

**16 DAYS IN WA TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN —
SILENT MARCH — KUNUNURRA**

Statement by Member for Kimberley

MS D.G. D'ANNA (Kimberley — Parliamentary Secretary) [12.59 pm]: I had the pleasure last Friday to attend the silent march in Kununurra to mark the beginning of the 16 Days in WA Campaign to Stop Violence Against Women led by the Gawooleng Yawoodeng Aboriginal Corporation. I am grateful to those people who passionately shared their lived experiences and bravely told their stories in the hope of creating better understanding and changing attitudes. It was a very moving and emotional experience. A family movie night was held that evening highlighting the effect domestic violence has on children and families with the screening launch of locally created music videos and other videos, including young people's own stories. Boss Arts Creative worked with GY—Gawooleng Yawoodeng—to videorecord the words of children and women to get the message out to adults and perpetrators that kids are hurting. They want change and they want to be safe.

The men's and women's teams from local footy clubs Waringarri Crows and Kununurra Demons screened a video detailing the impact that domestic violence has on families, relationships and children. They conveyed a strong message: family and domestic violence is not part of our culture, it has no place in our community, speak up and speak out, and we all need to play our part.

I acknowledge the amazing community organisations that supported the events, not only on the day, but also during the year. The East Kimberley has many supportive wraparound organisations and services that are very important to the people of the region, and I say thank you. I especially acknowledge the team at GY, who work tirelessly to support and advocate for the community. In addition to running the Kununurra crisis accommodation to keep women and children safe, it also runs a playgroup, a school readiness program, a strong women's group and a work readiness program, and facilitates a holistic FDV family support program. GY has an awesome board and team, and I would like to make special mention of their manager, Petina Pitt-Lancaster—what an absolute legend! She was also awarded volunteer of the year at GY's sports awards for her work with young people. Thank you, Petina, for your dedication to improve outcomes for our young people and women living in Kununurra.

Sitting suspended from 1.02 to 2.00 pm