

**From:** [Ashleigh Blake](#)  
**To:** [sentencingcouncil](#)  
**Subject:** Objection to allowing good character references  
**Date:** Tuesday, 11 February 2025 8:51:46 PM

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To whom it may concern,

I find it deeply concerning that good character references are requested, let alone considered, when sentencing perpetrators of domestic violence, sexual assault or similar crimes. You cannot accidentally commit one of these crimes. In saying the perpetrator is usually a good person in good character is deeply invalidating to the victim and will almost certainly cause more harm to this vulnerable person.

This should not be acceptable.

Best,  
Ashleigh