

MINISTER FOR POLICE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES - WA POLICE UNION

540. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Minister for Police and Emergency Services:

Earlier today the commissioned officers branch of the Western Australian Police Union passed a vote of no confidence in the Minister for Police and Emergency Services and the government as a whole.

- (1) Will the minister please justify to the people of Western Australia why he should remain as the Minister for Police and Emergency Services when the men and women responsible for protecting families have no faith in his performance?
- (2) Will the minister concede that his position is now untenable, and will he do the honourable thing and resign?

Mr J.C. KOBELKE replied:

(1)-(2) Mr Speaker, I have never shot my son and I never blamed the police for taking action.

Several members interjected.

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: The Leader of the Opposition, who was rightly charged, said that the police were after him for political purposes. That is his view of the police. The position of opposition members on industrial relations is to attack unions. I respect unions, I support the role they perform, and I accept that they regard me as a target when campaigning for wages. I do not set out to destroy unions; that is the view of members opposite. The question is totally hypocritical.

Mr P.D. Omodei: I seek leave to table the motion.

The SPEAKER: It can be left on the table of the Parliament for this day's sitting.

[The paper was tabled for the information of members.]