




Speech By
Jarrold Bleijie

MEMBER FOR KAWANA

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

CFMEU

 **Mr BLEIJIE** (Kawana—LNP) (2.53 pm): With continual breaches of the law, bullying, royal commissions, corruption, the illegal shredding of documents, assaults, threats, fines and hundreds of officials before the courts, one could be forgiven for thinking I was talking about a criminal organisation, but I am not. I am talking about the CFMEU and its ties to the Labor Party, particularly Premier Anastacia Palaszczuk. The more policy decisions that are made, the more money the Labor Party gets. The more the CFMEU gives to the Labor Party, the more influence it gets from the government. Under Premier Palaszczuk, the Labor Party is owned lock, stock and barrel by the union movement. We know that she knows that her job depends on the union supporting the state.

I have long been disgusted by the scandals, the bullying and the intimidation by the union movement. However, as a father, nothing makes me more disgusted and sick to the guts than reading the comments from CFMEU members reported in the paper today. The CFMEU and its militant leaders operate like a criminal organisation. When things do not go their way, they threaten physical violence. They strike fear and intimidation into the hearts of decent hardworking Queenslanders who just want to keep their jobs and put food on the table for their families.

If you cross the picket line, you are called a scab. You are threatened with violence against yourself and your family—and not only your family; it is now your children. Just when we thought it could not get any worse or lower, it does. Today they threatened to rape the kids of workers. In the paper today we read that hardworking workers who crossed the line to work were yelled the abuse that their kids were going to get raped. In a video of the scene, someone says, 'I hope you hit a tree on your way home from work.' That is disgusting. That is the organisation that funds the Labor Party. That is the organisation that funds the Premier and gives the Premier her job.

Despite all the ministerial statements that she gave this morning, the Premier did not condemn the union movement. The Premier could not stand in this place and condemn the union movement's comments that kids were going to be raped. We did not hear one word. This morning the Premier held a press conference—

Mr Mander: She is laughing.

Mr BLEIJIE: The Premier is laughing about it. We have heard not one word of leadership. This is a test of leadership. Earlier today the Premier held a press conference and her response was, 'It's unacceptable.' She comes in here and says about members of this place things such as she is furious; she has eyeballed someone; she is really upset; she is sick and tired of it; it is a serious issue. However, we have heard no such words uttered about the CFMEU members who want to rape the children of workers. The Premier should be ashamed. The Minister for Women and Kate Jones, one the biggest haters in this place, have not condemned those words from the union movement. Peter Beattie had the leadership and the fortitude to say that the Labor Party should dissociate from the union movement. This Premier is weak.

(Time expired)