The Hon. **Shaoquett Moselmane** MLC
Member of the Legislative Council of NSW

Shaoquett rebuts Hadley, Credlin, McKenzie and Dutton

In March 2020 an extraordinary, slanderous campaign was launched against NSW Labor MP Shaoquett Moselmane. It came from the Far Right of Australian politics.

It came from Ray Hadley, 2GB broadcaster, currently facing allegations of bullying his own staff.

It came from Peta Credlin, one of the right wing broadcasters on "Sky after dark", whose influence on Tony Abbott has drawn severe criticism from Malcolm Turnbull and other Liberals.

It also came from Nick McKenzie of the Sydney Morning Herald. In 2013, while working for The Age he and two other reporters were charged by the Victorian police for unauthorized access to restricted ALP's electoral data but avoided criminal sanction as part of a court diversion program (The Age Journalists Royce Miller, Nick McKenzie and Ben Schneiders admit to illegally accessing ALP electoral databse. Shannon Deery, Herald Sun, August 1. 2013). Mr McKenzie is a close media ally of Peter Dutton. He is currently defending himself against defamation action.

It came from the far right Federal Minister for Home Affairs Peter Dutton, who authorized raids on Australian journalists and the ABC and who continues to seek extraordinary powers for Australian security agencies. The proposed new ASIO powers would permit interrogation of children, detention of witnesses indefinitely and refusal of the rights currently afforded anyone in contact with the authorities. Those detained would not have access to legal or even medical advisers. They could be abused, deprived of sleep or starved. They could become non-persons. Agents carrying out these abuses would be immune from prosecution.

Below, Shaoquett records the allegations made against him from the voices of Australia's Far Right and presents his simple, factual rebuttal.

Labor

Ray Hadley | 2GB

"Now, over the past 24 hours we have discovered that in February, late February, February 25 in fact he made an address to Chinese media at the preferred location for Labor politicians to either make announcements or have a feed with people who may or may not be passing bags of money around a Chinese restaurant in Chinatown in Sydney."

(The Ray Hadley Morning Show - 2 April 2020)

Rebuttal: This was a community event, organised by a respected community leader, Dr Ven Tan and attended by government, opposition, community leaders, officials and Chinese media to support local businesses struggling because of the virus. It was not a party fundraiser. Politicians who attended included current Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council and Minister, The Hon. Damien Tudehope, Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, The Hon Jonathan O'Dea and Shadow Minister for Transport Mr Chris Minns MP, Member for Kogarah.

"A person bringing treason into the parliament. It's defined as intentionally betraying one's allegiance by levying war against the government or giving aid or comfort to its enemies. It's the most serious offence one can commit against a government and can be punishable in some cases by death. But of course it's usually only spoken about during times of war, but I would remind everyone we are on war footing at the moment."

(The Ray Hadley Morning Show - 2 April 2020)

Rebuttal: Australia is not at war. I committed no offence, under any law. Nobody in politics - not even Peter Dutton - has made any such allegation.

"One of my listeners says, 'Ray ….2019 it was reported Mr. Moselmane hired a staffer who was trained at the Chinese Academy of Governance, a high-level training institution for the Chinese Communist Party officials.' "

(The Ray Hadley Morning Show - 2 April 2020)

Rebuttal: My staffer has been an Australian citizen for over 30 years and has never been a member of the Chinese Communist Party. In 2012, as the president of the Australian Shanghainese Association, he attended a two day forum for overseas Chinese community leaders, hardly "high level training."

The Far Right of Australian Politics

Ray Hadley | 2GB

"He has attacked the Jewish faith previously….. I mean he should have gone when his comments were made about the Jewish people in the community."

(The Ray Hadley Morning Show - 3 April 2020)

Rebuttal: I have actively supported the position adopted unanimously by the last National ALP Conference supporting recognition of Palestine. I have never attacked the Jewish faith nor the Jewish community.

"This bloke was again shown on my program yesterday to be a Chinese PR spokesman. The bloke should be banned from parliament, the bloke should be banned from Australian citizenship. This untrustworthy traitor in the party….it's rather traitorous behaviour that he displayed on the 25th of February one would imagine."

(The Ray Hadley Morning Show - 2 April 2020)

Rebuttal: I said on the 25 Feb 2020. "To stop it (Coronavirus), a nation needed tough, unswerving leadership, focused on the mammoth task ahead. For the Peoples Republic of China, President Xi stepped up and provided that leadership."

This is in fact, consistent with what President Trump, Vice President Pence and WHO Director Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyeusus have repeatedly said.

CNN Reported: "On the February 25 and 26, Trump again praised China for 'working very hard' to fight coronavirus. On February 29, he praised measures put in place by China and said similar measures could be put in place in the US to prevent spread….We've been in very close contact with China, including myself with President Xi...he's been working very, very hard, I can tell you that. And they're making a lot of progress in China."

(CNN Politics - 25 March 2020)

Vice President Mike Pence said: "Beijing has demonstrated 'an unprecedented level of transparency' with world health officials in dealing with the new, fast-spreading coronavirus….It's heartbreaking but we stand ready with China to provide them any and all support." *(CNBC - 7 February 2020)*

WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said: "China is to be congratulated for the extraordinary measures it has taken to contain the outbreak despite the severe social and economic impact that is having on China." *(The Guardian - 18 February 2020)*

The Far Right of Australian Politics

Ray Hadley | 2GB

”Do you think there is a conflict of interest in relation to Moselmane and his wife making sure Chinese people have a safe passage into Australia? Do you think there is a problem here?”

(The Ray Hadley Morning Show - 2 April 2020)

Rebuttal: My wife is a Migration Agent, registered with the Migration Agents Authority, under the control of the Department of Home Affairs, Department of Immigration and Border Protection. She works for Ausa Migration and Education Services, a small reputable Australian company. Even though I am not legally obliged to declare it, I have listed her occupation in my disclosure for almost a decade. *(disclosures by Members Regulations 1983 https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/regulation/1983/155)*

Peta Credlin | Sky News

“Well this bloke had, you know, nine or so sponsored, i.e., paid trips to China to do, you know, God knows what?”

(Peta Credlin - Sky News Australia - 1 April 2020)

Rebuttal: I have never been on a Chinese government-sponsored trip. Never. Not once. I pay for all my private overseas trips. Six of the nine visits to China involved the delivery of wheelchairs for kids, two with local Australian Chinese community organisation and one with a delegation of Parliamentary Friends of the Asia Pacific. I paid for my travel on each occasion.

“...to do, you know, God knows what.”

(Peta Credlin - Sky News Australia - 1 April 2020)

Rebuttal: Since 2012 I have been raising funds from multicultural communities to help the Australia-based charity, Wheelchairs For Kids Inc. A project of the Rotary Club of Scarborough West Australia, supported by the Christian Brothers. I have delivered over 4000 wheelchairs to disabled children including Palestinian children with one container, one container to Iraq, one container to Libya, two containers to Syria, three containers to Lebanon, four containers to Pakistan and three containers to China. After organising my own Kids-On-Wheels Alliance Inc., a registered charity, I have visited wheelchairs factories in China and I am now negotiating with Chinese manufactures to produce more wheelchairs for distribution to needy children in China and around the world. (The photo on the left shows me delivering a container of wheelchairs to Shanghai’s largest orphanage *Shanghai Children’s Home*).

The Far Right of Australian Politics

Peta Credlin | Sky News Australia

"There been other allegations levelled to him about connections to former staff of the Chinese communist party."

(Peta Credlin - Sky News Australia 1 April 2020)

Rebuttal: My staffer has been an Australian citizen for over 30 years and has never been a member of the Chinese Communist Party. Peta Credlin is engaged in pure McCarthyism. On the basis that somebody is of Chinese background, she is alleging membership of the Chinese Communist Party, creating a vicious precedent that threatens more than one million Australians of Chinese heritage.

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Peter Dutton MP | Home Affairs Minister

"I hadn't heard the audio, but it's obviously very disturbing and I think the individual involved frankly needs to really consider his position. You can't, you can't have an allegiance to another country and pretend to have an allegiance to this country at the same time…. and to be talking from the talking points of the Chinese Communist Party is completely unacceptable and he must resign."

(Peter Dutton on the Ray Hadley Morning Show -2 April 2020)

Rebuttal: I may have been born in Lebanon but my loyalties are to Australia and I am proud that I have been a citizen for over 40 years. I have served on my local council for 15 years and in the NSW parliament for the past decade. My allegiance is first and foremost to Australia.

Lisa Visentin | Sydney Morning Herald

"Mr Moselmane compared China's and Australia's leadership on the pandemic, taking aim at the slow, and at times baffling and confused messaging by the Morrison federal government.''

(Sydney Morning Herald - 31 March 2020)

Rebuttal: I did indeed and in my letter to the editor of SMH, I wrote: "To the horror of many, the federal and state governments allowed passengers to disembark the Ruby Princess without going through the most basic of quarantine measures. How was that possible? In the middle of a global crisis they fail to take the most basic of precautions. This is the greatest act of incompetence ever committed. Quarantine is the sole responsibility of the Commonwealth, Minister Dutton and his Border Force. He is accountable."

(Sydney Morning Herald - 4 April 2020)

The Far Right of Australian Politics

Nick McKenzie | The Sydney Morning Herald

Nick McKenzie of the SMH wrote: “Today, the obsolete scum of 'white Australia’ is once again flooding, and the theory of yellow fever has once again surfaced.” says NSW Labor MP.

(Nick McKenzie - The Sydney Morning Herald - 6 April 2020)

Rebuttal: This is a deliberate, mischievous mistranslation. In my statement to the Chinese media, I used no such inflammatory language. What I said was simple: “It’s the old white Australia fear of the ‘yellow peril’ resurfacing.” I went to Professor Jing Han, Professor of Translation and Interpreting Studies, Western Sydney University. Prof Han confirmed that the McKenzie translation is “ taken directly from Google translation of the Chinese text…..For professional standards, Google translations cannot be used as accurate translation without being post-edited by qualified translators.”

Nick McKenzie | The Sydney Morning Herald

“But in his February piece, Mr Moselmane savages Australia’s mainstream media for having publicly played racist cards, offending and insulting many Australian citizens, especially Chinese residents.“

(Nick McKenzie - The Sydney Morning Herald - 6 April 2020)

Rebuttal: I stated that racism has intruded in the Australian media. The front pages below confirm it. They are not the only examples.