




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR CLAYFIELD

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PRIVATE MEMBER'S STATEMENT

Westminster, Incident; Domestic and Family Violence, Legislation

 **Mr NICHOLLS** (Clayfield—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (10.17 am): As you and the Premier have noted, this morning Queenslanders awoke—for those of us who were still in this place early this morning, some of us were awake—to the shocking and tragic news of the terrorist attack in London. It began on Westminster Bridge and ended at the houses of parliament—landmarks which are well-known to millions of visiting Queenslanders. Indeed, I walked across that bridge with my daughter only 14 months ago, and I note that the member for Ipswich and the member for Mount Ommaney will be there in a week's time at the cybersecurity and antiterrorism conference being hosted by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. As Queenslanders and Australians our affinity with, and affection for, the great city of London is unparalleled. I am sure all members join me in joining you and my Liberal National Party team in sending our thoughts and prayers to the families of those innocent victims in this yet another act of senseless terrorism. We condemn terrorism in all its insidious forms, and this morning we stand mournfully but in upmost solidarity with our great and enduring friends, the people of Great Britain.

I would now like to turn your attention to a far more uplifting piece of history that occurred in this House just a few hours ago. Following the January murder of Gold Coast mum Theresa Bradford, the LNP worked around the clock to swiftly introduce a private member's bill that would drastically toughen domestic violence laws. Early this morning that incredibly hard and humane work paid off when this parliament passed new laws that will better protect victims of domestic violence and their families. This is what this parliament is about and this is what leadership is all about: vigilance and rapid action. It is not about doing nothing—it is not even about just doing something—it is about producing real workable changes that will keep families and communities safer, changes that will transform lives and changes that will indeed save lives. This legislation, the Bail (Domestic Violence) and Another Act Amendment Act, will: reverse the presumption for bail in domestic violence related crimes, and I note the amendments moved by the Attorney-General; introduce a DV system to alert victims and families when somebody who is subject to a DVO is being considered for parole; implement urgent appeal rights to the bail application process; and allow GPS trackers to be fitted to alleged offenders as a potential bail condition.

The only sadness is that the government failed to support the important provisions around a DV bail alert system. Nonetheless, I acknowledge that the legislation has passed. I pay special tribute to the tireless work of shadow ministers Ros Bates and Ian Walker. Of course, I pay particular tribute to the sterling efforts of Bonnie Mobbs, Dale Shales and Sonia Anderson—three brave women who have experienced firsthand the devastation of domestic violence and were here in the wee hours to see this through. The LNP has stepped up and delivered critical domestic violence reforms from opposition because Queenslanders could not wait any longer.