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**E&OE TRANSCRIPT
RADIO INTERVIEW
ABC HOBART
MONDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2019**

SUBJECTS: 2019 Federal Election; Labor in Tasmania; Scott Morrison's rejection of global institutions; Peter Dutton's comments on protesters; Newstart.

LEON COMPTON: The Deputy Leader of the Federal Labor Party is in Tasmania at the moment, Richard Marles. Good morning to you.

RICHARD MARLES, DEPUTY LEADER OF THE AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY: Good morning Leon, how are you?

COMPTON: I'm well, what are you doing in Tasmania at the moment?

MARLES: I'm going to be spending the day today with Brian Mitchell, looking at various sites in his electorate, including and I hope I pronounce this right, going to the Nonesuch Distillery which is where I'm going after this, so looking forward to seeing some local businesses in Tasmania.

COMPTON: Your Party's about to receive its sort of report into the 2019 Federal Election loss. What are you expecting to hear out of the reasons you lost two seats in Tasmania? That Brian Mitchell's Liberal Party candidate hadn't have imploded may have lost his and you preselected your most popular Senator in an unwinnable spot on the ticket.

MARLES: Look there's no doubt that the Federal Election was a very difficult moment for us and I think there's going to be difficult truths for us in the review that we've done, and that's really important that we do this with searing honesty, actually, and the way we learn the lessons from this. In many ways I think you don't learn so much when you win, you learn a lot when you lose. And for us to be a competitive outfit when we go to an election in 2022, I actually think learning the lessons from this election and this review is really a very important part of that process, and in a sense is an asset to be an able to learn those. I think it's about making sure that we are talking to the widest range of people that we possibly can. I don't say this with any blame, there's a sense of

collective responsibility here, but I think when we went to the election we found ourselves talking to a much narrower group of Australians- and that would be true here in Tasmania as well- than we needed to.

COMPTON: In part it was about the policy, in part and I say this with respect to the intentions and the efforts of the people involved, in part it's about the candidates. You've effectively preselected Justine Keay and Ross Hart again to run- if they want to- in Braddon and Bass. Is that a good idea?

MARLES: Well I'll let those processes play out according to the state branch, that's ultimately a matter for them. But what I would say is that both Justine and Ross played a really important role in the Parliament and I think were excellent Parliamentarians. But there's a process to go through here and we'll let that process go through. There's no doubt that local candidates make a huge difference, but it's also important that as a party we are doing everything we can to talk to the widest range of people possible and it's got to be the case that we are embracing a sense of aspiration, that we are trying to contest the middle ground and that if you are a person who gets up every morning puts on overalls, gets dirty and comes home that you see us as the party that you identify with. Now, there would be a number of people in that category who do, but a whole lot of people didn't-

COMPTON: Why didn't you see that coming? Bill Shorten spoke over the weekend and is been widely quoted as really failing to see how that was unfolding in Western Australia, in Queensland and I think it could be fairly said in Braddon and Bass as well. Why didn't you see that coming?

MARLES: Yeah look I think it's a really good question and I think we need to understand this better and I hope that the review looks at that. I mean, there's the state of research if I can put it that way, it was certainly something that was leading us down a wrong path but we weren't alone in that. I mean, polls across the country were predicting that we would win. And so you know we need to understand how that- what are the failings of polling research in this day and age and how to use it and how to rely on it or not rely on it. And it's important that we understand that. But you we were not alone in terms of thinking that the messages that we were putting forward and the work that we were doing was being well received out there. Now obviously, we got a surprise on May 18- and we need to make sure that we don't get those surprises going forward and we need to with the benefit of hindsight, 20-20 hindsight it kind of kicks in almost immediately but it's really important-

COMPTON: But the risk is that you'll say all our issue was last time that we put out too much policy. We could do what a lot of Oppositions do which is go to small targets and just critique the government of the day. I'm not sure people necessarily want that approach either. Will you be just adopting different policy, or no policy?

MARLES: Well it's certainly not going to be no policy. And you've highlighted

something that's really important there; whenever there's a big shock like this, there is a risk of an overreaction, an overcorrection, and so there will need to be some correction, obviously if we do what we did at the last election, if you do the same thing you can expect the same result, but it's really important that we don't over react and that we learn the lessons right. And that's why we've taken time here to, we haven't rushed into this review, we've put a lot of effort into it. And when the results from it come, we'll take quite a lot of time to properly digest it as well, so that we get the lessons right. And I think the other point about this is you know there's a real failing when you look forward to think that the next election will be prosecuted on the same terms as the last. Each election has its own storyline and the next one in 2022 will be different to the one in 2019. There will be lessons that are relevant but there'll be a whole lot of specifics that are not, and we've got to make sure that we can tell the difference. And so that's going to be an important part of it as well. But I think at its broadest level we need to be making sure, a couple of really critical points; we need to be making sure that we put this government on trial. I don't think we put the government on trial at the last election, this is a very ordinary government and we need to be making –

COMPTON: We've really only got a few minutes left to News at 9:00. Richard Marles is our guest the Deputy Federal Labor leader. So here's an issue Scott Morrison came back from the United Nations the other day and really repudiated or rejected this idea of global institutions, didn't want global institutions telling us what to do. Is it now incumbent on the Labor Party to start speaking for Australia's place in the role of global institutions and sort of collegiality amongst nations?

MARLES: Well because these are global issues at the moment which require global coordination to deal with. I think climate change is an obvious example where we need global coordination to deal with that issue. But it's not the only issue. I mean you can look at the world's displaced. We've got the largest number of people in the world displaced today since the Second World War. That's not an issue that can be handled by one or two nations working together, indeed the global system has been very important. And you know, I've witnessed this firsthand going to refugee camps in Africa and in the Middle East and you can see there the UN system actually- as I did, in a refugee called Yida in the top of South Sudan- meeting people, housing them, clothing them, giving them medicine- literally millions of people around the world are being helped by that system every day. This is a time to be working with those systems, investing in them and cooperating; it is not a time to be giving sort of a new expression of nationalism and I think that's- I was concerned when President Trump made his comments, and I've been concerned that Scott Morrison has sought to echo them.

COMPTON: Extinction rebellion protests. So what's holding up traffic on the Tasman Bridge- you may in fact have driven straight past them on your way here-

MARLES: Yes, I did.

COMPTON: Peter Dutton calls for those protesters to be publicly shamed. He has encourage people to take photos of them and even jailed. What do you think should happen to extinction rebellion protesters?

MARLES: I think in a democratic society freedom of speech and freedom of political action is really important. It's not a question whether I agree with the protest or not, but I absolutely see that people have their right to engage in that activity in a democracy. And that's very central to the society in which we live in. The idea that you would somehow tie people's political and civil rights to whether or not they're entitled to welfare or whether or not they agree with what Peter Dutton thinks, I think would take us down a very dangerous route in this society and that's you know I'm appalled by the suggestions that he- Peter Dutton was making in this regard.

COMPTON: Just finally this morning, we've only got seconds left to news; Richard Marles will your party have a position on what should happen to Newstart? Not that it should be lifted or reviewed, but how much it should be lifted and reviewed by between now and the next election?

MARLES: It is too low. We will be going through all our positions as we lead up to the election and part of that is about the financial circumstances of the country at the time, and we need to consider that in the context of those circumstances then. But Newstart is too low.

COMPTON: Thank you for coming in this morning Richard Marles Deputy Federal Labor Leader on Mornings around Tasmania.

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Authorised by Paul Erickson, ALP, Canberra.