



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

**PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS**

**SPEECH**

**Thursday, 19 June 2014**

BY AUTHORITY OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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## SPEECH

**Date** Thursday, 19 June 2014  
**Page** 6757  
**Questioner**  
**Speaker** Thistlethwaite, Matt, MP

**Source** House  
**Proof** No  
**Responder**  
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**Mr THISTLETHWAITE** (Kingsford Smith) (16:12): Mr Deputy Speaker, I wish to make a personal explanation.

The DEPUTY SPEAKER ( Mr Broadbent ): Does the honourable member claim to have been misrepresented?

**Mr THISTLETHWAITE:** I do. In question time on 18 June 2014 the Minister for Foreign Affairs stated that I have claimed that I was qualified to be the parliamentary secretary for Pacific Islands because I regularly swim at Sydney's beaches. In fact, what actually occurred is that in an article published on the ABC website on 28 March 2013 I stated that I had been involved in surf lifesaving for about 28 years, and I worked with Sydney's and Australia's multicultural communities and was fortunate to work with a number of people from a Pacific Island background and they are very warm and generous people.