



Speech By  
**Hon. Shannon Fentiman**


**MEMBER FOR WATERFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 11 May 2017

## MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

### Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Minister for Communities, Women and Youth, Minister for Child Safety and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.12 am): May is Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month. It is all about raising awareness of the violence that goes on behind too many closed doors right across Australia and bringing discussion about it into the open. It is also about sending a very clear message that domestic and family violence will not be tolerated. Ending domestic and family violence is one of the government's highest priorities and we are spending a record \$200 million to do this and have implemented or commenced action on every recommendation in the *Not now, not ever* report, but we cannot do this alone. We need individuals, businesses and community groups to all come together and deliver our zero tolerance message and to support those who are affected by domestic and family violence.

That is why I was proud the Palaszczuk government joined forces with the Gold Coast Suns and the Queensland Police Service to launch Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month last Monday at Metricon Stadium. I was also pleased to join the Suns again on Saturday night at their game against Geelong for their domestic violence prevention round. By dedicating their round 7 game to domestic and family violence prevention, the Suns issued a strong declaration that they will stand up, speak out and act to prevent violence against women. The Suns also made a very symbolic gesture that footy fans in this House will recognise the significance of. Normally the pregame banner for an AFL team is witty and meant to be broken as the teams run out through the banner, but on Saturday night the players proudly raised a banner that read 'One woman is killed every week by a current or former partner. Domestic violence is not acceptable—not now, not ever', and they did not run through the banner but ran around the banner as a sign of respect. Football is a particularly powerful vehicle to help drive the not now, not ever message. The influence of players showing respect for women and girls and speaking out against violence cannot be underestimated. The amount of \$1 from every ticket sold for Saturday night's game went to local domestic and family violence organisations.

Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month is an opportunity for all Queenslanders to be part of the not now, not ever campaign. As part of the campaign, the Palaszczuk Labor government has provided more than \$186,000 in funding to support 50 community events across the state designed to drive home our message: not now, not ever. Stopping domestic and family violence in Queensland will take commitment from every corner of our state. These community owned and locally driven events are a chance to show that everyday Queenslanders are taking a stand and saying clearly that domestic and family violence is not acceptable—not now, not ever.