

From: [REDACTED]
To: [sentencingcouncil](#)
Subject: Urgent Call to Exclude Good Character References in Sentencing Convicted Sexual Offenders
Date: Wednesday, 12 February 2025 3:40:47 PM

To whom it may concern, I am writing as a victim-survivor of childhood sexual violence. I am writing in support of the #yourreferenceaintrelevant campaign and request for the removal of good character references in all sentencing crimes related to child and adult sexual abuse, domestic and family violence.

I am writing to you as a survivor of sexual abuse, with my perpetrator's trial scheduled for next year. I strongly advocate for the removal of good character references in the sentencing of convicted sexual offenders.

Allowing such references can unjustly mitigate sentences, overshadowing the severity of the crime and the enduring trauma inflicted upon survivors. This practice not only undermines justice but also perpetuates a culture that diminishes the experiences of victims.

Eliminating good character references in these cases would ensure that sentencing accurately reflects the gravity of the offense and upholds the principles of justice. It would also affirm society's commitment to supporting survivors and holding offenders fully accountable.

I urge you to consider this change to foster a more just and empathetic legal system for all.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]