

Producer: Angus Llewellyn [REDACTED]

ENVIRO SCRIPT PART II & PART III
VERSION # 1

SCHEDULED TX DATE	
SUGGESTED INTRO KEY	
PRESENTER	
MUSIC	

STUDIO INTRO

SCRIPT

Support – the brochure, internal police triggered	<p>1:01:44.6 Lisa: So, you had just told a senior advisor to Prime Minister Scott Morrison that you had been raped on Minister Reynolds’ couch in her private office.</p> <p>1:01:56.1 Brittany: Yes.</p> <p>1:01:57.2 Lisa: That’s a serious crime.</p> <p>1:01:58.6 Brittany: Yeah.</p> <p>1:02:56.3 Lisa: What support were you given by Fiona Brown?</p> <p>1:02:59.9 Brittany: We have an employee assistance program. And I remember she gave me a brochure for the Employee Assistance Program. And I think she told me that day that I could take the rest of the day off and I did.</p> <p>1:03:53.4 Lisa: So, what was in the brochure that you were left with?</p> <p>1:03:56.0 Brittany: A phone number. I did call it. I think it was like a two-month wait to speak to a psychologist.</p> <p>1:01:59.6 Lisa: Did she call the police?</p> <p>1:02:03.1 Brittany: She said, internal mechanisms were already at play....</p> <p>Lisa: What does that mean?</p> <p>1:02:08. Brittany: inside of Parliament House, it’s its own unique AFP unit. And</p>
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	so, that act independently from the ACT Police and they're a branch of the Federal Police apparently. ... It was this automatic sort of series of events that had been triggered on the basis that there'd been a breach of security in the Minister's office.
LISA PTC FROM APH 10-15 secs	<p>The fact is that different rules apply in the building behind me.</p> <p>The internal police force answers to politicians - parliament's presiding officers - rather than the bosses at the Australian Federal Police.</p>
	PROF GEORGE WILLIAMS 0:04:22 ... Parliament jealously guards its protections, doesn't like outside interference and as a result, sets up systems and laws that preserve its ability to function free of interference.
	Constitutional lawyer Professor George Williams.
	0:05:58.7 it does mean we need to be wary sometimes because there's a lot of vested self-interest in making sure that politicians protect themselves, protect their party members and the like. 0:06:16.7 And that can be an impediment to actually getting just outcomes and the law enforced properly.
	Brittany was interviewed by the parliament house police unit.
<p>The CCTV</p> <p>1:10:08.9 Lisa: Because at this point, you knew that quite a few people had seen this CCTV?</p> <p>1:10:13.5 Brittany: Yeah, yeah I knew that Fiona had seen it, I knew that sort of, one of my other colleagues had seen it from Defence. And so it was this strange thing where it felt like everyone had all this information on my own assault, and I didn't have any. ...</p>	<p>Lisa: did you ask to see the CCTV footage of you on that night, into the morning?</p> <p>1:09:50.3 Brittany: Yeah. ...</p> <p>1:12:55.7 Lisa: Do you know how far that CCTV followed you?</p> <p>1:13:05.0 Brittany: It went from the very front entrance of where the taxi would have stopped all the way through, going</p>

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<p>1:10:37.8... I desperately wanted to, I asked at least half-a-dozen times to see that CCTV and she always said no.</p> <p>1:10:58.3 Lisa: Who's she?</p> <p>1:10:59.6 Brittany: Fiona.</p> <p>1:12:06.8 Lisa: How did that make you feel?</p> <p>1:12:10.6 Brittany: It hurt, it really hurt... It felt like a betrayal ... for them to sort of withhold this one really small thing that I needed just personally for myself to process, [starts to cry] to move on, or just to understand what had happened to me. ... It really hurt, I don't know why, it really upset me.</p>	<p>through security, all the way up to the suite. ...</p> <p>1:10:08.9 Lisa: Because at this point, you knew that quite a few people had seen this CCTV?</p> <p>1:10:13.5 Brittany: Yeah, yeah I knew that Fiona had seen it, I knew that sort of, one of my other colleagues had seen it from Defence. And so it was this strange thing where it felt like everyone had all this information on my own assault, and I didn't have any. ...</p> <p>1:10:37.8... I desperately wanted to, I asked at least half-a-dozen times to see that CCTV and she always said no.</p> <p>1:10:58.3 Lisa: Who's she?</p> <p>1:10:59.6 Brittany: Fiona.</p> <p>1:12:06.8 Lisa: How did that make you feel?</p> <p>1:12:10.6 Brittany: It hurt, it really hurt... It felt like a betrayal ... for them to sort of withhold this one really small thing that I needed just personally for myself to process, [starts to cry] to move on, or just to understand what had happened to me. ... It really hurt, I don't know why, it really upset me.</p>
<p>Meeting in Reynolds office next to the couch</p> <p>GFX PIC of Whatsapp message mentioned here</p>	<p>1:13:52.6 Lisa: So when did Minister Reynolds speak to you about what happened?</p> <p>1:14:14.5...I got a WhatsApp from Fiona Brown indicating that Minister Reynolds would like to have a meeting with me and 6 on the following Monday.</p>
	<p>1:15:41.2... I kind of expected to walk into Fiona's office where we'd been having all of our other meetings and we actually went into the room where it happened.</p> <p>1:16:07.9 And it was just like a whiteout in my mind. Because it's the first time I'd ever had to go back there. ... And so between sort of me and their table was</p>

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	<p>the couch. And I just remember feeling so, I'm sure they were saying words but I barely remember a single word they said during that entire process.</p> <p>1:16:38.7 Cause i was just so cognizant of, this is where it happened, it's right there. That's exactly where it, and it was just this loop playing in my mind of this trauma that I'd just sort of come to terms with and I just thought it was unfathomable that they would put me in that space again.</p> <p>1:16:55.2 Lisa: Did Minister Reynolds know that that was the couch that you allege the rape happened on?</p> <p>1:17:00.1 Brittany: There's no way she wouldn't, she knew it was in her office.</p> <p>1:18:07.7... I felt like I was reliving it, every second of being in that room.</p> <p>1:17:05.2 Lisa: So what did she say to you?</p> <p>1:17:07.5 Brittany: She was apologetic. She was nice, she did say nice words. She was apologetic, she asked how I was. And then pretty quickly the conversation turned to sort of, the police. And if I chose to go to the police, we would support you. And it was this sort of, it felt like a weird sort of, HR ticking a box moment ...</p>
	<p>1:20:47.0 Brittany: ...it was never sort of overtly stated but any sort of mental health leave or when I spoke about needing time off to go speak to the officer, it always became quite a different sort of issue in the office.</p> <p>1:20:50.0...I could tell that it made Fiona uncomfortable. I could tell that –</p> <p>1:21:15.9 Lisa: It made Fiona Brown uncomfortable if you brought up anything that referred at all –</p> <p>1:21:20.7 Brittany: To the incident.</p> <p>1:21:21.1 Lisa: To the alleged rape?</p>

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	<p>1:21:22.7 Brittany: Yeah, yeah. And so, it became a topic that was really hard to raise with her. And she was sort of my only point of contact in terms of HR or anything. She was my only sort of person I could go to. The minister clearly didn't want to hear about it anymore. She didn't broadly want to see me anymore. And so, Fiona was like my sort of, the only person I could talk to. And it was dismissed, it was played down, and it was made to feel like it was my problem. [cries]</p> <p>1:21:53.2...And so i would try and raise it I would try and bring it back up - it always sort of came back to sort of being a me issue. And if you can't deal with it, then you can leave.</p>
	<i>end to part II</i>
	<i>start of part III</i>
AFP - sexual assault crimes unit	<p>1:24:22.3 Lisa: Who called in the AFP?</p> <p>1:24:30.5 Brittany: The internal Parliament House decided to elevate it to them. So, that's when the Belconnen Sexual Assault Crimes Unit got involved.</p>
<i>GFX SUBTITLES/PHONE GFX DATE 4 APRIL 2019</i>	<i>AFP voicemail message: Oh hi Brittany it's BEEP BEEP from the AFP...we're just trying to organise an appointment for tomorrow probably after 11am when our detectives will be available.</i>
	<p>1:24:58.1... And they actually came and picked me up from Parliament House. And so they, that was the first time I had a real counsellor. So I had a lady from the Canberra Rape Crisis Centre there with me. ...and I had two officers there.</p> <p>1:25:24.0 And they were very proactive. From the onset, they had already sort of started acquiring footage from the venues we'd been at earlier in the night. ... but immediately she raised the fact that she was already having difficulty with Parliament House getting copies of the CCTV footage.</p>
	<p>1:27:27.5... She said that this would be a bit of a battle. She didn't know if she'd be able to get it.</p>

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	<p>1:27:37.9 Lisa: And she was so concerned she elevated it to her superior?</p> <p>1:27:42.1 Brittany: Yeah, that's correct.</p> <p>1:27:43.4 Lisa: And did her superior have any luck getting that CCTV?</p> <p>1:27:46.5 Brittany: Not to my knowledge.</p>
The election – going to WA	<p>1:29:18.0 Lisa: So this all happened just weeks before the Federal Election of 2019 was called. And I believe that Fiona Brown from the Prime Minister's office gave you two choices on how to proceed.</p> <p>1:29:38.6 Brittany: Yeah, so essentially, I could go home. They'd pay me <1:29:52.5 I would technically be employed> <0:53:38.1... in six weeks' time our contracts were all going to expire anyway> and I could just sort of take leave and I could just sort of process what had happened to me and I could just go home.</p> <p>1:30:15.1 Lisa: To try and heal.</p> <p>1:30:16.3 Brittany: Yeah. And I asked, so what's the process of coming back. And she said, well you wouldn't. And that was the really clarifying moment for me where I fully sort of internalised that this is a political issue, my job is on the line for this, I don't really have a choice.</p>
<p><i>2019 campaign footage hasluck, canning, swan - reynolds</i></p> <p>Brittany: I was sort of just a part of Minister Reynolds' sort of WA based team, up in a hotel room but we were sort of working seven days a week. I was pretty suicidal to be honest at the time. Because you're just alone, it was really hard.</p>	<p>1:30:51.0 Lisa: So what did you choose?</p> <p>1:30:54.5 Brittany: This was my dream job; I had worked my entire life to get here. [cries] ... I wanted this future, I wanted to be a part of it for my entire (sort of) working life, um 1:31:15.8 So yeah, I went to WA.</p> <p>1:31:34.5 Lisa: What was in WA?</p>

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<p>Lisa: Did you think it was a curious option to send someone who just alleged rape to the other side of the country with no support network around her at all?</p> <p>Brittany: Yeah. I thought it felt intentional.</p>	<p>1:31:36.7 Brittany: I was sort of just a part of Minister Reynolds' sort of WA based team,...-up in a hotel room but we were sort of working seven days a week ... I was pretty suicidal to be honest at the time. Because you're just alone, it was really hard.{cries}</p> <p>1:32:30.6 Lisa: Did you think it was a curious option to send someone who just alleged rape to the other side of the country with no support network around her at all?</p> <p>1:32:41.4 Brittany: Yeah. I thought it felt intentional. Sorry –</p> <p>1:32:53.3 Lisa: How did Minister Reynolds treat you during those six weeks?</p> <p>1:32:57.0 Brittany: I mean she was never outright rude to me, but she did sort of actively try and avoid me as much as possible. She didn't like me coming to her events. She didn't like me going to things with her. I think I made her uncomfortable.</p>
<p>Dropping the AFP case, staying silent</p>	<p>1:33:40.7 Lisa: Why did you decide not to pursue the case with the AFP at that point?</p> <p>1:33:46.3 Brittany: Because we were already coming up against so many blockades and I realised my job was on the line. I didn't feel like I had a choice.</p> <p>1:34:10.4 Lisa: Did you feel pressured in any way whatsoever not to proceed with the case with the police?</p> <p>1:34:18.9 Brittany: Oh absolutely, I mean there is a strange culture of silence in the parties, and you just, you don't, the idea of sort of speaking out on these sort of issues especially around a campaign is just, it's like letting the team down. You're not a team player,</p>

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	<p>After the election Brittany Higgins accepted a job from Employment Minister Michaelia Cash.</p> <p>In July 2019 Minister Cash was asked about two other claims of sexual assault within the Liberal Party.</p>
<p>https://www.9news.com.au/national/calls-for-change-in-liberal-partys-boy-club-culture/68aa3d19-6ca3-4a4a-8bf3-bef3fa677b6d</p> <p>ATTRIB - 9 news DATE: 31 July 2019</p>	<p>Michaelia Cash: These are serious allegations and I would say to the parties concerned that they should be referred to the appropriate authorities.</p>
	<p>1:44:20.1 Brittany: Yeah, I was actually down the hall from her when she'd said that I was in the press gallery at the time ... and yeah it was hard to hear that because I knew ...that you know, even if you go down the right pathway, they're not going to, the party isn't willing to help or support you.</p>
<p>Three months after her remarks in the corridor Michaelia Cash found out about Brittany's alleged rape.</p> <p>Brittany believes the information came directly from Linda Reynolds, breaching her right to privacy.</p>	<p>Brittany believes Michaelia Cash found out about her experience three months after the remarks in the corridor.</p> <p>And that the information came directly from Linda Reynolds - breaching her privacy.</p> <p>Michaelia Cash's office disputes this saying she only recently found out the specifics.</p>
	<p>1:45:45.4 Lisa: Did Minister Cash have any words of advice on how you should deal with the trauma that you were going through?</p> <p>1:45:50.9 Brittany: Yeah, I was having difficulties actually coming through the entrance at Parliament House. It was that same entrance where the incident</p>

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	<p>had happened and so I felt every time I walked through it, I'd get quite panicky and I'd sort of, said that I was having difficulties just coming in. And at that point she was like, well you're just going to have to sort of suck it up essentially.</p> <p>1:46:09.7 And it was, it's that same idea of, you deal with it or you leave.</p>
	<p>1:47:09.6 Lisa: So, apart from Fiona Brown, has anyone else from the Prime Minister's office been in touch with you over the assault?</p> <p>1:47:17.5 Brittany: Yeah, so I've had Yaron Finkelstein sort of, broadly in proximity around it. During the actual week after the event,...</p> <p>1:47:36.2 Lisa: Who is Yaron Finkelstein?</p> <p>1:47:37.6 Brittany: He is the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister I think is his official title. But essentially, he's just like the fixer, he fixes problems. Not just people but other issues but he's the fixer.</p> <p>1:50:10.3 Lisa: Did you hear from Yaron Finkelstein after that initial period?</p> <p>1:50:15.0 Brittany: I did, I did. It was just like a strange sort of check in essentially. But those happened to me kind of pretty regularly.</p> <p>1:50:23.4 Lisa: What was the timing of that check in?</p> <p>1:50:26.8 Brittany: There was some sort of story...but it was another sort of Liberal women issues, Four Corners.</p> <p>1:50:36.4 Lisa: The Canberra bubble story on Four Corners?</p> <p>1:50:38.3 Brittany: Yeah that's correct.</p> <p>1:50:46.9 Lisa: And what did he say?</p>

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	<p>1:50:48.9 Brittany: Just checking in.</p> <p>1:50:51.4 Lisa: Is it normal for a junior staffer to get a call from the Prime Minister's chief fixer?</p> <p>1:50:56.7 Brittany: No, no it's not normal.</p>
The alleged rapist	<p>1:59:51.6 Lisa: So, what's happened to the man that you say raped you, on Minister Reynolds' couch?</p> <p>2:00:07.1 Brittany: Yeah, he's fine, he's working in Sydney, he's got a good job. Everyone, people don't know why he left, and I don't think he's suffered any consequences for it at all. I think he just kind of got to keep going.</p>
	<p>2:11:07.6 Lisa: Are you able to keep working in this environment?</p> <p>2:11:10.4 Brittany: No.</p> <p>2:11:12.9 Lisa: Have you resigned?</p> <p>2:11:14.6 Brittany: Yeah.</p>
	<p>2:12:59.1 Lisa: ... are you at all concerned that maybe by resigning you've just taken this problem out of your boss's hands? Out of the Government's hands?</p> <p>2:13:17.3 Brittany: No, I think that resigning is the only thing that I can personally do to sort of, say ...that I don't think anyone else should go through what I went through.</p>
	<p>2:02:58.5 Lisa: If everything that you say is true, it sounds to me like the easiest place in this country to rape a woman and get away with it, is Parliament House in Canberra.</p> <p>2:03:14.4 Brittany: Yeah, yeah.</p>
	END

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BACK ANNOUNCE

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