

**20-July-2026**

**Tassie Journo Statement**

"Journalists have a job to keep politicians accountable on behalf of the community.

It's worrying to see this growing trend of attacking and discrediting the press to deflect scrutiny.

It is important for our democracy that this approach does not take root in Australia.

Grandstanding on social media, encouraging a pile-on, can have knock-on effects which damage families beyond the journalist.

Thanks to my fellow reporters and the MEAA for their support.

In answer to your message of 5.34 pm yesterday

I have been a journalist for more than 30 years and am used to the hurly burly. I've been scruffed by the wife of a Minister of the Crown, kicked in the knee by a pedophile and stood next to Richard Carleton when he asked his last tough question at Beaconsfield in 2006.

What distinguishes this case is the use by Mr Ellis of social media and the toxic and threatening outpouring that it encouraged -all based on a deliberate twisting of my question."