



Speech By
Corrine McMillan

MEMBER FOR MANSFIELD

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MOTION

Victims of Crime, Data Reporting

 **Ms McMILLAN** (Mansfield—ALP) (6.03 pm): I rise to support the motion of the shadow minister for police, a motion that speaks to the heart of transparency, accountability and the safety of our most vulnerable. This House must formally condemn the Crisafulli LNP government. For months this government has stood before the cameras claiming a victory over crime. They have trumpeted green shoots—a drop in victim numbers—as proof that their slogans were working, but we know the truth. This drop was not achieved by making our streets safer; it was achieved by making victims invisible. It is a statistical sleight of hand that prioritises political survival over the lived reality of Queenslanders.

That is the difference between the Labor government and this current LNP government. We did the right thing by supporting police and legislating the increase to police efficiencies that they asked for, not fudging the figures. The amendment changed the way police investigate domestic violence in households where a child is involved. It should never have changed the way data was recorded. This was not the intent nor the reason for the amendment made. The most shameful aspect of this creative accounting is the deliberate omission of child victims of domestic and family violence. According to reports from the *Courier-Mail*, recent legislative changes mean police are no longer required to lodge certain domestic violence incidents involving children under 18. This means that at least 900 child assault victims have effectively vanished from the police data in the last eight months alone. Criminologists, including Professor Terry Goldsworthy, a good friend of those opposite, have rightly called this a failure of the most vulnerable. These children have not stopped being victims; they have simply stopped being counted. By changing the rules of what constitutes a victim the Premier is not fixing the problem; he is just fixing the books. Importantly, this change can be rectified at any point, and I encourage the Crisafulli government to work with police on restoring that reporting process to give Queenslanders trust in that data.

However, this is not an isolated incident; it is part of a pattern of dodgy data by 'dodgy Dave' that defines the Crisafulli administration. When the Premier first announced his crime figures in 2025, he faced immediate criticism for excluding the massive category of 'other theft'. This includes shoplifting, theft from cars and theft from a person—crimes that affect thousands of businesses and everyday Queenslanders. The Premier's justification was that these are victimless crimes, like stealing a road marker. Tell that to the small business owners whose margins are being gutted by retail theft. Tell that to the family who finds their car broken into. By excluding over 150,000 annual victims of 'other theft', this government is telling many Queenslanders that their trauma does not count.

Mr SPEAKER: Member for Mansfield, it has come to my attention that you used an unparliamentary phrase. I ask you to withdraw.

Ms McMILLAN: I withdraw. Furthermore, the government previously overstated crime reductions by thousands, only to be forced into a public apology later. Ultimately, they blamed the police. When you build a story on a foundation of cherrypicked data, it is only a matter of time before it starts to

crumble. Mr Crisafulli tied his leadership to a promise that he would resign if the number of victims of crime did not fall. Instead of doing the hard work to achieve that goal, he has instead redefined what a victim is. By omitting child DV victims and 'other theft', the LNP is not making Queensland safer; it is simply making it quieter for its own political convenience. You cannot solve a crisis you refuse to accurately measure.

Mr SPEAKER: I remind you about using correct titles.

Ms McMILLAN: The Premier must realise that it is not about being a clever politician; it is about demonstrating integrity and keeping a promise. He and his LNP government have been caught out twice now. How many more times must this happen before this Crisafulli administration gets its act together and builds from a foundation of honesty and transparency? Those qualities are expected of every leader. This House must condemn this government for its lack of transparency. The Labor opposition demands an urgent audit of these figures. Queenslanders deserve a government that puts the safety of children and the integrity of data above a headline. All Queenslanders deserve to be counted. I commend the motion moved by the shadow minister for police.