

MR JOE MCDONALD, PROSECUTION

851. Mr JOHNSON to the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection:

I believe the minister clearly tried to avoid answering the second part of the question. Has the minister's Parliamentary Secretary for Consumer and Employment Protection expressed his dissatisfaction with the minister's decision to proceed with the prosecution of Mr McDonald?

Mr KOBELKE replied:

It seems as though the Opposition has yet to learn its lessons from the election. When in government, coalition members did deals with their mates; they tried to totally subvert the law. As the Premier indicated, the previous Government of Western Australia broke the laws of this State, but members opposite took no action. They thought that they were born to rule, were not subject to the law, and were there to use the laws of this State as their little toy. That was the view of the Opposition when it was in government and it appears that its members have not benefited from the error of their ways. We on this side of the House will allow proper process to be pursued and we will not interfere in proceedings. We have bent over backwards to ensure at every turn that, on all occasions, ministers comply with the laws of this State. When the mob opposite was in government, its members treated our laws as their little plaything and time and again did not subject themselves to the proper processes of the law. That is not the way ministers of this Government should behave.