

RAGGING RUNS

❖ Definition → Ragging according to dictionary is to scold, tease, cause annoyance, harass with persistent criticism.

❖ Facts → Hundreds gets seriously injured/disabled. Countless of innocent youths suffer extreme forms of physical and sexual abuses for months. Despite ban in all colleges, it has not been very effective, as seen by the number of ragging cases still reported by the media. This has expanded its tentacles so wide that we started getting shocking news every now and then in the form of loss of precious human life. Recent death of an engineering student is another example which depicts the limitless boundaries of this social problem. It still sends chills down the spine whenever the topic of Ragging comes up.

❖ Fiction → Fiction works like novels, films, dramas also depict ragging in various ways according to their whims and fancies. At times lighter & at times very serious. Movies like 3 Idiots and Munna Bhai MBBS have depicted ragging in a very light hearted way. In other films forms of ragging like eve teasing, insulting and mocking the teachers are often glorified.

❖ Historical Perspective → Earliest traces date back to 7th or 8th century of Greek culture, where new entrants to the sports community were subjected to all kind of humiliation to inculcate a endurance and fortitude in them. Hazing, fagging, bullying, sledging - these are nothing but different phrases of ragging signifying the practice of welcoming the fresher in a barbaric manner. Gradually, subjected to further modification it was adopted by the military forces. From here it finally entered the realms of academic institutions. Officially 1st incident of ragging took place in USA back in 1657 in University of Harvard. Before 70s it was hardly seen in India. But later it spread like a wildlife as one of the legacies of British colonialism. At 1st it was limited to verbal abuse but then it spread to involve physical and sexual abuse. 1st official step in India was taken by TN Govt. in 1997 by a legislation against ragging. Later different state followed the suit & banned the ragging. In 2006, Honorable Supreme Court constituted Raghavan committee to give suggestion on the means of preventing ragging.

❖ **Ways of Ragging** → Dress code ragging, formal introduction, verbal torture, playing the fool, hostel ragging, drug abuse and sexual abuse.

❖ **Why ragging occur** → Senior's right, as they were ragged by their seniors. In Indian perspective it is similar to Das - Bhau relationship. Sense of superiority. Lack of supervision of anti-ragging measures by authorities.

❖ **Psychology of raggers** → Gives a sense of authority → Boosts morale of person → puts him/her on high. Attitude of 'I give back, what I got before'. Peer pressure.

❖ **Psychology of victims** → Freshers. Their nightmare become reality when they find themselves being abused by group of seniors. While others just move on with time and some sensitive one found it difficult to handle.

❖ **Effects on victim** → Ragging or even the very thought about it - provokes stress. Stress is a mind and body response or reaction to a real or imagined threat, event or change.

Effects seen are → Physiological problems, Cognitive changes, behaviour problems, physical problems, other reaction to stressful events.

❖ **Legal Perspective of ragging** → Honorable Supreme court of India defines ragging as — It is an act of aggression. Committed by an individual/group of individuals over another individual. An interaction which is aggressive and asymmetric is ragging.

→ **Raghavan Committee** → It was appointed by Union Human Resources developed ministry under Supreme Court directive. Its chairman was CBI chairman M K Raghavan. Under this committee following category fall →

- Study various aspect of ragging.
- Study means and method to prevent ragging.
- Suggest possible action against person including in ragging.

Quantum of punishment depends upon the nature and gravity of the offence as established by the disciplinary committee.

COURT OF LAW include →

- Punishment by Institution →
- Cancellation of admission.
 - Suspension from attending classes.
 - Withholding/withdrawal scholarship.
 - Withholding results.
- By court →
- Fine upto 25,000/-
 - Rigorous imprisonment upto 3 years.

→ Rewards are given to those who help in curbing the menace of ragging.

THANK'S