




Speech By  
**Linus Power**

**MEMBER FOR LOGAN**

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Record of Proceedings, 21 April 2016

### **RACING INTEGRITY BILL**

 **Mr POWER** (Logan—ALP) (8.41 pm): It seems that those opposite know the cost of everything but the value of nothing when it comes to racing, especially the integrity of racing. I am a grandson of Jack Power, always known as 'Tot', who unusually trained both greyhounds and horses at the same time. One of my earliest memories as a three- or four-year-old is of being scared by the thoroughbreds and standing in the shed to reach up and pat the backs of the dogs as they milled around me. The one physical heirloom I have from my grandfather is a small silver plate that he won in a race with a dog called The Shearer.

All of us in this House value the racing industry. We on this side have looked at the evidence. We have taken a conservative approach: integrity first for the security of the industry. I hope that those involved in the racing industry, even those who appeared before the committee with a contrary opinion, respect the fact that we wish to ensure the long-term security and longevity of the industry.

I will speak only briefly tonight as the hour is late. I wish that I did not have to address the speech made earlier by the member for Currumbin, but with regret I have to note that I was accused—unfairly, I think—of 'intimidating well-meaning witnesses'. I do not believe that this is in the least bit accurate. Frankly, I am disappointed by the actions of the member for Currumbin. I will not dignify them by going through them detail by detail. Suffice it to say, they are untrue and I ask that they be withdrawn.

When we make outlandish accusations in this place, we diminish the very value of those words. I remain extremely disappointed in the speech made by the member for Currumbin and utterly refute the content of both the personal attacks and the position of the bill, but I will not dignify it further. I commend the bill to the House.