

MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, RELEASE OF INFORMATION RELATING TO
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

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

I refer the Premier to chapter 11 of the Royal Commission Into Whether There Has Been Any Corrupt or Criminal Conduct by Western Australian Police Officers, which states -

Confidential information held by WAPS, by its very nature, may have a high value to persons in the community. Given the nature of the information held by WAPS, a breach of privacy involving confidential information may imperil the safety or the rights of the person affected.

- (1) Does the Premier support the findings of the royal commission and the notion that private and confidential information should not be exploited by public officers for personal gain?
- (2) In light of the politically motivated actions of the police minister in releasing private information about the opposition leader into the public domain, will the Premier now sack the Minister for Police?

Mr J.C. Kobelke: The Leader of the Opposition was talking about it in the *Sunday Times*.

Mr P.D. Omodei: No, he was not.

Mr M.J. Birney: It was released by your minister.

Mr J.C. Kobelke: You were talking about it in the paper.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:

- (1) I support the findings in the royal commission report.
- (2) No.

I will make a general comment on this issue. We have witnessed an appalling performance from the Leader of the Opposition. First, he blamed the faulty machines. Then he made an implication about Labor Party members phoning the police -

Mr M.J. Birney: When did I do that?

Dr G.I. GALLOP: The implication was made in the media that it might have been a conspiracy.

Mr M.J. Birney: Retract that.

Dr G.I. GALLOP: Have a look at the press reports, my friend.

Mr P.D. Omodei: You don't deserve to hold that office.

Dr G.I. GALLOP: The Leader of the Opposition should know that in life these things happen. He has not had the ability -

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order!

Mr P.D. Omodei: As Bob Pearce stood down, so should she. You should sack her.

The SPEAKER: Order! I call the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Opposition to order.

Mr M.J. Birney: Whatever happened to Mr Accountability?

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

Dr G.I. GALLOP: The Leader of the Opposition should have understood very early on that he had a simple way to deal with this issue. He chose not to deal with it that way, and as he sows, so shall he reap.

Mr P.D. Omodei: You should not try to ride roughshod over the Leader of the Opposition - no way.

The SPEAKER: Order! I call the Deputy Leader of the Opposition to order for the third time. Question time has now finished.