



Pauline Hanson addresses One Nation AGM

## QLD POLITICS

# One Nation unveils controversial domestic violence policy

Jessica Marszalek, State Political Reporter, The Courier-Mail  
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- [One Nation protecting women, kids? Nonsense](#)

ONE Nation has been accused of forming “disgusting” domestic violence policy on the advice of “angry men” who encourage fathers to suicide in public as a form of protest.

Opposition family violence spokeswoman Ros Bates passionately condemned the policy in Parliament today, and accused One Nation leader Steve Dickson of being “brainwashed by a few jilted men caught up in custody battles”.

She said Mr Dickson was listening to views of “a few angry men” who call themselves the Australian Brotherhood of Fathers for “disgusting” policy advice.

“ABF encourage men to suicide publicly over family law issues,” she said.

“They encourage domestic violence abusers to continue harassing their victims by attempting to take out DVOs on them.



 Shadow Family Violence spokeswoman Ros Bates has attacked One Nation's domestic violence policy.  
File picture

“They harass women as they enter and leave family law courts across Australia and they use fake statistics about male suicides to further their agenda while not actually doing anything to help men who are experiencing mental health crises.

“They purport to be a charity and seek charitable donations despite being a privately-owned business.

“They spread misleading claims that women have more rights in the family law system than men and that the only people with rights are children.

“So it is any wonder the policy has been canned by key domestic violence advocates.”

Mr Dickson attempted to make Ms Bates withdraw her statement, which had followed another passionate condemnation by Family Violence Prevention Minister Shannon Fentiman, but she refused.

Speaker Peter Wellington made her withdraw any reflections she had made about Mr Dickson.



📷 One Nation leader Senator Pauline Hanson with Queensland party leader Steve Dickson. File picture

*The Courier-Mail* today revealed that One Nation had unveiled a new DV policy that would not unnecessarily restrict a father's visitation rights because a court had awarded an emergency protection order.

Lambasted by Labor, the LNP and advocates as a potentially life-threatening move, the policy was announced by One Nation's Queensland leader Steve Dickson as putting "more focus on the children impacted by marriage breakdown".

"The resulting separation of parents should not unduly cause restriction of access to children of one parent," his policy announcement reads.

One Nation's Glass House candidate and domestic violence spokeswoman, Tracey Bell-Henselin, said women should prove victimisation with injuries, medical files or through her partner's criminal past.

If she couldn't, visitation should not be restricted unless police could prove abuse, Ms Bell-Henselin said.







### Shocking domestic violence rates occurring in Australia

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The former social worker and Rise Up Australia candidate said orders were being made on hearsay and victims should be made to face their alleged perpetrators in court.

“People aren’t getting heard. We just want to support families and bring hope,” she said.

In a rare act of bipartisanship, Domestic Violence Prevention Minister Shannon Fentiman and Opposition counterpart Ros Bates said such reforms would put lives at serious risk.

“This dangerous and ill-informed policy would ensure continued harm to children by forcing them to spend equal time with both parents, even if one of them is perpetrating violence,” Ms Fentiman said.

Ms Bates, whose own childhood was marred by a violent father, said she was personally insulted.

She said a record 25,678 offenders breached protection orders last year.

“Nothing in what we have heard from One Nation will address this or the explosion in offenders attempting to strangle their partners, with more than 1040 recorded offences in 2016-17,” she said.

Women’s Legal Service chief executive Angela Lynch said protection orders were “not handed out like confetti” and did require proof to be granted.

“We should be about protecting children, not about allowing them to continue to live in violent homes,” she said.

Australian Brotherhood of Fathers claimed One Nation was recognising the links between allegations of domestic violence, family law matters and child support.

Its founder, who recently met with Mr Dickson at Parliament House, has previously suggested men protest by suiciding at their local MP's office to "let them witness your final act in person".



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