




Speech by

Jarrod Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Hansard Tuesday, 23 August 2011

MOTION: GOLD COAST, CRIME

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (5.41 pm): It is with pleasure that I support the motion which was moved by the opposition leader and which the member for Surfers Paradise spoke about with great passion with respect to the Gold Coast. This motion is in two parts. One part deals with the condemnation of the Premier and this government for their failure to provide strong leadership against general crime. The second aspect of the motion makes particular reference to their failure to take timely action against crime on the Gold Coast. I will make my comments today more broadly with respect to the first element of this motion that I am supporting today.

There is condemnation for these Labor Party members because they have gone soft on crime and they were always soft on crime. When we talk about the Labor Party being soft on crime and its inaction, we are talking about a government that has been in power for 20 of the past 22 years—I repeat: 20 of the past 22 years—but it is only now that we are seeing these government members come into this place and pass bills and talk about police helicopters. For 20 out of the last 22 years they have been silent—absolutely silent. They have had no plan to tackle crime. They have always used a quick-fix approach. This quick-fix approach by the Labor Party in Queensland and the Labor Party right around Australia always goes back to what is on the front page of the daily newspapers. They think, 'What's on the front page of the daily newspapers? We'll fix it.'

Mr Lawlor interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: Member for Southport, they do not talk about it prior to it being on the front page of the *Courier-Mail*. Their approach is, 'Let's not talk about it, but when it's on the front page we'll act on it.' That is not taking positive action; that is taking reactionary processes being driven by a daily media cycle.

The record speaks for itself. From 2007 to 2010, 185 convicted armed robbers and 35 convicted rapists walked free with no jail term. In 2009-10, 45 per cent of all reported robberies, 24 per cent of all reported sex offences and 22 per cent of all reported assaults remained unsolved. We ought not blame the judges; we ought to blame the Labor Party. We blame the Labor Party and Queensland residents blame the Queensland Labor Party because 22 years of inaction has put us in the situation we find ourselves in now.

But there is hope, and it is Campbell Newman and a can-do team. Over here, we are the can-do team; over there, we have a can-do copycat government. We talked about a crime squad. We were told it could not be done but a month later there was a crime squad established. We spoke at the last election about a police helicopter; now we see in the news a report about police helicopters. We talked about tracking sex offenders; now the government is going to track sex offenders.

With all good copycats, you need to know how to deal with them whether you are at school, at university or in parliament. To find out how to deal with copycat governments, I turned to Yahoo Answers. Under the question 'How do I deal with a copycat?' the best answer I could find was, 'I think the reason she is doing this is because she really likes you. She wants to be like you, like the stuff you do.' Another answer was, 'Just remember when someone copies you in this case it is because they admire you and want to be

just like you.' Another answer said, 'If they copy, that's because they think you're really cool and they want to be just like you.'

The Labor Party members opposite come into this place and talk about Campbell Newman on a daily basis and talk about us Tories sitting over here, but I put this back to them: I think they do this because they are jealous, they want to be just like us and they want to go out to Queensland with a plan because the only people in Queensland with a plan are Campbell Newman and the LNP team. Just like any good copycats, I can tell them that we do not want to be their friend and we do not want them to be like us. The only way to get plans in Queensland is to get rid of this mob.

(Time expired)