

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

**Submission No:** 169  
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### Submitter Comments:

I believe a someone having good character reference does not mean they are not capable of these crimes. good character references should also not be considered when deciding sentencing as it should only be the crime and its effects that should've considered. Many 'normal' and upstanding people in our communities, people we know, have committed crimes of sexual assault, harassment and abuse, it is irrelevant if they are upstanding in other aspects of their lives. It only points to the fact that these things are so normalised in our society, and that people in positions of authority or just in general do not see serious consequence needed to break repeat offence and change of behaviour.