



Speech By  
**Joseph Kelly**


**MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES**

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Record of Proceedings, 2 April 2019

**MATTER OF PUBLIC INTEREST**

**Road Safety**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (2.11 pm): Perhaps it is time to stop being appalled and start putting the One Nation party last.

As a nurse I take road safety extremely seriously. I have witnessed the impacts of traffic accidents of all sorts. I have seen the journey of patients in the emergency departments, the orthopaedic wards, the ICUs and the rehabilitation wards. Injuries can have devastating effects on individuals and intergenerational impacts upon families. I have not witnessed situations where people have died due to motor vehicle accidents, but I have no doubt that those situations are just as devastating. That is why I work with the local community whenever the opportunity presents to improve road safety, particularly around schools.

I see it as a very important part of my role to improve and maintain safety at schools. I have attended P&Cs and P&Fs. Many of these groups also have road safety subcommittees. They raise issues all the time around road safety at schools. By working with those communities and by talking to the minister, we have been able to get improvements to road safety at Coorparoo State School, Cavendish Road State High School, Loreto College, Greenslopes State School, Nursery Road State Special School, Holland Park State High School, Villanova College, Our Lady of Mount Carmel and Mount Gravatt State School.

The parents from Holland Park State School also contacted me with concerns about the entrance at Victor Street. I visited the school several times before and after school to talk to parents about the issues and to have a look for myself. What we found was that an increase in density was leading to more people using that entrance, which had previously been little used. I spoke to the minister and the minister's office and made representations. I was pleased that the outcome was that we received an additional school crossing guard. When I drive past there now I am reminded how important it is to listen to your community, to work with your community and to have ministers who actually listen to you and work with you. The minister gets road safety. The minister understands road safety.

I would not have thought that road safety around schools would be a contested issue. I would not have thought that I would walk into this place and argue about road safety around schools. Sadly, the shadow spokesperson responsible for road safety around schools—the person responsible for putting forward an alternative vision of keeping kids safe around schools—does not agree. The member for Chatsworth chose to play politics with the efforts of the Queensland police to enforce speed limits near Whites Hill State College. He put petty politics ahead of the safety of children around our schools. He put political point scoring ahead of kids and their families. The police were catching up to 40 motorists an hour—40 motorists an hour—exceeding the speed limit. If there is someone who I would have thought would have understood the issues around this school it would have been the member for Chatsworth because, while this school is now in my electorate, it was previously in the member for Chatsworth's electorate.

**Mrs Frecklington** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Member for Nanango, you have had your go.

**Mr KELLY:** It was previously in the member's electorate, and he represented this school and this community for six years.

**Mrs Frecklington** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! We do not need you shouting across the chamber.

**Mr KELLY:** You can imagine the reaction of the school community and the broader community. There was widespread condemnation that this member, who supposedly represents road safety for the opposition, was prepared to put politics ahead of the safety of children. The member is totally unsuited to be the spokesperson on road safety. I would suggest that this member step down from this role immediately and perhaps, if those opposite can, they should find somebody who will put the safety of kids before petty politics.

I am pleased to be part of the Palaszczuk government which puts the safety of children first. I am pleased that we have a minister who gets road safety and puts the safety of children first. I am pleased to attend P&Cs and P&Fs.

**Mrs Frecklington** interjected.

**Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER:** Order! Member for Nanango, I have given you fair warning. Next time you will be placed on a warning under the standing orders. Member for Greenslopes, you have 10 seconds.

**Mr KELLY:** I will always put the safety of kids first in my electorate.