I. RAGGING

A traditional and systematical human rights abuse practiced by seniors upon freshers. Forms of ragging may vary from a healthy and mild interaction to a severe physical and traumatic mental abuse leading to victim's death.

II. Forms of Ragging

It is said that man's imagination knows no bounds. Very true, but when it comes to ragging, it can be rightly said that man's perverted imagination too knows no bounds! From what was intended to provide good humour and harmless fun to students, ragging today has assumed torturous, vulgar and inhuman forms that defy all norms of decency and morality. Some of the most popular forms of ragging in colleges are:

1. **Dress code ragging**: The freshers are asked to dress in a specific dress code for a particular period of time. But this is not as easy as it seems. For the dress code prescribed is generally weird, eg. Dressing totally in white or black with the hair oiled and combed in a particular style. The dress code ragging may make the freshers feel awkward and uncomfortable as it often brings them unnecessary attention from everybody.

2. **Formal introduction**: This involves asking the freshers to introduce themselves in 'Shudh Hindi'. The introduction includes the fresher's name, address, school, marks, etc.

3. **Verbal torture**: Verbal torture involves indulging in loose talks. The freshers may be asked to sing the lyrics of any vulgar song or use abusive language while talking to the seniors.

III. How ragging affects the victim?

1. An unpleasant incident of ragging may leave a permanent scar in the victim's mind that may haunt him for years to come.
2. The victim declines into a shell, forcing himself into ignominy and alienation from the rest of the world.
3. It demoralizes the victim who joins college life with many hopes and expectations.
4. Though incidents of physical assault and grievous injuries are not new, ragging also simultaneously causesgrave psychological stress and trauma to the victim.
5. Those students who choose to protest against ragging are very likely to face ostracism from their seniors in the future.
6. Those who succumb to ragging may drop out thereby hampering their future career.
7. In extreme cases, incidents of suicides and culpable homicide have also been reported.

IV. How ragging affects the victim's family?

One can imagine the plight of a ragging victim's family, especially his or her parents who see their child suffering in pain and stress. Besides incurring medical and other incidental expenses to rehabilitate their child, they also have to bear the trauma of seeing his or her prospective career coming to an end.

V. How ragging affects the educational institution?

1. Severe media barrage in extreme cases of ragging lowers the character of the educational institution and destroys the respect and faith it commands from society.
2. Those who indulge in ragging bring a bad name to their college thereby hampering its reputation and goodwill in society.

VI. How ragging affects the raggers?

Ragging does not spare even its perpetrators. Those found guilty of any form of ragging may be booked under criminal offence, suspended, blacklisted, debarring from representation in events and even permanently expelled from mess / hostel / college. Thus, we see that the practice of ragging does go to none. From those who are victims of ragging to those who commit or encourage it, ragging spares none.

VII. Effects of ragging

1. Physical injury through beating, hitting by objects or by forcing to perform dangerous tasks
2. Sexual abuse by forced stripping, masturbation, forced unnatural sex etc.
3. Psychological trauma generated because of intense fear
4. Human rights abuse
5. Forceful initiation to alcoholism, smoking and drugs
6. Dropping out from college
7. Group violence
8. Leads to mob mentality and violent mindset
9. Deaths
HANDY HINTS FOR HEALTHY AND
HELPFUL STAYING IN THE HOSTELS.

Please

1. Do treat your room-mates and hostel-mates as members of your own family.
2. Do consider your hostel property as your own residential belongings.
3. Do consider your hostel managements as your elders and respect them as you respect your elders at home.
4. Do treat your mess personnel kindly and humanly for obtaining maximum benefit.
5. Do keep your room clean and attractive.
6. Do observe the ‘Q’ system in the dining hall, bath rooms and all other places of rush.
7. Don’t drop pieces of papers, litter or other wastes in the room, varandah or through the windows but do deposit in waste paper basket placed in your room or quadrangle.
8. Don’t spit all over the place but do get into the habit of spitting into a wash basin or receptacle intended for the purpose.
9. Don’t fail to flush out the lavatory after you have used it and never leave it for your friend to do it. Likewise, flush the urinal also whenever you use it by opening the tap for a while and closing it. Your neighbor think poor of you if this important civic obligation is not attended.
10. Don’t write on walls or otherwise dirty them. Don’t handle others mails, this causes incalculable inconvenience and it may happen to you. Don’t be harsh when any person commits a fault, but bring it to the notice of the authorities.
11. Maintain diligence.
12. Develop & maintain garden in front of your hostel.