

FEMALE CAGE-FIGHTING EVENTS — MALE-DOMINATED AUDIENCES

99. Ms L. METTAM to the Minister for Prevention of Family and Domestic Violence:

- (1) Is the minister aware of data relating to women's cage-fighting events, particularly that around 75 per cent of the audience is male?
- (2) Is the minister aware that this male-dominated audience also applies to cage-fight events between women?

Ms S.F. McGURK replied:

(1)–(2) There are lots of sports that —

Ms L. Mettam: Women are bashed up!

Ms S.F. McGURK: There are lots of sports that men dominate as the viewing public. In terms of mixed martial arts, my understanding is that a range of different people watch that sport. That was brought home to me not that long ago. As an aside, I am lucky enough to have a bevy of nieces, members will be interested to know—a range of nieces. Arguably one of my favourites, the youngest one, told me —

Several members interjected.

Ms S. McGURK: I know; I have gone out on a limb! One of my favourites told me not that long ago that she is an MMA aficionado; she loves it. She goes along to Crown Perth to watch the Ultimate Fighting Championship. Her boyfriend is not that interested in it. He just goes to the bar and looks after himself, but she likes watching the fighting. I was surprised at that. I do not think we should make any assumptions about the people who watch MMA or UFC. As I have said, WA Labor took a commitment to the election about making that sport safer. It has committed —

Mr C.J. Barnett interjected.

The SPEAKER: Member for Cottesloe!

Ms S.F. McGURK: It has honoured that commitment.