

COMMISSIONER FOR PUBLIC SECTOR STANDARDS - ATTACK BY PREMIER

189. Mr P.D. OMODEI to the Premier:

I have a supplementary question. Given the Premier's attack, will he concede that he and his bullying ways are part of the problem, and apologise to Maxine Murray?

Mr A.J. CARPENTER replied:

Is it to be the case in Western Australia that every time I, or anyone in government, disagree publicly with anything that is said or written because I am asked for a response, I must either not respond, respond dishonestly or agree with something with which I do not agree? Is it the case that I as Premier of the government must either dishonestly agree with something with which I do not agree or am I able to say, "I find the report completely deficient"? On every basis it is deficient. It is very unfortunate that a report like that can be lobbed into the Parliament of Western Australia. It is a deficient report. No other government in Australia - if there is one, members opposite should name it - is subjected to more public scrutiny.

Mr P.D. Omodei: Has been as corrupt.

Mr C.J. Barnett: No other government has five corrupt ministers.

Mr A.J. CARPENTER: Members opposite are agreeing with me.

Withdrawal of Remark

The SPEAKER: Order! I am sure that last term I said that the allegations of corruption as stated then by the Leader of the Opposition and I think the member for Cottesloe are unparliamentary, and I direct them to withdraw them.

Mr P.D. OMODEI: I withdraw, Mr Speaker.

Mr C.J. BARNETT: I withdraw, Mr Speaker.