MINISTER FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING - CONFIDENCE OF WESTERN AUSTRALIANS

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

I have a supplementary question. How can the people of Western Australia have confidence in the minister, who took no action when made aware that the CCC was actively involved in examining issues of sexual misconduct in her department? When she heard about it, she did nothing about it. How can the people of Western Australia have confidence in the minister?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

The answer to that question is that the people of Western Australia will make their judgments.

Mr R.F. Johnson: Oh!

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: Does the member not think they will?

Mr R.F. Johnson: They certainly will.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: The people of Western Australia are not capable of making a judgment, are they? The member has to make the judgment for them. They will make a judgment.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call the Deputy Leader of the Opposition and the member for Cottesloe to order.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: There is more!

Mr P.D. Omodei: You are responsible for your cabinet and your ministers.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: The Leader of the Opposition said that the minister, when she was made aware of the report, did nothing. The minister acted within two hours of receiving the report. My answer to the first question fundamentally alters the premise upon which the Leader of the Opposition's question was based. The minister was provided with information on Thursday of last week and acted immediately.

The SPEAKER: I would like to acknowledge the presence in my gallery of the Independent member for Fisher, South Australia, who is the former Speaker of the South Australian Parliament.

[Applause.]