




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2016

PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENTS

Palaszczuk Labor Government, Unions

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (10.22 am): You can tell a lot about a person, Mr Speaker, by the company they keep. We have just heard allegations from the member for Cairns in relation to—

Ms Jones interjected.

Mr BLEIJIE: I take the interjection from the member for Ashgrove. I am talking about the hate and vilification of unions against members of this place and other places, and the minister is smirking and laughing over there. Put that on show for all the students, education minister!

Will Premier Palaszczuk condemn the hate and vilification that the ETU and CFMEU have for not only the member for Cairns but many other Queenslanders? I table a copy of this Tweet from the Premier when she was opposition leader: 'Great to catch up with ETU members at the Brothers Leagues Club in Cairns last night.'

Tabled paper: Photograph, undated, of the Premier and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk at a union rally [683].

The Premier was with ETU members, and the member for Cairns has talked about their hate and vilification. I table a photo of the Premier at a protest in front of the ETU campaign bus.

Tabled paper: Document, undated, screenshot of Twitter page photograph of the Premier and Minister for the Arts, Hon. Anastacia Palaszczuk with ETU members [684].

We have now seen the fear, the intimidation and the thuggish behaviour not only from the ETU but the CFMEU. It is clear who is running this state, and it is not the Labor government: it is the union movement. I table an article in the *Sunshine Coast Daily* yesterday which states—

ETU State Organiser Dan Bessell said only a handful of "scabs" were at working as other tradies refused to go back to work amidst the stand-off.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Sunshine Coast Daily* online, dated 10 May 2016, titled 'Hospital Site Strike: Agreement "all but reached"' [685].

These are yesterday's comments about workers on the Sunshine Coast University Hospital site. They were referred to as 'scabs'. Will the Premier condemn that sort of behaviour, which is in line with what the member for Cairns just said? The industrial relations minister met with the CFMEU on 31 March and Mr Michael Ravbar on 2 February, but many members will not know that not only is Michael Ravbar subject to a police and DPP investigation but he is now also subject to a CCC investigation for potential corruption. Yet they continue to meet with them.

The Minister for Housing put in his diary that he met with the CFMEU but he did not say with whom. It was only weeks and weeks later that he was forced to admit it was Mr Ravbar. We have Labor ministers who are continuing to meet with union thugs who are the subject of police investigations, the subject of CCC investigations and the subject of DPP investigations, and they continue to hold the

hands of the unions. We know it is not necessarily the Premier: we know it is coming from the 'union whisperer', the Deputy Premier. We know the Deputy Premier calls the shots. I table a copy of the *Australian*.

Tabled paper: Article from the *Australian*, dated 10 May 2016, titled 'Trad ensures Labor's doors always open for unionists' [686].

It states, 'Trad ensures Labor's doors always open for unions'. If you have a union ticket you get on the red carpet. Like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, you get on that special elevator and you go straight up to the Deputy Premier's office.

Mr Mander: Express!

Mr BLEIJIE: You get the express elevator straight to the Deputy Premier's office. The LNP will unleash the potential of Queensland and we will—

(Time expired)