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## Introduction

This is the second newsletter published by the Society Against Violence in Education (SAVE). After the first one was published just before our seminar (on *Ragging & Violations of Human Rights*) at the internationally famous *Kolkata Boi Mela* (Sunday, March 9, 2008), this is our another effort to keep you updated with the newsletters.

We publish an online edition of the newsletters, as well, in the website of our organization. Apart from the website, online communities, etc. the print versions of the newsletters serve an important mode of communication with the people against ragging.

We shall be glad to receive your suggestions, comments, etc. on our newsletters, as well as on others aspects of the organization.

## Volunteers launched “Awareness Campaigns”



SAVE volunteers again took to streets to spread the message against violations of human rights in the name of ragging. Volunteers went to various places for campaigning in March. The photograph shows one of the volunteers in action during the *Kolkata Book Fair*.

## Featured Article

### The Unexplained Silence

The menace of ragging has spread to almost every institution of higher education in India, and now-a-days, even to junior schools. In the long years of its rein of terror, ragging has devastated many families with deaths, injuries, serious psychological trauma, etc. Several states have framed anti-ragging laws and the apex court has ordered to curb ragging. But ragging still goes on, probably with accelerations in every year.

The apathy and indifference of the authorities of the affected institutions is probably beyond any doubt. But is there any motif why such institutions may rather encourage ragging???

A few points had surfaced, while talking to victims who preferred to remain anonymous. In one example, the victim informed that the seniors forcibly take money from the juniors to fund a picnic only for the seniors (apart from other exploitations and tortures). The college principal honors the picnic as a distinguished guest.

...cont. to page 2.

## SAVE Seminar - a grand success

The seminar on Sunday, March 9, 2008 at the *Allahabad A.C. Hall (Media Centre)* of the *Kolkata Boi Mela* was a huge success. People attended in large numbers, beating the scorching sun of the afternoon hours (3pm), and people were even standing at the end, to listen to the seminar - as all the chairs got filled up rapidly. We sincerely thank the speakers and the audience for their overwhelming supports.



We are thankful to the three eminent speakers – Dr. Amit Chakraborty (celebrity psychologist), Sri Amal Sarkar (renowned journalist) and Sri Satyapriya Mukhopadhyay (noted educationist) for kindly addressing the seminar. We are also thankful to the media who covered the event.



## SAVE Website is now hot & happening !!!

Our website ([www.no2ragging.org](http://www.no2ragging.org)) is receiving hits in leaps and bounds. In March 2008, despite being in a time when ragging incidences are at the nadir, hits to our site jumped to about 15000 (~500/day)!!! i.e., more than 20 persons visited the site every hour. The search engine ranking has been improving drastically, as well. Thanks a lot to the visitors. We are trying to add lots of new contents and features to our site very soon.



## Upcoming Events in June-July

SAVE has plans to visit the venue or to reach near the venue for WBJEE counseling. Like what the volunteers did under the banner of the then “*No Ragging Foundation*” in the previous year, we would like to spread the message this year also.

We also have plans to arrange for some seminars, workshops, interactive sessions etc. in many campuses.

## Message from the Hon'ble Chairman of WBHRC



We are very much grateful to Justice Sri S.K.Sen, hon'ble chairman of the WB Human Rights Commission for his kind wishes for the success of our seminar.

Again, we are also equally grateful to Dr. R.K.Raghavan, hon'ble chairman of the Dr. Raghavan Committee, for his similar wishes. We sincerely thank the other hon'ble members of the Dr. Raghavan Committee & the Union HRD Ministry, as well.

## Students speak

Though this has been a season when ragging cases are least likely to occur, in comparison to the other times of the year, we have received several complaints over phone and from the online form processor of our website. These complaints were however related to the events which allegedly occurred a few months earlier. Though the places were different, the natures of ragging, reported to us, were very much similar and shocking.

## Featured article – continued from page 1

In another occasion, the victim's family informed that the private college does not have any anti-ragging committee, and one is only formed if someone lodges complaint. The committee invariably finds both the accused and the accuser guilty and charges fines on both. The money goes to the college, just like the money collected as fines for cheating in the exams. Thus ragging becomes a profitable business.

It has been heard that in many institutions, part of the faculty still encourages ragging. May be that an incapable teacher tries to keep his dominance in an area where the other side is in a situation like that of a *Nazi concentration camp*. But what is often heard as the more probable reason is that some teachers, esp. the hostel-in-charge, get commission (from the sum collected from the juniors) in the form of foreign liquor, or even something unspeakable!

If such allegations are true, they would possibly explain what is not explained just by apathy or indifference or by presence of political pressure (in some cases). If they are true, shame to those teachers. True or false, there is a strong need to find out the real reason why the authorities let ragging unleash its ugly claws every year.

### How you may be part of the civil movement?

There are many ways to be part of it. We are suggesting some, but you are the best person to choose.

- ✓ Join us, as a Volunteer / Patron.
- ✓ Support our organization and our projects.
- ✓ Spread the message against ragging.
- ✓ Any other way, you consider appropriate.

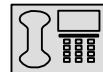
### Feedback / Contact -



Website – [www.no2ragging.Org](http://www.no2ragging.Org)

Email – [save@no2ragging.Org](mailto:save@no2ragging.Org)

### Talk to us -



(+91) 98360-42919

(+91) 94333-84293

### Virtual Volunteering

**SAVE** now launches opportunities for virtual volunteering, where you may help our struggle by just spending some time with your PC at any time of your convenience.

General Volunteering opportunities are also available.

We need more and more volunteers, to strengthen our movement against ragging.

### Online Campaigns

**SAVE** is running the largest ragging related community in *Orkut*, for quite a long time.

A few months ago, another Anti Ragging community was handed over to us.

Our own community still bears its own pre-registration name "*No Ragging Foundation*" so that people may find it while searching with the keyword "ragging".

..."*spreading awareness everywhere*".

### Have your say.

We are planning to introduce a new section in our newsletters and in our website, where comments from the readers and other well-wishers would be published. Also your article may become our "featured article".

We cordially invite your literary contribution to enrich the mouth-pieces of the Anti Ragging Movement.

**Society Against Violence in Education (SAVE)** is a registered Indian non profit organization (NGO), working against the violations of human rights in the name of ragging.

**SAVE** is mainly run by its young volunteers, with advices from the patrons and well-wishers (including noted doctors, psychologists, lawyers, journalists, educationists, government and non government officials, social workers, etc.). We are very much thankful to each and every well-wisher of the organization.

Space for sponsors