

**FEDERAL ELECTION — HOUSE VALUES**

*Statement by Member for Scarborough*

**MRS L.M. HARVEY (Scarborough — Deputy Leader of the Opposition)** [12.58 pm]: I was driving through East Perth with my son yesterday morning when we were confronted by a big red bus. My son said, “Mum, that bus is obnoxious!”, and I had to agree with him. On the side of the bus were two big heads. One of them was the head of Premier Mark McGowan, who has overseen retail trade in negative growth; fewer building approvals; 20 000 households having their power disconnected because they cannot pay; record numbers of personal and business insolvencies; the largest number of homes in Australia in negative equity—16.5 per cent; and the value of the houses of one in six Western Australian householders falling to less than their mortgage because housing values are down by 18 per cent. Bill Shorten’s policies will add to their suffering. The wannabe Treasurer, Chris Bowen, says that negative equity is not a problem, yet former Treasurer Wayne Swan said that getting rid of negative gearing would be economically disastrous. The only solution for Western Australians is to vote for Vince Connolly, Isaac Stewart, Andrew Hastie, Ken Wyatt and Christian Porter. Those federal members will ensure that Bill Shorten does not put a wrecking ball through the Australian dream of owning one’s own home and having it worth more, when one’s mortgage finishes, than the value of the mortgage. Vote for the Liberals and do not let Bill Shorten wreck Western Australia.

*Sitting suspended from 1.00 to 2.00 pm*