



PRIME MINISTER

TRANSCRIPT OF PRESS CONFERENCE AT ST GREGORY'S SCHOOL,
CAMPBELLTOWN, 23 MARCH 1986

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JOURNALIST: You are aware that there is a high-powered meeting underway today in relation to the housing industry?

PM: I believe that there is a meeting in Canberra, yes.

JOURNALIST: How do you feel about their approach?

PM: We don't know about their approach yet because they haven't told us. We can't prejudge their meeting. All I can say is that in Cabinet tomorrow we will be considering the housing industry and we will consider whatever the industry has got to say to us. We are conscious of the need to ensure that the housing industry is maintained in a viable condition. And we know that the high interest rate policy that we had to have last year and early this year to protect our external accounts would have, in the beginning, some adverse impact upon housing, but we are not going to let it run away.

JOURNALIST: They have indicated that deregulation is something they will be pushing very strongly for. How do you feel about that?

PM: We have made it quite clear what we think about that.

JOURNALIST: You are not interested in listening to them again?

PM: We will read and listen to whatever people have to say to us. We have made clear in three years in government that we are very much concerned in listening to what representatives of the community have to say. But there are other views than those of the housing industry on this issue as you know.

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