



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**MOTIONS**

**Dissent from Ruling**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 18 June 2015**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

**Date** Thursday, 18 June 2015  
**Page** 6836  
**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Burke, Tony, MP

**Source** House  
**Proof** No  
**Responder**  
**Question No.**

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**Mr BURKE** (Watson—Manager of Opposition Business) (13:48): Mr Deputy Speaker, I raise a point of order. On the count, when it is done by the tellers: I have had a look at the sheets where they were signed off last time, and the wrong count—the 78—was only signed off by the coalition tellers. I am asking: when counts are signed off, do the Liberals get to choose how many votes they believe they have—

Government members interjecting—

**Mr BURKE:** It makes an argument as to why we did not win, if we had to sign off our own. Is that what is happening? They can put forward a count that is inaccurate and it is only signed off by people who were voting on the government side?

The DEPUTY SPEAKER ( Mr Vasta ): I think this question will have to be resolved by an independent committee or by the Speaker. From what I have seen, the sheets—

**Mr BURKE:** Mr Deputy Speaker, on the point of order: in referring that to the Speaker, can it also be drawn to attention that one of the four people who was counted as being here was the Treasurer, when the Treasurer had gone down to the cafe or somewhere else.

**Mr Pyne:** He has dealt with this.

**Mr BURKE:** No, because he has no way of knowing who the four invisible people were. One of them is the Treasurer of Australia, who is meant to be relevant to counting.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER: I will refer it to the Speaker.