

**COMMUNITY PROTECTION (OFFENDER REPORTING) BILL 2004, COMMENTS BY LEADER  
OF THE HOUSE**

*Statement*

**HON DERRICK TOMLINSON** (East Metropolitan) [5.24 pm]: This morning, during debate on the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Bill 2004, the following exchange took place. I refer to the green *Hansard* duplicate as an aide-mémoire, because *Hansard* is not yet available. In the debate, I said the following -

I am fearful of objecting to any of it because I will be accused by the Leader of the House, as he accused Hon Peter Foss when Hon Peter Foss suggested that it go to a committee, of harbouring paedophiles.

The Leader of the House interjected and said -

Excuse me; I said nothing of the kind.

I continued -

That was a disgusting interjection on your part.

Hon Kim Chance replied -

It would have been if I had said it.

I said -

Yes, you did.

A point of order was taken. Hon Kim Chance rose on the point of order and said that he had been misrepresented. He said -

I said nothing of the kind. The honourable member knows that.

I said -

Shall we pause while we check the *Hansard*?

You, Mr President, said -

Order! We are not pausing.

I said -

Thank you, Mr President. I stand by what I said.

Before I continue, and since we have now had time to consider this, does the Leader of the House wish to retract any of that?

Hon Kim Chance: Absolutely not.

**HON DERRICK TOMLINSON:** In this House on 12 November, there was a debate on the following motion moved by the Leader of the House in relation to the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Bill -

That pursuant to Standing Order No 230A(3) it is ordered that the Community Protection (Offender Reporting) Bill 2004 not stand referred to the Standing Committee on Uniform Legislation and General Purposes.

Hon Norman Moore spoke on that motion. Hon Peter Foss spoke on it. I refer to the *Hansard* of Friday, 12 November 2004, which is available on the parliamentary web site. Hon Peter Foss spoke. At page 8103, Hon Kim Chance interjected -

At least you concede you are filibustering, and that is fine.

The *Hansard* continues -

Hon PETER FOSS: No, I do not.

Hon Kim Chance: Yes, you just did. You are wasting the time of the House.

Hon Peter Foss then said -

No, I am not. The Leader of the House is wasting the time of the House, because every time I try to make -

Again the Leader of the House interjected -

Why are you wasting time? Don't you want this Bill passed?

He then followed that with a rhetorical question -

Do you want paedophiles running all over the place?

The *Hansard* continues -

Hon PETER FOSS: Why is the Leader of the House interrupting me? Does he not want this Bill passed?

Hon Kim Chance: If you don't want the Bill passed, vote against it.

The President then called for order. There were several interjections. Again the President called for order and said -

Hon Peter Foss is trying to address a procedural question.

Hon Peter Foss attempted to continue. Hon Kim Chance said -

You are blocking this Bill.

After a further instruction from the President, who said, "I am sure that the Leader of the House will stop interjecting", Hon Peter Foss continued. He said at a later stage -

This is serious legislation; I take it seriously. I do not oppose it. I actually believe that it should be properly looked at, and I object to interjections that suggest that I want to defeat it or that I support paedophiles. I hope that the Leader of the House will take the opportunity in the House to apologise for that remark or that he will do so privately.

The Leader of the House then said -

You will be waiting a long time.

Hon Peter Foss replied -

I know I will be waiting a long time, because I have no illusions about what sort of person the Leader of the House is.

Today we had confirmation of what sort of person the Leader of the House is. The Leader of the House denied the accusation.

Hon Kim Chance: Absolutely.

Hon DERRICK TOMLINSON: He continues to deny the accusation. We know what sort of person the Leader of the House is. The Leader of the House is not a man, because a man knows when he is wrong and admits when he is wrong. The Leader of the House is an unethical person, because an unethical person does not hide behind a misdemeanour with another lie. We know what sort of person the Leader of the House is: he is a person who cannot distinguish between fact and fiction. He comes in here and attempts to bully people by accusing them of harbouring or protecting paedophiles. He then does not have the intestinal fortitude to stand up, admit he is wrong and apologise.

Hon KIM CHANCE: Mr President.

The PRESIDENT: No, we will get there in due course. I call Hon Dee Margetts.