

GRAFFITI VANDALISM

**352. Mr A.P. O'GORMAN to the Minister for Community Safety:**

Can the minister advise the house of the latest moves by the state government to crack down on the suburban menace of graffiti vandalism?

**Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:**

I thank the member for his question, his real interest in the problem of graffiti in the suburbs and the action he has taken.

**The SPEAKER:** Members! I call the members for Darling Range and Nedlands to order for the first time.

**Mr J.C. KOBELKE:** It is interesting to hear the squeaks from members opposite who clearly do not have the answers to resolve this issue.

**The SPEAKER:** I call the member for Carine to order for the first time.

**Mr J.C. KOBELKE:** Last night I was very pleased to join a large number of people to see the handover of a new vehicle to People Against Vandalism. I was there with the members for Mindarie and Peel. The member for Joondalup was one of the stars on the video shown. He was in his overalls cleaning up the graffiti. I understand he did that quite some time ago. He has continued that active involvement.

Earlier this month, the Premier announced the graffiti vandalism reduction strategy. This strategy will ensure that the government takes a lead in adding value to all the good things that are happening in the community, whether by local groups, local government authorities or other businesses, along with what the government already does through a range of agencies. A total of \$3.6 million will go towards a range of programs to assist in tackling the graffiti problem. A centralised hotline will be set up so that people can phone through and help the police capture the culprits who are responsible. Rewards of \$1 000 will be available when reports lead to convictions. Extra closed-circuit television systems will be provided, which can be moved around the suburbs, to make sure we catch these vandals, along with grants to various organisations worth \$400 000 a year to assist in cleaning up graffiti so that when we actually catch the culprits, they can be part of the clean-up program. The money will make sure that these people are supervised. The strategy will also institute education programs in schools and work with local government through service agreements to make sure we do it more effectively and assist them. The Premier has announced a very comprehensive program. It builds on the good work already being done by a large number of members on this side of the house. That is what the community wants. It wants people working together rather than the nonsense that we hear from members opposite.