

MEMBER FOR KINGSLEY

Personal Explanation - Unparliamentary Language

MRS C.L. EDWARDES (Kingsley) [2.47 pm]: During question time the Premier suggested that I was a regular user of the f-word.

Dr G.I. Gallop: I did not.

Mrs C.L. EDWARDES: Yes, he did. People who know me know that is not the case and not true. Even the Premier would acknowledge that if he were not making a political point. He referred to a taped conversation in which it was suggested that I was the user of foul language. It was not me. Although I believe that I know who it was - it was a female councillor - I do not propose to name the individual. I suggest that the Premier knows that I do not use the f-word. Therefore, an apology, publicly or privately, would be acceptable.

DR G.I. GALLOP (Victoria Park - Premier) [2.48 pm]: I based my comment on an article in *The Australian* newspaper of 16 May 1996.

Mr C.J. Barnett: Be man enough to apologise.

Dr G.I. GALLOP: Hang on. The Leader of the Opposition is very quick to jump in.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members this is not an opportunity for debate. If the Premier wishes to make a statement, he should make it.

Dr G.I. GALLOP: I based my comments on what was said in *The Australian* newspaper. If those comments are not true, I have no hesitation and no difficulty with apologising to the member.

Dr J.M. Woollard: Can I add to the point?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!