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“Ragging – The Culture of Humiliation”

Submitted To

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Table of Contents

Content	Page No.
Introduction	1
Causes of ragging	2
Situation of Ragging	3
Prevention of Ragging	5
Bibliography	7

1. Imagine that you are the Dean of Student Welfare and President of the Anti-Ragging Action Committee of your college. Draft a report to be presented to the Director of your college, giving details of the causes and harmful effect of ragging in your institution and suggesting measures to stop ragging completely.

Dean of Student Welfare and President of the Anti-Ragging Action Committee

**National Institute of Technology Karnataka,
Surathkal, Mangalore - 575 025**

10 March 2021

Director

**National Institute of Technology Karnataka,
Surathkal, Mangalore - 575 025**

Dear Sir,

Report on “Ragging-A culture of humiliation”.

Ragging – A Culture of Humiliation

In higher educational institutions of the South Asian countries, Ragging is a so called ‘initiation ritual’. This ragging culture is very common in the institutions of India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka. Even in the educational institutions of North America, France, Portugal, etc., ragging is present in various names such as hazing, bizutage, praxe, and so on. In colleges, where it is expected that seniors will help freshers but sometimes the opposite scenario can be seen. Seniors or some powerful student with the help of other students or alone bully, abuse or humiliate the fellow student. Sometimes they also torture students physically which can lead long to time injury as well as death. Because of the fear, in most of the cases, the sufferer cannot be able to complain to the concerned authority. The worst scenario of ragging is sufferers stop attending regular classes, as a result, their study gets hampered.

A university is a place where the students come to receive higher education as well as to conduct research for the betterment of society and culture. Along with getting an academic degree in their respective course, from the university, the students have the privilege to develop their responsibility towards their fellow human beings. But it is a great regret that sometimes those students, the future of the country fails to fulfill the expectation. They forgot about their responsibilities and abuse, humiliate freshers in the name of ragging.



Figure – Visual representation of ragging

Causes of Ragging

A fresher enters the college with an eye full of dreams. But it is painful that, sometimes those dreams nipped in the bud because of the humiliation and abuse from seniors. But the question is why do senior students do so? What are the causes of ragging?

- **Means of relation:** Most of the time ragging starts to be familiar with each other. But at the time of doing so, they forgot their limit. As a result, simple matters create an unexpected situation. Bullies hide its face under the misconception that ragging freshers get the opportunity to get into the ‘influential crowd’ in the college.
- **Sense of authority:** When seniors get a freshman at their command, they feel a sense of authority that boosts their morale. This is a way for them to somehow fill the ineffectiveness of their lives.

- **Peer pressure:** Not all the seniors involved with ragging. But when they see their friends do so, they cannot just leave because of the fear of isolation. As a result, they also need to go on with the situation.
- **Sadistic pleasure satisfaction:** Some people enjoy seeing the sufferings of others. This type of people also exists in the colleges. Because of the bad childhood memories or bad parenting, they are encouraged to do so.
- **Means of return:** Some seniors also went through this when they were junior. They find ragging as a means of return or want to show what they had to go through.



Figure – Two students ragging a fresher

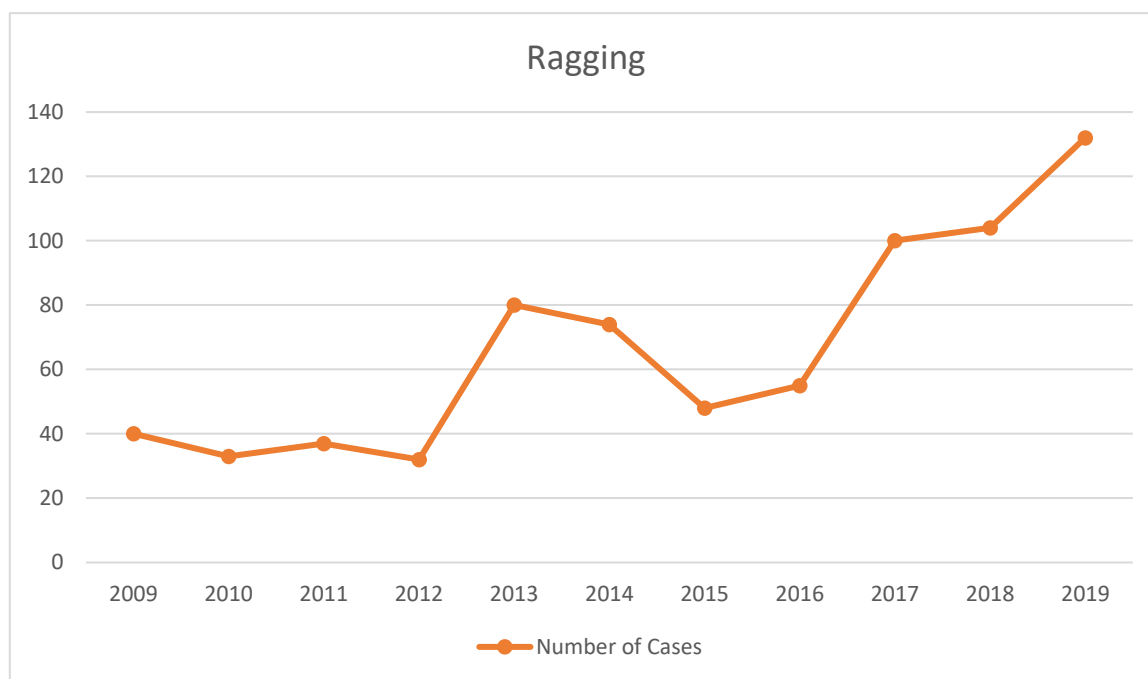
Situation of Ragging

Though the UGC and the university takes zero-tolerance against ragging, even these days ragging exists. It is a great sorrow that in some parts of India, this ragging culture is increasing rapidly. In Gujrat and Assam, higher educational institutions have recorded a three-four increase in the cases of ragging in 2017 from over those of 2016, but in Karnataka, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Uttarakhand experienced a huge number of cases. According to the government statics, in 2017 there were 901 cases of ragging in the countries' educational institutions. But this was more than 386 than that of the previous year.

State	2018	2013	2009	Total (in 10 years)
Uttar Pradesh	180	94	64	1017
West Bengal	119	81	43	680
Madhya Pradesh	104	80	40	605
Odisha	61	71	36	444
Maharashtra	53	27	9	308
Bihar	57	33	10	306
Country total	1015	640	345	5777

Figure – Ragging cases in India

But in the real scenario, cases are more in number than that of the graph. Because of the fear, most of the time without complaining freshers try to avoid this silently.



Source – UGC portal

According to the data of the UGC portal, from 2009 to 2019, in the time range of this 10 years, we can see the increasing trend of ragging culture in India. Authority should take proper steps to stop this asap.

Prevention of Ragging

Ragging is a serious offense. Ragging creates a negative impact on the life of a newcomer. This is not at all acceptable. Though there are strict law for the prevention of ragging there are also some additional steps we can follow for the prevention of ragging from the campus –



Figure: Anti-Ragging Poster

- **Usage of CCTV footage:** To check the violent activities, the authority must install CCTV in each and every corner of the campus. When students know that he is being supervised, it will make it difficult for them to rag a junior.
- **Interactions between seniors and juniors:** Authority should promote healthy interaction between seniors and freshers. This will be able to create a positive environment in the college premises.



Figure – Anti-Ragging awareness poster

- **Punishment:** Freshers are afraid to submit a complaint, as a result, ragging cannot be checked. Freshers should not remain silent. Authority should handle this carefully.

- **Anti-Ragging Squad:** In every college, to fight the evil of ragging, an anti-ragging squad should be made with a team of students and teachers. They should be ready to help the freshers.

According to the rules of the educational institutions of India ragging is considered a serious crime. Because of the ragging students suffers physically as well as mentally. Seniors as well as freshers, everyone should know the demerits of and effects of ragging and prevent themselves from this kind of unacceptable activities. Authority should take proper steps to create a friendly environment in the campus premises, also they should take zero-tolerance against ragging for the betterment of the newcomers.

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