



Speech By  
**Hon. Yvette D'Ath**


**MEMBER FOR REDCLIFFE**

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Record of Proceedings, 10 November 2015

**PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT**

**Organised Crime Commission of Inquiry**

 **Hon. YM D'ATH** (Redcliffe—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice and Minister for Training and Skills) (10.21 am): What I find abhorrent is the way that the LNP have personalised this issue and attacked the commissioner. They are the ones who are politicising this commission of inquiry. If those opposite want to talk about being parents and having concerns, why don't they pick up this report, have a read about child exploitation and stop carrying on about what the Newman government did in relation to outlaw motorcycle gangs. We have acknowledged that this is an issue in this state. Outlaw motorcycle gangs are part of organised crime, but the problem with the Newman government is that they were so blinkered in everything they did that all they did was focus on this area. They made a virtue of the fact that they were targeting this, despite Campbell Newman's own comment at the start of his first term—his only term—that bikies' colours are the same as football jerseys. That is how serious it was at the beginning!

We take crime involving outlaw motorcycle gangs seriously, and that is why we have a task force to look at legislation to tackle this sort of crime. We are doing it properly, which is something those on the other side did not do. Within one week they whipped up a piece of legislation; they introduced it and passed it in a matter of hours—that is how much consideration went into their effort to tackle this. The difference between the LNP and the Labor government is that we recognise—

**Opposition members** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. I call the Attorney-General.

**Mrs D'ATH:** We recognise that organised crime in this state is more than just outlaw motorcycle gangs. Michael Byrne QC, a highly respected legal professional in this state, has put together—

**Mr Bleijie** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Pause the clock. Member for Kawana, you will have an opportunity to put a question or to speak shortly.

**Mrs D'ATH:** Michael Byrne QC, a highly respected legal professional in this state, has put together a comprehensive report which states that crime committed by outlaw motorcycle gangs since 2013, when the VLAD laws were brought in, until June of this year made up 0.52 per cent. Now we have child exploitation and financial crime on the Gold Coast. There are boilers rooms on the Gold Coast, and I would think that the member for Surfers Paradise would be concerned about that. We have these sorts of crimes happening right now, things like illicit drugs, and we have the responsibility to ensure that we have the policies and the resources to address all organised crime in this state, not just outlaw motorcycle gangs. We owe it to our kids as parents and members of this parliament to step up and support these recommendations.

**Mr Seeney** interjected.

**Mr SPEAKER:** Member for Callide, if you want to say something you will have the opportunity to speak or to put a question. That is not an invitation.

**Mr SEENEY:** I rise to a point of order. There has been a longstanding tradition in this place to be able to respond to an attack. The Attorney-General spent three minutes attacking our side of government—

**Mr SPEAKER:** That is not a point of order. Resume your seat!

**Mr SEENEY:** It is absurd for you to suggest that I cannot respond.

**Mr SPEAKER:** That is a reflection on the chair. You are warned under standing order 252.