



Speech By
Hon. Laura Gerber

MEMBER FOR CURRUMBIN

Record of Proceedings, 15 October 2025

MOTION

Multicultural Communities

 **Hon. LJ GERBER** (Currumbin—LNP) (Minister for Youth Justice and Victim Support and Minister for Corrective Services) (4.05 pm): There you have it. Not only did the Leader of the Opposition fail to apologise properly—he said ‘if I have offended anyone’—but the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has changed the motion and is refusing to apologise to our multicultural communities for the offensive and vile post that incited violence in our Queensland communities. The opposition have form here. They did the same thing with the member for Cairns. They all stood up beside the member for Cairns when he reposted a vile post that called on sexual violence against women. The Leader of the Opposition’s post was dangerous, decisive and remarkably disrespectful. It showed an appalling lack of judgement and an abysmal lack of leadership.

Opposition members interjected.

Mr DEPUTY SPEAKER (Mr Krause): Order! There is too much noise coming from my left. The member for Currumbin has the call and I will hear her.

Mrs GERBER: It showed an appalling lack of leadership. Let us talk about what this post actually did. This post named the countries of Indonesia, Nepal and Philippines and linked footage of the recent anti-government riots—riots in Nepal that cost the lives of 72 people; riots in Indonesia that caused three deaths, with parliament set on fire and homes of political party members and state buildings ransacked and set on fire; and riots in the Philippines that saw 72 arrests and 39 police officers injured—to his Facebook post and called on Queenslanders to rise up and stop being silent. That is absolutely disgraceful. He then stood up in this House and said ‘if I offended anyone’. He was forced to take the post down. He knows what he did. He knows that it was an abysmal lack of leadership, that it was abhorrent and that he should not have done it, but he still fails to unreservedly apologise to our multicultural communities for it. Even after that, he proceeded to try to justify the post.

We then heard the Deputy Leader of the Opposition stand up and refer to a journalist who called out this behaviour on the part of Queenslanders as junior. This is a two-time award-winning journalist and the Deputy Leader of the Opposition dismissed her as junior. There is a misogynistic comment. The Deputy Leader of the Opposition should not only apologise for condoning the abhorrent post by the Leader of the Opposition; he should apologise to that award-winning journalist for his misogynistic comment.