From:

Sent: Friday, 20 December 2024 9:40 AM

**To:** sentencingcouncil

**Subject:** Good character in sentencing submission

As a victim of sexual abuse, I feel strongly that 'good character' submissions about the alleged perpetrator should not be allowed in court. As many people know, perpetrators often get themselves into trusted positions and appear to be pillars of our community while hiding behind this facade to continue their abuse. Being given a good character reference means nothing in regards to the crime and it prejudices the jury against the victim and, from my point of view, gives the perpetrator more power in the case than the victim.

I would rather have my submission kept private to protect innocent members of my family finding out about my past abuse from a family member. Thank you.