



Speech By  
**Deb Frecklington**


**MEMBER FOR NANANGO**

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**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Domestic and Family Violence**

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (10.23 am): As we have heard in the House today, domestic violence affects everybody. We have seen the horrific acts of violence, and we have all been sickened and horrified. All Queenslanders' hearts go out to every person who has suffered at the hands of domestic violence, in particular, the children for whom it lingers and destroys their innocence. We have seen it played out in the news up and down the Queensland coast.

Equally disturbing are the events that unfortunately go unreported. I am very aware that for rural and regional Queensland this issue has dire consequences. In the South Burnett, Magistrate Simon Young has just completed a study into the effects of domestic violence before his court. Unfortunately, in the Nanango court in 63 per cent of domestic violence applications children are affected. In Dame Quentin Bryce's report she noted that rural and regional Queensland is different, and the effects, for example, in a rural seat are quite different from Cairns or Brisbane.

I would like to talk about the dedicated domestic violence rural phone line and additional nightly services that were put in place by the previous government for rural and regional women. They now have access to a phone line, and that number is 1800457117. Before that dedicated rural phone line was put in place, in small country towns it was up to individual solicitors like me to take those calls on a Sunday night because there were so few of us to provide any services.

I was with former premier Campbell Newman and Dame Quentin Bryce on 10 September last year at the launch of the bipartisan commissioning of the *Not now, not ever* report. This issue is not about politics. We need a culture change, we need an attitude change and we need to work together.