




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 23 August 2018

MOTION

Amendments to Sessional Orders

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (Leader of the Opposition) (12.31 pm): What a deluded member of parliament I have to follow.

Mr WHITING: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence to that and I ask the Leader of the Opposition to withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: The member finds those comments offensive. Do you withdraw?

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw. A member who could come into this place and be so deluded that that member—

Mr WHITING: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr SPEAKER: What is your point of order?

Mr WHITING: The same word was used once again and I ask the Leader of the Opposition to withdraw.

Mr SPEAKER: Do you find it personally offensive?

Mr WHITING: I take personal offense.

Mr SPEAKER: The member finds those comments personally offensive.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw. Glass jaw, precious, secrecy, cover-up, hiding, part-time parliament—

Mr Mander: Typical.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON:—typical Labor government member. Why does the Labor Party in Queensland hate democracy? We saw the display by the Attorney-General with the soft, quietly spoken voice that, I am sorry, we do not normally hear in this place trying to convince this parliament that this motion is being moved for the family-friendly hours and to make sure that work can be done. This motion is proposing to shut down the voices of the people of Queensland.

Dr Rowan: A gag order.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: It is a gag order. I will take that interjection from the member for Moggill. It is a gag order. It is hypocritical of this Premier to now come into this place and decide that the members of the opposition and the people of Queensland do not get a voice. As the Manager of Opposition Business said, when the Premier was the opposition leader she came into this House and used the words 'let the members speak' and stated how much she opposed guillotining debates. However, now a couple of years later, here she is back in this chamber proposing to limit the time for debate but, worse than that, even saying we are going to have a committee. The parliament is going to be run by a committee who will decide for how long we are allowed to debate in this House. Worse than that, the committee is stacked with Labor members. How is that democracy?

This parliament is for the people of Queensland, to actually reflect the voices of their community. The member for Maiwar—and I never thought I would be on the same page as the member for Maiwar—is even suggesting that the members of his community are not going to be able to be heard. He called it a procedural trick, and that is exactly right. This government is using its arrogance, it is being hypocritical and it is showing how out of touch they are with the community.

The member for Bancroft has stood in this chamber and suggested that the Queensland parliament should be like other workplaces where we sit down every morning and have a little love-in and a meeting about what we are going to do today. Guess what? We are on the opposite side of the chamber to you guys for good reason. Democracy is about giving the opposition the right to hold the government of the day to account.

Mr Whiting: We know you like to give orders all the time.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: That is our job: to hold the government of the day to account, member for Bancroft. That is why you are delusional. That is why you are out of touch.

Mr SPEAKER: Through the chair, please.

Mr WHITING: Mr Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take personal offence once again.

Mr SPEAKER: Were the comments directed at the member personally? The member has found those comments offensive. I ask you to withdraw.

Mrs FRECKLINGTON: I withdraw.