



Speech By  
**Hon. Amanda Camm**


**MEMBER FOR WHITSUNDAY**

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Record of Proceedings, 19 February 2025

**MINISTERIAL STATEMENT**

**Domestic, Family and Sexual Violence**

 **Hon. AJ CAMM** (Whitsunday—LNP) (Minister for Families, Seniors and Disability Services and Minister for Child Safety and the Prevention of Domestic and Family Violence) (2.37 pm): Five years ago today, four innocent lives were cut short in one of the most horrific acts of domestic violence this state and our nation has ever seen. Thirty-one-year-old Hannah Clarke and her three children—Aaliyah, Laianah and Trey—were murdered by their father, Hannah's estranged husband, on a suburban street here in Brisbane. It was a crime that provoked shock, outrage and a community conversation about a form of domestic violence that had not been talked about—coercive control. Coercive control is an insidious pattern of manipulative behaviour that breaks down a person's boundaries, self-esteem, judgement and independence. Ultimately, it takes over their life. It is costing Queenslanders' lives.

This morning, I had the privilege to spend time with Sue and Lloyd, Nat Clarke and his family along with members from Small Steps 4 Hannah, Mayor Adrian Schinner and Deputy Mayor Fiona Cunningham at Hannah's Sanctuary where we planted trees in an aim, over time, to attract the beautiful yellow butterflies that appeared the day after Hannah's murder. Through their grief and trauma, they have worked tirelessly to raise awareness about the signs of coercive control and educate children and young people on respectful relationships to help end cycles of violence and domestic violence. Today, we pay tribute to them.

Last month, Sue and Lloyd were awarded an OAM for their service to domestic violence awareness. Today, they thanked this House for the commitment to take forward legislation. On 26 May this year coercive control will be a criminal offence in Queensland. We commend them for their courage, resilience and commitment to this cause as they travelled the nation spreading the word about the need for legislation around coercive control. They will be taking a step back to take time for themselves, and we respectfully thank them as they do. Their legacy continues through the Small Steps 4 Hannah Foundation; the HALT program, which is educating young people; and Hannah's Story. We are committed to continue their work, and I know that many in this House have championed their efforts.

The Crisafulli government is under no illusion about how much work lies ahead for all of us to achieve generational change in attitudes and behaviours. It will take a whole-of-community approach. I am humbled to have been given the opportunity to take on this incredibly hard and complex portfolio. Working through the Crisafulli government's Safer Families, Safer Communities policy we will hold domestic violence offenders to account and we will have zero tolerance for the perpetration of domestic violence. We will roll out 500 GPS trackers, with the first 150 to be issued to high-risk perpetrators this year, so victims remain safe with the 24/7 surveillance provided.

We will also be expanding Beyond DV's Hope Hub recovery centres, with three additional sites. We are reviewing the state's leading domestic violence 24/7 response, DV Connect, to identify gaps in service and failures in the system—gaps that have been left by those opposite. In our first 100 days I have established a working group for survivors of domestic and sexual violence who have been

impacted by system failures in recent years. It is through education, supporting victim-survivors, strengthening our laws and holding people who use violence accountable for their behaviour that we will achieve much needed change. For Hannah Clarke and her three children and, sadly, the many victims we have lost since their deaths and those affected by the scourge of domestic and family violence, we will not waver in our commitment to do more, and we must.