

POLICE ROYAL COMMISSION REPORT, CORRUPT CONDUCT, RESPONSIBILITY

**19. Mr R.F. JOHNSON to the Premier:**

I refer the Premier to the report of the police royal commission tabled in this House yesterday, which found serious deficiencies in senior management. It states that there is little doubt that if the officers had been properly and effectively supervised, the opportunities for such corrupt conduct would have been substantially reduced, and much of the conduct might never have occurred.

- (1) Does the Premier accept the commission's assertion that much of the responsibility for corrupt conduct lies with senior Police Service management?
- (2) If so, does the Premier accept that one of his now ministers was directly responsible for overseeing what the Premier himself has claimed is significant and sustained corrupt and criminal conduct in the Western Australia Police Service?
- (3) Given that the now Minister for Tourism was part of the senior police management structure at the time of this conduct, does the Premier still have confidence in his minister, or does he intend to have a bet both ways?

**Dr G.I. GALLOP replied:**

- (1)-(3) I will preface my answer to that question by saying this: is it not extraordinary that the Leader of the Opposition stood and said that we had sexed up this report, and then his colleague the member for Hillarys stood and quoted me in terms of what the report states? What an Opposition! It is all over the place. What is the Opposition's current position on the disaggregation of Western Power? It has had four positions on it.

I know only one thing about the Minister for Tourism, and that is this: he resigned as a member of the Western Australia Police Service and stood for election for a political party that supported a full-ranging royal commission into the Police Service in Western Australia. That is what he did. I believe that question reflects very poorly on the member for Hillarys. I believe the Leader of the Opposition was up to his neck in the drafting of that question as well. They have been exposed by the statements they have made about what I said. In fact, I did not say that there was systemic corruption in the Police Service. They have been exposed by their failure to read the report. Now they are digging around in the gutter in a way that is only too obvious to everyone. It reflects on the member for Cottesloe, as Leader of the Opposition, that he allowed that question to be asked.