




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 3 December 2015

PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

CFMEU Rally, Security Breach

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (10.20 am): I rise to raise a very serious issue in the House with respect to an article contained in the *Courier-Mail* today headed 'Right out of order'. This article is about a union rally that occurred yesterday in the city of Brisbane. What is concerning about that union rally is the millions and millions of dollars that have been lost to the construction industry in Queensland because the workers left the construction sites to rally behind a man charged with assaulting a woman. So we have a man facing charges of allegedly assaulting a woman, a developer, pushing her and hitting her arm—it is currently before the court—and we do not have condemnation from anyone. We have workers walking off the site to protect the alleged offender—not protecting the woman, not marching in the streets to protect the victim—and we have the union thugs rallying behind the alleged offender. Interestingly, at the rally yesterday the union official said—

... we have a Labor Government who we elected ... they must now come to the fore and tell the police and their leadership to pull their head in.

That is what he said at the union rally. Then he said, 'We have written to the Police Commissioner demanding him to stop interfering.' So we have the union bullies writing to the Police Commissioner saying, 'Leave us alone. Stop interfering in our matters,' and we have the rallying occurring. The article in the paper this morning states that when the Treasurer was asked about it, instead of standing up for the victim he said—

I've said that workplace safety is a very serious issue and it should never be used as an industrial weapon ...

There was no comment about the victim; he is talking about the rally workers. He is protecting the workers who went out to rally because we know that this government is controlled by the CFMEU and union thugs and officials.

The article states that after the rally they went to the pub. After the pub they came to parliament. They came here on the invitation of the member for Mirani, Jim Pearce, the sponsoring MP. CFMEU union officials were walking around here unassisted and unguided by a member of parliament. I am advised that in this photo from today's *Courier-Mail*, which I table for honourable members, there are union members who were present in the parliament last night.

Tabled paper. Photograph, undated, of a union march [1831].

I am advised that some were so intoxicated they fell out of level 3, they were kicked out of the Stranger's Dining Room after trying to force their way in and they were on the level 12 balcony without any member of parliament with them. I raise it as a serious matter. As you, Mr Speaker, are respectfully responsible for security in this place, I am going to write to you about this, particularly because the member for Mirani left the CFMEU officials, after rallying in the street, unassisted and unaided in the parliamentary precinct last night.