

SCHOOL CANTEENS — DIETARY GUIDELINES

25. Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Minister for Health:

I have a supplementary question. Minister, this is a picture taken yesterday —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I think we will just wait. We could have question time until about 3.30 pm at this rate. Are we over how amusing the photo is? Get it out of your system.

Mr P.J. RUNDLE: This is a picture taken yesterday in this Parliament's cafeteria. Why is a ham and cheese sandwich good enough for government staffers but not good enough for our schools?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Sorry, I am not going to give the minister the call until everyone is quiet. Wow! I think only about six people did not have an opinion on that. Congratulations, member for Cannington, you were one of them. He is the best behaved backbencher I have.

Ms A. SANDERSON replied:

I prepare really thoroughly for question time —

Mr R.S. Love interjected.

The SPEAKER: Leader of the Opposition, you are not helping by interjecting.

Ms A. SANDERSON: The puerile questions that come from the other side are insulting, quite frankly, given the time that is taken to prepare for question time.

It is not banned. The Department of Health has not banned it. It was a guideline that was made from the national body. Every canteen will make its own decision about what is appropriate for its school. I take the opportunity to acknowledge the volunteer parents who run canteens. They do an incredible job.

Ms E.L. Hamilton: They are amazing.

Ms A. SANDERSON: They are amazing, and we could not run school canteens without them. They do a fantastic job. They make the decisions that are best placed for their schools. On behalf of the government, I sincerely thank the parents and citizens associations and the canteens that serve our kids' lunches every day.