




Speech By
Mark Boothman

MEMBER FOR THEODORE

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**CRIME AND CORRUPTION (RESTORING REPORTING POWERS) AMENDMENT
BILL**

 **Mr BOOTHMAN** (Theodore—LNP) (4.19 pm): I rise to make a contribution to the Crime and Corruption (Restoring Reporting Powers) Amendment Bill 2025. It is disappointing that we have to have this type of legislation because individuals who hold the high office of a member of parliament sometimes do the wrong thing. Having said that, what makes this even more extraordinary is the covering up of these issues by the previous Labor government. Over \$300,000 of taxpayers' money was spent to keep these reports in the shadows. When we say to our constituents in our electorates that \$300,000 was spent by the previous Labor government to keep reports about Trad and Carne secret, it does not pass the pub test. When residents are doing it tough and the state is spending this type of money to protect one of its own it is disgraceful and those opposite should hang their heads in shame. It does not pass the pub test and it is disgraceful.

We need to maintain high standards when it comes to DNA testing so that cases can remain open and ensure that justice is properly served in this state to protect women and women's rights and to ensure that those perpetrators who commit these heinous crimes are brought to justice, and this is exactly what some amendments to this bill do. I thank the Attorney-General for introducing this bill and for finally shining a light into a very dodgy era of Queensland politics when it comes to the Trad and Carne issues for which Queensland taxpayers were forced to foot the bill. It is a disgrace of biblical proportions.

Mr Mander: That's big.

Mr BOOTHMAN: That is big. The Queensland taxpayer is paying the bill of an individual who is actually quite well off. Trad could have afforded to pay her own legal fees but instead let the taxpayers pay for it while people are sleeping rough under bridges in Brisbane and in our parks. That amount of \$300,000 is disgraceful.

The allegations against Peter Carne were that he was an individual who was regularly drunk at work, harassing office staff, keeping a breathalyser on his desk and misusing a corporate card. I will say this: again Queensland residents would be horrified to know that the former Labor government ensured there was protection for these individuals. If this happened in the corporate world, the corporate world would hang them out to dry and our standards need to be the same. I applaud the Attorney-General for finally letting the light in on this saga which is a damning part of our Queensland history.