




Speech By
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MEMBER FOR BROADWATER

Record of Proceedings, 8 September 2020

**PROTECTING QUEENSLANDERS FROM VIOLENT AND CHILD SEX
OFFENDERS AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr CRISAFULLI** (Broadwater—LNP) (6.49 pm): I rise to support the Protecting Queenslanders from Violent and Child Sex Offenders Amendment Bill. At the core of what every government does and, indeed, at the core of what every parliamentarian does, should be the protection of the community and providing a level of safety. Whether it is from a virus that we had not heard of until recent months, whether it is because of economic challenges, social hardship or, indeed, protecting people from the lowest of low, everything we do in this place should be with that laser like focus. If we look at the intent of the shadow minister's bill, which is being carried by my good friend the member for Ninderry, these are the values at the core of this bill. To have it mocked and derided by those opposite quite frankly is offensive to those people who have had to endure people like this and who have to work in that field—and I will make more of a contribution on that in a moment.

I will start with the Attorney's contribution. The Attorney's contribution centred around problems with legislation nearly a decade ago. We are not debating that; we are debating a bill that this side of the House believes has merit to improve the situation today. For the Attorney to somehow hold up the current laws as being nation leading and they cannot be better is a great disservice to every person who suffers at the hands of one of these monsters. I am not suggesting that the legislation we have in this state does not have merit. We are not suggesting it be thrown it out and we start again, we are suggesting improvements. To have it mocked and derided is shallow.

Then there was the contribution from the member for Toohey, who somehow sought to use the word 'prejudice'. If trying to improve laws to protect kids is somehow prejudicing people, I say the only prejudice is to keep kids safe. In the contribution of the member for Bulimba, as minister she quite rightly spoke about having to deal with real life stories. As minister that would be a harrowing experience, but she does not have a mortgage on that. We on this side of the House have prosecutors, police officers and people who have walked in the shoes of people in this scenario. Somehow the minister thought she had a mortgage on that. Then we had the contribution of the member for Morayfield, who said, on half a dozen occasions, 'Look at what they do, not what they say.' That is right. Look at what they do, not what they say. For example, when you stand beside someone and use them as a political pawn and say something that does not apply to them, look at what you do, not what you say. What a disgraceful act for the minister to come in here and wave his arms around like that. Quite frankly, it is disgusting.

This bill has merit for a number of reasons. The court ordered supervisory orders are indeterminate, not a fixed term, and that has merit. This proposal is most effective. The government should be looking to embrace it in relation to the supervision order on all repeat serious offenders on their release. Who can argue that one of these monsters should be able to live near a school or a park? Who could credibly argue that? Who could credibly argue that someone having to report to Corrective Services is wrong? Who on earth could argue that having a GPS tracker on someone who has offended and caused so much harm could somehow be a violation and we should not attempt to do it to protect our most vulnerable?

I say to those opposite: forget about the rise in the numbers and forget about the challenges we face; look at it through the eyes of those whose reports you read. Do it for those families. Not one person is currently on a reportable GPS. How can we say the legislation is best of breed when that is the case? I conclude my contribution by coming back to where I started: it is the role of every parliamentarian, in every parliament, in every nation to do all they can to protect those without a voice. This bill does it and would I urge all in this House to exercise goodwill and support it.