

JULIEKA IVANNA DHU — DEATH IN CUSTODY — CCTV FOOTAGE RELEASE

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

I have a supplementary question. Given that the Coroner's Court proceedings are not criminal proceedings, there are no jurors involved and the media have publicly reported on the contents of the footage and given that the police effectively own the footage, what will the minister do to ensure that the police release it? The coroner has not said that they cannot release it. It is theirs.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY replied:

To explain the process a little more clearly, at present the coroner is still engaged in the inquest into the death of Ms Dhu and the coroner —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: That is enough!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: This is a really important issue and I would have thought you would want an answer.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Right.

Point of Order

Mrs M.H. ROBERTS: I believe the minister is misleading the Parliament because the police opposed the release of this footage in court last week.

The SPEAKER: That is not a point of order.

Questions without Notice Resumed

Mrs M.H. Roberts interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Midland, I see that you have been called twice today. I would like to hear this answer. Let us hear the answer. Let us move on.

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The only copy of the CCTV footage is evidence to the inquest and is currently in the possession of the coroner. We do not have it. The member for Midland should get her facts straight before she starts stirring up a very sensitive issue.

Mr J.R. Quigley interjected.

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

Mr W.J. Johnston interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cannington, I call you for the first time.

Several members interjected.

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

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: The police did not oppose the release of the footage.

Mr J.R. Quigley interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Butler!

Mrs L.M. HARVEY: I have not given any indication with respect to my view on whether that should be released. I am awaiting the ruling of the coroner. I would not circumvent a ruling of the coroner. In any case, we do not have the footage. It is in the custody of the coroner. We have no capacity to release it at this point in time.