## Penalties and Sentences (Sexual Offences) and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2025

Submission No: 108

Submitted by:

**Publication:** Making the submission public but withholding your name

Attachments: No attachment

## **Submitter Comments:**

I am writing to urge that character references for convicted child sex offenders and rapists during sentencing are completely abolished. In line with the Your Reference Ain't Relevant Campaign, I have seen guilty people sentenced with very minimal jail time for a crime that has scarred their victims for the rest of their lives, all because the person was a good employee, community member or friend. Not only that, a victim has to sit during the sentencing and be further traumatised by hearing people stand up to say what an incredible person their abuser is. Child sex abusers rely on their "good character†to groom their victims and community. People who commit these crimes cannot have good character. This law only serves child sex offenders and rapists.