



Speech By  
**Michael Crandon**


**MEMBER FOR COOMERA**

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Record of Proceedings, 13 October 2015

## ADJOURNMENT

### Domestic and Family Violence

 **Mr CRANDON** (Coomera—LNP) (9.59 pm): I rise to speak about something very disturbing that has been brought to my attention relating to the Department of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships. I bring it to the House because those who brought it to my attention advise me that the Treasurer is aware of the issue but apparently nothing is being done.

The information is based on a survey of employees. Some 251 people, or 88 per cent of employees, completed the survey. Some 164 respondents were women. The 2015 employee opinion survey statistics on harassment and bullying are very worrying. I will outline the responses to questions in relation to harassment and bullying. In response to the statement 'Bullying is not tolerated in my workplace', 67 per cent agreed. That means that 33 per cent obviously do not agree with it because they are seeing things happening around the place. In response to the statement 'Witnessed bullying/harassment in the last 12 months', 58 per cent overall said that, no, they had not witnessed it. That means that 42 per cent had. Worryingly, in the community participation area 47 per cent said that they had not witnessed bullying. That means that 53 per cent had witnessed it. In response to the statement 'Experienced harassment/bullying in the last 12 months'—

**A government member** interjected.

**Mr CRANDON:** You can laugh about this, but this is about domestic violence so just button your lip. In response to the statement 'Experienced harassment/bullying in the last 12 months', 74 per cent said they had not. Twenty-six per cent had. And so it goes on. It is very, very concerning.

This is an issue that is magnified by what I was further advised. I understand that DATSIP is in the process of gaining white ribbon workplace accreditation. What does white ribbon workplace accreditation mean? It means that, among other things, all women have a right to be safe at work from domestic, family and workplace violence. Before any workplace can become a white ribbon accredited workplace it must first meet a number of criteria. For example, it must formally recognise and commit to addressing men's violence against women, whether inside or outside of DATSIP. It must embed and commit to addressing men's violence against women through their leadership, team training, policies and procedures. In becoming a white ribbon accredited workplace they must also, among other things, directly address and mitigate the risk associated with bullying. My informants tell me that women in DATSIP remain the most vulnerable group and subject to workplace bullying.

The evidence is there. I ask the Treasurer to please urgently address these issues because at the end of the day bullying in the workplace also travels across to bullying in the home. It is all about domestic violence. We have to cut it out.