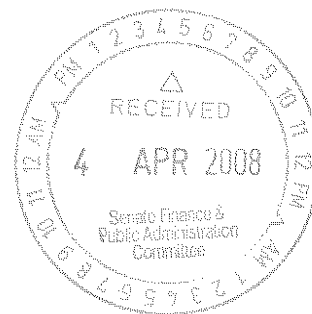


Senate Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio
Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet
Additional Estimates Hearings 18 February 2008



Question: PM56

Outcome 1, Output 4

Topic: Lachlan Harris

Hansard Page: F&PA 121-122

Senator Abetz asked: Senator ABETZ - Can I also ask whether this was the same Lachlan Harris who tried to heavy Kerry-Anne Walsh in relation to an article she was about to write about Mr Rudd's background?

Senator Faulkner - I do not know, Senator.

Senator ABETZ - All right. Can you find out-take it on notice and get the Prime Minister to answer whether that is correct. In fact, Mr Ramsey wrote about it saying that:

... Harris had phoned veteran Canberra correspondent Kerry-Anne Walsh, "ranting like a lunatic". Her "insulting" questions were "disgusting" and "impugned Kevin's integrity". "How dare" she ask them. "Are you calling him a liar?"

And he continues et cetera...

Senator Faulkner - I do not think that is a fair comment. I certainly am not aware of the detail of the issues or incidents that you raise in your questions. I have indicated to you that I am happy to take the questions on notice...

Answer: Refer to PM54.