



# National Legal Services Authority

*Student Awareness Resource on Ragging, 2026*



*Image Credits: Priyanka Chauhan  
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**National Legal Services Authority**

# **Student Awareness Resource on Ragging, 2026**

**For Student Legal Awareness on Prevention of  
Ragging and Protection of Dignity in  
Educational Institutions**





*Surya Kant*

Chief Justice of India

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Patron-in-Chief

National Legal Services Authority

## **FOREWORD**

The character of an educational institution is revealed not merely by the excellence it imparts in classrooms, but by the manner in which it safeguards the dignity, autonomy, and well-being of those who inhabit its spaces. Ragging, in any form, is a profound negation of these values. It is an exercise of power devoid of legitimacy, one that inflicts harm not only on individuals but on the moral fabric of institutions themselves. A society committed to constitutionalism cannot permit such practices to survive under the guise of tradition, initiation, or misplaced camaraderie. The Constitution of India enshrines dignity as an inviolable value, informing the guarantees of equality, liberty, and fraternity.

Ragging thrives most where silence is normalised and where power asymmetries go unexamined. New entrants to educational institutions often occupy positions of vulnerability, unfamiliar with their surroundings, dependent on peer acceptance, and unaware of their rights or available remedies. In such contexts, the absence of accessible, student-centric information can be as disabling as the absence of law itself. Preventive justice, therefore, demands not only enforcement but empowerment: the ability of students to recognise wrongdoing, to speak without fear, and to seek support with confidence.

This Student Awareness Resource on Ragging must be viewed against this broader constitutional and social canvas. Its significance lies not merely in compiling legal provisions or institutional mechanisms, but in translating them into knowledge that is intelligible, approachable, and usable by students themselves. When young persons are equipped with clarity about their rights and responsibilities, and when institutions internalise their role as guardians of dignity rather than passive administrators, the conditions that enable ragging begin to erode.

The initiative undertaken by the National Legal Services Authority (**NALSA**) in preparing this resource reflects an understanding of access to justice in its fullest sense as access to information, support, and institutional care.

It is my considered view that meaningful change will occur only when all stakeholders, students, faculty, administrators, parents, and regulatory bodies, recognise that preventing ragging is a collective constitutional obligation. This publication is a step towards cultivating that shared responsibility. I trust that it will be engaged with not as a formality, but as a living resource, guiding reflection, policy, and action.



[Surya Kant]



*Vikram Nath*  
Judge, Supreme Court of India  
&  
Executive Chairman,  
National Legal Services Authority

8th January, 2026

## **MESSAGE**

Awareness about ragging and sustained efforts to combat this menace are not merely institutional responsibilities; they are moral imperatives. Ragging, in any form, strikes at the very core of human dignity, equality, and personal liberty. It transforms spaces meant for learning, growth, and camaraderie into environments of fear, silence, and trauma. Despite clear legal prohibitions, recent incidents across the country remind us that ragging continues to persist, often in subtle and normalised forms, demanding renewed attention and urgent action.

The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), guided by its constitutional mandate to ensure access to justice and protect the rights of vulnerable sections, has closely observed these developments. The recurring instances of ragging, particularly within higher educational institutions, prompted serious reflection and deliberation. It became evident that while laws, regulations, and guidelines exist, there remains a significant gap in awareness, accessibility, and student-friendly communication of rights, remedies, and support mechanisms.

It is from this realisation that the present Student Awareness Resource on Ragging has emerged. Conceived through research, dialogue, and interactions with students and educators, this resource material seeks to speak directly to young minds in clear, simple, and relatable language. Its purpose is not only to inform students about what constitutes ragging and the legal consequences attached to it, but also to empower them to recognise early warning signs, seek timely help, and stand in solidarity with one another.

Higher educational institutions play a pivotal role in shaping not just academic excellence, but also values of empathy, respect, and constitutional morality. Campuses must be safe spaces where diversity is celebrated and where students are free to learn without fear of humiliation or coercion. Preventing ragging is therefore not a peripheral concern—it is central to nurturing responsible citizens and compassionate leaders of tomorrow.

Equally important is the urgent need to acknowledge the profound impact of ragging on students' mental health. Anxiety, depression, isolation, loss of self-confidence, and, in extreme cases, irreversible harm, are realities that cannot be ignored. The silence surrounding mental health struggles often compounds the trauma, making awareness and early intervention crucial. This resource seeks to initiate honest conversations on these aspects and encourages institutions, peers, and authorities to respond with sensitivity and seriousness.

This publication is an invitation to students to know their rights, to institutions to strengthen preventive and redressal mechanisms, and to society at large to collectively reject practices that erode human dignity. Only through awareness, dialogue, and collective responsibility can we hope to eradicate ragging and ensure that our campuses truly reflect the values enshrined in our Constitution.

I take this opportunity to acknowledge and commend the collective efforts of the team at NALSA who have contributed to the development of this resource, ensuring its precision, usability, and contextual relevance. I urge educational institutions, students, and all relevant stakeholders to engage meaningfully with this material and to employ it as a practical guide for reinforcing preventive frameworks and fostering institutional responsibility.

NALSA remains committed to supporting this endeavour and looks forward to the active participation of students, educators, and institutions in fostering safer, inclusive, and more humane educational environments.



(Vikram Nath)



## राष्ट्रीय विधिक सेवा प्राधिकरण

### NATIONAL LEGAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

(Constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987)



संजीव पाण्डेय

**SANJIV PANDEY**

*(District & Sessions Judge)*

सदस्य सचिव

**MEMBER SECRETARY**

*(In-Charge)*

#### MESSAGE

As Member Secretary of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA), I am pleased to place before students, educational institutions, and stakeholders this Student Awareness Resource on Ragging. This initiative has been developed as part of NALSA's continuing mandate to promote legal awareness and to support preventive mechanisms that ensure safe and enabling educational environments.

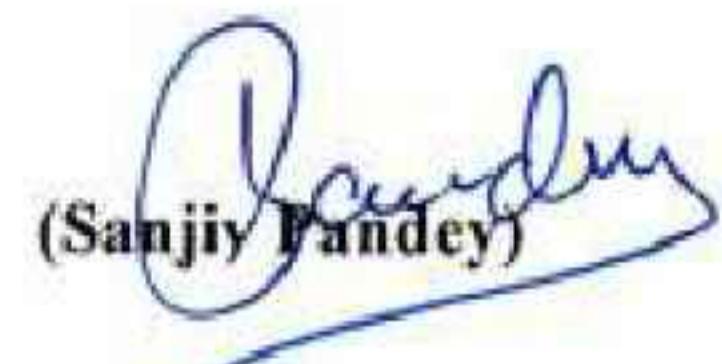
Legal Services Authorities across the country have consistently engaged with educational institutions through awareness programmes, orientation sessions, legal literacy camps, and student outreach initiatives. These efforts have brought to light recurring concerns particularly the lack of clarity among students regarding what constitutes ragging, the responsibilities of institutions, and the avenues available for seeking assistance without fear. This resource builds upon that on-ground experience and seeks to provide a structured and accessible point of reference for students and institutions alike.

While legal and regulatory frameworks addressing ragging are well established, their effectiveness depends significantly on early awareness, informed participation, and timely reporting. This Student Awareness Resource has therefore been designed to consolidate essential information in a manner that is clear, practical, and relevant to campus realities. It explains prohibited conduct, outlines institutional obligations, and identifies support and redressal mechanisms available within and beyond educational institutions.

The resource is intended to be used actively, not only by students, but also by institutions as part of induction programmes, awareness initiatives, and preventive strategies. It may serve as a guiding material for members of Anti Ragging Committee constituted in higher education institutions and student bodies in fostering dialogue, identifying concerns at an early stage, and responding in a manner that is lawful, sensitive, and effective. By encouraging informed engagement, the resource seeks to reduce hesitation, misinformation, and silence that often allow harmful practices to persist.

NALSA's approach to legal empowerment is rooted in continuity and coordination. This initiative complements the ongoing work of District Legal Services Authorities, State Legal Services Authorities, and associated stakeholders, and reinforces the principle that preventing ragging requires sustained institutional attention rather than isolated interventions. It underscores that responsibility is shared among institutions, authorities, and students themselves.

I encourage educational institutions, students, and all concerned stakeholders to engage constructively with this material and to utilise it as a tool for strengthening preventive practices, promoting accountability, and ensuring that educational spaces remain respectful, secure, and responsive.

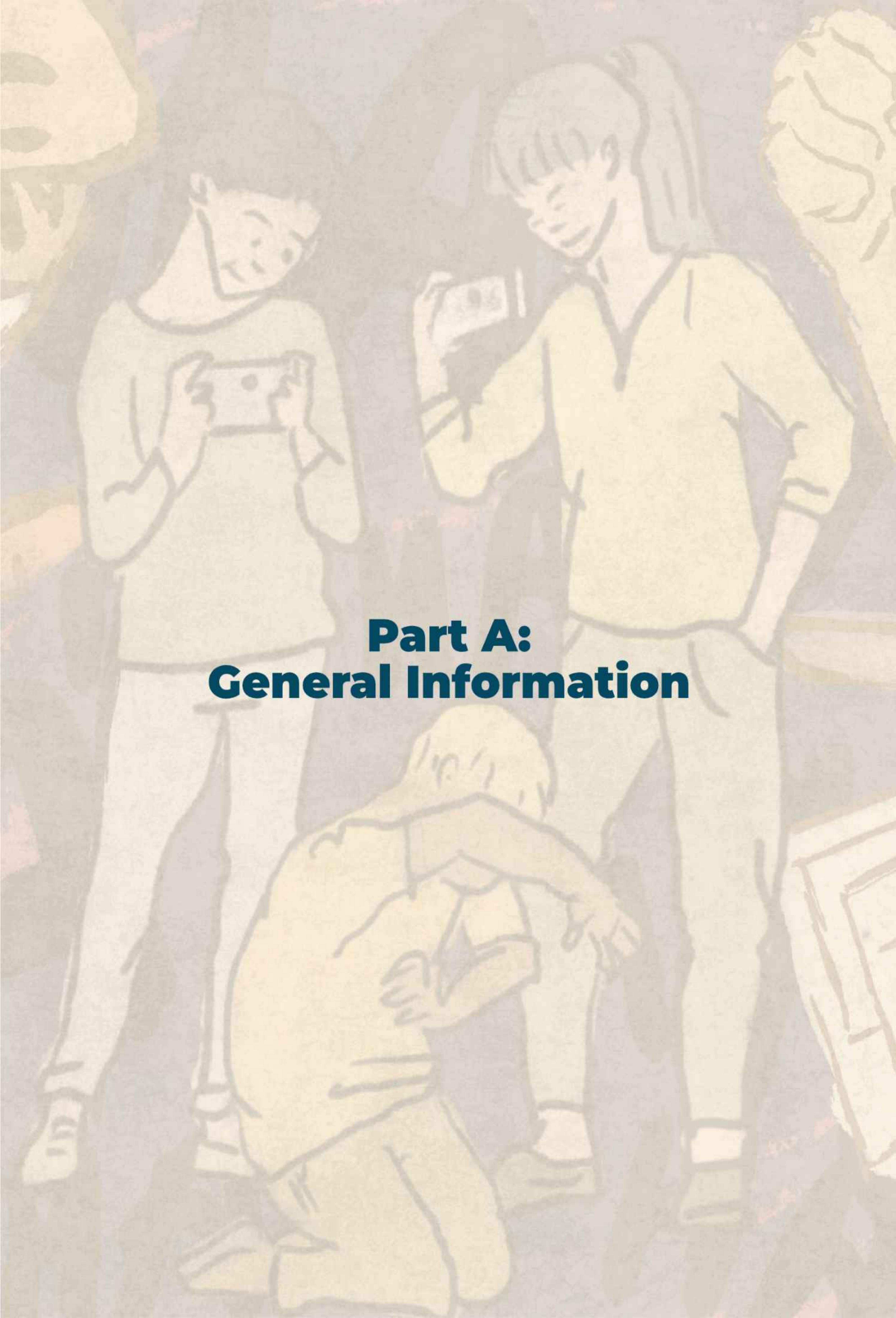


(Sanjiv Pandey)



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## Part A: General Information

## I. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

College should be a place of growth. Why does it become a place of fear for some?



**A New Beginning**



**A Place to Grow**



**But Not Everyone Feels Safe**

Educational Institutions are meant to be spaces for young people to grow intellectually, socially, and personally. Students arrive on campus after years of effort - carrying with them youthful energy, ambition, and expectations of opportunity, independence, and dignity. For many, college marks the first meaningful step into adulthood and self-determination.

Yet this energy and aspiration are often undermined by acts and behaviours that stand in direct opposition to these ideals. Among the most damaging of these is ragging. Far from being a harmless initiation or tradition, ragging has resulted in humiliation, physical violence, lasting psychological trauma, and, in extreme cases, loss of life. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has explicitly recognised ragging as a significant factor contributing to student suicides and has observed that institutions frequently suppress such incidents to protect their public image. This culture of silence allows abuse to persist and deepens its consequences.

The scale of student vulnerability is deeply concerning. National Crime Records Bureau data shows that in 2022 alone, over 13,000 students in India died by suicide, a figure higher than that recorded among farmers. Young people transitioning into higher education are particularly at risk, as campuses become their primary social and emotional environment during a critical phase of identity formation.

Ragging is not an isolated act of misconduct.

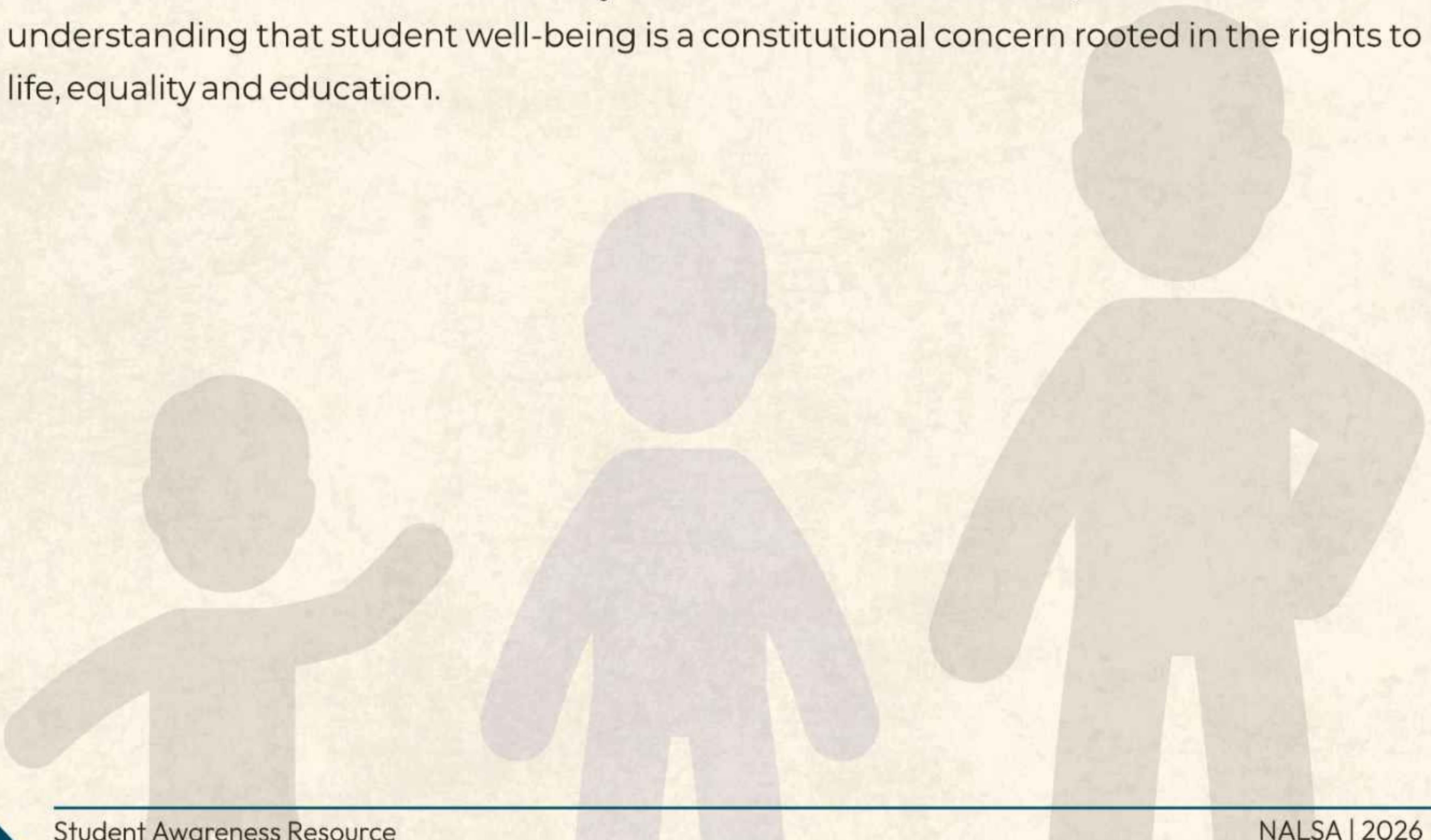
It thrives on power imbalances, silence and exclusion, and disproportionately affects students, those from marginalised social or regional backgrounds, first-generation learners, and students of diverse gender identities. Its impact extends beyond immediate

harm, disrupting education, increasing dropouts and eroding the constitutional values of equality, dignity and safety that campuses are meant to uphold.

Within this context, Legal Services Clinics located in universities assume particular importance. Established under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and operationalised through the National Legal Services Authority (Legal Services Clinics) Regulations, 2011, Legal Services Clinics are statutory access-to justice mechanisms embedded within educational institutions.

The mechanisms outlined in this student resource are intended to consolidate and clearly present relevant legal frameworks, institutional obligations and reporting pathways. By doing so, the student resource supports preventive efforts and informed decision-making, while reinforcing the responsibility of institutions to address ragging effectively. It seeks to encourage a shift in campus culture—from harmful hierarchies to respect, mentorship and collective responsibility. Preventing ragging is a shared responsibility, and every member of the campus community has a role to play.

This student resource has been developed in response to the continuing harm caused by ragging, with the limited but essential objective of consolidating and disseminating relevant legal information. It is intended to enhance awareness of the rights, safeguards and institutional frameworks that exist to address ragging, and to sensitise members of the academic community to the seriousness of such conduct. By clearly setting out applicable protections, reporting pathways and available support systems, the student resource seeks to reduce uncertainty and fear around disclosure, and to reinforce the understanding that student well-being is a constitutional concern rooted in the rights to life, equality and education.



## II. UNDERSTANDING RAGGING: MEANING AND SCOPE

If it causes fear, shame or pressure, it is ragging.

Ragging is not tradition, bonding, or harmless fun. Courts in India have consistently held that it is a form of violence and human degradation. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has made it clear that ragging is a systematic abuse of power and must be dealt with on the basis of zero tolerance.



**Intent or Effect of  
Causing Fear, Shame or  
Harassment**



**Direct or Indirect  
Pressure/Coercion**



**Can  
Occur Anywhere**



**Power Imbalance**



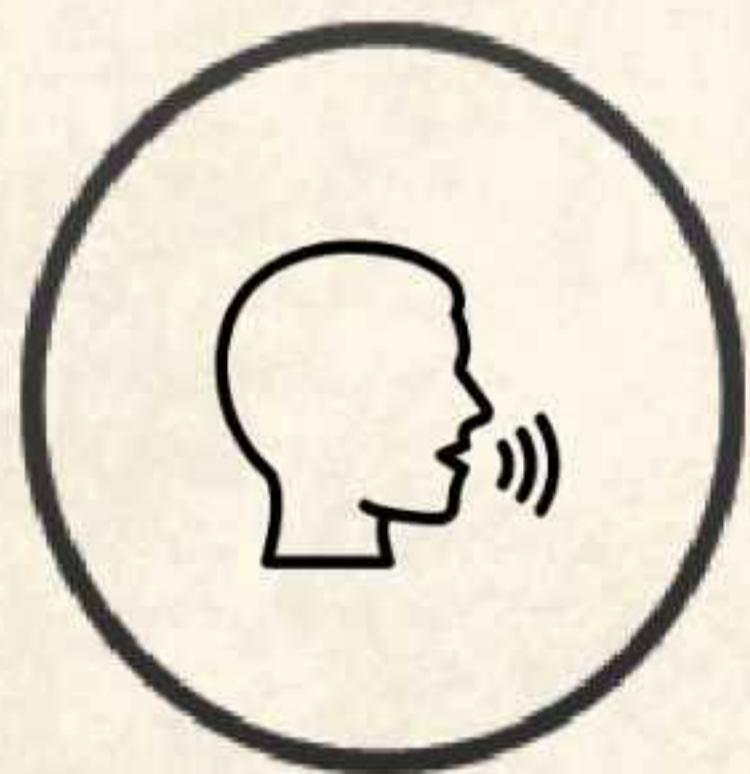
**Sexualised and Degrading Conduct**

### III. COMMON FORMS AND MANIFESTATIONS OF RAGGING

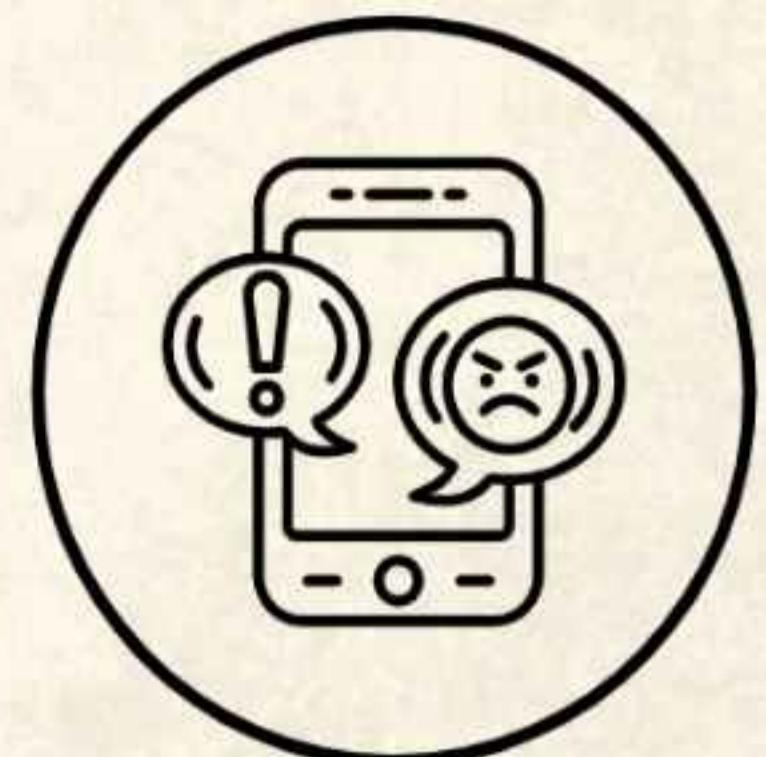
**Cyber:** trolling, circulation of photos/videos, messaging



**Psychological:** humiliation, isolation, degrading tasks



**Physical:** assault, forced activities, confinement



**Sexual:** inappropriate contact, comments, coercion



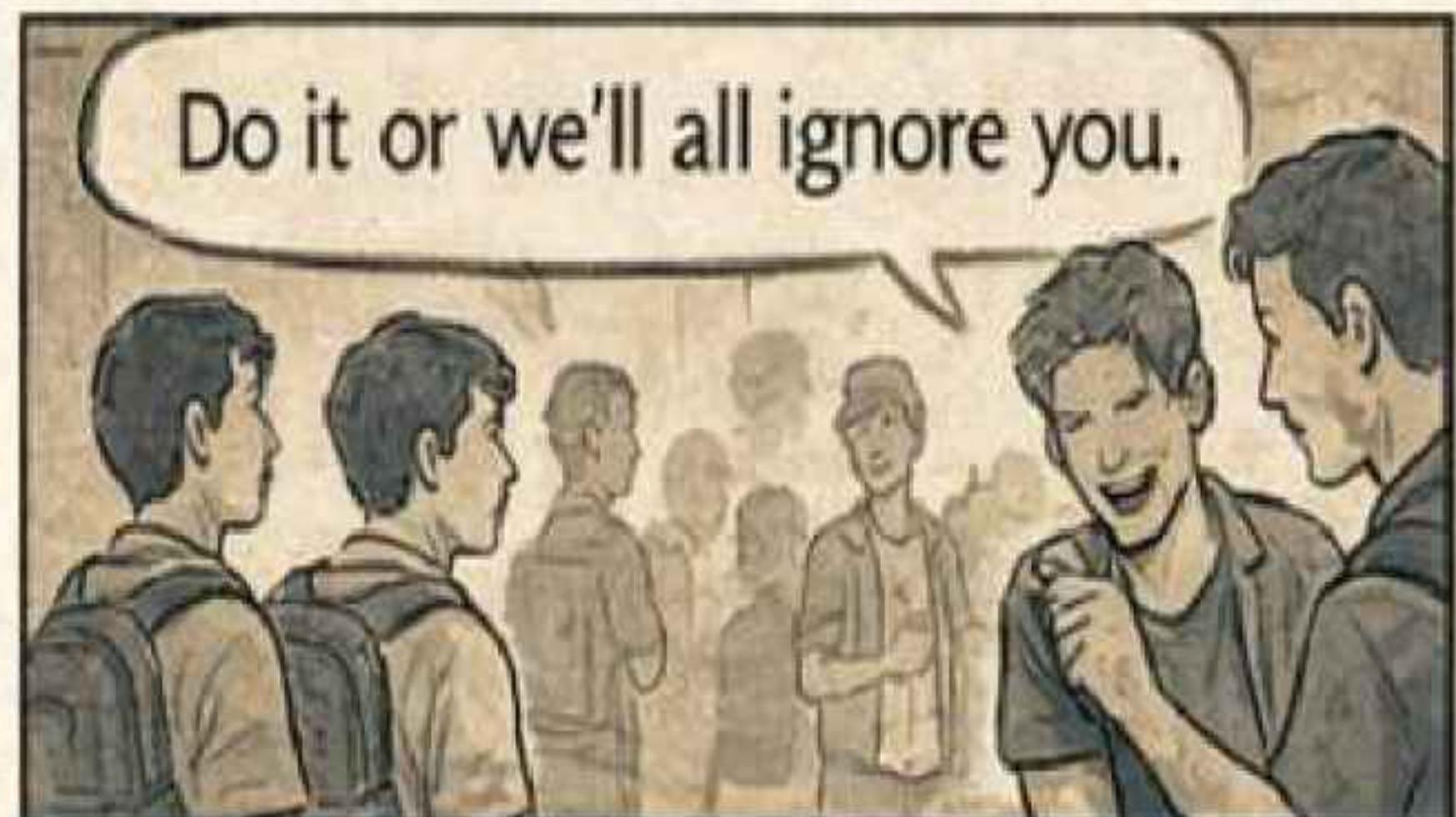
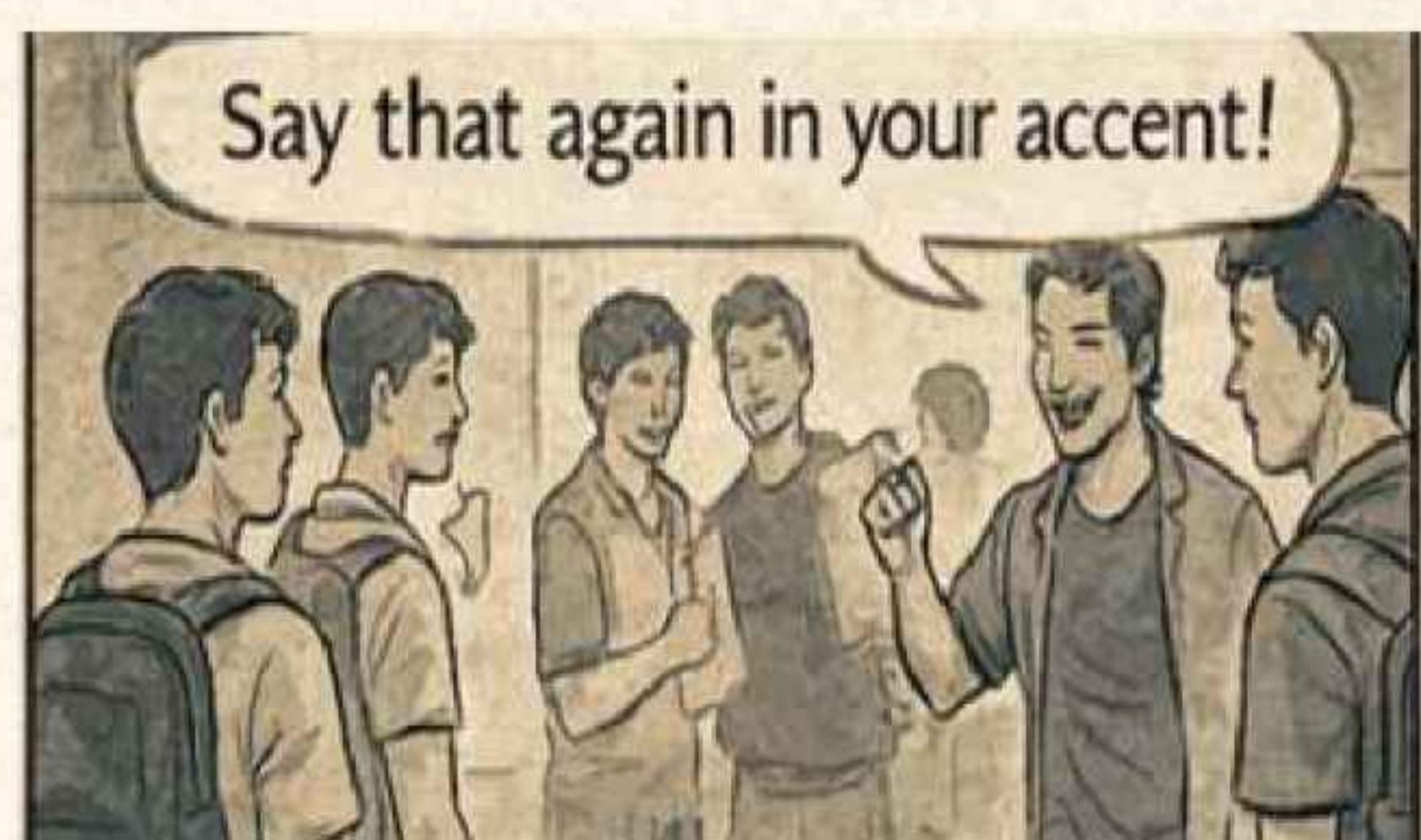
**Verbal:** abusive language, threats, slurs



## IV. DISTINGUISHING RAGGING FROM ENCOURAGED CONDUCT

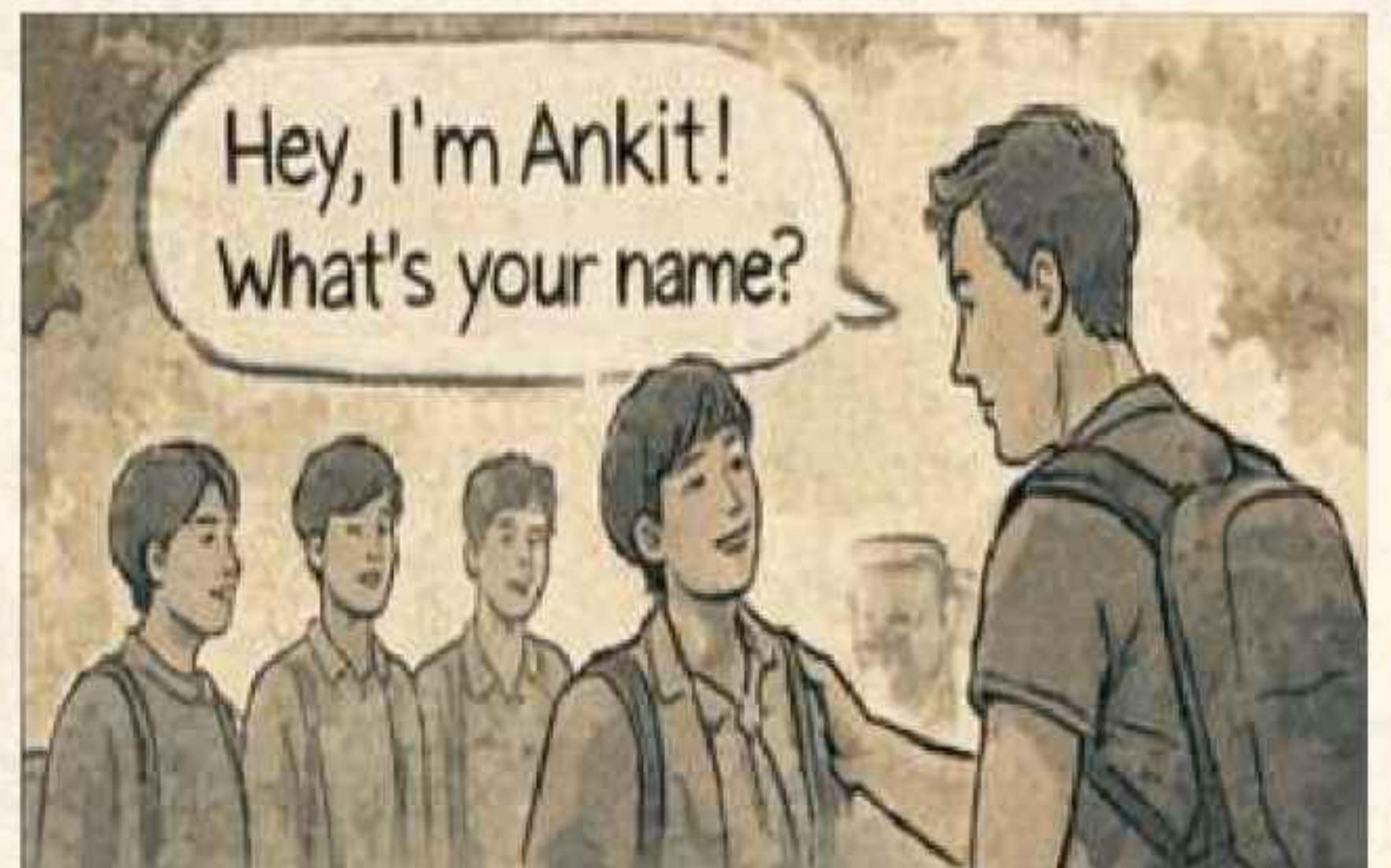
Ragging includes any conduct that uses power, pressure, or humiliation to force participation.

- Forcing a student to dance, propose to someone, “perform dares.”
- Mocking someone’s accent, caste, region or background.
- Sharing embarrassing photos or videos amongst peers.
- Threaten to socially boycott if they don’t comply.
- Taking away clothes as a “punishment.”
- Forcing a student to reveal personal details publicly.
- Intimidation designed as “introduction.”



Encouraged conduct builds community through choice, respect, and mutual comfort, where participation is voluntary and no one is pressured, ranked, or humiliated.

- Orientation sessions that are structured, respectful and optional.
- Student clubs inviting participation voluntarily.
- Peer mentorship or guidance programmes.
- Encouraging inclusion, not hierarchy.
- Friendly introductions without pressure.
- Playful interactions where everyone is safe and consent is real.



## V. IMPACT AND CONSEQUENCES OF RAGGING

Ragging takes advantage of the vulnerability that can arise when students are adjusting to new academic, social and institutional environments within colleges.



Interferes with Learning



Causes Loss of Confidence



Triggers Distress and Isolation

**Damages learning environment.**

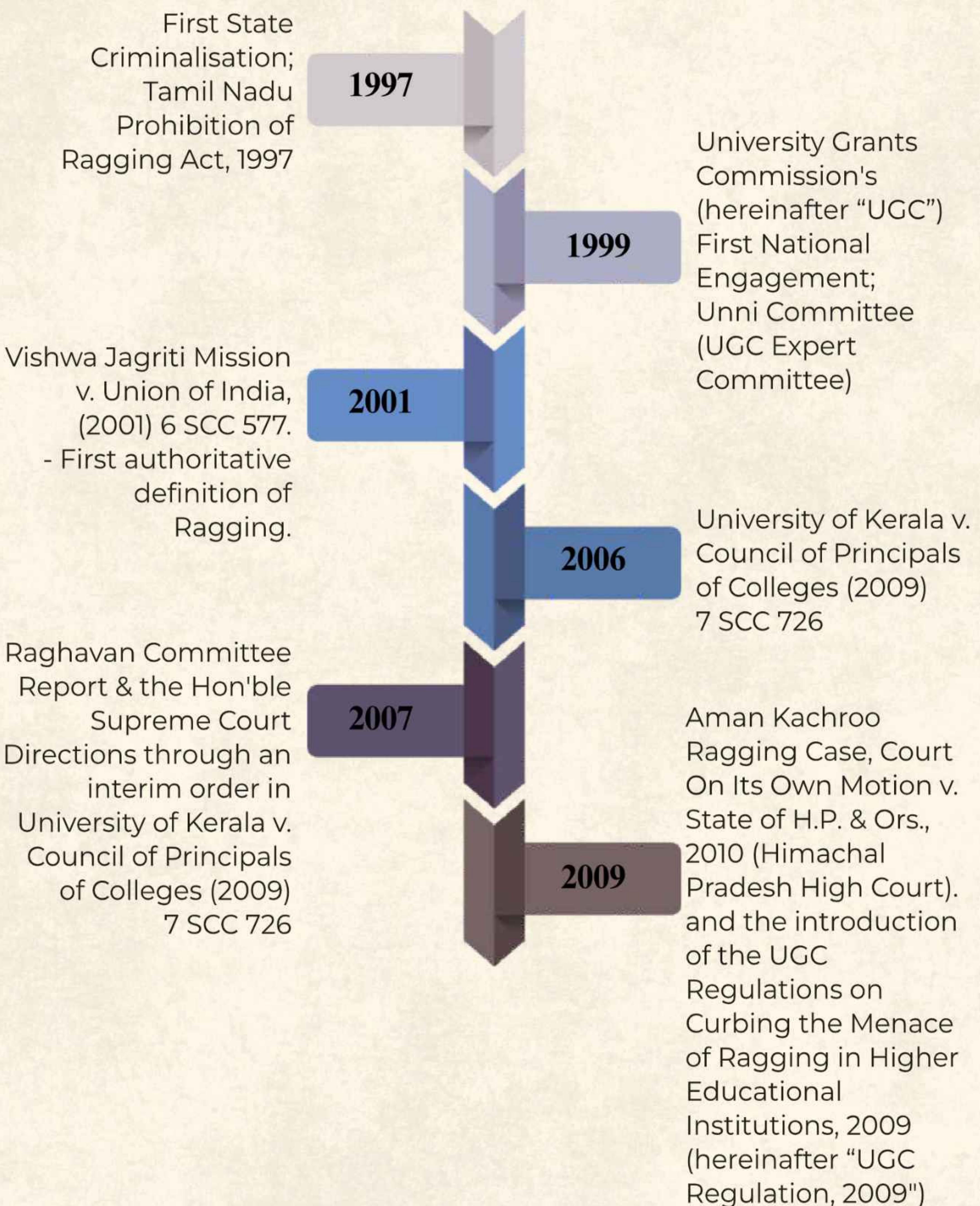
**Violates dignity, equality and safety.**

Causes fear, loss of confidence, anxiety and depression.

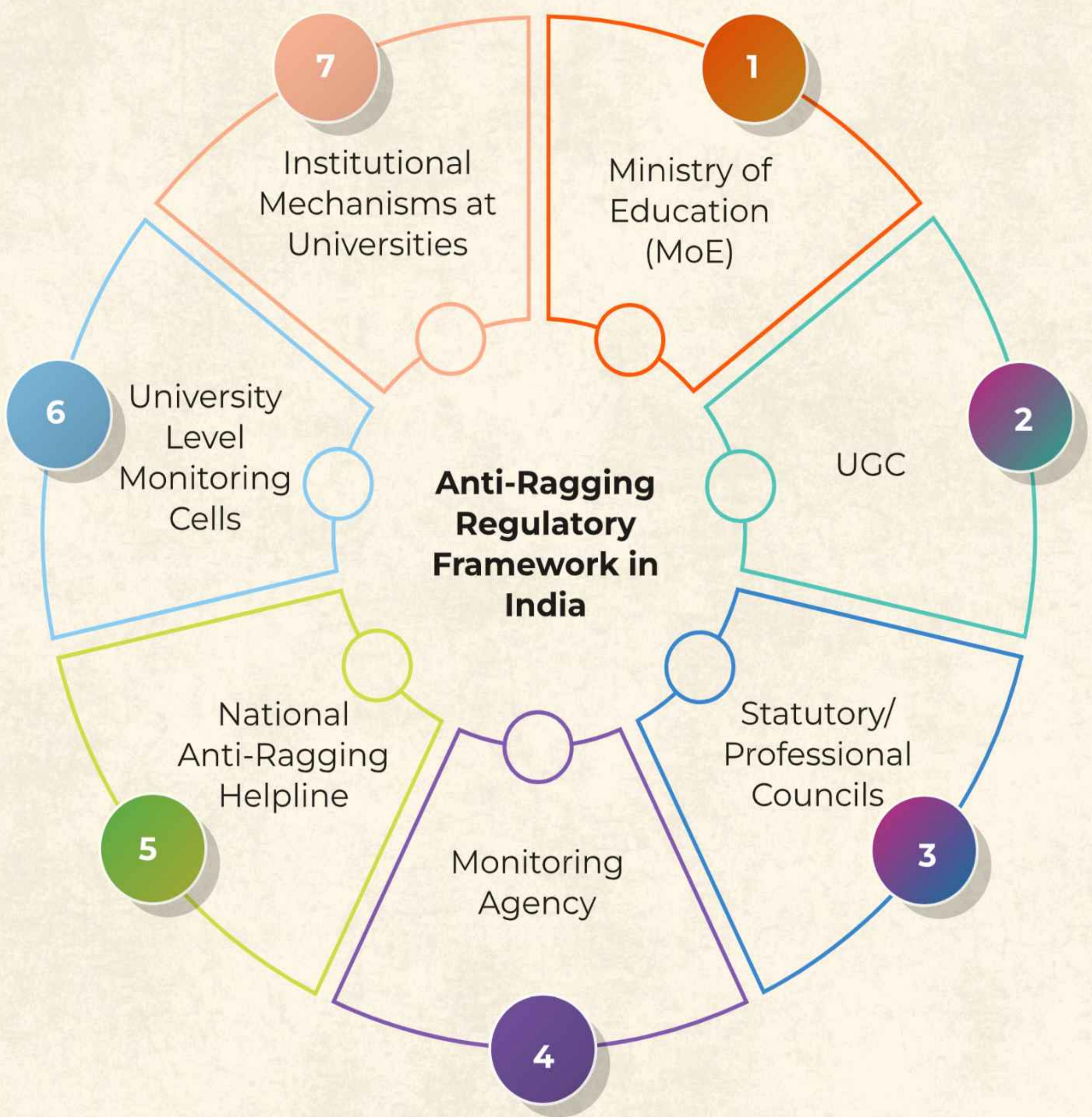
May lead to serious situations of self harm or suicide.



## VI. DEVELOPMENT OF LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSES TO RAGGING



## VII. OVERVIEW OF THE INDIAN ANTI-RAGGING REGULATORY FRAMEWORK



## VIII. STATUTORY COMMITTEES AND DUTY-BEARERS UNDER THE UGC REGULATIONS, 2009

### Anti-Ragging Committee

- Chaired by the Head of the Institution;
- Composed of representatives from faculty, administration, parents, students and non-teaching staff;
- Oversees the institution's anti-ragging framework and related measures;
- Ensures implementation of preventive and corrective steps under applicable Regulations;
- Reviews reports submitted by the Anti-Ragging Squad;
- Recommends appropriate action, including the imposition of penalties;
- Where individual offenders cannot be identified, may advise the institution on collective measures permitted under the Regulations.

### Anti-Ragging Squad

- Composed of faculty and staff nominated by the Head of the Institution;
- Maintains constant vigilance in hostels and other sensitive or vulnerable areas;
- Conducts surprise inspections to deter and detect ragging;
- Responds promptly to reported or observed incidents;
- Carries out preliminary fact-finding where incidents are suspected or reported;
- Submits reports to the Anti-Ragging Committee for further consideration and action.

### Monitoring Cell at the University Level

- Reviews anti-ragging compliance across affiliated colleges;
- Monitors the functioning of institutional Anti-Ragging Committees and Squads;
- Examines reports submitted by affiliated institutions;
- Forwards required information and compliance data to university authorities and the UGC;
- Facilitates coordination between colleges and the broader regulatory framework governing anti-ragging measures.

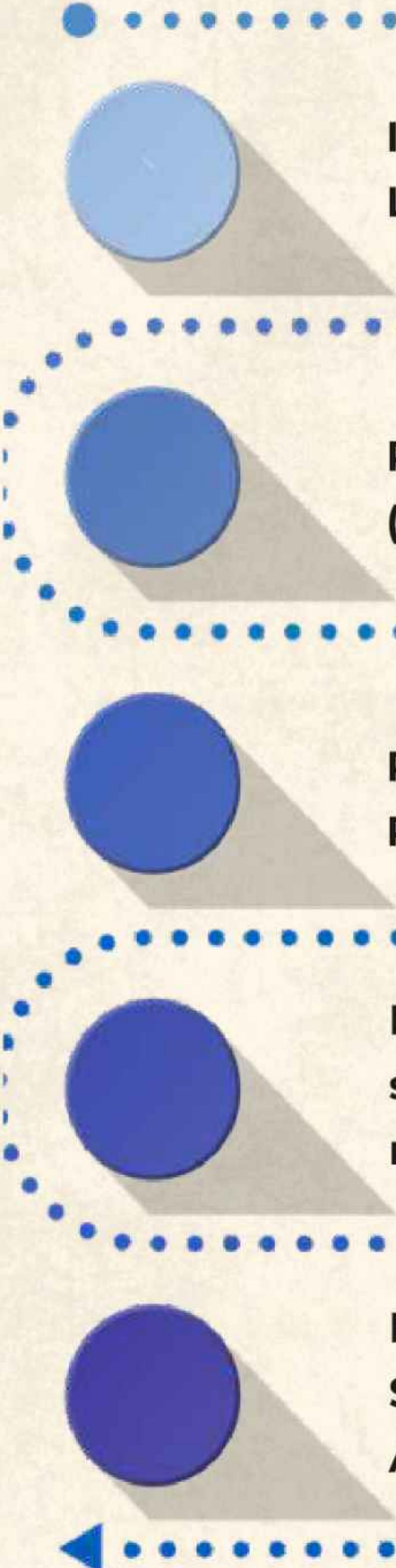


## **Part B: For Students**

## IX. KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

Every student in India is entitled to pursue education in an atmosphere of dignity, equality, and psychological safety.

### A. Rights under Indian Law



**Includes the Right to Life and Personal Liberty (Art. 21).**

**Right to Equality and Non-Discrimination (Art. 14 & 15).**

**Right to Complain and Access Police Protection.**

**Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS 2023) for offences such as assault, criminal intimidation, wrongful restraint, confinement and harassment.**

**Rights under The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.**

## B. Rights Recognised by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Recommendations of the Raghavan Committee

Courts and committees have consistently recognised ragging as a violation of dignity, safety and equality, not a harmless tradition.

***Vishwa Jagriti  
Mission v. Union  
of India, (2001)  
6 SCC 577.***

Right to Dignity and Freedom from Degrading Treatment

***University of Kerala v.  
Council of Principals  
of Colleges S.L.P.(C)  
NOS.24296-24299 OF  
2004 S.L.P.(C)  
NO.14356 OF 2005.***

Right to a Safe Campus

***Raghavan  
Committee  
Report,  
2007***

Right to Freedom from Power Abuse by Seniors

***Vishwa Jagriti  
Mission v.  
Central Govt.,  
2009 Writ  
Petition (civil)  
656 of 1998***

Right to Protection Even Outside Campus

## C. Rights under UGC Regulations, 2009

The UGC Regulations on Curbing the Menace of Ragging, 2009 were issued pursuant to directions of the Supreme Court following the death of Aman Kachroo (Aman Kachroo Ragging Case, Court On Its Own Motion v. State of H.P. & Ors., 2010 (Himachal Pradesh High Court), a medical student who succumbed to injuries caused by severe ragging. In University of Kerala v. Council of Principals of Colleges (2009) 7 SCC 726, the Court held that ragging constitutes a violation of the right to life and dignity under Article 21 of the Constitution and mandated a policy of zero tolerance and institutional accountability. These judicial directions culminated in the 2009 Regulations, which require every higher educational institution to establish anti-ragging mechanisms, ensure prompt response to complaints, and maintain a campus environment strictly free from ragging.



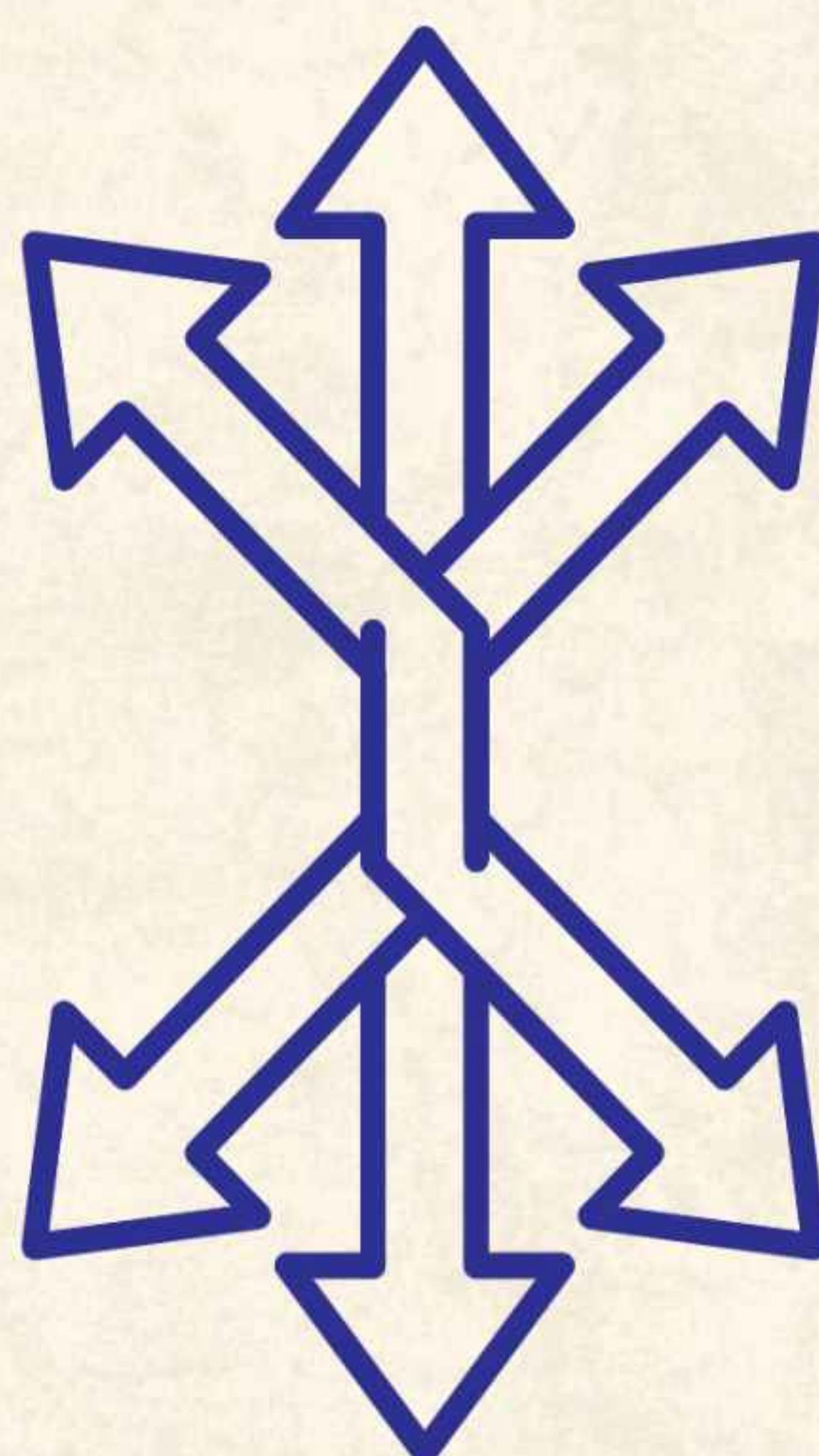
**Ragging Free Campus Environment**  
ensured by the institution through prevention, monitoring & enforcement of the UGC Regulations.



**Report Without Fear**  
directed to any designated anti-ragging authority in the institution, including the Nodal Officer, Anti-Ragging Cell, Squad or Committee.



**Student Protection and Safety**  
provided by the institution and its anti-ragging bodies.

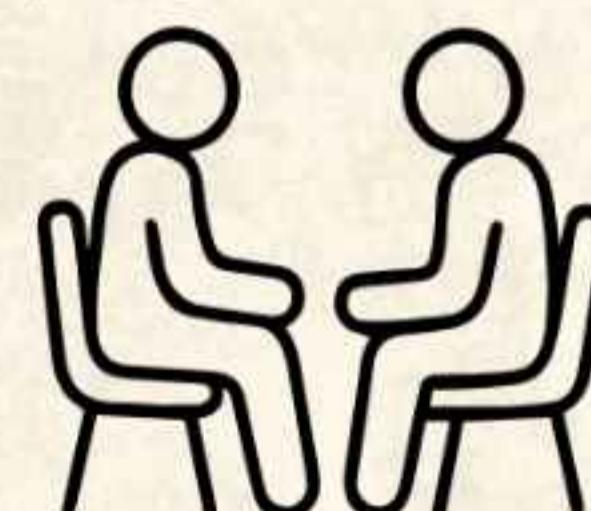


**Prompt Action**  
taken by the institution and its anti-ragging bodies, including the twenty-four-hour requirement to escalate criminal offences.



**Anti-Ragging Awareness**

provided by the institution through orientation, outreach and continuous sensitisation programmes.

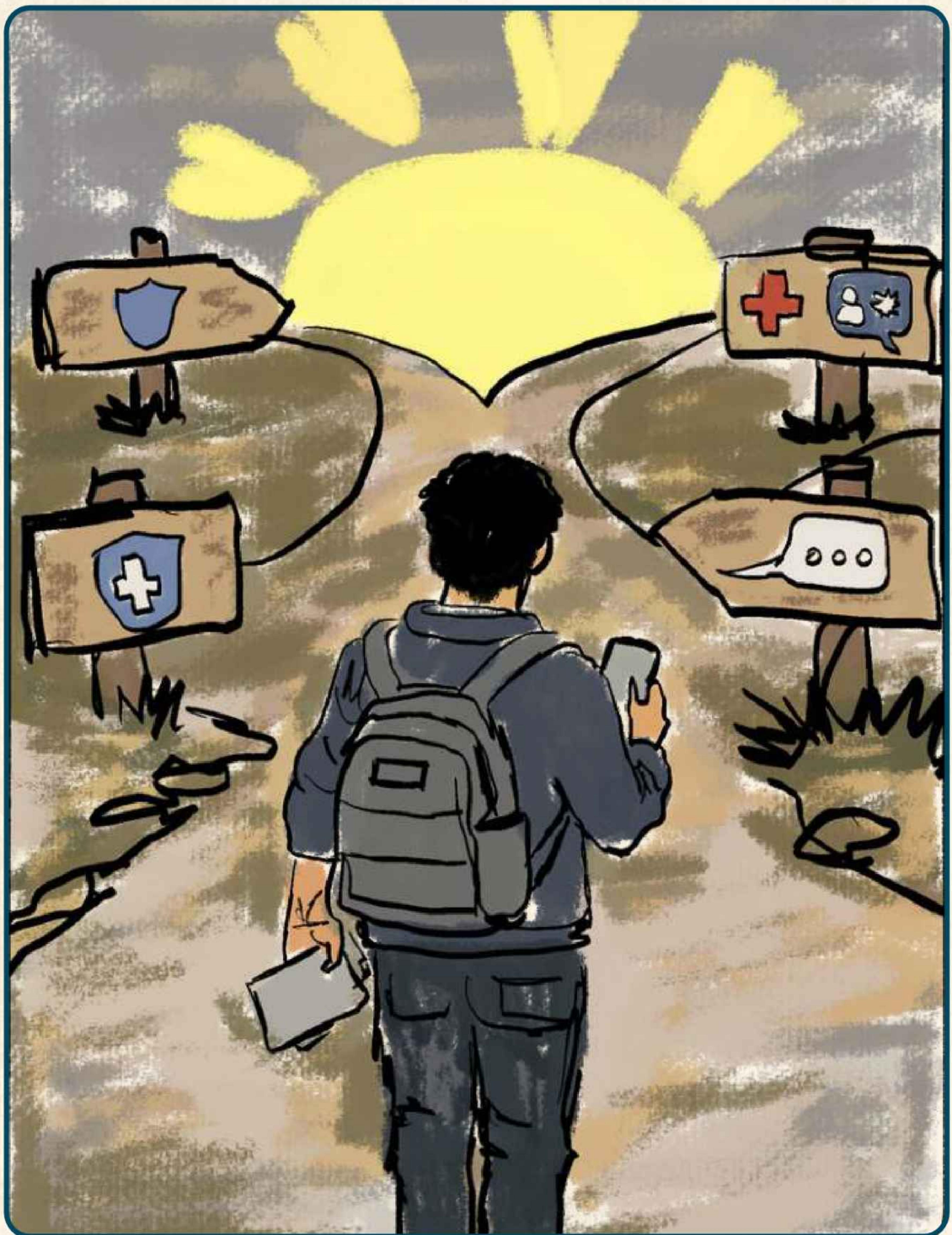


**Counselling Support**

made available by the institution, which must arrange timely psychological and emotional support whenever required.



## RESPONDING TO RAGGING THE FIRST 24 HOURS



## X. INITIAL STEPS

A parent or guardian, senior faculty, hostel warden, friend, student representative, or Para Legal Volunteer/Nodal officer. Don't stay isolated.

Trust that help will be provided! Gather documents, and stay with people you trust and follow the process.



Move away from the place/people who are ragging you. Go to a public place, hostel warden's room, faculty office, clinic or police station if needed.

Visit nearby medical centre with someone you trust. Get a medical check-up and request a written medical report/treatment record and photographs of injuries.

## XI. DOCUMENTING RAGGING

### Record What Happened

Keep copies of messages, chats, photos, videos, or screenshots related to the incident. Write down the dates, times, and places where things happened as soon as you can. If any clothes or personal items were affected, keep them safe. Hold on to any medical papers or bills if you needed treatment. If anyone else saw or heard what happened, ask them to write a short note about what they remember. If there are CCTV cameras in the area, write to the hostel or college office asking them to save the footage.

### Ask for Immediate Safety and Support

You can ask the university or the Anti-Ragging Committee to:

- Ensure your safety and supervision,
- Change your hostel room or living arrangement if you feel unsafe,
- Instruct the students involved not to contact or approach you.



## XII. REPORTING RAGGING

**Your  
Institution**

**National  
Anti-Ragging  
Helpline (24x7)**

**If physical assault/criminal  
offence happens, call the  
police and file an FIR!**

### **Nodal Officer/Anti-Ragging Committee**

(details should be available on the college/university website and on noticeboards).

### **Anti-Ragging Squad**

(for immediate campus checks). (UGC requires these bodies to be present in every HEI).

**Phone (toll-free):** 1800-180-5522

**Email:** [helpline@antiragging.in](mailto:helpline@antiragging.in).

The helpline forwards complaints to the Vice-Chancellor/Principal, local police (SHO/SP), the relevant council and the Monitoring Agency; it preserves student identity unless you permit disclosure.

### **Inform the Anti-Ragging Cell and the Helpline about the FIR number.**

Ragging is a criminal offence; punishments include fines, imprisonment, rustication, cancellation of admission — see UGC Regulations, 2009.

**Alternate Escalation Matrix:** University/Vice-Chancellor (if college), UGC Anti-Ragging Cell (via online portal/email) or Monitoring Agency.

### XIII. FILING A COMPLAINT

- Your full name, admission or roll number, course, year and contact details, or a request for confidentiality.
- The date, time and location of the incident, along with the names or descriptions of the alleged aggressors.
- A brief, factual account describing what happened and the order in which it occurred.
- Any injuries sustained, with supporting documents such as medical records or photographs.
- The names and contact details of witnesses.
- Screenshots, chat messages, voice notes, social media posts and any available CCTV coverage from the place of occurrence.
- The specific action you are requesting, such as filing an FIR, suspension, protection, counselling or a change of accommodation.



## XIV. PROCESS AND REMEDIES

The Anti-Ragging Committee/Squad is required to enquire and submit a report; punishment can range from fines to rustication or expulsion. If identities of aggressor(s) are not found, institutions may impose collective measures such as delaying results or withholding group privileges and benefits.

### Institution Must Investigate

### National Helpline for Monitoring

Ragging may attract criminal charges (assault, criminal intimidation, wrongful restraint, etc.). Insist on FIR if the conduct is physical, sexual, or life threatening.

### Criminal Action

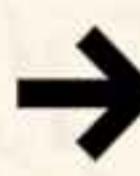
### Administrative remedies

If unsatisfied with the institutional action, the helpline/UGC Monitoring Agency will follow up and escalate to UGC/Council. Keep the helpline complaint number and follow up regularly.

Ask the institution to invoke UGC Regulations (penalties listed include rustication, expulsion, fine up to ₹25,000, cancellation of admission).

Use the **National Helpline or Monitoring Agency** to register complaints and request **Confidentiality**. The helpline and monitoring agency explicitly preserve the student's identity unless permission is given. Keep records of all communications.

## After the Complaint



**Ask for counselling and medical support.**  
Institutions are expected to provide counselling; demand professional assistance if the college delays.



**Documentation for future use.**  
**Maintain a file with:** Complaint copies, helpline complaint ID, medical records, FIR copy (if any), witness statements, emails/Whatsapp chats, institution responses and final orders.

## XV. COMPLAINT PROCESS

Ragging complaints can be reported at any time through national mechanisms set up to ensure safety, confidentiality, and prompt action. Students, parents, and institutions can use the following process.

1

### Register a Complaint

Students facing ragging can file a complaint anytime through: National Anti-Ragging Helpline: 1800-180-5522 (24x7, toll-free). Email: [helpline@antiragging.in](mailto:helpline@antiragging.in) Emergency support (UGC Monitoring Agency)

2

### Immediate Forwarding to Authorities

Once registered, the complaint is forwarded simultaneously to: University Vice-Chancellor, College Principal, Local Police (SHO Senior Police Officer (SP/SSP/DCP/ASP/ACP), Concerned Regulatory Council

3

### Confidentiality and Safety

The helpline does not disclose the identity of the complainant without their explicit consent. Confidentiality is maintained throughout the process.

4

## Investigation and Follow-Up

The National Helpline follows up with the college's Anti-Ragging Committee during the inquiry.

The complaint remains active until the complainant confirms satisfaction with the action taken.

5

## Tracking Your Complaint

Each complaint is assigned a unique number. Students can track the status and follow-up actions online at: [www.antiragging.in](http://www.antiragging.in) - All actions taken, including emails, letters, and calls, are recorded and visible to the complainant.

6

## Escalation if Resolution Is Unsatisfactory

If the complainant is not satisfied, or if the institution does not cooperate, the case is escalated to: UGC Monitoring Agency for further review and intervention UGC and the concerned council, where required. UGC maintains an online complaint management system to track and act on escalated cases. CHECK: [www.ugc.ac.in](http://www.ugc.ac.in)

**STEP 7: Closure of Complaint.** A complaint is closed only after written consent is provided by the complainant confirming satisfaction with the resolution.



## **Part C: For Others**

## XVI. RESPONSIBILITIES OF BYSTANDERS AND PEERS

It's 10:45 PM. A student in your hostel corridor looks anxious and withdrawn. Suddenly, three seniors knock loudly on his door and tell him to "come out and join them." You sense he is uncomfortable—maybe even scared.

### What do you do?



**1****Option 1: Intervene Directly**

Stepping in may stop them, but it could also escalate and put you at risk. Ensure your safety first, avoid confronting a group alone!

**2****Option 2: Distract and Walk Them Out**

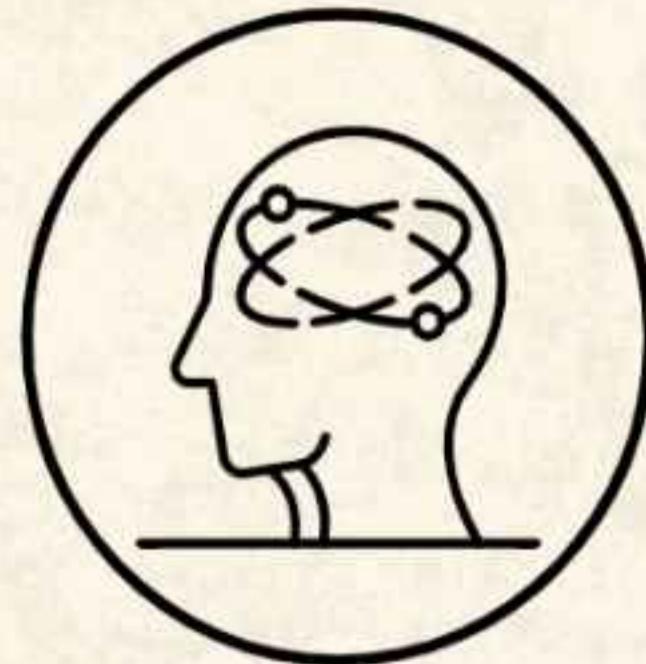
Give them a reason to leave with you, offering a safe exit. This is a safe and effective way to reduce tension and protect the student.

**3****Option 3: Call the Warden/Security Immediately**

Authorities' intervention keeps things under control and ensures accountability. A strong choice when the situation feels unsafe or aggressive.

**4****Option 4: Do Nothing and Walk Away**

If no one intervenes, the abuse continues unchecked. This is the least safe option for the student.

**Points to Note:**

- You don't need to confront anyone aggressively to protect someone.
- Creating an exit or calling for help are often the safest actions.
- Your presence, awareness, and quick response can prevent harm.
- Every small step matters — standing by silently does not.

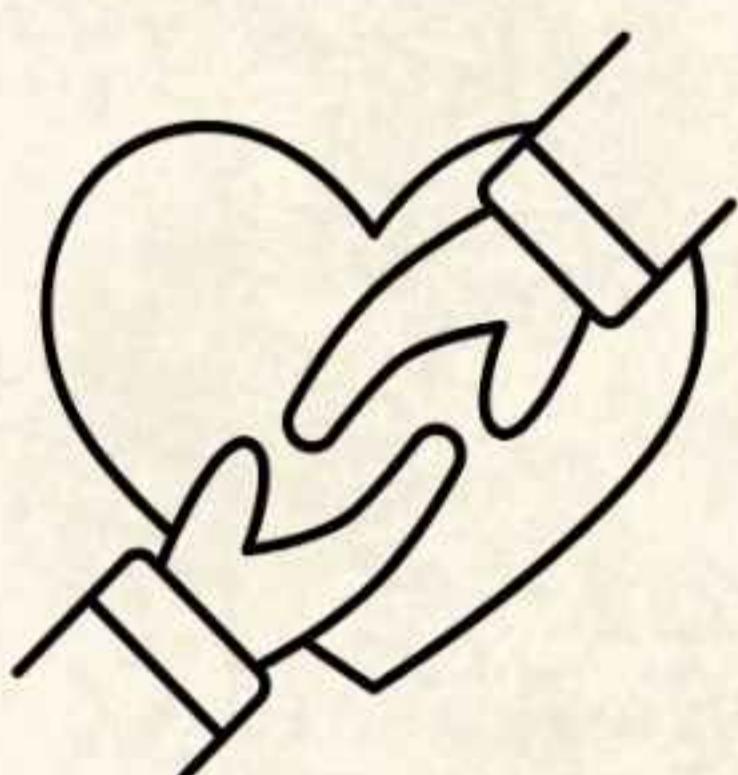
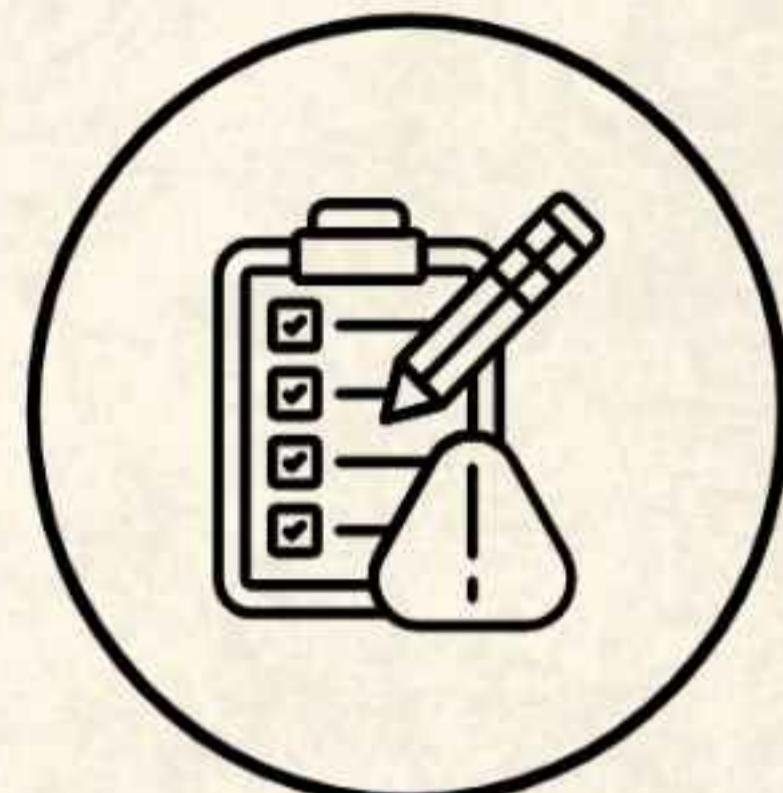
## XVII. PREVENTION: ROLES OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS, FAMILIES AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

This section outlines the roles and duties of each stakeholder in maintaining a ragging-free ecosystem as per UGC Regulations, 2009.

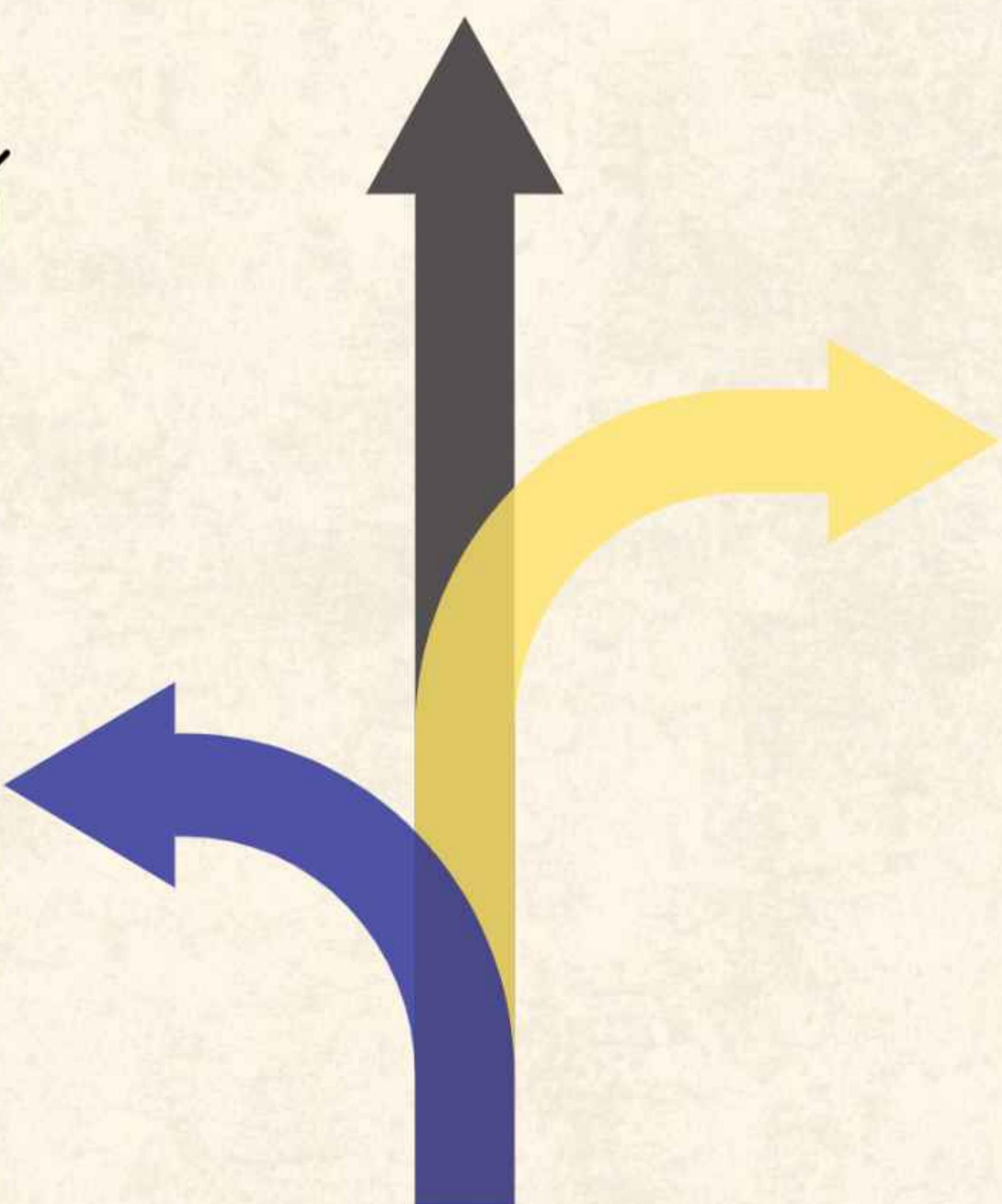
### A. Roles of Faculty and Non-Teaching Staff:



**Vigilance:** Faculty and staff must constantly supervise areas where students congregate.



**Responsible Reporting:** Immediate reporting of suspected incidents to the Anti-Ragging Squad is mandatory.

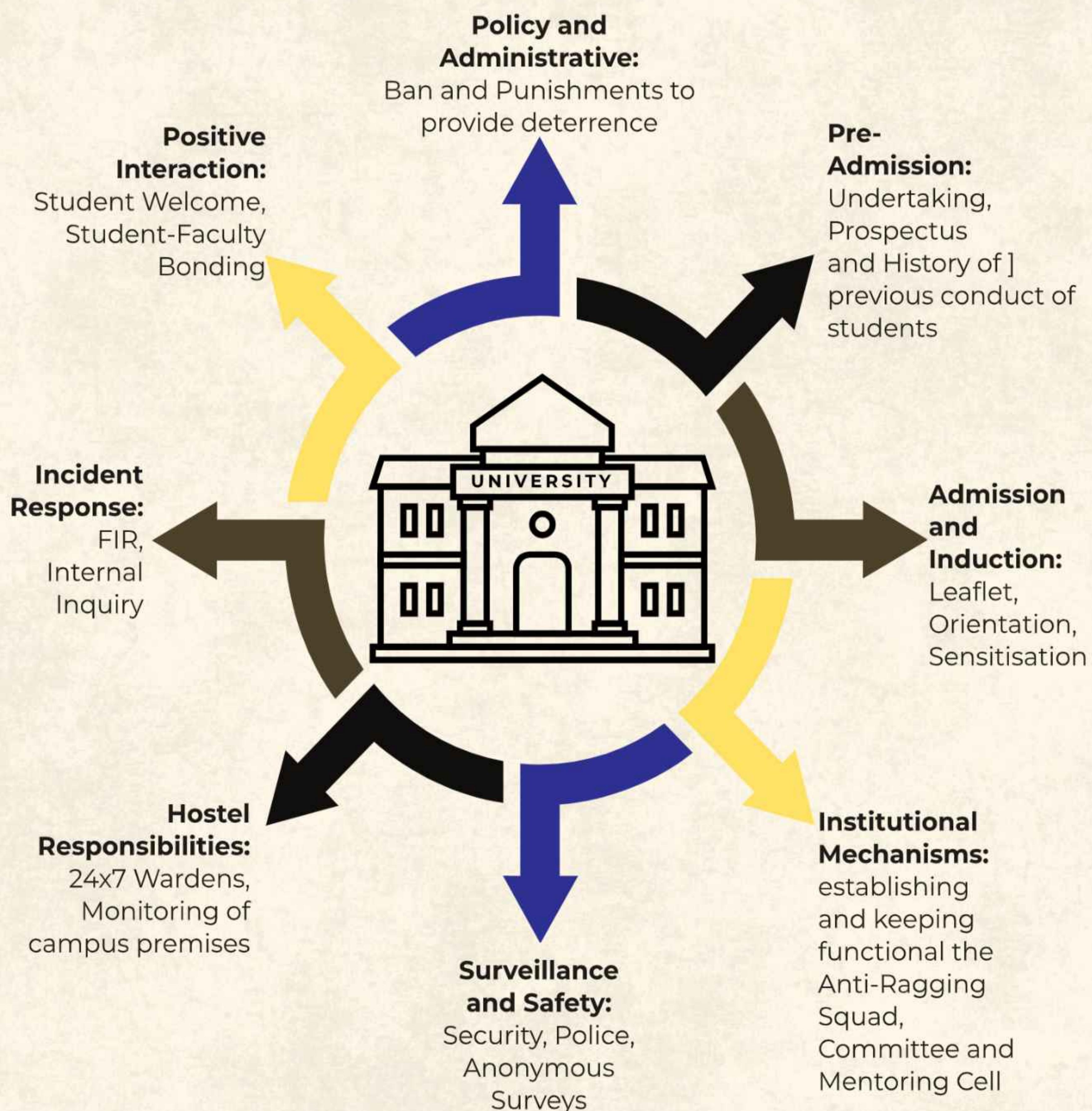


**Mentorship and Counselling:** Staff must actively participate in mentoring programmes.



## B. Roles of Educational Institutions

Judicial Emphasis on Institutional Accountability: The Supreme Court has made it clear that responsibility for preventing ragging does not rest solely on individual students, but squarely on educational institutions. In *Sukhdeb Saha v. State of Assam SLP (Crl.) No (s). 6378 of 2024*, the Court underscored that universities and colleges owe a duty of care to students and can be held accountable for failing to prevent ragging or respond promptly to complaints. Institutional inaction, lack of supervision, or failure to enforce safeguards was recognised as a serious breach of responsibility.



## C. Roles of Students

### Responsibilities of Student Representatives

Promote safe campus culture, support students, authorities to prevent, report and address ragging.

### Responsibilities of Senior Students

Exercise respect, avoid unsafe activities, participate in workshops.

### Roles of Student Bodies

Inclusive activities, assist authorities in raising awareness.

### Responsibilities of Junior Students

Promptly report ragging incidents, respect others through courteous behavior while maintaining self-dignity, and never perpetuate the cycle with future juniors.

## D. Roles of Families and Parents

### Awareness

Parents must educate their wards on what ragging is, legal consequences, and impact on mental health.

### Monitoring

Maintain open communication and watch for signs of distress, fear, or behavioural changes.

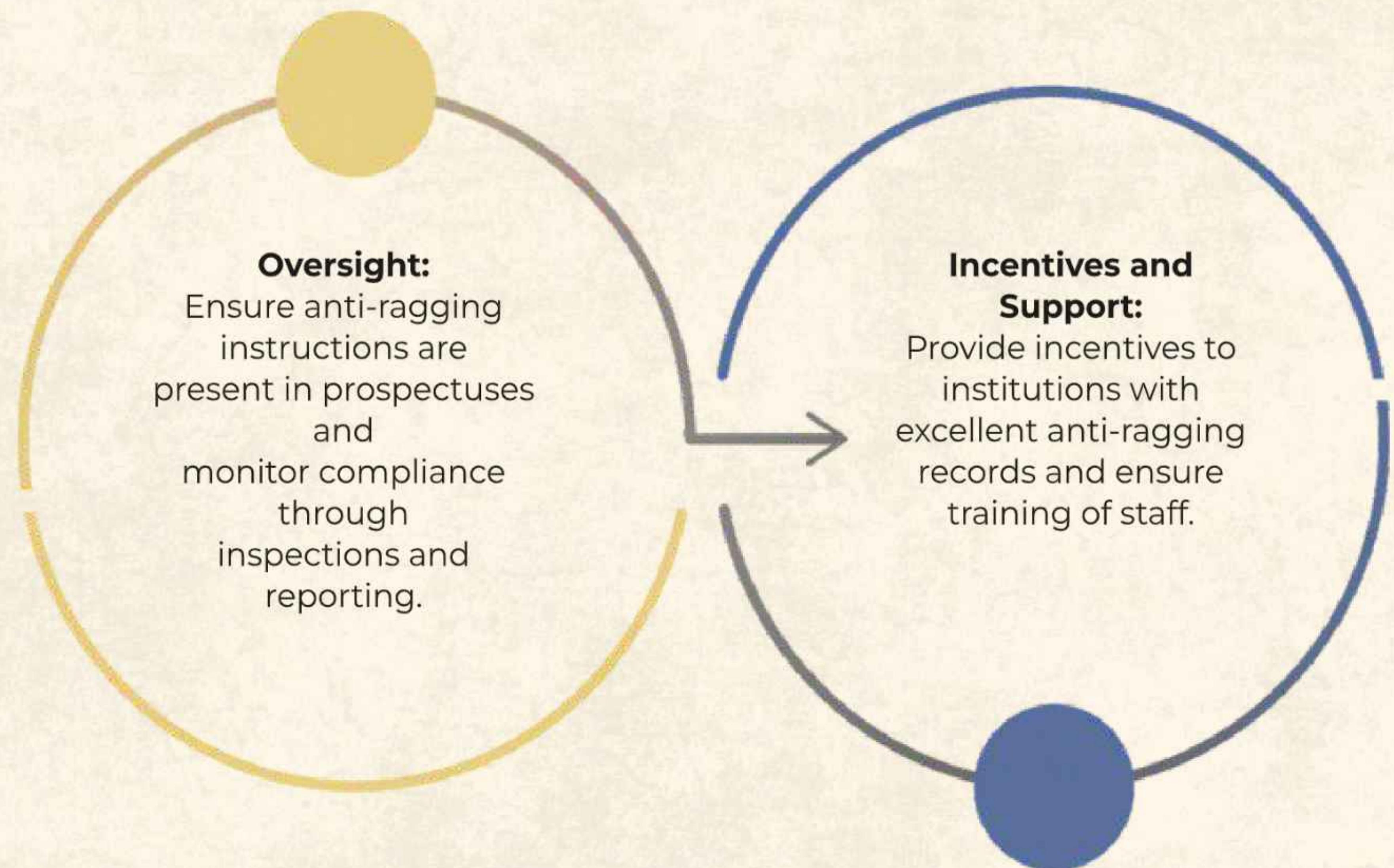
### Interaction

Participate in institutional programmes and cooperate with college authorities when required.

## E. Roles of Law Enforcement and Local Administration

- ▶ **Preventive Roles**  
Increase presence near campuses especially at vulnerable locations.
- ▶ **Legal Enforcement**  
Prompt help with FIRs, protecting students and ensuring justice.
- ▶ **Oversight on Private Hostels**  
Ensure registration and monitoring of private hostels near universities.

## F. Roles of Regulatory Bodies



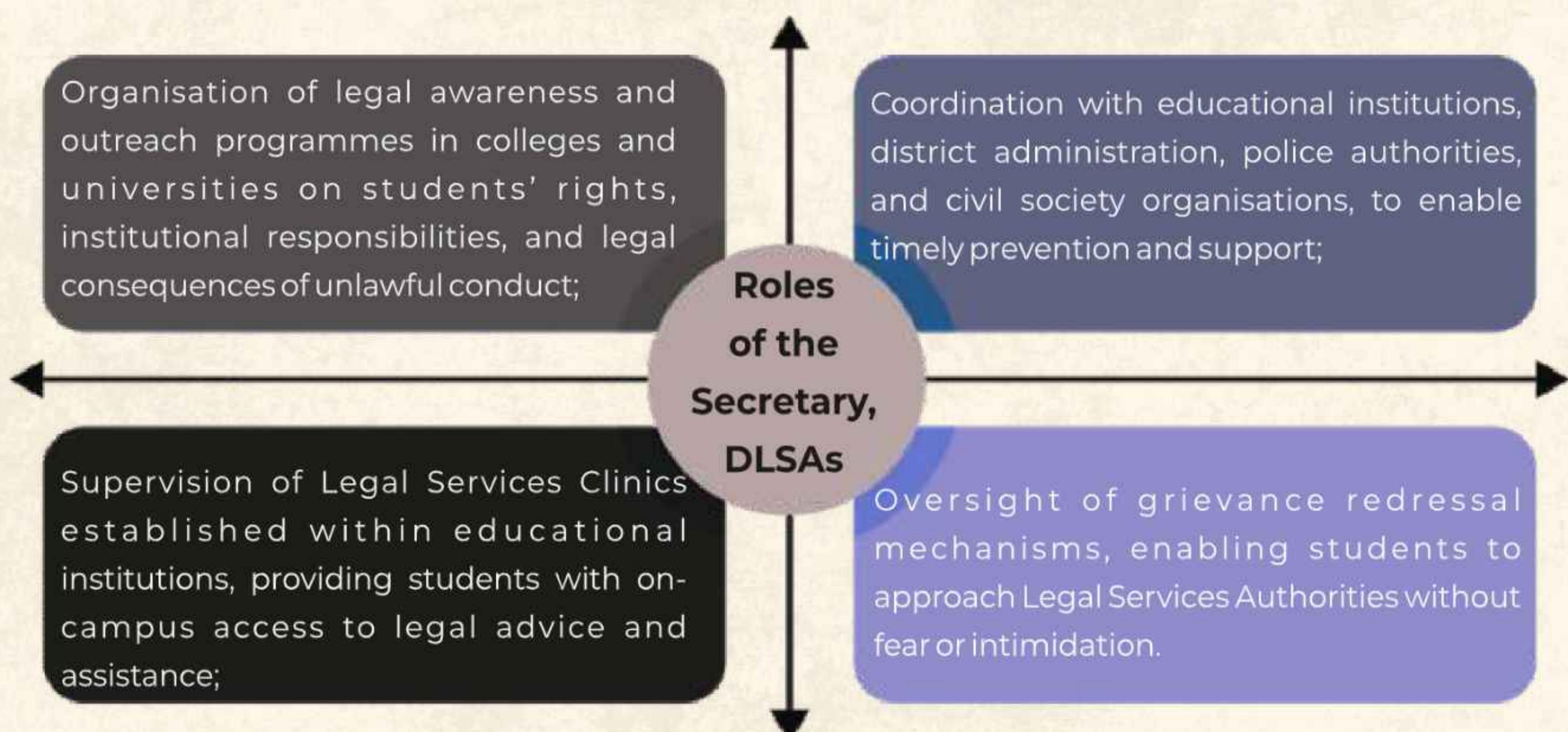
## XVIII. ROLES OF LEGAL SERVICES INSTITUTIONS IN ADDRESSING RAGGING IN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

Legal Services Institutions under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 play an important role in addressing ragging through legal awareness, student outreach, grievance support, and access to legal assistance. Their work focuses on both prevention and response, helping students understand their rights and seek protection when needed, through State Legal Services Authorities (hereinafter “SLSAs”) and District Legal Services Authorities (hereinafter “DLSAs”).

At the district level, DLSA serve as the most accessible support mechanism for students. DLSAs engage directly with educational institutions, assist affected students, and coordinate with authorities to ensure safety measures and remedies, strengthening protection and access to justice within academic spaces.

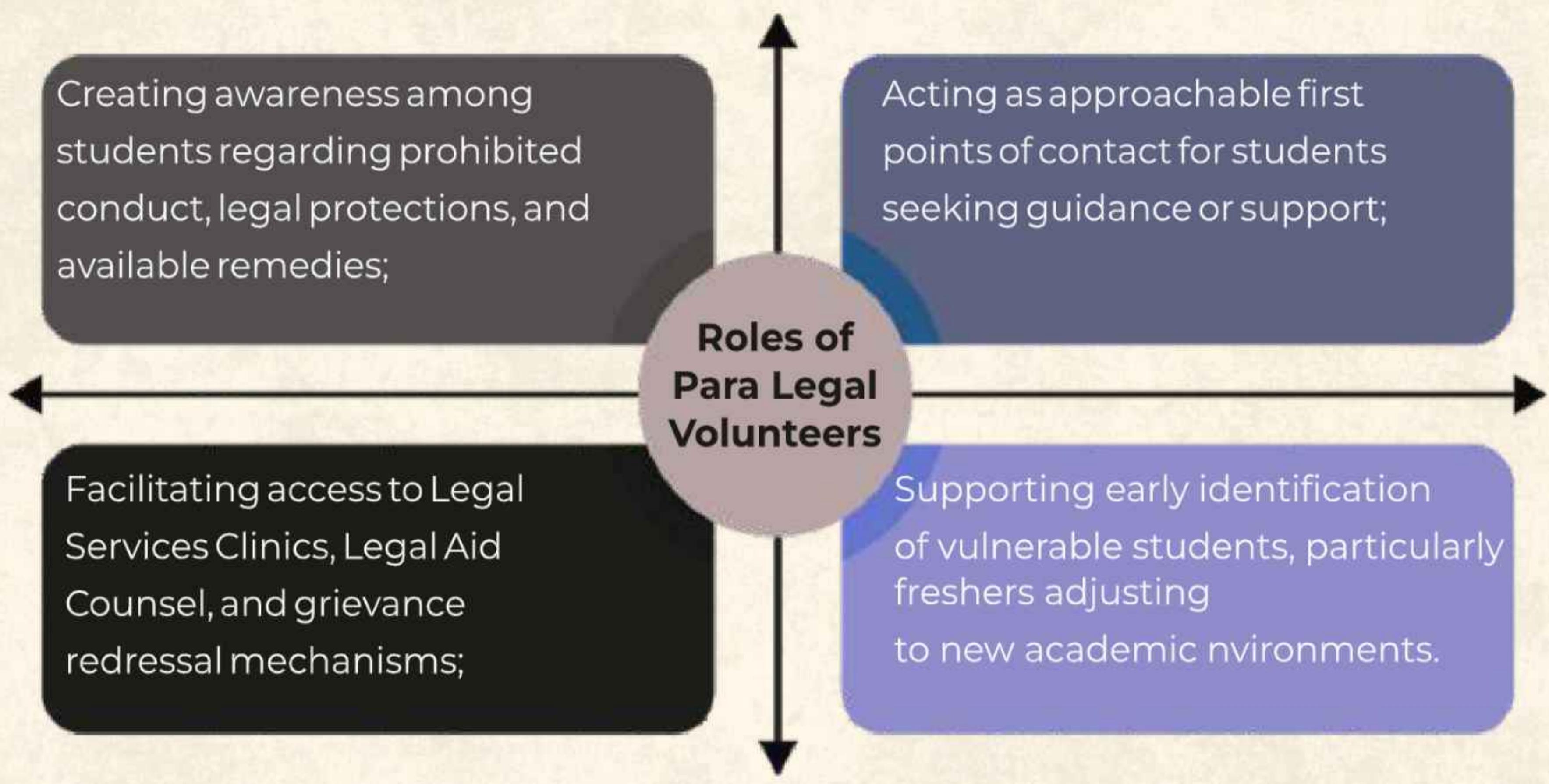
### A. Roles of the Secretary, DLSAs

The Secretary, DLSA, as the executive authority under the Legal Services Authorities framework and the DLSA Manual, 2023, is responsible for planning, coordinating, supervising, and monitoring legal services activities within the district. In matters relating to ragging, the Secretary, DLSA can facilitate intervention through:



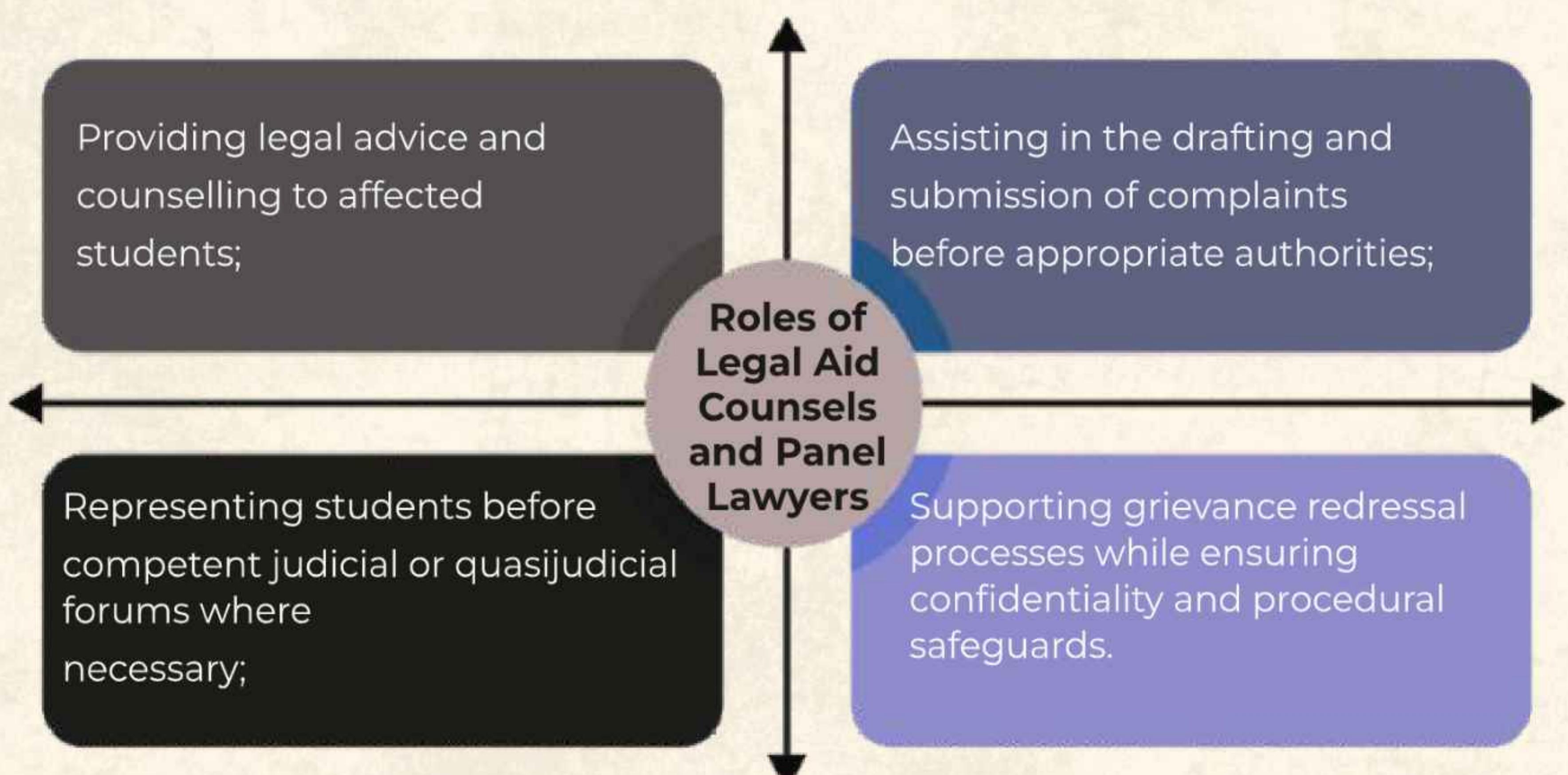
## B. Roles of Para Legal Volunteers

They serve as the grassroots outreach arm of Legal Services Institutions, performing functions outlined in the DLSA Manual, 2023, relating to legal awareness, beneficiary identification, and facilitation of legal aid.



## C. Roles of Legal Aid Counsels and Panel Lawyers

They are engaged under the legal services framework and detailed in the DLSA Manual, 2023, can provide professional legal assistance to students who approach Legal Services Institutions.



## XIX. INITIATIVES AND SUPPORT BY DLSAs

### A. Initiatives Undertaken

Over the years, DLSAs across the country have actively utilised their legal awareness and outreach mandate to address ragging in educational institutions. These initiatives demonstrate the sustained and nationwide engagement of Legal Services Institutions in promoting safe and dignified learning environments.

As early as **2016**, structured legal awareness programmes on anti-ragging laws were conducted in the National Capital Territory of Delhi. Programmes were organised at institutions such as **Vivekananda Institute of Professional Studies (VIPS)** and **Bhagini Nivedita College for Women**, with the support of civil society organisations, followed by further engagement at **Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University**, Dwarka. These early initiatives established the importance of repeated and institution-wide sensitisation.

In subsequent years, DLSAs expanded outreach beyond metropolitan regions, reinforcing that ragging is a national concern. During a **PAN-India outreach campaign in October 2021, DLSA Reasi** conducted multiple antiragging awareness programmes in collaboration with schools and educational institutions, reaching students at the secondary and higher secondary levels. In **August 2022, DLSA Ganderbal** organised an awareness programme at **Jammu & Kashmir Sainik School, Manasbal**, sensitising students within a disciplined and residential educational environment.

In Delhi, continued engagement with universities remained a priority. The **Central DLSA** organised anti-ragging awareness sessions at **Kirori Mal College, University of Delhi**, while on **23 August 2024, DLSA East Delhi** conducted an awareness programme at **Ambedkar Delhi Skill and Entrepreneurship University, Shakarpur**. The programme, conducted by a Panel Lawyer with the assistance of Para Legal Volunteers, received positive feedback from students and reaffirmed trust in Legal Services Institutions. A notable example of sustained institutional engagement is seen in the initiatives of **DLSA Sonitpur, Assam**. Recognising that freshers are particularly vulnerable to ragging, the Authority undertook year-on-year initiatives, including campus surveys, interaction with college administrations, installation of anti-ragging banners, assessment of institutional compliance, and encouragement of the formation of Anti- Ragging Squads. These efforts ensured that legal safeguards were actively implemented rather than remaining merely formal requirements.

## B. Support to Students and Grievance Redressal

In addition to awareness-building, DLSAs can provide direct support to students facing ragging. Students may approach Legal Services Institutions for free legal aid, counselling, assistance in grievance redressal, and representation before competent authorities. Legal Services Clinics and Para Legal Volunteer supported outreach enable students to seek help within their educational institutions, reducing fear and hesitation.

## C. Strengthening Institutional Response

Building upon existing initiatives and within the framework of the Legal Services Authorities and the DLSA Manual, 2023, future efforts may include:

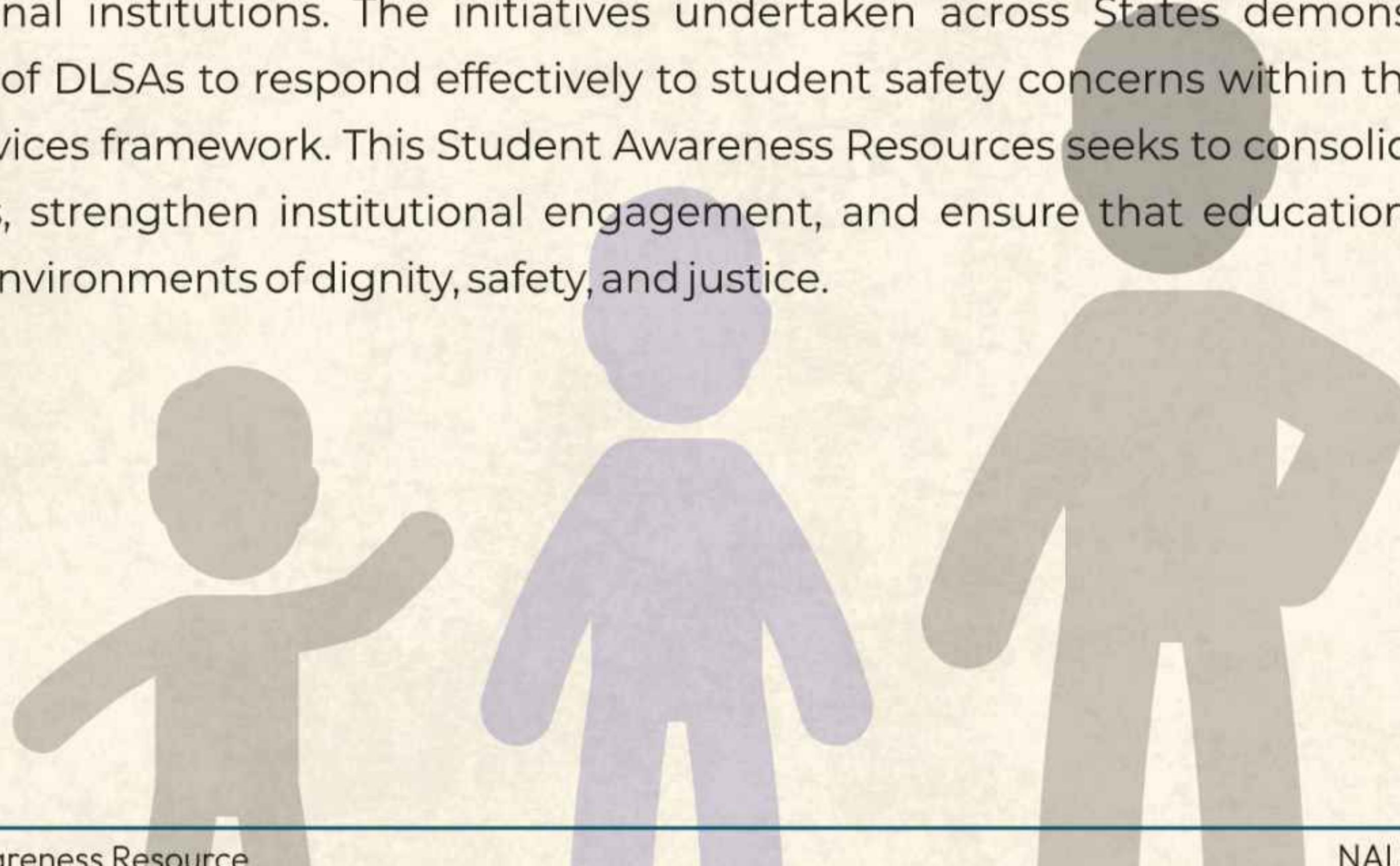
**Regular legal awareness sessions during institutional orientation programmes;**

**Wider establishment of Legal Services Clinics in educational institutions;**

**Enhanced deployment and training of Para Legal Volunteers for student-centric outreach;**

**Systematic documentation & review of campus-based legal services activities.**

Through sustained legal awareness, institutional coordination, and accessible legal assistance, Legal Services Institutions have played a vital role in addressing ragging in educational institutions. The initiatives undertaken across States demonstrate the capacity of DLSAs to respond effectively to student safety concerns within the existing legal services framework. This Student Awareness Resources seeks to consolidate these practices, strengthen institutional engagement, and ensure that educational spaces remain environments of dignity, safety, and justice.



**Note:**

## HELP IS AVAILABLE

### National Anti-Ragging Helpline

Toll-Free (24x7): 1800 180 5522 | Email: [helpline@antiragging.in](mailto:helpline@antiragging.in) | Website: [www.antiragging.in](http://www.antiragging.in)

### Centre for Youth (C4Y) – UGC Monitoring Agency -

Emergency Contact Only: 8826455807  
Additional Helplines: 9871170303 | 9818400116 | Email: [antiragging@c4yindia.org](mailto:antiragging@c4yindia.org) | Website: [www.c4yindia.org](http://www.c4yindia.org)

### University Grants Commission (UGC)

Website: [www.ugc.gov.in](http://www.ugc.gov.in) | UGC oversees compliance by universities and colleges and intervenes in cases escalated by the National Anti-Ragging Helpline or Monitoring Agency.

### Anti-Ragging Undertaking

(Mandatory for Students and Parents) Links:  
[www.antiragging.in/affidavit\\_registration\\_disclaimer.html](http://www.antiragging.in/affidavit_registration_disclaimer.html)  
[www.c4yindia.org/Home/Undertaking](http://www.c4yindia.org/Home/Undertaking)

### Universities and Colleges – Mandatory Compliance

[www.antiragging.in/compliance\\_desclaimer.html](http://www.antiragging.in/compliance_desclaimer.html)  
[www.c4yindia.org/Home/CollegeComplaince](http://www.c4yindia.org/Home/CollegeComplaince) | Update Links:  
[www.antiragging.in/compliance\\_desclaimer.html](http://www.antiragging.in/compliance_desclaimer.html)  
[www.c4yindia.org/Home/UpdateCollCont](http://www.c4yindia.org/Home/UpdateCollCont)

### Councils Reporting

Statutory councils regulating universities and colleges are required to report measures taken to prevent ragging.  
Reporting Link: [www.antiragging.in/admin/login.ph](http://www.antiragging.in/admin/login.ph)

### University Administration and Anti-Ragging Committees

Students may also approach their university administration, Anti-Ragging Committees, and Squads through the relevant university websites for immediate institutional support.

**Note:** This resource is intended solely for students & stakeholders awareness and sensitisation. Suggestions for improvement of this awareness resource may be shared with the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) at [nalsa-dla@nic.in](mailto:nalsa-dla@nic.in).



# National Legal Services Authority

*B-Block, Ground Floor, Administrative Buildings Complex,  
Supreme Court of India, New Delhi-110001*

## Jaisalmer House

*26, Man Singh Road, New Delhi-110011*

*Website: [www.nalsa.gov.in](http://www.nalsa.gov.in) Email: [nalsa-dla@nic.in](mailto:nalsa-dla@nic.in)*



# 15100

Toll-Free Helpline number



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National Legal Services Authority