 9 August 2007

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**MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, PLANNING AND SPORT,  
RADIO INTERVIEW**

**Mr SEENEY** (Callide—NPA) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.18 am): It is clear that Labor federal candidates all over Queensland are starting to panic. It is clear that there has been an effort in this parliament this week to try to support Labor candidates who know that they are going to get wiped out because of the tidal wave of public opinion that has been engendered by their state colleagues. I will not discuss the legislation.

**Mr SPEAKER:** In actual fact you are discussing the legislation. Go to another topic, if you could.

**Mr SEENEY:** There was an interesting radio interview in Brisbane yesterday where the minister for local government was interviewed by 4BC. He made a comment that I think should be of interest to every member in this House. He stated—

... I think we all understand what human nature is and I suppose ultimately I'm a politician and it takes one to know one.

There was a whole range of callers to the radio station following that interview. The interviewer, John Miller, stated—

What he's clearly said is that most politicians, indeed, most of us, can only ever be driven by a desire to advance our own cause, primarily driven by the Gravy Train, not any desire to serve our communities.

I wonder if his Labor colleagues agreed with the minister that that is what drives all of us in this place and that is what drives all people who serve, no matter their political level, across the state. The minister did not quite get the welcome he expected. The interviewer said—

Well thanks Andrew, you arrogant prig!

That is with a 'g' not a 'ck', although either would do just as well. There was a flood of callers and I will not repeat their comments because they are quite unparliamentary. It indicates the extent to which the public reaction against the minister, the Premier and the agenda that is being pursued by the government is sweeping Queensland. It is interesting to see the government trying to protect its federal colleagues, but Kevin Rudd's worst nightmare is Andrew Fraser and Peter Beattie.