

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX, FOOD

**518. Mr D'ORAZIO to the Premier:**

In light of discussions on the goods and services tax, does the State Government support the application of the GST to food?

**Dr GALLOP replied:**

Let us get down to the tintacks of this federal election campaign. The Australian Labor Party is opposed to GST on food; there is no question about it. What is more, it is opposed to the GST on gas and electricity, funerals, caravan park fees and disposable nappies. As a result of that rollback, many working families in this State will find that they can live their lives with a little more dignity than they could under the Howard Government.

Let us look at the attitude of the Liberal Party. Obviously the federal member for Kalgoorlie forgot that famous *Fawlty Towers* program in which Basil Fawlty had to be reminded all the way through, "Basil, don't mention the war." Of course, Basil could not help himself. Just like Basil, the federal member for Kalgoorlie, Barry Haase, could not help himself. This is what he said on the *Drive* program on ABC Regional Radio -

BROWNING

So Barry, you want the GST on food?

HAASE

Yes. We've put . . . we put GST across the board, would be the most simplified system.

So there we have it. Is that the view of the Leader of the Opposition?

Mr Barnett: That is correct; no doubt about it.

Dr GALLOP: The Leader of the Opposition favours a GST on food. The fourth horseman of the Apocalypse in Western Australia is the member for Kalgoorlie. Did the Liberal Party tell One Nation when it was doing the deal with it over the federal seat of Kalgoorlie that Barry Haase's policy is to put the GST on food? Did the state member for Kalgoorlie let it know that when he negotiated with it over this issue? Is the member going to respond? The normally garrulous member for Kalgoorlie is silent today.

While we are on the subject of One Nation preferences, will the Leader of the Opposition indicate to the people of Western Australia where the Liberal Party's preferences will go?

*Point of Order*

Mr BARNETT: I am happy to take the question.

The SPEAKER: There is no point of order.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

Dr GALLOP: Is the Leader of the Opposition ready to tell the people of Merredin, the people of Western Australia and the people of Australia where the Liberal Party's how-to-vote cards will put One Nation? The Leader of the Opposition will not answer the question. It is dead easy: is the Liberal Party putting One Nation at the bottom of the pile? Silence from the member for Kalgoorlie and the Leader of the Opposition. I think that they are covering up until after 10 November. That is what is going on about the GST on food and about preferences in Merredin. The Western Australian people will not be fooled by that. We know what has been going on with One Nation throughout this State, with the members for Kalgoorlie, Mitchell, Hillarys and Ningaloo. I can tell members that One Nation is going to the bottom of the Labor Party's how-to-vote card.