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**From:** Moira Deeming <[Moira.Deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:Moira.Deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au)>

**Sent:** Thursday, March 30, 2023 4:00 PM

**To:** Renee Heath <[Renee.Heath@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:Renee.Heath@parliament.vic.gov.au)>

**Subject:** Text of my speech for the minutes

**Good morning, Thank you for allowing me to speak.**

In the last week, I've repeatedly been told that this motion to expel me from the Party Room isn't about the specific accusations made against me,

-but that it's about saving John and the Leadership team,

-or that it's about rebranding and modernising the Liberal Party,

-or that it's about the fear that I'm unteachable or 'not a team player'

I'm not unsympathetic to these issues, and I'll happily address each of them in turn.

**As to this vote being a way to save John and the Leadership team- I would say that the best solution is to keep both John and I, and that we put forward a united front.**

Look, I know many of you arc up at me being a Christian. But there's one good thing you can rely on me for because of my faith, and that's my commitment to humility and forgiveness. My priority is having my name cleared for my children

and just to get back to work for the people of the Western Metro region. I'm happy to support the leadership team and to state that publicly.

**As to this vote being a way to rebrand and modernise the Victorian Liberal Party.**

In my defence- I honestly didn't know that was part of our agenda. I've been operating on our Party platforms and stated principles, as I understand them. And so regardless of whether I'm expelled today or not, I honestly believe that for the good of our whole Party, that there needs to be a clear explanation of exactly what rebranding and modernising the Liberal party means. Our party members and supporters- not to mention each of us as preselected and elected Liberal Party MPs, need to be able to understand and articulate exactly what we do and do not stand for. That way we actually stand a chance of being a truly united front. So just to be clear, I don't have a problem with this- I just think we all need to be on the same page.

**As to the concern that I'm unteachable or 'not a team player'.**

I have repeatedly asked for help and guidance. I am a brand new MP and I need to learn the ropes. I am a team player. I like the team structure. I like to do my part. In the state election I was asked by senior Liberals not to speak to the media, and to outreach into the Muslim community. Which is exactly what I did, with the support of senior frontbenchers.

**But the main thing I wanted to do today, is remind you that I am a real person, I'm not just a political problem to be cauterized.**

Your decision today- whether you like it or not- will be linked in the minds of the public, to the specific accusations and imputations in that dossier.

I want to remind you all that being accused of Nazism- in any degree- by the Liberal Party Parliamentary Team of Victoria- is going to have heinous consequences for my life, the lives of my husband and our four children. It will have negative consequences for anybody associated with me, like my brother, my parents, and my friends.

My husband and I have already begun to receive hate mail from people who've read those accusations, and now believe that we are white supremacists.

There have already been threats of violence against me, because of these accusations.

A stranger has already attempted to trespass into our backyard where our children play.

The Police have had to do start doing regular patrols outside our home to help keep us safe.

We've already had threats to withdraw work opportunities because of these accusations.

Our children have already been excluded from their activities and groups.

**There are many facts about my personal life that many here, and certainly many in the media simply do not know.**

They reason that people don't know these things is because ordinarily I consider it repugnant to use them in political debates.

But I've realised that I need to be vulnerable with you all so that you can understand me better and have confidence to brush off any lies you hear about me.

If you support this motion of expulsion, you will be supporting the idea that

- the first Victorian MP of Maori descent,
- who took in and cared for a Vietnamese asylum seeker with cancer,

-who is famous among her students for her WW2 History lessons,  
-and who was largely raised by her uncle who was Jewish Holocaust survivor –  
is a Nazi sympathiser.

My uncle's name was Emery Gellert and he was liberated from the  
Schachendorf Concentration Camp. He and his wife, (who died on the day of my  
maiden speech), were the two biggest influences (apart from my parents) in my  
childhood.

They taught me how dangerous mindless hate and hateful labels really are. It  
was Uncle Emery's voice in my mind, which cautioned me not to call even vile  
young men raising their arms in a Nazi salute- Nazis, until I was 100% sure.

It is not only untrue that I have Nazi links, but deeply and personally offensive  
and hurtful.

I note that many of you are confused and annoyed with me for persisting in  
talking about women's rights, intersex rights, gay rights, parents rights and  
safeguards for women and children. I assure you the reasons are completely  
and utterly based on love and compassion, not any sort of bigotry- and not even  
on religion or conservative politics.

When I speak on these issues, I speak from personal experience.

My life has been marred repeatedly by rape- at the hands of men- from the age of four. I have been assaulted in public facilities. I was sexually harassed and assaulted by a teacher who later went to jail for having sex with minors. One of my best friends and biggest supporters is intersex. I know mothers and fathers whose own 15 year old children were operated on and made infertile and lost all sexual function- against their wishes. I have supporters who are happily transgender and supporters who are grateful detransitioners. My preselection character references include two prominent left wing lesbians.

I am driven by a desire to make sure other children and women don't suffer like I did. That's all.

These allegations against me of Nazism and hatred towards the trans community are 100% false. But people will believe them if you support this motion to expel me.

So even if you don't like me, or you think my focus isn't mainstream enough, or you worry that I'm not a team player- please by all means deal with me, but whatever you do, please don't deal with me via this expulsion motion because it

smears me and my family as Nazi sympathisers when it couldn't be further from the truth.

**Kind Regards,**

**Moira Deeming MP**

State Member for the Western Metropolitan Region

Parliamentary Whip for the Legislative Council

Suite 1 & 2, Level 2, 13-15 Lake Street, Caroline Springs VIC 3023

**Phone** (03) 8363 0288

**Email** [moira.deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:moira.deeming@parliament.vic.gov.au)



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