SOUTH COAST MARINE PARK

879.   Mr P.J. RUNDLE to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Is the Premier saying that there is no issue and that he and his office have not been involved in trying to resolve the breakdown in discussions between the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation and Attractions and the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development?

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please.

Mr R.H. COOK replied:

There is absolutely no problem. We are stepping forward in an open and consultative way for the marine parks. We saw the chaos and dysfunction when the member's party was in government. We saw the fact that the Nationals WA would not even sit in the same room as the Liberal ministers when it came to decisions that it should have been active on, but that its members excused themselves on. They were not even sitting in the same cabinet as the other ministers. If the opposition wants to talk about disagreements and about consensus breaking down, and talk about destructive and dysfunctional government, the experience that Western Australians had when it was in government is the perfect example of that. My ministers are working together and my public sector agencies are working together to make sure that we can bring about the important —

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please. I ask the Leader of the Opposition also the Minister for Disability Services to cease interjecting.

Mr R.H. COOK: We are putting in place policies for the important objective of making sure that we have marine parks that ensure we have fish stock sustainability so that people can recreate and continue to catch fish and that we can continue to make sure that we have a sustainable commercial fishery. Thank goodness we are in power, Madam Speaker. Can you imagine the dysfunction, chaos and quite frankly the breakdown that would have occurred if the other side were in government?