

Producer: Angus Llewellyn

**ACT SCRIPT PART I
VERSION # 1**

SCHEDULED TX DATE	
SUGGESTED INTRO KEY	
PRESENTER	
MUSIC	

STUDIO INTRO

Parliament House, Canberra. At its official opening in 1988 the Queen described it as the "embodiment of the democratic principles of freedom, equality and justice."

Now one staffer is speaking up about the appalling abuse she suffered in that building – the cover up and betrayal of those founding principles.

SCRIPT

Who is Brittany	<p>0:01:31.7 Brittany: ...so fundamentally in the day to day I deal with journalist enquiries. ...</p> <p>0:01:55.2 ...And presently I work for Minister Michaelia Cash and that's employment skills [0:02:03.2], small and family business</p>
	<p>0:02:44.4 Lisa: So, before the last federal election you were working for Steve Ciobo who was the minister for defence industries. In March of 2019, just before that federal election Senator Linda Reynolds replaced him in that position. What happened to your job?</p> <p>0:03:01.7 Brittany: ...So as a Ministerial Staffer, your job is tied to your minister. You're their personal employee. So on the basis of Steve being demoted, I immediately lost my job.</p> <p>0:03:49.5... So, it was like a two-week interim process where it's sort of, a little bit haphazard and everyone's sort of Hunger Games style trying to get any of those open roles. ...</p> <p>0:04:12.9 Lisa: So you survived?</p> <p>0:04:13.7 Brittany: I did, I did. ... I think three of us out of a team of twenty made it into Minister Reynolds' existing team.</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn

<p>The alleged rapist</p>	<p>0:07:12.3 Lisa: So, Brittany can you describe how you were treated professionally by one of the senior male advisors to Minister Reynolds?</p> <p>0:07:23.2 Brittany: Yeah, so immediately it became clear that this person was quite, had a special bond with the Minister. And she really trusted this person's sort of input. ... And he was quite territorial of that position.</p> <p>0:08:36.1 ...And so, it was, it was difficult. And it got to the point where it was reported to sort of our Acting Chief of Staff at the time that he was bullying me. ...</p> <p>0:08:57.3 And you know, I was just grateful to have a job, I didn't care. ...</p> <p>0:09:05.3 Lisa: So, he was a bit of a favourite of Minister Reynolds?</p> <p>0:09:08.0 Brittany: Yeah, very much so. He had been advising her in the Home Affairs portfolio prior to that Like he had been a long-established sort of person in the party, in politics and I knew he was someone that had a lot of connections. He had a lot of friends everywhere, yeah.</p> <p>0:09:39.0...he was considered one of the sort of rising stars.</p>
<p>The drinks</p>	<p>0:10:19.4 Lisa: So, about three weeks into this new position in Minister Reynolds' office everyone went out for drinks on a Saturday night. Who went?</p> <p>0:10:28.4 Brittany: It was a lot of my friends who actually worked in the defence industry space. ... I was kind of happy that I had an opportunity to show my expertise in the space, to kind of demonstrate some value and go, ok alright, I can connect you with these people, come meet them.</p>
	<p>0:12:48.3 Lisa: So, how did this senior male colleague act towards you at the Saturday night drinks?</p> <p>0:12:54.4 Brittany: He was nice to me. I think he was grateful that I invited him. Or that he had these connections. I think he liked sort of hobnosing around with all</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn

	<p>these defence people.... I noticed that he was buying me a lot of drinks and I was kind of, I just sort of, job well done, I thought I was kind of broadly being rewarded in a weird way.</p>
	<p>0:15:54.6 Lisa: So, would you say you were drunk when you decided to go home?</p> <p>0:15:57.9 Brittany: Oh absolutely. I, sort of the thing that pre-empted me deciding that I had to go home, I fell over in front of people. I pretty much face planted, I had scuffed my knee and at that point I was like, ok I'm really, I have to leave.</p> <p>0:16:27.2 My senior male colleague helped me up. And he was actually quite helpful in terms of sort of just getting me into a cab on the basis that I really couldn't walk.</p>
Parliament House	<p>0:16:55.8 ... I mean I don't specifically remember the exact conversation, but I just remember sort of the general tone was, we live in the same direction but I've got to stop somewhere first. And I guess he's kind of was broadly sort of what I regarded as like my boss essentially and so, I'm not going to argue..</p> <p>0:17:22.5 Lisa: So, he said that he had to stop somewhere, where was that somewhere?</p> <p>0:17:26.3 Brittany: Parliament. So he wanted to go to Parliament House.</p> <p>...0:17:30.0... He just had to pick something up. Some vague non-descript something. And it didn't seem, I mean it was obviously strange, it was a Saturday night, it was midnight.</p> <p>0:20:43.9 ...he paid the fare, he got out ... so, it didn't seem, it felt better to go into the building than stand outside in the dark by myself.</p>
	<p>0:18:54.1 Lisa: Did you at any point in that evening to the best of your knowledge indicate to him that you were in any way interested in him romantically or sexually?</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn [REDACTED]

	<p>0:19:04.3 Brittany: No, not at all. I started that night with a different date. I wasn't there for him at all. And I invited him in a professional context. So I just, no.</p>
	<p>0:21:06.8 Lisa: Well, you were trusting this guy?</p> <p>0:21:09.0 Brittany: Well yeah, I mean it's Parliament. I just I, there are so many cameras and there are so many people. I just remember we went through the Ministerial Entrance which is the back entrance. And it's sort of the only entrance you can get into Parliament out of hours. ...</p> <p>0:21:27.9...And then you go through to another checkpoint. And this is where physical security guards are. And it's sort of like, airport security, you've got to sort of take of all your metal things, take off your shoes, go through.</p> <p>0:21:53.6 Brittany: And I think at this point I remember him saying something to the effect of effect just, just be quiet.... And he had his pass, which is the only way we got into the building. But I didn't have mine because I was out for a night on the town, I wasn't really anticipating going into work.</p> <p>0:22:34.6 Lisa: So, by this point, how many security guards had seen you?</p> <p>0:22:39.8 Brittany: Had contact with two security guards. They had to actually physically sign me in.</p>
	<p>0:24:25.8 We went up the lift into Minister Reynolds' suite. And so, I go through those doors in that lift every day, that same process. There are eight cameras between that front entrance and that suite.</p> <p>0:25:26.2 Lisa: So, you go into Minister Reynolds' office, what happens then?</p> <p>0:25:30.9 Brittany: I remember that he was sort of taking a really long time with something. ...And so, I got to the point where I don't know if he guided me there,</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn

	<p>or if I went there myself. But I ended up laying down and passing out on the Minister's couch.</p>
The alleged rape	<p>0:28:05.1 Lisa: So, what's the next thing that you remember happening?</p> <p>0:28:08.3 Brittany: The first thing that sort of awoke me was I was in a pain. My leg was kind of being crushed ... the senior staffer was on top of me. He was clearly almost finished.</p> <p>0:28:42.0 Lisa: Sorry, was there sexual intercourse going on?</p> <p>0:28:44.9 Brittany: Yeah, I was, I woke up mid-rape essentially. I don't know why I knew he was almost finished but I felt like it had been going on for a while. Or that he was almost done, he was sweaty, I couldn't get him off of me, at this point I started crying ...</p> <p>0:29:15.2 Lisa: What did you say to him?</p> <p>0:29:16.3 Brittany: I told him to stop.</p> <p>0:29:18.4 Lisa: Did he?</p> <p>0:29:19.5 Brittany: No.</p> <p>0:30:38.1 Lisa: How many times would you estimate you said to him to stop?</p> <p>0:30:43.0 Brittany: I felt like it was on a loop endlessly. At least half a dozen. I was crying the whole way through it.</p>
Photo of the bruise	<p>0:32:42.3 Lisa: You have a photo that you took of a bruise that developed from that night. What does that photograph show?</p> <p>0:32:50.7 Brittany: Oh it's just essentially where his leg pinned me down. It's quite a large bruise and it's just the weight obviously of his leg pinning me down.</p>
Sunday	<p>0:35:59.6 Lisa: So, when you finally woke up. Can you describe what state you were in?</p> <p>0:36:05.4 Brittany: My dress was up around my waist, the straps were kind of down. I</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn [REDACTED]

	<p>was pretty dishevelled. ...the light was streaming through into the office and I was just panicked. I was so scared. And it wasn't even, I wasn't even scared immediately about the assault. I was scared that I was at work. My first thought was, oh my God I'm at work.</p> <p>0:38:04.9 Lisa: How many security guards did you see on your way out?</p> <p>0:38:08.7 Brittany: I saw the two gentlemen at the Ministerial entrance on the way out.</p> <p>0:38:36.8 Lisa: Did any of those security guards ask if you were ok?</p> <p>0:38:39.8 Brittany: No, no.</p>
	<p>0:45:14.2 Lisa: So, you've since learned that a security guard did come into the room after the allege rape took place.</p> <p>0:45:20.7 Brittany: Yeah.</p> <p>0:45:21.8 Lisa: Saw you passed out alone and in that very dishevelled undressed state. How did you find out that that guard saw you?</p> <p>0:45:30.9 Brittany: I found out through another party who was a staffer. ... He was alerted to a security breach because that's part of his role, ... and he was the first person to point blank ask me if I had been raped.</p>
	<p>0:47:46.6 Lisa: Can you understand how someone whose job it is to keep Parliament House secure, would not call for medical help?</p> <p>0:47:57.7 Brittany: No, I wrestle with it myself all the time, yeah, I don't know.</p> <p>0:48:04.2 Lisa: So, who do you think those guards at Parliament House are trying to keep secure, if not a woman who appears to have just been raped?</p> <p>0:48:14.4 Brittany: I think it's all about external threats ...</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn

	<p>0:48:19.9...They seem more concerned about that sort of thing broadly, than they are about sort of policing the individual conduct of staffers in offices. I don't feel like they feel like that's their remit.</p>
	<p>0:38:49.5 Lisa: ... were the police called?</p> <p>0:39:03.8 Brittany: They were notified, I don't know how they were notified and at what point they were notified. But they were notified that there had been a security breach and that there had been an incident.</p> <p>0:40:15.7 Lisa: What happened when you got back to your apartment?</p> <p>0:40:17.6 Brittany: I saw my roommate, she introduced me to a friend of hers. ... my roommate thought it kind of weird and I was acting weird. But I just sat in my room all day and cried.</p>
	<p>Monday morning Brittany went to work as usual. Her alleged rapist was present – but the weekend's security breach. Then came Tuesday morning.</p>
	<p>0:53:03.2 Brittany: Yeah, so immediately sort of the tone in the office had changed and we had an Acting Manager, or we call the Chiefs of Staff named Fiona Brown. And she had been sort of seconded from the Prime Minister's office and she is the Director of Operations.</p> <p>0:54:23. So, she came in on the Tuesday morning and asked if the senior colleague and I would go into the office and speak with her. So she originally brought in the senior colleague and they were probably in there for about forty-five minutes.</p>
	<p>0:55:43.7 Lisa: So this colleague came out –</p> <p>0:55:45.5 Brittany: Yeah. ... so he immediately walked out of the office and started packing up his things. Didn't say a word to anyone and it sounds strange, but in sort of staffing culture, that's not unheard of. That happens kind of a bit, there's just sort of this, don't ask, don't tell</p>

Producer: Angus Llewellyn

	<p>mentality around you know when someone leaves, when someone comes in.</p>
	<p>0:57:23.9 Lisa: So, what was her tone towards you ...?</p> <p>0:57:31.0 Brittany: It was very procedural, it felt like a disciplinary meeting. ...it was, we'd been made aware of the events of Saturday night and that you guys were here after hours and you know that's not acceptable. ...</p>
	<p>0:57:53.6 And then she made me re-sign this thing called the Ministerial Code of Conduct.</p> <p>0:58:00.2 Lisa: Why was that?</p> <p>0:58:01.1 Brittany: I don't really know. I think I guess because we were acting in a way that was out of, not in accordance with the Code of Conduct.</p>
	<p>0:56:21.4 ... and she asked me to sort of recount the events of the night ...</p> <p>0:56:54.2 I started from the start and I went all the way through. And that was sort of the first time I'd vocalised that I'd been raped. And I think as I was telling it, it was the first time I'd sort of pieced it together myself, what had happened was an assault.</p>
	<p>0:58:28.4...and then that was when the entire sort of tone changed, I think. Yeah, then she sort of moved into sort of, a different hat came on and she wasn't disciplining me, it was more about managing a situation.</p> <p>0:58:48.0 Lisa: What does that mean?</p> <p>0:58:51.1 Brittany: I think it felt like I became, this was like immediately became sort of like a political problem. It felt like that immediately. It wasn't a staffing problem, it wasn't a HR problem, it wasn't a human problem, but immediately it was like, ok, we have an issue.</p>
	END PART I

BACK ANNOUNCE

Producer: Angus Llewellyn [REDACTED]**SUPERS**

NAME	SUPER	SUPER POSITION

VISION**SYDNEY MAM ROUGH CUTS****SYDNEY MAM RAW VISION****ATV MAM ROUGH CUTS****ATV MAM RAW VISION****GRAPHICS NOTES****LEGAL NOTES**