Dear Sentencing Council,

I am a victim of child sexual abuse, assault and domestic violence.

The child sexual abuse case went to court, yet saw my name and my little sisters name left off the court documents to give the paedophile a lesser sentence. He walked back into the house, and continued to abuse children until his death.

GOOD CHARACTER references need to stop, as do 'first time offenders' lenient sentences.

When you sexually abuse a child you are NOT a good person.

Good character does not mitigate harm-it is the very thing that enables abuse. Good character is a weapon used by perpetrators to gain trust and access to victims. Good character references are an insult to survivors and should have no place in sentencing.

I am in support of #YourReferenceAintRelevant!!

Kindest,

Louise Edmonds