

**From:** [Naomi Slater](#)  
**To:** [sentencingcouncil](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Good character at sentencing  
**Date:** Wednesday, 12 February 2025 11:41:53 AM

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I am a victim survivor of domestic abuse and rape as well as a concerned member of society and a mother.

I would like to submit my concerns over the use of good character references during sentencing in child sex abuse, domestic violence and rape cases.

Having personally been through the court system, the references to my perpetrators 'good character' was extremely traumatising to witness and listen to, especially after my own character had been brutally picked to pieces by the defence.

I implore you to support victims and make these changes as was committed to in the Ending Violence Against Women and Children 2022-2032 document and corresponding Action Plan 2023-2027, specifically Action 5.

Regards  
Naomi Slater