

From: [Daisy Turnbull](#)
To: [sentencingcouncil](#)
Subject: Good character and sentencing
Date: Monday, 8 July 2024 4:34:29 PM

Hello,

I am writing to say that I support the #yourreferenceaintrelevant campaign in relation to child sex offences and sentencing. The reason for this is that appearing to be someone of good character is the very reason offenders thrive, because no one expects such abhorrent behaviour from them.

They hide in plain sight by attending church on Sundays, being good friends, and reliable coworkers. It is part of the deception.

We should remove the good character clause also because it does not respect the trauma of victim-survivors. Again, making it about the 'good character' of the offender makes people wonder what the victim survivor may have done to make them behave that way. It is not trauma informed.

I'm not sure this is an adequate submission, but it is all I have. I also wrote on the idea of "good men" in the context of violence against women which may be relevant too <https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/boys-we-need-to-talk-as-women-die-violently-too-many-can-t-see-a-problem-20231102-p5eh6j.html>

Thank you

Daisy Turnbull