

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

Submission No: 123
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Publication: Making the submission and your name public
Attachments: No attachment

Submitter Comments:

I wholeheartedly support the proposal from the #YourReferenceAintRelevant campaign calling for a total abolition of good character references in the sentencing of convicted rapists, child sex offenders, and perpetrators of domestic violence. Allowing these references enables abusers to weaponise their social status to minimise harm. Justice should be based on the facts of the case - not on who the offender knows. Sex crimes and domestic abuse are possibly the worst crimes you can commit, you don't do these by accident you them by absolute 100% malicious intent, it is disgusting. I am not from Australia but I've dealt with child sexual abuse before, it is genuinely hell, there is no reason for these people to get any type of leniency. Please listen to the victims