

## Questionnaire

Name: Akhil Goel

Age: 22

Gender: Male

Occupation: Final year M.B.B.S.

**Tick the correct alternative/ complete the sentences wherever required.**

1) Do you know the meaning of 'Ragging'? Yes

2) What according to you is ragging?

I define ragging as an educational opportunity wherein a junior learns the facts and fads about his college and gets conditioned to many life-like situations, which he may encounter in later life. Ragging however is of the nature of a decent, verbal debate between a senior and junior...any indecent remarks, continuous mental harassment or threat or any physical advancement towards any student by another student or faculty member is a criminal assault and requires legal intervention.

3) Which forms of ragging are you aware of?

a) Gestural

b) Verbal

c) Sexual

d) Physical

e) Any other – all the above + threatening, blackmailing, forceful money extracting, journal completion, daily chores.

4) Have you had any personal experience with ragging? Yes, but only verbal in the form of singing songs, telling jokes and similar stuff. Once, one of my seniors

asked me to buy cigarettes from the market and I denied it flatly but politely. He gave a few furious looks but never bothered me again. On another occasion, another of my seniors asked me to hold an unlit cigarette and matchbox for him. I did it. After five minutes he asked me to place the cigarette in my mouth and light it. Again, I denied it flatly but politely. My senior tried to convince me a couple of time but I wouldn't budge. He immediately snatched the cigarette from my hand, broke it and threw it into the dustbin and said " Shaabaas Akhil, never even touch this thing again. If I see you with this any time in future, I will rag you till you die...!" Its only later that I came to know that even that senior never smoked.

5) Where have you witnessed ragging? (Personal or otherwise)

- |              |            |
|--------------|------------|
| a) School    | b) College |
| c) Workplace | d) Hostels |

6) Why do you think ragging is done?

Ragging, as I have defined above, is a very essential feature for a successful junior-senior relationship. More than the concept of fun, it is a duty of a senior to guide and help their juniors who are often confused about the new surroundings and the working methodology.

Assault (mental or physical) in the name of ragging is taken up by confused and subdued individuals who get pleasure in bossing over and getting a false sense of authority. Often it is seen that ragers liable to criminal IPC are either academically weak or have an unsound background. Ragging for these offenders is more of venting out their own frustration with life and/or society. Then of course there are pure sadists who get a pervert pleasure by torturing others...!

7) Do you think it is important to seek professional help after being victimized by ragging?

The word “victimized” is very subjective and depends on individual perception and tolerance.

Limiting our perspective to educational field only, if any activity of a senior or colleague is disturbing the academic schedule or capabilities of a student, the matter should be immediately brought to the notice of authorities and parents. A counselor can beautifully help in tiding over harsh memories of a ragging episode and help in regaining confidence and composure.

8) Do you think “counseling” as a therapy would help in such a case? **Yes**

*Thank you*