

PREMIER, VISIT TO SOUTH WEST

**930. Mr OMODEI to the Premier:**

When will the Premier show the fortitude to go to the south west and gain an appreciation of the damage his Government is doing to families in the area?

*Point of Order*

Mr KOBELKE: The member is asking a question that is outside the standing orders. He is making imputations and accusations by way of the introduction to a question and not simply asking a question.

Mr JOHNSON: The point of order that the Leader of the House is making is a furphy, as is very often the case. The supplementary question is genuine and relates to the main question that the member asks. There is no point of order.

The SPEAKER: I think there is a point of order. What should not happen in supplementary questions is that a preamble precede the question. The question is within standing orders, but that sort of preamble, as members on both sides know, is not allowed.

*Questions without Notice Resumed*

**Dr GALLOP replied:**

The member knows full well that representatives of that community from a range of industries have access to our Government.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Members!

Mr Omodei: It is in the cabinet minutes.

The SPEAKER: Member for Warren-Blackwood!

Mr Omodei interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call the member for Warren-Blackwood to order for the first time.

Dr GALLOP: The member should understand that all of that huff and puff and feigned anger bears no relation to the reality of the Government's position on what is happening in the south west. The pathetic attempt by the member to criticise me and my Government for what we are doing in this matter will be treated by the community for what it is - a political stunt. I am very proud to be the Premier of Western Australia at a time in which we have stopped the logging of old-growth forests in Western Australia.

Mr Barnett: You are pathetic. Go to the area and see for yourself, as I have done on three occasions.

The SPEAKER: Order, Leader of the Opposition!

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order! The length of time taken for interjections is extending the time taken to provide the answer. I ask the Premier to bring his answer to a conclusion. There will be no more interjections on this answer.

Mr Omodei interjected.

The SPEAKER: I call the member for Warren-Blackwood to order for the second and third time. I warn him that my patience is running out on his wanting to comment on every question that comes up.

Dr GALLOP: My Government stands on its record on the south west for two reasons. The first is our commitment that has been carried out to save the old-growth forests and the second is our commitment to work with the community there to deal with the consequences of that policy. We have put a huge investment into it, and the Government is putting a lot of time and effort into it. I am very proud of what we are doing on both those counts.