

From: [Laura Evans](#)
To: [sentencingcouncil](#)
Subject: Your Reference Aint Relevant
Date: Tuesday, 11 February 2025 2:09:47 PM

I am writing to support the #YourReferenceAintRelevant campaign and the removal of good character references in sentencing for crimes such as child sexual abuse, domestic violence and rape.

Most people are sparkly on the outside. It's exactly the same for people who sexually abuse children, people who rape and people who are domestically violent. The sparkle on the outside has nothing to do with the crime they commit. It is a flaw in the sentencing process to suggest that a person who commits child sexual abuse, domestic violence and/or rape should receive special consideration because they are considered 'well liked within the community'. The reality of the crime committed is the true character reference here.

I urge the Sentencing Council to deliver meaningful reform and recommend abolishing good character references from sentencing in these cases.

Thank you for considering my submission

Yours Sincerely

Laura Evans