

NAME - VRIDDHIKA

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CLASS - IST YEAR

TOPIC - 'RAGGING RUINS'

Ragging is a serious problem in educational institutions around the world. It is a form of physical and psychological abuse that is inflicted on new students by senior students. The perpetrators often justify their actions as a way of building camaraderie or instilling discipline, but the consequences of ragging are far from constructive. Ragging can have a devastating impact on victims. It can cause psychological trauma, physical injuries and even death. It can also create a hostile environment in educational institutions, making it difficult for students to learn and grow.

In recent years, there have been a number of anti-ragging measures put in place to combat this heinous crime. The University Grants Commission (UGC), a governing body for higher education in India, has played a pivotal role in shaping and enforcing anti-ragging policies. The UGC's regulations mandate all educational institutions to establish anti-ragging committees to monitor and prevent instances of ragging. According to UGC, India's anti-ragging cell data, 511 complaints of ragging were registered in India in 2021.

Despite these efforts, ragging continues to be a problem. This is because it is often seen as a rite of passage or a harmless tradition. However, it is important to remember that ragging is a crime, and it can have serious consequences for both the victim and the perpetrator.

Victims of ragging often feel isolated, ashamed and afraid to speak up. There are a number of resources available to victims of ragging, including anti-ragging helplines, counseling services and legal assistance. One can contact the following organisations for support:

National Anti-Ragging Helpline : 1800-11-8888.

National Commission for Protection of Child Rights : 1098

Anti ragging cell, University Grants Commission : 011-26560258

The Prevention of Ragging Act, 1997 was enacted by Indian government in an attempt to curb the menace of ragging. The act defines ragging as 'any act of physical or mental abuse or coercion, whether by words spoken or written or by an act, on a student by any other student or students in any educational institution.' The act also prescribes stringent punishments for those who are found guilty of ragging. Despite the existence of the Prevention of Ragging Act, ragging continues to be a problem in Indian educational institutions. There are a number of reasons for this, including:

- Lack of awareness about the law and its consequences.
- A culture of impunity, where perpetrators of ragging are rarely punished.
- The absence of strong anti-ragging measures in educational institutions.

The government and educational institutions need to take urgent steps to address the menace of ragging. This includes -

- Raising awareness about the law and its consequences.
- Creating a culture of zero tolerance for ragging.
- Providing support to victims of ragging.

We all must work together to combat ragging and create safe and supportive learning environments for all students. This can be achieved by :-

- Raising awareness about the dangers of ragging.
- Reporting incidents of ragging and helping the victims to raise their voice.
- Holding perpetrators accountable for their actions.

We all are aware of the Pon Navarasu case 'a 19 year old student of Rajah Muthiah medical college', whose dismembered body was found around different parts of city of Tamil Nadu.

Aman Kacheco 1st year medical student of RKBIMCH Tanda, was ragged and beaten so brutally that he ultimately succumbed to death.

Aryan PM - a 17 year old engineering student who was set on fire by his senior. There are many more heinous cases of ragging that not only shocked the entire nation but the world as well.

Ragging instead of being an exception has become a norm in India.

It is often seen as a way of senior students asserting their dominance over new students. It can be a form of hazing, which is a ritualized form of abuse that is often used to initiate new members into a group.

Ragging can be motivated by a number of factors, including peer pressure, a desire to fit in and a sense of entitlement.

In addition to legal consequences, ragging can also have a number of negative consequences for the perpetrators. They may be expelled from their institutions, lose their scholarships or have difficulty finding employment after graduation. Ragging can also damage their image and make it difficult for them to build relationships with others.

Ragging is a heinous crime that has no place in educational institutions. It is important to work together to create a safe and harassment-free world for all students.

It is necessary to remember that ragging is not a harmless prank. It is a serious crime that can have devastating consequences for both the victim and the perpetrator. If you are considering ragging someone, please think twice. It is not worth the risk.

Remember, together we can create a safe and harassment-free environment for all students.