

From: **Moira Deeming** <Moira.Deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au>

Date: Fri, Feb 2, 2024 at 4:50 PM

Subject: FW: Background

To: Richard Willingham - ABC ([REDACTED])

Hi there, some background for your reporting- (no quotes unless you cite the original source please and not me please).

There is much to note about today's court management hearing. Most I will leave for later.

I just wanted to point out two things from today.

In court the Judge asked JPs lawyers which rally they alleged the Nazi's "attended" (with Mrs Deeming) and they answered "Let Women Speak". Sue put it on record that we dispute this fact.

Please see the publicly available footage below, which is publicly available and which the leaders were all told about numerous times (along with all the other countering evidence)- but didn't ever care. Note that from 19. 29- these NSN people admit that they have nothing to do with Moira Deeming, and condemn her, KJK and LWS- They make it plain they were a separate group and there to support an entirely different protest that was going on at the same time. There is further publicly available evidence of these facts.

https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Ftwitter.com%2FDawnieBrowning%2Fstatus%2F1637721033263419393%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR0RSRbrn_wEOismGfYdIZWMNKtYcJLG-pSKQxpv5-uS6pJWuNwsdPO0w14&h=AT3444xBeskLz_8APKLYXYvvREMUEOEIQV2tEMj4GQIQ2cb5TlqnoyUgnMbou7edFbcHrWRE91Ty65KJ_K-rMOs9Vdb9Fv59fUMuOg7MoCNKFIVbOWTsDzRHhhNuG2_4Xpc

I am not sure why journo's are not simply comparing some of the statements that he's made and point out that he is going to argue that although he 'technically' did not say 'Moira is an 'actual' Nazi' (in public- let's see what comes out in discovery)- it's obvious from the newspaper headlines, social media commentary that the vast majority of people understood that's exactly what he was deliberately implying- despite the publicly available, overwhelming evidence against this position and my pleas to the contrary.

Tiny selection below.

1. On the 19th of March John Pesutto emailed every Liberal MP the following (please note that on the 19th, Moira Deeming herself had not been presented with evidence for JP's claims even though she asked to see them and that if they had no evidence, she would not be condemning the LWS organisers- to this day they've never produced any irrefutable evidence). Also, please note, that on the same night, JP et al went to the media prior to taking the matter to the party room- all before having done a proper investigation or presenting Moira or the Party room with any evidence of their claims- which of course whipped up media pressure to expel Moira before she or anyone else had a chance to rebut their claims. [Moira Deeming vows to fight expulsion push over involvement in protest attended by neo-Nazis | Victorian politics | The Guardian](#). Then on the 20th, JP et al sent out a press release with the so called dossier of evidence and the expulsion motion, again prior to sending it to Moira or the Party room. No due process or reasonableness or proportionality.

The first half of the first ever email that he sent, on the night of the 19th, is below (which all journo's already have somehow)- and it appears to be being referred to in the article as a press release.

"Dear colleagues

Yesterday afternoon Victorians witnessed an abomination on the steps of the Victorian Parliament when neo-Nazi protesters engaged in an affront to the values we should all hold dear as Victorians.

The violence, prejudice and hate that these protesters conveyed by their odious actions will never be acceptable in our State. I condemn them and commit to opposing such hate wherever it may exist.

This afternoon I met with Moira Deeming MP **who attended yesterday's rally**. I discussed her involvement in organising, promoting and participating with speakers and organisers who themselves have been publicly associated with far right-wing extremist groups including neo-Nazi activists.

At our meeting I informed Ms Deeming that I intend to move a motion at the next party room meeting to expel her as a member of the parliamentary Liberal Party as her position is untenable.

This is not an issue about free speech but a member of the parliamentary party associating with people whose views are abhorrent to my values, the values of the Liberal Party and the wider community....

(some nonsense fluff lines about his own values as if they conflicted with mine)

...Tomorrow I will circulate the motion and provide further details regarding the process.

Yours sincerely,

JP

2. The obvious implication of JP & the leadership's communications internally and externally about what they meant, was evident at the meeting on 27 March 2023 of the Parliamentary Liberal Party. Nick McGowan MP said: *"If the motion is successful today you are actually labelling someone a Nazi. Moira is going to have to live with that. It's like calling someone a murderer, a rapist or a paedophile. Substance is key because there is not a penalty that is worse than this"*.
3. The article published on 21 March 2023, by The Herald Sun, entitled *"Risky bid to expel sitting MP – Opposition leadership on the line"*. which reported that Pesutto had *"said the decision to expel her... concerned her association with extremists. He said he could not accept that Ms Deeming "did not know the organisers of the Let Women Speak event had links with neo-Nazis and white supremacists". "I just can't satisfy that Moira didn't know," he said. "It wasn't just that Moira had escorted organisers through the precinct of parliament. It wasn't just that Moira stayed at the protest when Nazis turned up. It was the celebration that you can see on social media afterwards, which tells you perhaps all you need to know about why it's necessary to bring this motion. It's saying that 'I am prepared to associate with those people and not take the opportunity to walk away from them despite the odious things they have shared'. Any question of an association, even indirectly, to Nazis, white supremacists, ethno-fascists or whatever else, is so odious in 2023, as it should be, that I can't see a way back."*

Basically, John and the leadership accused me before they had evidence, (I think we all know why, and that real reason will come out in discovery).

Then when they discovered they could not justify their position they all doubled down. It was never proven and never an honest opinion based on evidence, that I was associated or even tacitly approving of any type of bigotry, Nazism or hate.

But it was too late for them and they weren't about to do the right thing by a new, unconnected, vulnerable MP and her family.

So they charged ahead and in smearing me for associating with those Nazis and LWS- and by obvious extension, they also have smeared- CPAC who sponsored them – in particular Warren Mundine (with whom I can prove JP has a longstanding issue), as well as Jacinta Price and Claire Chandler (who both support and did attend or were planning on attending other LWS events). Not to mention, the innumerable ordinary innocent people across the political spectrum and around the world who are associated with LWS- including KJK, AJ, KD- against whom no actual legitimate evidence of deliberate association or sympathy with Nazism has ever been produced.

I am amazed that the actual amazing part of this story- that JP et al are going to argue that their honest opinion is that

- a. there is nothing even remotely Nazi-ish about me at all- and that nobody could have gotten the impression there was due to their words and actions-

they nonetheless, they (or at least JP) agrees that

- b. JP deliberately (and reasonably) held the opinion and published it, knowing that it was defamatory- commentary about me to the effect that I have such extremely serious Nazi-esque associations, that they had no choice but to move and relentlessly push for my expulsion from the PLP.

I look forward to discovery and to fuller reporting on this saga.

Kind Regards,

Moira Deeming MP

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