




Speech By
Hon. David Janetzki

MEMBER FOR TOOWOOMBA SOUTH

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ADJOURNMENT

Griffiths, Ms L; Crawford, Ms F

 **Hon. DC JANETZKI** (Toowoomba South—LNP) (Treasurer, Minister for Energy and Minister for Home Ownership) (10.55 pm): Tonight I want to reflect on two women who have lost their lives. They have been taken from their families, their friends and our community over the past few months: Louise and Frances. Of course, I cannot speak about the circumstances of their deaths because those matters are before the courts. In any event, the allegations are already known publicly. However, their names must be spoken publicly. Their names must be heard and their memory must be preserved.

Recently, Amanda and Protea Place in Toowoomba hosted a Domestic and Family Violence Prevention Month vigil. Over 500 members of our community attended. That night, the families of Louise and Frances shared their grief, their sorrow and their loss.

Last week, Louise's life was celebrated at Humeridge, where the community wrapped their arms around the Griffiths family. Words cannot describe their sorrow. Words cannot describe their loss. As the community wrapped their arms around the Griffiths family, I was reminded of the loss to the broader community of Louise and Frances.

In the Toowoomba region there are 180,000 people and around 100,000 people live in Toowoomba itself. The deep connections that I saw not just at the vigil to remember those two women but also at Humeridge at Louise's farewell, which brought the community together, reminded me of how small a community is and how big is the impact of the loss of women such as Louise and Frances.

My wife and I spoke with Louise just a couple of months ago at her nephew's seventh birthday party. It was a moment of high excitement as only 20 seven-year-old boys can bring to a moment. My wife and I went to school with Frances.

In a small, close-knit community like Toowoomba and the Toowoomba region, everybody is impacted by the loss of women. The scourge of domestic violence must end. Men must do more to stop it and speak against it. Our community has suffered a great deal. To the Pilon family and the Griffiths family: know that our community grieve with you. As a community, through people like Amanda and Protea Place, we will work as hard as we possibly can to remove the scourge of domestic violence, once and for all.