

PROSTITUTION AMENDMENT BILL 2007

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

I have a supplementary question. In line with the Premier's answer to the previous question, I am sure that the public in the gallery would be interested in his answer to this supplementary question.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Just ask the supplementary question.

Mr P.D. OMODEI: As member for Willagee, will the Premier be opposing brothel developments in his electorate?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

The law that we are introducing -

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I remind the Premier that he is not able to answer the question in his capacity as a private member, only as the Premier, and he will do so in that way.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: The law that we are introducing will provide local governments with, for the first time, the opportunity to regulate where brothels will go. Yesterday we heard the shadow Minister for Police and Emergency Services say that he would close down all brothels. It would be up to the local government authority. One thing that will always stand me apart from anybody on the opposite side is that they will not find me being a hypocrite. Ask the question of the member for Kalgoorlie, for example. He is on the Leader of the Opposition's side.

Mr P.D. Omodei: Why don't we get the answer to the supplementary question?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: That is the answer.

If the City of Melville makes that decision, that will be a decision for the City of Melville.

Several members interjected.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: I am a hypocrite?

Mr P.D. Omodei: Is that your answer?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: Yes, that is my answer. If the City of Melville makes those planning decisions -

Mr P.D. Omodei: It is what is called passing the buck.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: No, it is not.

An opposition member: You are the local member.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: I am the local member.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: The Leader of the Opposition and the member for Alfred Cove!

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: This is unequivocally good legislation. I will tell members that if the City of Melville tried to promote a law that decriminalised bestiality along the lines promoted by the member for Hillarys, I would resist that one. If the City of Melville addressed this issue in the same bigoted, lowbrow, uninformed way that the Leader of the Opposition and the member for Hillarys do, I would publicly condemn it for doing that. The Opposition's approach on this issue and the way it has treated this issue in relation to me, specifically, and my children I find grossly offensive. I do not take it as part of the give and take of parliamentary debate. I find it grossly offensive that members opposite have drawn my daughters into this issue. It is something that I do not consider is part of the give and take of politics.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Members! Member for Collie-Wellington, you are called to order for the first time and, unfortunately, you have some company. The member for Murray, the Leader of the Opposition, the member for Alfred Cove and the member for Hillarys, you all know the appropriate manner in which you can behave in this place and what is and is not parliamentary. There have been two questions, and at the rate members are going, there will not be too many more.