

From: [Evie Jade](#)
To: [sentencingcouncil](#)
Subject: Good character in sentencing
Date: Monday, 8 July 2024 8:50:50 PM

Dear Mr. McClellan and members of the NSW Sentencing Council,

I am writing to share my views on the review of section 21A(5A) of the Crimes (Sentencing Procedure) Act 1999 (NSW) and related sections regarding the use of "good character" in sentencing, particularly in cases of child sexual abuse.

As a concerned community member and survivor of childhood sexual abuse, I strongly believe it is crucial that our sentencing framework reflects the gravity of child sexual offenses and ensures full accountability for perpetrators. The use of good character references in these cases often diminishes the seriousness of the crime and the harm suffered by victims.

I advocate for the exclusion of good character references in such cases, as they can detract from the severity of the offenses and impede justice for victims. It is paramount to prioritize the protection and well-being of victims and to ensure offenders are fully responsible for their actions.

I fully support the 'Your Reference Ain't Relevant' Campaign's initiative to amend the current provision.

Thank you for considering my input.

Sincerely,
Evie Jade