

WESTERN AUSTRALIA POLICE — DETECTIVE POSITIONS

784. Mrs M.H. ROBERTS to the Minister for Police:

I have a supplementary question. Is the minister accusing Mr Shortland of lying, or is she verballing him?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

I am stating the facts as I recall them and the people in the meeting in my office recall them. We have gone through all the agenda items with the union. It has not been raised, and we have received no letters with respect —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, I call you to order for the first time.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: I know who I believe.

The SPEAKER: I call you to order for the second time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: We have received no correspondence from the union to my office. It has not been discussed with me, but I raised the issue today with George Tilbury, the president of the WA Police Union of Workers, and asked him what kind of result he thought he was going to get if he did not give me an opportunity to address an issue. As my —

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, I am going to call you for the third time. Minister, a quick answer.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: As my relationship with the union has shown over time, if the union raises an issue with me, I get to work on resolving the problem. The union raised mandatory blood testing, and legislation went through this Parliament —

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, do you want to have a rest? A quick answer, minister.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I brought legislation through this Parliament, and we now have mandatory testing for disease as a result of that issue being raised with me.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: Mr Speaker, I note that you have called me to order several times. This was a supplementary, simple question —

The SPEAKER: Yes, that is not a point of order.

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: — and you have allowed the minister to go on extraneously attacking me!

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order. I want you to wind this up immediately; thank you.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The union raised that it wanted section 139(3) —

Mr J.R. Quigley: Who is telling lies—you or the union?

The SPEAKER: Member for Butler, I call you to order for the second time.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The police union raised the issue that section 139(3) of the Criminal Investigation Act was unworkable; we amended that and we have fixed that problem. It raised the issue of people failing to stop, and driving recklessly and dangerously when police are involved in emergency driving —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I do not think you are on the point now, minister. Have you finished the answer?

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I will just finish.

The SPEAKER: Okay.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: When the police union raises an issue with me, I get to work on the problem and we resolve it. My record speaks for itself.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: My question simply was whether she is accusing Mr Shortland of lying or not.

The SPEAKER: This is not a point of order; thank you.

Mrs M.H. Roberts: It is a point of order.

The SPEAKER: That is it. I want short questions and I want short answers. I want succinct answers; I do not want people digressing and going off into side alleys.