

**MEMBER FOR MURDOCH**

*Russell Aubrey - Personal Explanation*

**MR M.F. BOARD** (Murdoch) [10.30 am]: I understand that while I was out of the Chamber - for which I apologise; I had to take an urgent telephone call - the member for Riverton accused me of signing up Russell Aubrey, a councillor of the City of Melville, to the Liberal Party and of paying for his membership. The member for Riverton did not have the courage to broach that subject with me personally. He chose, by way of a grievance, to malign me in the Parliament.

*Points of Order*

Mr J.C. KOBELKE: Under the standing orders, a member can seek to make a personal explanation. There is no vetting of that, but there are tight constraints on what is a personal explanation. A personal explanation does not allow a member to engage in general debate or to make statements about another member. Members can simply clarify the record - matters that pertain to what may have been said about them and their actions. The member for Murdoch is starting to canvas what may be a matter of opinion between him and another member. That is not appropriate for a personal explanation. There are other forms within the standing orders for debate to be raised on such matters. It is not appropriate to address such matters in debate when one is using the form of a personal explanation.

Mr R.F. JOHNSON: The Leader of the House is absolutely wrong in this instance. My colleague the member for Murdoch sought leave to make a personal explanation. He is outlining his reasons for making that personal explanation, and has referred to a comment made by the member for Riverton by way of interjection in this House. That comment about the member for Murdoch was made in derogatory and inappropriate terms. The member for Murdoch has every right to have the opportunity to be heard in this House by way of a personal explanation. He was not entering into debate; he was simply outlining what was said by the member for Riverton and what is the truth of the matter.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Each member of this House has the opportunity to make a personal explanation. In so doing, they must address the matters raised. It is not an opportunity to have a debate. Members must immediately address the matters that have been raised and not use the personal explanation as an opportunity to attack another member. I ask the member for Murdoch to address only the issues in his explanation.

*Debate Resumed*

Mr M.F. BOARD: Thank you, Madam Deputy Speaker. This issue has arisen from the fact that I chair a community group, which has been tagged the Save Our Suburbs committee for south of the river. This issue has arisen because we are standing up for a particular issue and raising public concerns south of the river.

*Point of Order*

Ms A.J. MacTIERNAN: The member for Murdoch is seeking to have a debate on a set of roadworks. This is not a personal explanation. He argued that he wanted to provide a personal explanation on his conduct in signing up to the Liberal Party a member of the Melville City Council. He is now branching out into a broad discussion of Roe Highway stage 8 and the Fremantle eastern bypass. That is clearly not a matter for a personal explanation.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order, members! I will once again state that a personal explanation must address the issues that have been raised. I suggest that it should be done as succinctly as possible. I urge the member for Murdoch to again address those issues, but without any debate.

*Debate Resumed*

Mr M.F. BOARD: The accusation made by the member for Riverton not only offends me, but I am sure it also offends Russell Aubrey, who is not in this place to defend himself. For the record, Mr Aubrey, as far as I know, is not a member of the Liberal Party. As a result of that, I have not paid any subscription or joined him up. More than half of the members of the Save our Suburbs committee are not supporters of the Liberal Party. This campaign is being run by the Government.

Mr C.J. Barnett: The member for Riverton should apologise.

Several members interjected.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: Order members! I warn the Leader of the Opposition for the first time.