




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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MOTION

Liberal National Party, Political Donations

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (12.58 pm): If anyone wants to know why they keep this Premier in the box and hidden, it is because of that. What has just been on display is exactly the reason the Labor Party go to the extremes they do to hide the Premier, because the Premier makes stuff up. When they let her off the leash to speak without notes, when they put her in here to speak without the guidance of the Deputy Premier, she makes stuff up—just like she made up stuff with respect to the member for Callide.

Ms PALASZCZUK: I find that offensive. I ask it be withdrawn.

Mr SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Premier, you find those comments personally offensive and you ask that they be withdrawn?

Ms PALASZCZUK: Yes.

Mr SPEAKER: Will you withdraw, member for Kawana?

Mr BLEIJIE: I withdraw.


Mr SEENEY: Mr Speaker, the Premier has been in here long enough to know the process. She has to stand, take a point of order—

Mr SPEAKER: She did.

Mr SEENEY: She did not take a point of order. You cannot just stand up—

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Callide, resume your seat. I find the Premier did take a point of order and I have asked the member for Kawana to withdraw the comments the Premier found offensive. He has withdrawn. We will move on. We have one minute to go and then I will ask the member for Kawana to adjourn and we will return at 2.30 for the continuation of the debate.

Mr BLEIJIE: When the motion was quickly put together this morning with great strategy—with the Deputy Premier squiggling a note—we saw the shock on the Premier's face when the Deputy Premier stood up and moved it.

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (8.00 pm), continuing: Let me begin where I finished some hours ago, when we started debating this motion. I was talking about the Leader of Opposition Business, the member for Callide, who was talking about the great own goal scored by the Deputy Premier when she scribbled out this motion without anyone's knowledge. Without the Premier's knowledge the Deputy Premier scribbled out this tactical motion about leadership and put it before the House to debate.

I was watching the dynamics over there, and when the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Clayfield, was speaking about the leadership of the Premier, the Premier was getting quite upset. She was getting quite agitated and she kept saying to the Leader of the House, 'Get up on a point of order. I don't like what I'm hearing. Get up on a point of order!' I saw the Leader of the House, who was sitting over there, say, 'No, Premier, that's okay. We'll complete the debate.' The Leader of the Opposition then spoke about more leadership issues the Premier and Deputy Premier have, and I watched the dynamics. The Premier then said again to the Leader of the House, 'Stirling, get up on a point of order!' He said no, but after the fifth time the Premier did not like what she was hearing the Leader of the House finally got up to a point of order and said, 'The Leader of the Opposition is not talking about the motion.' What a load of rubbish, because the Deputy Premier had just given a 15-minute diatribe with respect to the leadership of the opposition but she did not want to hear about the government's own leadership and the lack of leadership from the Premier.

Then the debacle continued. They put forward a motion to talk about the leadership of the Premier, and then they could not find enough members of the Labor Party to support the Premier to talk on the motion, so they tried to guillotine the motion. It is their motion which they tried to guillotine. In the three years that the member for Inala has been the Premier, I think that is probably the first motion she has actually spoken to. In fact—I am happy to be corrected—it would be the first time I have heard the Premier speak in the parliament without it actually being question time.

Mrs Frecklington: Yes, but Jeff made her do that.

Mr BLEIJIE: Yes, of course. The Leader of Opposition Business baited the Premier to the extent that she felt compelled to speak. After the Premier spoke, the shuddering started and the shivers went up the spine. The mistake was made. The Leader of the House and the protection racket tried to start, the censure started, the guillotining of the debate started and the agitation started. They saw that it was not such a great idea to get the Premier up to speak. As I said earlier, the reason they keep the Premier tucked away and hidden from prying eyes is that when she does open her mouth she usually stuffs up. Queenslanders can see it. When the Premier opens her mouth, no-one knows what is going to come out. Their own members do not know what is going to come out of her mouth, but she makes stuff up. Clearly, as we saw with the Leader of Opposition Business, the Premier made stuff up about what conversation she might have had with him. The Premier is renowned for that.

The Premier also goes to press conferences in Townsville and then, when asked about an issue in South-East Queensland, says to the media in Townsville, 'No, I'm in Townsville. I'm not talking to you about that today.' Does the Premier think that the media and social media does not travel from South-East Queensland to Townsville and regional Queensland? Does the Premier think that she has a prerogative to go to Townsville and only talk about issues that she wants to talk about and not what journalists want to ask her about?

Talking about stunts, last week at the Ekka the Premier attended the CWA announcement and gave a birthday cake to Lady Flo. The Premier was at a press conference because they thought, 'It's the fair. It's the carnival. It's where the city meets the country. Surely, today of all days, we can bring the Premier out of the darkness and have her speak in front of a live press conference.' Of course, when the Premier was asked about a particular matter she turned her back and walked away, and there were no answers for the journalists.

A few weeks before that the Premier was at another press conference where they dragged her out. It was in fact about the 'mangocube' sitting up the back there, the member for Yeerongpilly. The Premier was asked about that, and she just walked out of the press conference. As she was walking away from the press conference she said, 'No, I've finished the press conference. I've finished it.' It is a dictatorship when the Premier thinks she will only answer questions that she wants to answer at times when she wants to go out into the public domain. The Premier spouts off about accountability, integrity and transparency, yet over the last three years I think we have seen that that is all talk and no action.

We then saw the pallbearers of the Labor movement—the education minister, Kate Jones, and the health minister—get up and defend the Premier, but there were no backbenchers. I did not hear any of the backbenchers get up and defend the leadership of the Premier. As the member for Callide points out, this motion has been an own goal. It has now turned into a motion about the leadership of the Premier. If the opposition had moved this motion then we would have been happy to debate it. We would have had our members all up talking about it. We would not have tried to guillotine it. We would not have had the member for Logan squawking down the back there. We would have given him an opportunity to speak about leadership.

The poor member for Bundamba is sitting up there, and we know the relationship between the member for Bundamba and the member for South Brisbane. I suspect what happened is that when the member for Bundamba went to the Leader of the House and said, 'Leader of the House, I want to be

on the speaking list for this motion,' the shutters came up. Then, just as they did in estimates, they tried to shut the member for Bundamba out again. While they raise the argument that they were shutting out the Liberal National Party opposition, the real answer is that they were trying to shut out the member for Bundamba. Let the record show that the Leader of Opposition Business tried to open the door and get her back on the speaking list tonight—

Mr Springborg: So benevolent!

Mr BLEIJIE: So benevolent. I take that interjection from the member for Southern Downs. We do not know what the member for Bundamba is going to say. It may be a mistake to leave her on the speaking list. I know one thing: the Deputy Premier should be more concerned about what is going to come out of the member for Bundamba's mouth than about the Liberal National Party opposition. If I know anything, that is one thing I do know.

We talked about accountability and transparency, but they did not mention the union movement. They did not mention that one of the first pieces of legislation they introduced was to get rid of transparency and accountability measures for the union movement. The Liberal National Party government said that if you are a union thug—if you are a union fat cat—sitting in the back office or driving your \$150,000 Mercedes-Benz but doing a press conference and putting a 'shareable' out there, you act for the workers. 'We're all about the workers,' but they are walking around with credit cards—

Mr Power: Name them! We want names.

Mr BLEIJIE: Name them? Dave Hanna. Who is the other fellow? Michael Ravbar. I am happy to name them. Do you think that by throwing an interjection at me and daring me to name them I am not going to name them? I will name them to your face. Michael—

Mr Whiting interjected.

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER (Ms Farmer): Order! Member for Murrumba and member for Kawana, please cease the conversations across the chamber. All comments must be directed through the chair. Members, I know this is a heated debate and I do not think anyone could accuse the member for Kawana of not being provocative, but Hansard still needs to hear what he is saying.

Mr BLEIJIE: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. If the member for Murrumba with his interjections thinks that I will not name these union thug fat cats, then I will—Michael Ravbar and Dave Hanna. Look where they are at the moment. They are all in the selfies. I tell you what: you will find a selfie of Dave Hanna and the Labor Party—

Madam DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! I just warned the member for Kawana and also the member for Murrumba for conversations. Everything must be directed through the chair, please.

Mr BLEIJIE: Let me name some other names to see if members pick up any correlation or if there is a theme developing here: Mike Kaiser, Bill D'Arcy, Gordon Nuttall, Keith Wright, Grant Musgrove, Merri Rose, Bill Shorten and ripping off AWU workers. Let us not forget Paul Pisasale, who just got thrown out of the Labor Party. Let me name them again: Mike Kaiser, Bill D'Arcy and Gordon Nuttall. Talk about accountability and transparency! This is the Labor Party that came into this parliament and got rid of section 57 of the Criminal Code which made it illegal to lie to parliament. Why did it do that? It did that to protect corrupt former minister Gordon Nuttall. Gordon Nuttall is a corrupt politician who was sentenced by the courts and the Labor Party came in here and moved an amendment taking out section 57, yet those opposite talk about—

Mr Seeney: Recalled parliament!

Mr BLEIJIE: Yes, it recalled parliament in extraordinary circumstances to take out of the Criminal Code lying to parliament. Those opposite say that they are proud that the first piece of legislation they brought in was about protecting dodgy unions and donations. I will tell members what: I am proud that one of the first pieces of legislation we brought in was to reintroduce section 57 into the Criminal Code. I am proud the Liberal National Party reintroduced a section in the Criminal Code designed to catch politicians lying to parliament. Those opposite protected Gordon Nuttall and his corruption and then of course they washed their hands of all of the issues about Gordon Nuttall—'Nothing to see here. Nothing to do with us.'

I refer to the points that the shadow Attorney-General made in his contribution earlier with respect to the issue at hand here. We know that the committee that looked at the donation legislation had two documents tabled and, with respect, I wrote to the committee at that stage and provided Crown law advice to show that the Commonwealth law would prevail with respect to these donations. That is why the Liberal National Party did not introduce the seven-day real-time disclosure. It was our policy to introduce it. We had a policy after a green paper to introduce real-time disclosure, but then all of the

lawyers in the state government said, 'You can't do it. It will be found not to be valid by the High Court because the Commonwealth law will prevail.' That is why we did not head down that path. The shadow Attorney-General has made the additional points with respect to the other element that the Commonwealth law is incompatible with the state law. That is the issue at hand. That is the issue that is being debated in the courts.

This morning the Deputy Premier talked about the courts trying to wield power; the Supreme Court judges are going to have the wisdom that the Deputy Premier mentions. The Deputy Premier might not be subject to the sub judice rule, but she is certainly subject to the contempt of court proceedings. If we talk about civil proceedings, we only need look to the federal government where three federal ministers were responsible and had to apologise to the court because of civil proceedings.

Because we only have an hour for this guillotined debate and I want my colleagues to make their contributions tonight as well, I say this with respect to the Minister for Health: the Minister for Health got up and squawked when he said, 'I back the Premier. I back the Premier.' As the old saying goes, you have to get behind someone before you can stab them in the back, and that is exactly what the health minister is doing today. You have to get behind someone before you can stab them in the back. In conclusion and on a completely irrelevant note, tonight I welcome to the state parliament in the public gallery my good friend from primary school Mr Luke Palmer on his first visit to Parliament House.