




Speech By
Joseph Kelly

MEMBER FOR GREENSLOPES

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**CRIMINAL LAW (COERCIVE CONTROL AND AFFIRMATIVE CONSENT) AND
OTHER LEGISLATION AMENDMENT BILL; CRIMINAL CODE AND OTHER
LEGISLATION (DOUBLE JEOPARDY EXCEPTION AND SUBSEQUENT
APPEALS) AMENDMENT BILL**

 **Mr KELLY** (Greenslopes—ALP) (4.51 pm): Just a few weeks ago, on the day before the anniversary of the terrible murder of Hannah Clarke and her children—Aaliyah, Laianah and Trey—our community gathered in Hannah’s Place, a park in the White’s Hill section of Camp Hill dedicated to the memory of Hannah and her children. There were hundreds of people of all ages—a very diverse group—gathered with one purpose: to attempt to break a world record for the highest number of people doing a handstand simultaneously. They did this to honour the memory of Hannah and her kids.

Hannah was a fine sportswoman, a gym fanatic and a mainstay at her local PCYC, and she loved her handstands. Ironically, everyone was happy. Hannah’s family were beaming at the level of support. It was fantastic to see all of the kids excited—perhaps not really understanding the full impact of the day but knowing that they were doing something good for society. Across the road was the school where Hannah’s name is still on the honour board as school captain. It was surreal to be surrounded by so much happiness only a few streets away from where those terrible events took place four years ago—on a street where my grandparents lived for 40 years and where I would have played at a similar age to those young children.

These events started with coercive control, a term that not many people were familiar with at that time. I certainly did not understand it. Hannah’s parents, Sue and Lloyd Clarke, have tirelessly led a campaign trying to educate the community about this, trying to change people’s behaviour, trying to get help for those people who need it, including trying to get help to people who might be perpetrators—I think that is amazing—and trying to change the laws. I thank Sue and Lloyd and their entire family for their courage in leading this campaign. I do not think many of us could really contemplate how difficult it would be. I support the laws in this bill because they have been recommended by the Women’s Safety and Justice Taskforce, a body that Sue and Lloyd Clarke made several presentations to and have been very supportive of.

For the record, I did not do a handstand. I do not think I could hold a handstand for the required time, so you can probably blame me that we failed to break the world record. I certainly will not be practising to do that next year. I was an official judge. Not everyone can do a handstand—I put myself in that category—but I can support these laws. I believe that they will make our community safer and a better place to live. I commend the bill to the House.