

BIRTH CERTIFICATES

197. Hon BEN DAWKINS to the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General:

I refer to birth certificates.

- (1) Why are birth certificates issued?
- (2) Why is the biological sex of a newborn registered on a birth certificate?
- (3) Will the government rule out in this Parliament and the next including a gender field on birth certificates in addition to a sex field, and rule out including separate gender—I think they are called gender identity certificates.
- (4) If no to (3), why not?

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN replied:

I do have an answer prepared but the member changed the question that he asked so I am not in a position to answer the question.

The PRESIDENT: Honourable member, you may answer the question. However, if it is substantially different from the one that was lodged, you may want to have a conversation with the honourable member behind the chair about what question is to be answered. If it is substantially different, it is your call.

Point of Order

Hon BEN DAWKINS: My point of order is that I will retract the additional word and I will go back to the original —

The PRESIDENT: There is no point of order and this is not a point of conversation.

Questions without Notice Resumed

The PRESIDENT: Member, if the question was substantially different, you may feel free to answer the question or to have a conversation behind the chair.

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN: As I am the parliamentary secretary representing the Attorney General and this is the answer that he has provided to me, we will refer to *Hansard* to —

Several members interjected.

The PRESIDENT: Order! No conversations across the chamber. Thank you.

Hon MATTHEW SWINBOURN: We will need to refer to *Hansard* to understand whether the question that was asked by the member was in fact the question that he submitted into the system. No further answer will be provided from me to his question.