



Speech By  
**Hon. Shannon Fentiman**

**MEMBER FOR WATERFORD**

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Record of Proceedings, 17 September 2025

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Multiculturalism**

 **Hon. SM FENTIMAN** (Waterford—ALP) (9.25 pm): On 31 August, across our country we saw marches that sought to amplify dangerous white supremacist messaging. What was so disturbing was that people were willing to march alongside neo-Nazis, people who openly spread hate and division. It was not just about a rally; it was about misinformation deliberately spread to stoke fear. We heard false claims about immigration rates when the truth is clear: migration is essential to our economic prosperity and as a state we have absolutely valued our multiculturalism. Right now in this country there are more job vacancies than unemployed people. Our businesses, hospitals and schools all rely on skilled migrants, international students and hardworking families that choose to make Australia their home.

It does not help when we have coalition members in the Australian Senate spreading more misinformation. Senator Price's suggestion that the government was favouring Indian migrants to boost Labor's vote was not just wrong; it was disgraceful and hurtful. It took the leader of the Liberal Party, Sussan Ley, eight days to finally apologise to the community. It was absolutely disgraceful. The truth is that when the LNP play politics with race they do not just divide communities; they weaken our country. I ask: why hasn't the state LNP taken a stand against these marches? Why haven't they called out this extremism because silence in the face of hate is not leadership.

It is not good enough. Communities like mine in Logan deserve more. They deserve real leadership. They deserve leaders who are proud of our diversity. Let us not forget that at the LNP's recent state conference they backed a motion to repeal Queensland's hate crimes—crimes that we worked for with leaders in the multicultural community. That is what the LNP stands for. Those laws protect people from being treated unfairly because of their race and religion. The reality is that behind closed doors they are working to drag Queensland backwards. While some in our communities want to tear us apart, in my community of Logan we show the best of what multiculturalism has to offer. Our city is a proud home to people from more than 200 cultural backgrounds and that diversity is our strength, not our weakness. The people of Logan and people right across Queensland know that we are stronger together.