

From: [Tracy Cunningham](#)
To: [sentencingcouncil](#)
Subject: Good character in sentencing
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I am writing in relation to the "good character in sentencing" project.

I believe that the only way "good character" references should be used in sentencing is as an aggravating factor. Demonstrating someone's good character shows how manipulative and predatory they truly are, and should absolutely count towards increasing their sentence.

Even considering a good character reference in mitigating someone's sentence is illogical and immoral.

Predators initiate and cultivate good relationships in their social circles, workplaces and the community, to enable access to children and vulnerable people, to cover up their actions, and intimidate their victims into silence. This manipulative behaviour should be recognised in sentencing as an aggravating factor, and not rewarded with a sentence reduction.

Thank you for considering this submission.

regards
Tracy Cunningham