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## STATEMENT FROM THE CFMEU

28 May 2015

Senator Christopher Pyne's allegations regarding CFMEU Victorian Assistant Secretary, Shaun Reardon, made in Parliament today, have no foundation in truth.

The allegation originally made by Fair Work Building Commission (FWBC) head, Mr Hadgkiss before a Senate Committee in February, is that Mr Reardon made late night threatening phone calls to a female staff member of the FWBC in 2009. Mr Hadgkiss made these claims under parliamentary privilege because he knows, were he to repeat them outside this forum, he would be sued.

Mr Reardon has never made late night threatening phone calls to FWBC staff.

The White Ribbon Foundation of which Mr Reardon is an ambassador conducted their own investigation into these allegations after suspending Mr Reardon due to Mr Hadgkiss's claims. The Foundation found there was no basis to continue the suspension and noted that these allegations were made under parliamentary privilege.

It is a disgrace that members of the Abbott Government continue to repeat these blatant lies under parliamentary privilege and exploit the very serious issue of violence against women in order to promote their political aim of restoring the Australian Building and Construction Commission.

2015-16 Budget Estimates  
Education and Employment Committee  
2 June 2015  
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Tabled by: *Senator Bidget McKenzie*