

COMMISSION ON GOVERNMENT - ESTABLISHMENT

636. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. The point of a new commission on government is to provide the people of Western Australia with a transparent means of holding the government accountable for its actions. How could it do anything but improve the accountability and integrity of the government?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

I have basically answered that question. This government established the Corruption and Crime Commission, which is the most rigorous accountability body in any level of government in Australia. Appearing before the CCC has caused some people a lot of pain. The commentary from some people, including members opposite, is that some individuals have been treated unfairly and unduly harshly.

Mr P.D. Omodei: Like who?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: The Leader of the Opposition should ask his colleagues, because they are the ones who are making those comments.

Mr P.D. Omodei: You're the one who is making that comment. Come on, tell us! Who has been dealt with unfairly?

The SPEAKER: Order, Leader of the Opposition!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call the Leader of the Opposition to order for the second time.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: Members of the opposition have been saying outside this chamber -

Mr P.D. Omodei: Lewandowski report.

The SPEAKER: I call the Leader of the Opposition to order for the third time.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: - that the Corruption and Crime Commission has treated some people unfairly. The member for Kalgoorlie, for whom I have a lot of respect, recently said that the CCC is out of control and that it needs to be reigned in. Is that not right, member for Kalgoorlie? He is indicating in the affirmative. Members opposite should get together to discuss their position and make it clear. No government in Australia is under more scrutiny or is required to be more accountable than this one.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, members!

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: If the same levels of accountability and scrutiny had been applied to John Howard's government during the past 11 years, there would be blood all over the floor of federal Parliament.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, members! I call the member for Nedlands to order for the first time.