

DANGEROUS SEX OFFENDER — RELEASE

385. Mr S.A. MILLMAN to the Attorney General:

I refer to the pending release of a high-risk, dangerous sex offender into the community.

- (1) What measures or legislative changes were put in place by the previous Liberal–National government that would have made it highly unlikely that this dangerous sex offender would be released?
- (2) Is it appropriate, Mr Attorney General, for the Leader of the Opposition to blame and slur the reputation of a Supreme Court justice, Justice Gail Archer?

Point of Order

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: Mr Speaker, the question is asking for an opinion.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I will give an opinion on the opinion, so just wait a second. Part of the question was asking for an opinion. The other part was asking what the previous government did. So you can answer that part of the question but you cannot give an opinion on the other part, Attorney General.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY replied:

- (1)–(2) Thank you, Mr Speaker. When this dangerous sex offender legislation was brought before the Parliament by the previous government—I am referring to the *Hansard* of 28 June 2016—the opposition, now the government, pointed out that the then government’s amendments were wholly inadequate, and we moved an amendment. The amendment that we moved was that there be a reversal of the onus of proof and that a dangerous sex offender who was up for review could not be released unless he convinced the judge on the balance of probabilities that he would not further offend again. This was defeated by the then government. There is controversy in the community at the moment because DAL, a paedophile who has been offending since 1975, is about to be released this weekend into the community—I hear from the media into the community of Geraldton. I have heard comment on the radio this morning and elsewhere of members of the opposition being critical of the decision to release this person and being critical of Her Honour Justice Gail Archer.

Mr P.A. Katsambanis interjected.

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

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: The people who bear personal responsibility for the release of DAL into the Geraldton community this weekend are those who voted against the amendment. They are the member for North West Central, the member for Central Wheatbelt, the member for Scarborough, who said it was not necessary —

Point of Order

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: Standing order 92 states that imputations of improper motives and personal reflections on a member of Parliament to do with this question is inappropriate.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I did not realise there were so many Speakers on this side of the house. The question is to me. It is not a point of order.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: The member for Churchlands did not want to be named and that is why he took the point of order. He is personally responsible for defeating this measure. The others are the member for Moore, the member for South Perth —

Several members interjected.

Point of Order

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: Standing order 92 clearly states imputations of improper motives —

The SPEAKER: I have already stated that it is not a point of order.

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: He is now saying that I am —

Extract from *Hansard*

[ASSEMBLY — Wednesday, 6 September 2017]

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Mr Simon Millman; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr John Quigley; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Zak Kirkup

The SPEAKER: Are you querying my decision? I call you to order for the first time. He is quoting from *Hansard*. That is all he is doing. If you cannot take a bit across the schoolyard, go home. Let me write your name down for the last one.

Mr S.K. L'ESTRANGE: Standing order 92 clearly states that imputations of improper motives —

The SPEAKER: I have ruled on that point of order. I call you to order for the second time.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I beg your pardon. Did you have something to say, member for Scarborough?

Mrs L.M. Harvey: Yes, but I will not speak while you are on your feet, Mr Speaker.

The SPEAKER: If you are querying my decision—are you querying my decision?

Ms L. Mettam interjected.

Withdrawal of Remark

The SPEAKER: Member for Vasse, will you withdraw that remark?

Ms L. METTAM: I withdraw the remark.

The SPEAKER: It is really funny, isn't it?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members, if this continues, I will cancel question time. Member for Cottesloe, you have been in this place a long time.

Mr D.C. Nalder interjected.

The SPEAKER: You want us to close question time, do you?

Mr D.C. Nalder: We wanted you to respond as the Speaker in this house. Show some authority.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call you to order. If you want to dissent against the Speaker, do it. You will not disrespect the Speaker's chair because you cannot get what you want. I call the member for Cottesloe to order. I am calling the member for Bateman to order, and the manager of opposition business to order for the second time. Let us get one thing straight: just because you do not agree with the decision, does not mean it is right or wrong. A decision has been made. I have asked the minister to carry on. If you keep carrying on, keep interjecting and you will be having an early day.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: I will continue to read from *Hansard*. The member for South Perth was responsible for defeating that amendment. The member for Vasse, who did not want this to go on, was responsible for defeating that amendment, as was the member for Carine.

Dr M.D. Nahan interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, I call you to order for the third time.

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: As I have said, the —

Mr A. Krsticevic interjected.

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

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: The paedophile DAL is going back to live in Geraldton, 400 metres —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, this is your last chance. Three times I have called you to order. Three times yesterday. Surely someone on your bench can control you. Look at the rest of them. They do not have three calls and get thrown out. You are supposed to be leading your side of the house.

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: The paedophile DAL is being returned to Geraldton.

Mrs L.M. Harvey interjected.

The SPEAKER: Deputy Leader of the Opposition, I call you to order for the second time.

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: This weekend he is being returned to Geraldton to live 400 metres from a school, in part courtesy of the vote of the member for Geraldton. The people of Geraldton —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call the member for Carine and the member for Hillarys, both for the second time.

Mr Simon Millman; Mrs Liza Harvey; Mr John Quigley; Mr Sean L'Estrange; Ms Libby Mettam; Mr Zak Kirkup

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: Instead of accepting their personal responsibility, the Leader of the Opposition has sought to slur —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Carine, you are on your third call. You are not happy, member for Cottesloe, but you are also being called for the second time.

Several members interjected.

Ms A. Sanderson: This is embarrassing.

The SPEAKER: That is the word. I have never seen a more embarrassing group of people as I have on this side of the house. This is Parliament. We have young children here. We have people watching on TV. Look at the tape tonight and see how you behaved. Attorney General, you will finish up right now.

Mr J.R. QUIGLEY: I will. Instead of accepting their own personal responsibility for the release of this paedophile to Geraldton, the Leader of the Opposition has sought to slur an independent Supreme Court judge.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Next question.

Mr J.R. Quigley interjected.

The SPEAKER: Attorney General, I call you to order for the first time.

Mr Z.R.F. Kirkup interjected.

Withdrawal of Remark

The SPEAKER: Do you withdraw?

Mr Z.R.F. KIRKUP: I withdraw, Mr Speaker.

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