David Tollner MLA | Member for Fong Lim

Minister for Alcohol Rehabilitation and Policy

Labor Leader Misleads Prime Minister

February 7th, 2013

Minister for Alcohol Rehabilitation and Policy, David Tollner, said today Opposition leader Delia Lawrie had committed the gravest of sins by misleading the Prime Minister who then misled the nation.

“Julia Gillard’s attack on the Northern Territory Government was based on manipulated and misleading data concocted by a desperate Territory Labor Government to justify the failed Banned Drinker Register.

“Julia Gillard’s source of information for her incorrect statement in relation to the effectiveness of the BDR was Delia Lawrie’s media release of 1st August last year.

“I am surprised the PM’s staff did not check or confirm these figures. Had they carried out the checks they could have saved themselves, and the Prime Minister, humiliation and embarrassment.

“The correct and complete data is now readily available on the NT Government website.

“Delia and her office concocted these numbers when Labor knew it was in the death throes as a government.

“It was clutching at straws. They knew the BDR was an expensive failure. And they knew there no evidence to show it was working.

“The then Labor government, as the figures show, excluded alcohol-related domestic violence from the data.

“There was nothing to stop third party sales. There was nothing to stop a person refused service at the bottlo popping around the corner into the public bar and drinking themselves stupid.

“Long before this Labor knew the BDR wasn’t working and they were failing to stop rising rates of crime and this is why they stopped the publication of crime statistics.
“Scraping the BDR was the centrepiece of the Country Liberals election campaign and voters had a choice in supporting our position or that of Labor.

“We promised to scrap the BDR and we keep our promises.”


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