



Speech By  
**Joan Pease**


**MEMBER FOR LYTTON**

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Record of Proceedings, 12 May 2022

## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' STATEMENT**

### **Domestic and Family Violence, Awareness**

 **Ms PEASE** (Lytton—ALP) (2.28 pm): May is Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence Month. I am very proud to work with a number of local organisations in the bayside community collaboration. That is made up of a number of groups. We have Silky Oaks; we have Winnam, our local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander co-op; our local QPS officer-in-charge; Wynnum Manly Rotary; Zonta; and BABI. Each year we run a number of meetings and a number of activities. Our main focus is with regard to raising awareness of domestic and family violence. To this end, we host a couple of events.

Last Thursday night we hosted our annual candlelight vigil. It was a very moving and respectful event. It has been very much embraced by our community. There were student representatives from all of our high schools in attendance. It was very moving to see them all turn up in their school uniforms and listen respectfully to our guest speakers. Jo from my office, who is a DV survivor, read a poem. Then there was also Jill Nock, who is another DV survivor. She talked about the importance of supporting each other, for the community to come together and for young people to talk nicely to each other.

Then we heard from Crystal Demi. Crystal Demi is a young woman who is a survivor of sexual and domestic and family violence. That is the first time she has ever shared her story. It was very moving and difficult to hear that this poor young woman was treated so badly by her family. It was a disgrace. Because she has been taken care of by our local youth and family services organisation, BABI, she is finding her way in the world—so much so that she was prepared to stand up and share her horrific journey with us. I am so very proud of her. She had her children there as well as her little sister. I really want to acknowledge what a big achievement it was for her to share that. It was a heartbreaking story.

I would also particularly like to acknowledge Kirsty from the Mate program. She talked about the importance of getting involved and not just walking on by, because the behaviour you walk past is the behaviour that you accept. The Bystander program that is currently being run is a wonderful educational facility. Please reach out if you are not sure how you can get involved. It is a great program to get involved with.