



Speech By
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MEMBER FOR PUMICESTONE

Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2025

MOTION

Multicultural Communities

 **Miss DOOLAN** (Pumicestone—LNP) (4.11 pm): I rise today to speak in full support of this important motion moved by the minister. I do so on behalf of the diverse, respectful and resilient people of communities across Pumicestone and in defence of every multicultural Queenslander, including myself, who calls this state home.

On 22 September the Leader of the Opposition posted a harmful video to social media that remained online for hours, only to be quietly deleted later on. That video named three countries—Indonesia, Nepal and the Philippines—and showed confronting footage of antigovernment riots. From my perspective and from the perspective of many others across this state it appeared Mr Miles was trying to encourage some sort of protest against the Queensland government—

Ms Bourne interjected.

Mr Hunt interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Just a moment, please. Members on my left—member for Ipswich West and member for Nicklin, cease your quarrelling.

Miss DOOLAN: Let me be clear: I absolutely believe that peaceful protest has a place in our democracy, but violent protest, no matter where it happens or for what cause, should never be endorsed or encouraged, explicitly or implicitly. When a public figure uses the imagery of riots that have claimed lives and destroyed communities there is a line. That line has now been crossed. It is not leadership; it is provocation and Queenslanders deserve far better.

In Nepal 72 lives were lost, over 1,300 people were injured and infrastructure—government buildings—was completely destroyed. In Indonesia the situation was chaotic and destructive. The parliament was set on fire, homes and offices of political figures were attacked and three people died. In the Philippines violence led to 72 arrests and 39 injured police officers.

Mr Hunt interjected.

Ms Bourne interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER: Member for Nicklin and member for Ipswich West, you are both warned under the standing orders.

Miss DOOLAN: These were not mere protests; these were deadly, traumatic events and the Leader of the Opposition, someone who calls himself a leader, chose to exploit these tragedies for his own political gain. That is not just bad judgement; it is offensive and it is reckless.

Let me be clear: the Leader of the Opposition's actions were not a simple mistake; they were calculated. The video was edited and intentionally posted to stir emotion, to ignite outrage and to manipulate. That is dangerous behaviour. He may have deleted the video, but let me remind the Leader of the Opposition that he can delete a post but he cannot delete his record. What is worse is that this video directly disrespects the multicultural communities who were impacted by these riots. It invokes their pain, their trauma and their national tragedies in the most flippant, politicised way possible. Today we have members of the Filipino community in the gallery. To each of them I want to say, 'Thank you for being here. I know this moment is difficult, but your presence matters. You are not invisible. You are not collateral damage in a political campaign. You are part of the fabric of the state and we stand with you.'

The Leader of the Opposition owes these communities an actual, real apology—not just a deleted video, not a quiet back step, but a real, public apology for what he said and the damage he caused and yet his state Labor colleagues have said nothing—absolutely nothing. Let's not forget what responsible leadership could look like. For example, when Senator Lidia Thorpe made similar dangerous remarks, her own federal Labor colleagues condemned them without hesitation. Where is that courage from members of the opposition?

This side of the House will not be silent. We will not allow misinformation and division to go unchallenged. I know that in my community, from Caboolture all the way to Bribie Island, people just want respect, they want unity and they want leaders who reflect their values. They do not want fear, they do not want hate and they certainly do not want politicians who will exploit international tragedies just to score cheap political points.