




Speech By
Hon. Shannon Fentiman

MEMBER FOR WATERFORD

Record of Proceedings, 18 August 2022

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

Domestic and Family Violence

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (Attorney-General and Minister for Justice, Minister for Women and Minister for the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (10.10 am): I rise to acknowledge a difficult couple of weeks. In just a couple of weeks it has been reported that three women have lost their life. I want to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Jifeng Liu, known as Eileen, and her son, Sam. I want to extend my condolences to the family and friends of Florrie Reuben and to the family and friends of Tania Trickey.

I, like all Queenslanders, have many questions about how these tragedies occurred. Domestic and family violence is never acceptable and these recent tragedies are an important reminder that we must continue to work to end violence against women. Abuse is a choice and if you are using violence or abuse in your relationship, take responsibility and ask for help. Help is available through DVConnect Mensline and if you are worried about a family member or a friend or a co-worker, support is also available. Through the Be There app we can all learn to be better bystanders because we all have a role to play in ending violence against women.

The Palaszczuk government is committed to making Queensland safer for all women and girls. Earlier this year I joined with the Premier and the families of victims of domestic and family violence to announce an historic \$363 million package to reform the system in preparation for criminalising coercive control. This includes additional funding for perpetrator interventions, high-risk teams, co-responder models and specialist domestic and family violence courts. We also need to address the community attitudes that underpin violence against women, and that starts by educating all Queensland students in Respectful Relationships. We will not stop this critical work until all Queenslanders are safe from domestic and family violence.