

make that clear. I felt it was obvious to all and needed no clarification.

On the subject of the enforcement of maintenance orders, I do agree with the Hon. Member that this is one of the thorniest issues facing women today and one which gives me great concern and one, I might add, that the Minister of Justice has been investigating for some time. We feel very strongly that there must be measures taken to upgrade the system and, indeed, to make sure that the women of this country receive those payments. Unfortunately, as the Hon. Member points out, it is a matter of provincial jurisdiction. However, I can assure the Hon. Member that this is something which we are looking at actively at the moment and we will, I hope, be announcing in a very short time some of the measures we think should be put into place.

The current divorce reform is not connected at the moment to that particular phase, but it is step one of a phase which I hope to see go much further. I would like to say that it is an issue which I have discussed at some length with my provincial counterparts. At this stage I would like to pay a particular compliment to the Minister responsible for the status of women in the Province of Ontario, who was just recently appointed and who has been most co-operative and has exhibited great sensitivity on this issue, particularly in the enforcement of maintenance orders. I expect, therefore, that there will be considerable progress with the provinces shortly.

On the subject of justice, I did not "forcibly" stop—and I actually find the word rather offensive, I must say, Mr. Speaker. We use the parliamentary system effectively, I feel, in the House. The committee, I believe, was almost in a stalemate position because the committee to some degree reflects what is happening in the country in this area. There were those who felt something should be done immediately and there were opposing forces who were equally vociferous who felt that justice would not have been done. I suggest to the Hon. Member that the committee currently hearing the views on prostitution and pornography will come forward with measures which will indeed provide that kind of justice which is demanded by the women of Canada. That division, I must say, is very strong and that division is reflected, I feel, in the attitude of the Hon. Members here in the House of Commons.

Mr. Malone: Mr. Speaker, I have never heard so much pap in all my life as I have heard today from the Hon. Minister. The fact is that the status of women would have been the same today had the Rhinoceros Party been in power. What this Government has done is simply to follow culture and cultural pressures. If the Minister believes for one moment that she has done anything to remove sexual stereotyping then she had better try to point out what she has done effectively about the laws related to pornography. She claims, with some pride, that she has instituted, or the Government has, another study with respect to prostitution. The fact of the matter is that a study was not needed in the last 10 years. The evidence has been clearly there.

The Minister raises up her Party and her own view, and says, "We, the Liberal Party, are the ones who have supported

women". What we are dealing with, Sir, is a human rights question. It raises itself above Party politics. I come from the Province of Alberta. We can claim to have the first women magistrate in the British Empire. We are a group of people in that province from where the famous "Group of Five" came including Irene Parlby and Emily Murphy. We were where the women's "Persons" case was first started. We can take a look at the prairie regions during the war years and recognize that it was during that period that women proved unequivocally that there was not anything which a man could do that a woman could not. If this Minister thinks that there is somehow one Party here which rises up with some great record, I challenge her to point out today why is it that after 14, 15 or 16 years with this Government in power, there is still no significant change in the higher echelons of the civil service, which is still male dominated, in a place where women could have had effect and did not?

How can the Minister make the claim that the Government has removed sexual stereotyping in broadcasting when today right into your living rooms comes pornography showing women basically used as instruments of pleasure? Why is it that after all that period in power, we still sit in a situation here today where the majority of our unemployed people, by percentage, are women rather than men; where educational opportunities for higher—

The Acting Speaker (Mr. Herbert): Sorry, I must interrupt the Hon. Member. He went over his time. Does the Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs have a short response?

Mrs. Erola: Number one, Mr. Speaker, I would like to remind the Hon. Member that the most famous of those five was a woman named Nellie McClung, and Nellie was a Liberal.

Mr. Malone: She fought the Liberal Party.

Mrs. Erola: I also would like to point out to the Hon. Member—

Mr. Malone: It was a Liberal backbencher who said she was not a person.

Mrs. Erola:—that the measures which we have taken—and I repeat, "have taken"—are opposed by the majority of the people who belong to the Conservative Party. In 1982 the poll taken by your Members opposed every measure we have taken to upgrade the status of women in this country. I remind him that last year this Government put into place mandatory affirmative action in the Civil Service. We have put into place all those measures which have not been put into place by any other government in this country. I remind him that this Government covers only 10 per cent of the workforce in its labour legislation, the other 90 per cent comes under provincial jurisdiction. Until those provincial governments move in the areas of equal pay for work of equal value and affirmative action, we will never see justice done for the women of this country.