

Name - Himani

Admn. No → V-2022-03-030

Class → 1st year.

RAGGING RUINS

Ragging is a form of abusing, bullying of newcomers or any disorderly conduct which causes harm and it increases injury and suicide risks. Ragging is a very disturbing factor and it is not limited to a particular country, it is an international problem. As far as the history of ragging is concerned, the first cases of ragging were recorded in the 8th century in Greece during the olympics. Ragging can be thought of in terms of verbal, physical and sexual aggression.

A report in 2007 by the Indian Anti-ragging group coalition to Uproot Ragging from Education analyzed 64 ragging complaints, 60% of these were related to physical ragging and 20% were sexual in nature. These facts are the reflection of a large picture where downtrodden people are always oppressed by the mighty ones.

According to the Supreme Court of India "Ragging is any disorderly conduct, whether by words spoken or written, or by an act which has the effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness any student, indulging in rowdy or are likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student and which has the effect of causing a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the psyche of a fresher or a junior student."

According to a research conducted by CURE [Coalition to Uproot Ragging from Education] India and Sri Lanka are the only two countries in the world where ragging exists. Medical colleges are said to be the most notorious when it comes to the cases of ragging, according to Representation of the National Anti-Ragging Helpline. As far as the problem of ragging in India is concerned, it is widespread but underreported.

There are so many reasons behind Ragging like sense of superiority, seniors were ragged, so they also do the same thing to the junior, lack of supervision, and it is justified by the students that ragging is the only way by which the new students can be taught about the tradition of the institute.

Another factor behind the ragging is the rise of alcohol in hostels and lack of supervision and lack of implementation of serious anti-Ragging measures by educational authorities. Whenever the case of ragging is reported, the authority will try to wrap up the things, they will try to suppress it as early as possible. Many a times warden is not actually staying in the hostel during the night and there are so many ill effects of ragging.

Adverse effect of ragging include physical injury through beating, hitting by objects or forcing to perform risky activities or sexual abuse by forced stripping and it lead to constant fear, loss of concentration, inferiority complex, guilt because of decline in academics. It involves the exploitation of not only an individual but also of victim's family and society as a whole. And this fear is certainly going to hamper the future prospects of the coming generation, the future of our country. Ragging is not considered as a social evil. People consider it as simple teasing, dancing etc, they don't know the real intent of ragging. There must be some corrective steps to eradicate this evil and put the guilty behind the bars.

Different steps to ruin ragging must include ban on alcohol and smoking within the colleges and hostels, Posting of wardens in hostels with accommodation, disciplinary committee and dean play the most important role.

At the start of the session, all the students must be addressed by the member of disciplinary committee / Dean of the institute about the harms of ragging, ban on ragging, anti ragging laws.

At the time of admission student should have migration certificate, issued by previous institution that mention whether the student had participated in ragging or not, an affidavit should be submitted by the students stating that they would not indulge in, support any form of ragging and they would not tolerate any form of ragging.

Contact details of senior faculty members should be given to freshers at the time of admission.

One of the measure to prevent ragging is to separate the hostel for the junior and entry of senior students should be banned in these hostels. Evening attendance records of the students should be compulsory. If any student is found in the room of any senior student it should be taken very seriously.

Counselling session must be in place to counsel students that indulge in ragging. There should be surprise raids by the college authorities in the hostels at night and warden should stay with students in the hostels. There should be strict punishment for those who are involved in ragging or bullying. Punishment may include expulsion from the university or suspension from the hostels and mess, public apology and fine. Strict action should be taken against the college, dean/principal along with authorities if they were found sinful.

Doctors or nurse should report any injury suspected to have occurred due to beating, hitting by objects or by a person. Public health policy should conduct different programmes that aimed at creating awareness among the society about bullying. Importance of developing safe environment in institutes, workplace.

To conclude, these measure may not be able to eradicate the practice of ragging completely, but these will act as the messenger in the society. We can not let anyone to destroy the life of the students as they are the future of this country. International health agencies like WHO [World health organization] consider ragging as a public health hazard. Therefore it is necessary to doom or ruin ragging.