



PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF WHIP OF THE OPPOSITION

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Hon T Modise MP

Speaker of the National Assembly Parliament of the Republic of South Africa P.O. Box 15

Cape Town

8000

4 March 2021

Dear Madam Speaker

RE: BEHAVIOUR OF MR NAZIER PAULSEN MP DURING NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PLENARY ON 2 MARCH 2021

With reference to the above-mentioned matter.

I am writing to express my extreme dismay at the behaviour of Mr. Nazier Paulsen MP during the above-mentioned plenary in the National Assembly. I beg your forgiveness for the dreadful language I will write, but I am giving you the verbatim as it happened.

Mr Paulsen:

1. Told me to go back to Italy
2. Then told me to “fuck off” when I told him I was born in South Africa
3. Also then told Ms Phumzile Van Damme to go back to Swaziland and started swearing at her
4. Told Mr Kevin Mileham “the problem with Natasha is that you don’t fuck her up so she has a big mouth”
5. Told Mr Kevin Mileham “Natasha will be sleeping alone”
4. Lastly; as he walked out past Ms Van Damme said to her “I’ll fuck you up so proper you won’t be able to walk or talk”

I would respectfully like to draw your attention to sections 7(d) and (e) of the Powers, Privileges, and Immunities of Parliament and Provincial Legislatures Act 4 of 2004 (“the Act”), which prohibits a person from:

- Assaulting or threatening a member; or
- Creating or taking part in any disturbance within the precinct during a meeting of Parliament or a House of Committee.

It is my submission that Mr Paulsen’s behaviour as outlined above contravened sections 7(d) and (e) of the Act.

In terms of section 13(a) of the Act, this behaviour constitutes contempt of Parliament, and if found guilty by the House he may be removed or suspended from Parliament for a specified period of time as per sections 12(5)(e) or (g).

I would further like to bring it to your attention that this is not the first time Mr Paulsen has behaved in an untoward manner in the House, as you will be acutely aware. Along with other members of the EFF he is often involved in the creation of disturbances in the House. He has previously been suspended for incidents, including in early May 2016 when Mr Paulsen and other EFF members refused to listen to former President Jacob Zuma speak in the House and caused a disturbance that included water glasses being thrown on the floor of the House.

According to media reports, Mr Paulsen also appears to have a history of violent behaviour toward women, as evidenced by his ex-wife allegedly obtaining a protection order against him and his alleged breach of said protection order during August 2019 when he assaulted a man outside his ex-wife’s home in Bellville. This behaviour, in the context of his remarks toward myself and Mrs Van Damme in the House on Tuesday 2 March 2021, causes me to fear for our safety on the precinct whilst Mr Paulsen has access to same precinct.

I urge that you take appropriate action against Mr Paulsen, and look forward to hearing from you most urgently.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mazzone.' with a period at the end. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Natasha Mazzone MP

Chief Whip of the Official Opposition

Parliament of RSA