




Speech By
Deb Frecklington

MEMBER FOR NANANGO

Record of Proceedings, 11 March 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Nanango Electorate; Jensen, Mr K

 **Mrs FRECKLINGTON** (Nanango—LNP) (6.06 pm): On 1 May last year, a young man from my Nanango electorate took his own life. His name was Keelian Jensen. He was just 19 years old and he and his family lived in the Somerset region. Earlier this month I met with friends and family of Keelian, along with Somerset regional councillor Kylee Isidro and the Somerset community development coordinator Lyn Buchanan, to talk about youth mental health in our region. They told me about Keelian and what a wonderful young man he was. They said he was a loving and gentle person, an affectionate boy who wore his heart on his sleeve and felt everything.

Although he had had his share of mental health struggles in the past, he appeared to be in a good place before his death and his suicide took them all by surprise. They explained that on the night of his death he was online and he started searching—very normal things at first like new games coming out. By about 1 am he started searching items relating to how to take your own life. He read a website and watched a YouTube video. He searched how to tie a noose. His family was shocked. We know that at one point a Lifeline ad popped up on one of Keelian's searches, but this was easily bypassed.

This has led to the family's call and petition to make Google do more to filter or block search results for specific suicide items. The petition has been signed by more than 3,400 people. It is a chilling call by his aunt Camilla, who tells us what happened on the night. The petition asks for specific pro-suicide keywords to only return information with sources for mental health assistance. They want Google to block content which gives explicit information on how to end your life. Above all, she wants Google to help make the internet a safer place for everyone. If this had been in place on the night of Keelian's death, they wonder whether this young man may still be here with them today. I strongly support this call. Surely this is something that Google can try to do to help make our world a better place. Youth suicide continues to affect communities right across everyone's electorate.

I briefly want to mention an excellent program that services parts of the electorate of Nanango, the health service navigator. Our local navigator is Andrea McGee who works for RHealth. She has assisted my office on many occasions. She does the groundwork to help people understand and navigate the local pathways to mental health and other community support services. It is an excellent service. I thank her for her commitment in this vitally important role.