




Speech By
Brittany Lauga

MEMBER FOR KEPPEL

Record of Proceedings, 24 May 2023

MOTION

Palaszczuk Labor Government; Youth Crime

 **Ms LAUGA** (Keppel—ALP) (5.16 pm): I rise to speak against the motion moved by the member for Clayfield and in support of the amendment moved by the minister. Tonight I am calling on the Leader of the Opposition to man up and apologise. He has been caught out telling lies about me on not one but now two occasions.

Mr POWELL: Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I understand the member for Keppel just used unparliamentary language.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Keppel, you have used unparliamentary language. I would ask you to withdraw.

Ms LAUGA: I withdraw. Tonight I am calling on the Leader of the Opposition to man up and apologise. He has been caught out telling mistruths about me on not one but now two occasions, and I will not stand for it. First, the Leader of the Opposition said that I was making up stories for Facebook about the LNP's attempts to halt the Yeppoon-Rockhampton road upgrade, but the Leader of the Opposition did not even know his shadow minister for local government had written a letter to the Minister for Main Roads wanting the engineering—

Mr NICHOLLS: Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Ms LAUGA:—design—

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat please, member for Keppel. What is your point of order?

Mr NICHOLLS: My point of order, Mr Acting Speaker, is on relevance. This is not relevant to either the motion I moved or the amendment moved by the member's own side.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: The point of order is upheld. Member for Keppel, there are other opportunities for you to make a speech of that nature. I would ask you to come back to either the amendment or the original motion.

Ms LAUGA: Yes, Mr Acting Speaker; I have raised this in the House before. Then just last week the Leader of the Opposition sent out a press release to Central Queensland media outlets accusing me of not using the word 'crime' once during parliament in Cairns two weeks ago. The Leader of the Opposition said in his media statement—

Shocking new *Hansard* analysis has revealed Rockhampton MP Barry O'Rourke, Keppel MP Brittany Lauga and Gladstone MP—

Mr NICHOLLS: Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to a point of order.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Pause the clock.

Mr NICHOLLS: My point of order is the same point of order in relation to relevance. Just by saying the word 'crime' does not make it relevant to the content of either the motion that was moved by me or the amendment. Mr Acting Speaker, I would ask you to bring her back to the substance of the motion.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: I will take some advice. Member for Keppel, the point of order is valid. I was giving you some latitude to hear if you were going to bring your contribution back to either the motion or the amended motion. I will ask you to do that or I will sit you down.

Ms LAUGA: The Deputy Leader of the Opposition has raised, in this debate, words that were or were not uttered in Cairns during the last sitting week. I want to take this opportunity, whilst we are having this debate about words that were or were not used in the parliament in Cairns last week, to correct the record on the debate about crime. Clearly, the Leader of the Opposition and his media unit do not know how to correctly check the record—

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Member for Keppel, I will ask you to resume your seat.

Mr WHITING: Mr Acting Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I believe that the member for Keppel was referenced in the original motion specifically because of the issues that were raised by the member for Keppel. She was deliberately named in the original motion. Therefore, she is addressing what has been foreshadowed in that original motion.

Mr ACTING SPEAKER: Thank you, member, for the point of order. I have reviewed the original motion. While the member was referenced in the original motion, the member is raising matters that in no way relate to the motion or the amended motion. She has been given guidance in relation to that on two occasions so I have now decided to ask the member to resume her seat.