

From: [Candice Fieg](#)
To: [sentencingcouncil](#)
Subject: Submission- remove character references for sentencing for sex offenders
Date: Wednesday, 12 February 2025 9:34:03 PM

Hello,

I have worked as a clinical psychologist for over 10 years with victim survivors of childhood sexual assault. I am writing this to call for the removal of “character references” for sexual offenders. No amount of seemingly “good character” traits can mitigate the harm that offending sexually against a child (or any human being) causes. In fact offenders often hide behind these apparently “good” images that they portray to others in order to perpetuate sexual harm, and our justice system should not allow for it.

Thank you for your time,

Warm regards,
Candice Fieg
Clinical Psychologist