

FAMILY AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDERS — GPS TRACKING

636. Ms L. METTAM to the Attorney General:

I ask a supplementary question. Will the GPS tracking trial for family and domestic violence offenders now be permanently in place and will Dave Tax, who assaulted an individual in Kununurra, be subject to it?

The SPEAKER: Sorry, member, you have asked that question. You cannot ask two questions by putting “and” in the middle.

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY replied:

As to the second part of the question, I cannot answer that. That is giving an opinion. As to the first part of the question, as I said, this legislation is in place for the ages. We had a trial to see whether the right offenders were being fitted, how the program was going and what improvements we could make to it. As I pointed out, since the conclusion of the trial, more offenders have been fitted with bracelets than during the trial. It is there forever to protect victims. Some victims do not want their abusers put on the trial, and there are a couple of reasons for that. One is that they are in a continuing relationship and they do not want their abuser to wear a bracelet. Another reason is that the victim has been relocated to a secret address and they do not want their abuser to know that. There are a number of reasons that will all be addressed in the final report, which I will table in Parliament as soon as possible.