

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES — PREMIER'S COMMENTS

229. Ms J. FARRER to the Premier:

I refer to the Premier's unacceptable response yesterday to the member for Victoria Park's question, and to the Premier's statement last week —

In 2013, there were 39 cases of gonorrhoea in Aboriginal children ... How many cases of gonorrhoea are there in the wider community? There are none—not a single case.

- (1) Can the Premier confirm that there was not a single case of gonorrhoea in Western Australia in non-Aboriginal children, as he stated last week?
- (2) If no to (1), why did the Premier slur Aboriginal people as the sole sufferers of the disease of gonorrhoea?
- (3) Of the 39 cases the Premier referred to in justifying the closure of remote communities, how many of these cases occurred in remote communities?

Mr C.J. BARNETT replied:

- (1)–(3) I explained that answer yesterday, but I will repeat it for the member. I do not have the figures in front of me, but, from memory, those figures related to children aged 10 to 14. They related to children in the Kimberley—across the Kimberley. That was the information I had. When I initially presented it, perhaps it was not made clear that it was within the Kimberley, but those statistics —

Several members interjected.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: Hang on! I remind members it was two young children, 10 to 14-year-olds, in the Kimberley—that was the information I provided.