




Speech By
James Martin

MEMBER FOR STRETTON

Record of Proceedings, 19 March 2024

ADJOURNMENT

One Nation

 **Mr MARTIN** (Stretton—ALP) (7.16 pm): In 1996 an elected senator of Queensland disgracefully stood up in the Australian Parliament and said—

I believe we are in danger of being swamped by Asians. They have their own culture and religion, form ghettos and do not assimilate.

That senator, of course, was One Nation leader Pauline Hanson. Since then, she has maintained her hateful and divisive views towards minorities, be they migrants or First Nations people. Indeed, she called for a ban on Muslim immigration. Sadly, since 1998 we have consistently seen the LNP and its predecessors, the Liberal and the National parties, get into bed with One Nation on a series of dodgy preference deals. I am proud that Labor has always maintained that the toxic politics of One Nation are not acceptable to the majority of Queenslanders. We have never stood for these dodgy deals and we have always maintained the principled position of putting One Nation last. We have done so even in situations that have cost us seats.

Every couple of years, though, we have a new leader of the LNP. We hear a lot about how the LNP has changed—how it is listening to Queenslanders and supporting multicultural communities, how it is not the LNP that it used to be. Well, actions speak louder than words. Let's look at their actions. There is a One Nation representative in this House who is only here because he received preferences from the LNP. That is a fact. In 2022 the LNP decided to preference Senator Hanson, helping her along to another six-year term and giving Australia another six years of divisive political tactics. On the weekend we saw even more evidence that the LNP has not changed, preferencing One Nation in the state by-election. That certainly was not advertised by the LNP in my community.

Local multicultural community members and leaders were kept in the dark about the LNP's dodgy deals with One Nation. It is the same old LNP trick: preference One Nation everywhere except in multicultural communities such as Stretton or Toohey. In my communities they try and keep it quiet but, frankly, it is wrong. It is weak leadership from the Leader of the Opposition. If he believes that what Pauline Hanson has said and done is wrong, he should come out and commit to putting One Nation last across the whole state of Queensland—not just in electorates with multicultural communities. I am proud to represent one of the most multicultural communities in Queensland.

Honourable members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Kelly): Order, members!

Mr Millar interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Gregory!

Mr MARTIN: I share my community's disappointment again that the LNP has done a dodgy deal with a political party—

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Resume your seat, please. Member for Gregory, you are warned under the standing orders.

Mr MARTIN: I am proud to be part of a government—

Ms Boyd interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Pause the clock. Member for Pine Rivers, that interjection was not appreciated and you are warned under the standing orders.

Mr MARTIN: I am proud to be part of a government that will always put One Nation last everywhere—in every electorate, in every election—because that is the right thing to do.

Mr MILLAR: Mr Deputy Speaker, I rise to a point of order. I take offence at what the member for Pine Rivers said about me. I find it absolutely disgraceful and I want you to withdraw—call me a redneck!

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, member for Gregory! Your comments will come through the chair.

Mr Millar interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order! Member for Gregory, you are actually under a warning. I understand your state of emotion. I am trying to give a ruling and I would appreciate it if I can do that. Taking points of order is not an opportunity for people to engage in debate or to give speeches, but you have made a valid point of order. I ask the member for Pine Rivers to withdraw.

Ms BOYD: I withdraw.

Mr MARTIN: In every election, in every electorate across Queensland, we will continue to put One Nation last because it is the right thing to do. If the Leader of the Opposition meant what he said, he should do the same thing.

(Time expired)