

BANKSIA HILL DETENTION CENTRE — PREMIER'S COMMENTS

283. Dr D.J. HONEY to the Minister for Corrective Services:

Does the minister agree with the reported statements of the Premier indicating that the Banksia Hill Detention Centre detainees involved in the latest riots are using foetal alcohol spectrum disorder brain damage as an excuse to act like terrorists?

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON replied:

That is completely a false question. I listened to every word that the Premier gave at his press conference. That is not a quote that the Premier made. This is a problem with the member. I think it is actually a breach of the standing orders, Madam Speaker, because a member is not supposed to fabricate information. At no time did the Premier say those words.

Dr D.J. Honey: Go and have a look at the statements.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: I am sorry. I have listened to every single word the Premier used. The Premier was asked a question about FASD and his reply was something along the lines of you cannot have excuses for violence—I put that in myself. He also said that the detainees involved in the riot last night were behaving as terrorists. Both those statements are true —

Mr M. McGowan: A form of terrorism.

Mr W.J. JOHNSTON: He said a form of terrorism. Both those statements are true. They are not what the member asked in his question. They were separate statements at different times to different questions. The member has improperly put the two things together as if they were the same issue, and that simply is not true. I tell you what: I back the Premier and his leadership of this state before I back your leadership.

Several members interjected.

The SPEAKER: Order, please!