




Speech By
Hon. Anastacia Palaszcuk

MEMBER FOR INALA

Record of Proceedings, 29 October 2015

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Domestic and Family Violence

 **Hon. A PALASZCZUK** (Inala—ALP) (Premier and Minister for the Arts) (9.39 am): Last Thursday week the Brisbane community came together in a moving and timely stand against domestic and family violence. I, along with many other members of this House, attended this rally to show the community that my government is serious about tackling this issue.

It was encouraging to witness this show of strength and to see the Brisbane community and both sides of the House come together to say that enough is enough. On behalf of the organisers I have been asked to read a statement into the record of the parliament. It reads—

The organisers of the Red Rose Rally held on 15th October 2015 wish to acknowledge the Premier, Opposition Leader Lawrence Springborg, Speaker Peter Wellington and all Members of Parliament who attended and otherwise supported this event.

Queensland parliament's leadership in standing up and making a public statement will go a long way in turning the tide against domestic and family violence. Betty Taylor, on behalf of the organising committee.

The tragic events of recent months have appalled everyone. It is clear that we must continue to demonstrate our commitment to support victims and hold perpetrators to account. At the last sitting of this parliament, with bipartisan support, we passed both the Criminal Law (Domestic and Family Violence) Amendment Bill 2015 and the Coroners (Domestic and Family Violence Death Review and Advisory Board) Amendment Bill 2015.

I would like to express my thanks to the Leader of the Opposition for his continued support for Queensland's reform program on domestic and family violence. The new criminal laws include delivering harsher penalties for perpetrators, providing for domestic and family violence convictions to be recorded on a perpetrator's criminal history and providing special witness protection in court for victims.

We also know that changing attitudes is key to tackling DV. We must teach children about respectful relationships and build awareness about these issues in the wider community. That is why Quentin Bryce and I will co-host a White Ribbon Day breakfast on Wednesday, 25 November at the Sofitel. It will include a panel discussion on taking action to prevent violence, including Darren Lockyer, psychologist Edward Mosby and Southport domestic violence magistrate Colin Strofield. Much like the recent rally, we are hoping for a large attendance—a reflection of the growing community mood for change. I urge as many members of this House as possible to attend this event so that together we can continue to raise awareness.