

From: Anna Hapiuk [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, 6 December 2024 7:44 PM
To: sentencingcouncil
Subject: Use of good character references

Hello,

My name is Anna. I am a resident of WA and employed by state government. In my role, I work directly with young people who have been removed from the care of their parents and/or families. Many of these young people have been affected by childhood sexual abuse. The impact of their experiences affect them on a day to day basis. The hurt and trauma they have experienced and suffered at the hands of, most of the time, the people that are supposed to love and protect them, continues to be felt by them years after the fact.

Having worked with these young people, I fully support removing the use of good character references for sex offenders. The people that commit such acts, are not good people. I believe they disguise themselves as good people so they can hide and get away with the atrocities they commit to innocent children and young people. By allowing the use of good character references, their continued manipulation is also allowed.

I hope to see these changes pass in NSW and in other states and territories around Australia.

Thank you

Anna Hapiuk