

**From:**  
**To:** [sentencingcouncil](#)  
**Subject:** CM: Good character in sentencing  
**Date:** Wednesday, 3 July 2024 9:08:02 PM

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I am writing to you about the common practice that convicted child sex offenders are allowed to present good character references to their case to reduce their sentence. This is extremely damaging to the person they committed the offence to, to hear about how their perpetrator is apparently "generally a good person" so should have a lesser sentence. Good character should have nothing to do with this! They have committed a heinous crime, it doesn't matter about anything else. Besides the fact that grooming is all about being able to get people to trust you in able to commit this crime. How surprising is it that they can con anyone else? Please get rid of this, it's not relevant, and is actually damaging.

Regards,  
Sarah Colston