

Ethics and Values

Module-4.2

4th Semester

(For Under Graduate Students)

Odisha State Higher Education Council

Unit-4
Ethical Values for Student Life

4.2 Challenges for Ethical Practices in Institutions of Higher Education

4.2.0 Objectives

4.2.1 Introduction

4.2.2 Meaning and concept

4.2.2.1- Ragging

4.2.2.2- Suicide

4.2.2.3- Need for educational counselling

4.2.3 Violence v/s Peaceful protest

4.2.3.1 Violence

4.2.3.2 Peaceful protest

4.2.3.3 Violence v/s Peaceful protest

4.2.3.4 Conflict Resolution

4.2.4 Violation of Intellectual Property Rights

4.2.4.1 Intellectual Property Right (IPR)

4.2.4.2 Plagiarism

4.2.4.3 Cheating in examination

4.2.4.4- Other fraudulent practices

4.2.5 Let us sum up

4.2.6 Keywords

4.2.7 Check Your Learning

4.2.8 Suggested Reading

4.2.0 Objectives

Ethical practices constitute the foundation of higher learning. As major stakeholders of the academic community, faculty and students have a responsibility to abide by ethical principles regarding academic freedom, intellectual integrity, fair and respectful treatment to others. It is being observed that these principles are missing these days. Ragging, suicide cases, violence, cheating, and fraudulent practices are evident in higher education institutions. As the students are the future of the nation, they should be more concerned about the ethical practices. This chapter will make you

- Understand the essence of ethical practices.
- Learn ethical responsibility.
- Conscious about the need to lead a disciplined life and not to get involved in violent and fraudulent practices.

4.2.1 Introduction

Ethical principles and practices must guide the behaviour of the individual. Ethical codes of conduct and standards are given in official student handbooks or in the college websites, which are to be followed by the students. The intention is to modulate behaviour, develop an ethically responsible human being and also to develop disciplined, non-discriminatory attitudes, love and affection, obligations, moral responsibility and formation of overall personality of students.

4.2.2 Meaning and concept

4.2.2.1 Ragging

The word “ragging” is very commonly known to everyone. The Higher learning institutions are facing a lot of problems due to ‘ragging’. So, it is essential to make students aware of this unethical practice, which will make them face imprisonment, damage their careers and also may get them debarred from joining and appearing to any professional jobs due to the tag of being a criminal. Ragging is a criminal offence as per a Supreme Court ruling. It is an offence under the Indian Penal Code and under section 116 of the Karnataka Education Act 1983. The Ethical principles, moral values and a sense of responsibility are to be ingrained and should become an intrinsic characteristic of students. A student should give respect to teachers and also follow the rules established for them. A disciplined student is disciplined in all respect in society. Students should take academic responsibility, maintain integrity and practice self-discipline.

Life can be understood through the love and affection of friends at college, sharing of joys as well as failures, handling stress, taking responsibility, and helping each other for career growth. Ultimately, this will help students grow ethically and acquire strength to face the challenges of life. So, ethical practices mean the application of ethics, values, principles, and code of conduct in an organisation. It is applicable to all aspects of organisational conduct. Students as well as teachers or employees of higher learning institutions must follow an ethical conduct. It will help to inculcate qualities such as respecting each other, caring for each other, positive friendship, and acceptance.

The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India has given a more comprehensive meaning of ragging-Ragging is any disorderly conduct, whether by words spoken or written, or by an act which has effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness of any student, indulging in rowdy or indiscipline activities which cause or are likely to cause annoyance, hardship or psychological harm or to raise fear or apprehension thereof in a fresher or a junior student and, which has the effect of causing or generating a sense of shame or embarrassment so as to adversely affect the psyche of a fresher or a junior student.

In 2001, the Supreme Court banned ragging across India. Death of students, fear psychosis, damage of careers and also physical and mental torture still persist in some higher learning centres. The case of the death of Aman Kachru, a student of a medical college in Dharmasala due to ragging in 2009, prompted the Supreme Court to direct all educational institutions in the country to strictly follow the Anti-ragging, Law. In fact, the impact of ragging was very high in South India. As per the report, many students committed suicides in South India. According to the statistics, the highest number of cases of ragging was found in 1997 in Tamil Nadu. So, Tamil Nadu became the first state where ragging was completely banned in 1997. If at any point colleges/universities/ higher learning institutions do not follow the rules or ignore the matter then legal action can be taken against them. University Grants Commission (UGC) has formed strict rules related to the behaviour of students. Some states in India have passed their own legislations on ragging. Central legislations track Ragging in India through the Indian Penal Code (Section 294, 323, 325, 326, 339, 340, 341, 342, 506). UGC regulations on controlling ragging activities were initiated for higher educational institutions in 2009. AICTE (All India Council for Technical Education) and Medical Council of India have made their own regulations under their respective Acts. So, students who are future citizens and human resources should not damage their lives, careers, and conduct by indulging in such activities. Let us create a ragging-free campus, accept our freshers as the great alumni, and accept them as friends, brothers and sisters. It's a great responsibility of students to maintain the sanctity of their institution as a temple of

learning. The stakeholders of the institutions are idols who can protect the college with great moral strength, responsibility, obligation and ethical ways of life.

Negative Impacts of Ragging

- You will be considered as a criminal.
- You will destroy your career.
- You will be imprisoned for this activity.
- You will lead a life of a destitute in society.
- You may get life time imprisonment in the case of death of the victim.
- You may be debarred from college.
- You will not be allowed to appear for a job interview.
- Your career will not be accepted for any professional service.

4.2.2.2 Suicide

‘Suicide’ is one of the major social issues found affecting students. Mental health is an important concern for all. Higher education institutions have the great responsibility to take care of the mental health of their students. Mental illness of students leads to suicide or killing himself/herself. Students who are suffering from mental illness are not able to control academic stress, peer pressures because of problems with their parents or family. Finally, they decide to commit suicide. The term ‘suicide’ is derived from the Latin word “*Suicidium*” means “the act of taking one’s own life”. There are many factors responsible for suicide, which include:

- Failure in academics
- Stress
- Incompetence
- Mental disorder
- Conflict
- Lack of inter-personal relationships
- Adventure due to influence of social media, advertisements or stories
- Unemployment or low socio-economic conditions
- Loss of near and dear ones
- Falling into the trap of substance abuse

- Discrimination
- Psychological and mental illnesses
- Fear
- Depression
- Poor life-skills
- Being an Introvert
- Isolated life
- Non acceptance of failure
- Non adjustment to the situation

Suicidal tendency is prevalent among college students. At least, every hour one student is dying by killing himself/herself in India. So, higher education institutions have the moral responsibility of understanding students' minds. Each stakeholder and the authorities need to be very sensitive to the state of a student's mind, what the student is doing, talking about and how he/she spends time and what are their actions, attitudes of the students. College is a time of significant transition; many students live away from home for the first time and have less contact with and access to family and friends. So, adjusting to the new environment, fresh challenges of academic demands, peer pressure and a stressful life are a very difficult task for a student. Many students come to college with a prior history of mental ill health, family stress and personal difficulties. Teachers, hostel authorities, friends and college employees have the moral responsibility to get connected with students and give them moral support at every moment. So, as a student or a friend, here are ways in which you can help someone who is in a depressed mood or showing a suicidal tendency.

- Inform the authorities immediately
- Inform parents
- Show interest and be supportive
- Do not share the secrets others confide in you
- Offer one hope that alternatives are available
- Do not leave the person alone
- Do not be judgemental
- Try to avoid talk of suicide.
- Consult a counsellor.
- Give confidence.
- Assist persons who need any help.

Suicide is not an alternative or solution to the challenges of life. Yes, life is not a bed of roses. But the beauty of life is realised only after facing a lot of challenges. God has given us a brain, a healthy body, mind and some support. So let us try to survive and flourish with these. The best comes out of the worst and only the fittest survive. Students are real stress-handlers, real counsellors, and a source of real strength for their friends. So, let us not allow our friend to die and let us try to put a smile on his/her face.

4.2.2.3- Need for educational counselling

Educational counselling refers to providing assistance and guidance to students to choose career paths and to opt for better courses or programmes of study, which will accord with their interest and preferences. Many a time students fail to get an opportunity to pursue a career of their preference. This problem arises because of low marks, due to non-availability of seats, not getting a seat at their preferred colleges, financial constraints and many more issues. At this point of time, educational counselling is essential. To resolve these issues, educational counsellors must interact with students, create interest in them, show the opportunities available for them and also help them choose a career not just for study but for the enrichment of their lives. Many a time student never get good educational counsellors so they get biased in selecting a career. Once a wrong step in your career is taken, you cannot get back the time you spent on it. So, it would always be better for students to receive proper educational counselling to opt for career suitable options. Career opportunities are not limited. Our responsibility is to find out the right opportunity and embrace it. Every student has some potential, some skills and some knowledge but he/she does not know how to utilise them. It is the responsibility of teachers, career counselling cells and the authorities to give them exposure of knowledge and open the doors for the students to fly. Right career and right job are like two sides of a coin. When one is choosing a career, he/she must have a very clear idea about what scopes are there and what types of jobs are available. The greater responsibility of educational counsellors is to give guidance and to provide exposure in a particular career and show the path to achieve success in fulfilling career goals. Career achievement is the academic journey of a student. He/she must undertake it and come out with flying colours.

4.2.3 Violence v/s Peaceful protest

4.2.3.1 Violence

‘Violence’ means behaviour involving physical force intended to hurt, damage or kill someone or something. In other words, it is the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened in actual activities, against a group or community that either results in injury, death, psychological harm, mal-development or deprivation. As students are adolescents and due to hormonal changes, they are sometimes aggressive and show violence-prone behaviour. It affects the entire educational environment of the higher learning institutions. Anger, aggression, and conflict can be controlled in many ways, but once someone’s life is at stake or huge destruction occurs, institutions cannot be repaired or restored. All higher education institutions are built up with the efforts of teachers, students and parents’ and through contributions in terms of effort, taxes, cash and kind. When we damage public property, we damage our own property. Our educational institutions are like our home, where we spend maximum hours of our life. We build our skills, knowledge, behaviour, personality and also build our career. The body can be cured but if any damage happens to the institution, it requires a lot of time to get re-shaped. We are the gardeners, so our responsibility is to water and protect the garden, which enhances the beauty through flowers with fragrance.

There are lots of factors responsible for violence. They are biological, social, cognitive and situational factors.

- The biological factors refer to some neurological disorders, psychological problems, behavioural changes due to chemical influences of aggression and violence.
- Socialisation factors refer to those processes through which a person learns patterns of thinking, behaviour and feeling from his or her early life experiences. These influence the behaviour of a person. Violence-prone attitudes are reflected in reactions, talking styles and modes of behaviour.
- Cognitive factors refer to ideas, beliefs and patterns of thinking. Violence-prone individuals have different ways of interpreting life. They generally accept the violence as a norm and believe it is the right way of life and prefer to be members of violent groups or gangs. They involve themselves in anti-social activities.
- Situational factors refer to the elements and characteristics of the environment such as steps, aggression, abusive behaviour, stress or illegal activities which encourage violent

behaviour in others. Sometimes conflict between two students leads to conflict between two groups and then it takes the shape of a violent attack and violent protest. A peaceful situation or ambience should be the priority of all educational institutions. Some situations lead to violence.

These are factors which are responsible for causing violence. All higher learning institutions should keep an eye on students' behaviour. The majority of offenders snap, bite and kill their victims. Campus violence is a hazardous activity for students, who come to a college for a safe and sound learning purpose. A college is a place that inculcates a sense of unity, independence, freedom and sharing of views. A safe campus environment is one in which students, faculty and staff are free and feel comfortable to carry out their activities. A violence-prone campus is hunted by the fear of violence. The effect of violence on the campus in higher education institutions cannot be measured. It damages the image of the institution, destroys the career of the students and encourages miscreants in the campus. Various kinds of violence included-

- Rape
- Assault, fighting, mugging
- Physical violence
- Harmful acts which target specific individuals or groups
- Casual violence known as wilding
- Suicide
- Ragging

There are different laws and verdicts of the Supreme Court against violence.

- UGC guidelines direct the universities, colleges and educational management to take strict action against bullies and offenders on pain of either disassociating, in the case of a college or cutting down financial assistance if it is a university. The Supreme Court of India took serious note of ragging in 2001, when in Vishwa Jagriti Mission, through President v/s Central Government through Cabinet Secretary and others (1998) it set out guidelines to deal with this phenomenon.
- In Vishakha Vs. State of Rajasthan and others (1997) the Supreme Court recognised the omnipresent phenomenon of sexual harassment of women in Indian society. The Court defined sexual harassment as unwelcome behaviour including physical contact, demand or request for sexual favours, sexually-coloured remarks, exhibiting pornography and other unwelcome physical, verbal or non-verbal conduct of a sexual nature.

- There are punishments under the Indian Penal Code against acts of ragging. Every single occurrence of ragging or abetting in ragging puts an obligation on the institution to get an FIR registered. There are provisions on the IPC, which can be used by student to register an FIR in a police station (Anti-Ragging Laws in India,2018)

Besides, laws for ensuring a safe and violence-free campus can be created through the following steps:

- Conveying clear expectations for the conduct among students, faculty, staff and visitors
- Supporting healthy group norms
- Helping students to avoid harm through such measures as escort services and self-defence programmes.
- Providing a range of support services for students including mental health services, crisis management and compassionate services to victims.
- Safe campuses with CCTV surveillance and proper security arrangements

A violence-free campus can be created if when our students take responsibility of the campus. They should feel as if they are in their own homes, playgrounds, friend-circle and knowledge centres. The sense of safety can be conceived through healthy minds and safety approaches towards life. Let's have a safe campus full of happiness. There should be no quarrels, no conflicts, no violence, no discrimination and no arguments. Love and affection are the real keys to a peaceful campus. Discipline comes only when there is understanding, good interpersonal relationship between student groups, a healthy competition between rivals and an eagerness to achieve the career goals. So, let's have a disciplined life, attain career goals, spread happiness and avoid violence.

4.2.3.2 Peaceful protest

Life is a very complex system. It includes the capacity for growth, reproduction, functional activities and continual changes proceeding to death. To give justice to life, human beings struggle in various ways in society. The work, actions, decisions and ways to achieve success and goals are contributed by human efforts. Sometimes mistakes, wrong approaches, selfish interests dominate the human mind and ultimately an individual takes wrong steps. When any action is meant as a peaceful protest, or is known as nonviolent resistance or non-violent action, the act of expressing disapproval through a statement or action without the use of violence. There are different types of peaceful protests such as boycotts, sitting, squatting, civil disobedience and non-cooperation. The Supreme Court, in its judgement, has upheld "the right to

peaceful protest as a constitutional right. Which is rightly observed in “Freedom of speech, right to assemble and demonstrate by holding dharanas and peaceful agitation”. On the other hand, if you are causing any harm or engaging in violence or causing damage to the property, if you cannot be said to be engaged in peaceful protest. The great example of peaceful protest is ‘Mahatma Gandhi’s non-violence for resistance that helped to end British rule in India and achieved Independence’. Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful protest against unethical decision. It includes the right to hold meetings, strikes, rallies, events. It serves as a vehicle for bringing about change. Students should be the vehicles of change. If they protest against the unethical practices like cheating during examinations, using unethical means to get good marks, protest against drug and alcohol abuses while respecting each other’s opinions then there will be transformations in the sphere of education. It can only happen when each student protests individually and independently. Each student must spread such messages and promise not to get involved in any unethical practices. Protest does not mean to demanding something, or going on strike. It should be to bring change, to create a disciplined community and to be a role model for others. Protest assured of bringing peace and maintaining a harmonious environment in the campus. Law, rules and policies are instruments means to control violent activities but maintaining peace, harmony and protesting peacefully for a greater cause, are the real instruments to usher change in society.

Laws related to Right to Protest

- Right to Freedom of Assembly – **Article 19(1)(c)**: Individuals have the freedom to peacefully congregate in order to question and object to government actions through demonstrations, agitations, and public assemblies, as well as to form long-term protest movements.
- The Right to protest peacefully is enshrined in the Indian Constitution — **Article 19(1)(a)** guarantees the freedom of speech and expression;
- **Article 19(1)(b)** assures citizens the right to assemble peaceably and without arms. **Article 19(2)** imposes reasonable restrictions on the right to assemble peaceably and without arms.
These reasonable restrictions are imposed in the interests of the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security of the State, friendly relations with foreign States, public order, decency or morality or in relation to contempt of court, defamation or incitement to an offence.
- In the Ramlila Maidan Incident v/s. Home Secretary, Union of India & Others. case (2012), the Supreme Court stated, “Citizens have a fundamental right to assembly and peaceful protest which cannot be taken away by an arbitrary executive or legislative action.”

- **Right to protest: Restrictions-**

This is a fundamental right but if it is in a nonviolent form, then the government can accept these protests. If the protests violate the following norms then strict action can be taken on the public-

- Protest is an acceptable exercise unless it damages and harms the security of the state.
- Friendly relations with neighboring countries are harmed
- Violation of public order
 - Contempt of court
- The integrity and sovereignty are threatened

- The fundamental right to protest is protected under article 19 (1) (a), 19 (1) (b) and 19 (1) (c).

Right to Freedom of Speech – Article 19(1)(a):

The right to free speech and expression is translated into the freedom to publicly express one's opinion on the activities of the government.

Right to Freedom of Association- Article 19(1)(b):

It is vital to have the right to form political organisations. These can be organised in order to challenge government activities collectively.

Right to Freedom of Assembly – Article 19(1)(c):

Individuals have the freedom to peacefully congregate in order to question and object to government actions through demonstrations, agitations, and public assemblies, as well as to launch long-term protest movements.

When these rights are combined, they allow anybody to peacefully gather and demonstrate against the state's actions or inaction. The protests are for democracy, and the objective of the protest is to protect the integrity of laws in the country.

4.2.3.3 Violence v/s Peaceful protest

The concepts of violence and peaceful protests are explained in this chapter. As a student we should know in what ways the concepts are different.

Violence	Peaceful Protest
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour involving physical force intended to hurt, damage or kill someone or something. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A non-violent resistance or non-violent act of expressing disapproval through a statement or action without the use of violence.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence does not have any positive result. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A peaceful protest always gives a positive result.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violent action involves the use of physical force in an attempt to resolve the issue on demand. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A peaceful protest involves moral strength, and support to resolve an issue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence always happens suddenly and results in damage, destruction, physical harm and bring no good outcome. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A peaceful protest requires a consistent protest against some unethical issue till the goal is achieved.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence happens between two or more parties/individuals to advance self-interest. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful protest is always for the group, community and for greater interest.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence occurs due to physiological, cognitive, social and situational factors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful protest always takes place to resolve for a socially relevant issue.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Violence is legally prohibited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Peaceful protest is legally permitted.

4.2.3.4 Conflict Resolution

Human activities are based on agreement and disagreement. When someone is doing a particular work, and if that is not accepted by others, conflict arises. This is a human tendency. The term 'conflict' refers to a serious disagreement or argument between two individual, groups or community. A conflict is a struggle which arises due to a clash of interests, opinions, rights, demands and for personal benefits. It can be looked at in with a positive way. Conflicts can give a better option, alternative solutions to a problem, provide justice to a victim and help one understand other's minds. At colleges, due to some issues conflict is created and innocent students become a part of this problem. Conflict leads to gang war and gang war leads to violent

activities and ultimately, the result is damage to career and life which is irreparable. There are four types of conflict:

1. Conflict with the self
2. Conflict with others
3. Conflict with the environment
4. Conflict with the super-natural.

It can otherwise be broadly divided into two categories – internal and external. Internal conflict arises due to one's own opposing desires, whereas external conflict sets someone against something or someone beyond their control. So, a major responsibility lies in the resolution of conflicts. The concept of conflict resolution refers to an informal or formal process that two or more parties use to find a peaceful solution to their disputes, disagreements, or non-acceptance of any issue. Generally, conflict arises during organising a programme, events and sometimes while hosting them. The authorities need to be very vigilant about this. There are many steps which can be adopted to resolve the conflict.

Step-1- Understand the issue

Step-2- Identify the reasons of a conflict

Step-3- Set a discussion time

Step-4- Find a common solution

Step-5- Taking steps to arrive at a compromise

Step-6- Avoiding the problem- creating elements

Step-7- Listen carefully to both the parties

Step-8- Build confidence between the two parties and urge them to tell the truth

Step-9- Appeal to their conscience

Step-10- Provide a win solution

Conflict resolutions can be initiated through the involvement of students, respecting their ideas and understanding problems address root causes.

4.2. Violation of Intellectual Property Rights

4.2.1- Intellectual Property Rights

Intellectual Property Rights refer to patents, copyright, industrial design rights, trademarks, plant variety rights, trade dress, geographical indications and the innovatory

products, results of research and the need to protect your innovative work. This legal right has to be claimed over your work. There are three important types of intellectual property protection.

➤ **Types of intellectual property protection**

- **Patents**-If you have come up with new innovations, experimental results, research, findings you may protect your work by applying patents. This will give you the legal right as the owner on the said innovative work.
- **Trademarks**- This can be claimed by your business brand. Suppose you have a Start-up Company and you want to protect and legalise the brand, then you have to apply for your trademarks.
- **Copyright**- The Copyright is a type of intellectual property right which allows the owner the exclusive right to copy, distribute, adopt, display and perform any creative, or literary, idea or music, artistic or any educational write-up. Copyright includes exclusive rights such as reproduction, adoption, publication, performance and display. As per rules, the owner of the copyright can claim the ownership for works created after January 1, 1978 which lasts for the life of the author in addition to another 70 years after his death. Copyright is presented by this symbol i.e. for the works.

Intellectual property rights are crucial for students. Students can protect their creations in the field of music, write-ups, innovations, new ideas, experiments, new products, and new brand. The Ownership is always essential for credentiality. But these things are unethically stolen away and someone else takes credit for innovation. This can be prevented only through building awareness of students. A genuine creation needs to be protected and ownership must be claimed by creators and credentials will be attached to their works.

4.2.4.2 Plagiarism

‘Plagiarism’ is today’s buzz word in research. Young generations should be aware of this concept. This is an unethical act. ‘Plagiarism’ means presenting or claiming someone else’s work or ideas as your own without his/her consent and also without acknowledging the original owner. All published, unpublished materials, manuscripts, printed and electronic content involve ownership. Copying others’ write-ups and claiming these to be yours constitute a theft and fraud.

A writer who is copying others write-ups should give proper credit to the writer of the original and pay acknowledgement him/her. Plagiarism is of four types such as:

➤ **Direct Plagiarism-**

The word-by-word copy of someone's work without quotation marks, source indications or reference numbers and without giving foot notes

➤ **Self-Plagiarism-**

A type of Plagiarism in which the writer republishes a work entirely or reuses the portions of a previously written text while writing a new article. It means that if you are publishing the same work by copying the contents of one write-up then it is called self-plagiarism.

➤ **Mosaic Plagiarism**

It is a type of Plagiarism when a writer borrows phrases from a source without using quotation marks or just replaces for the authors words with synonyms while keeping the same general structure, paragraphs, style and meaning of the original. This is also a fraudulent activity; one should not use the phrases without citing the source and using quotation marks.

➤ **Accidental Plagiarism-**

It refers to a crucial type of plagiarism. It occurs when a person unintentionally neglects to cite their sources or misquotes their sources or unintentionally paraphrases a source by using similar words, groups of words and sentence structures without attribution. It commonly occurs due to lack of proper citation or wrong citation or neglecting to quote.

The author or writer is the owner of all the words, sentences, paragraphs, thought processes and ideas. So, one should not copy these, one can read text and get the idea. The idea can be improved, can be justified with other dimensions and can be modified with innovations but cannot be copied directly. It can be permissible only with proper acknowledgment, source indication and reference numbers. Students should be aware of such things so that they can protect their write-ups and never copy any write ups and ideas from others. Innovation, thinking and creativity are real intellectual outputs of the students. Section 57 of the Copyright Act allows the author an exclusive right. It offers the author an opportunity to protect the work from unauthorised copy of the work. Section 63 of the Act considers violation copyright as a criminal offence. The punishment may

include imprisonment for 6 months to 3years. So,students, lets us create our own content and not copy from others. It is a highly offensive and constitutes a criminal activity.

4.2.4.3 Cheating in Examination

Cheating in the examination is the most common criminal offence by committed by students. It means engaging in dishonest practices and communicating in any way during an examination with another person inside or outside the examination hall. In simple terms, the undisciplined manner during the examination and keeping unauthorised materials during an examination. It can be easily explained in the following terms.

- Communicating in any way about examination questions with others students.
- Helping others during an examination
- Keeping write-ups, books or any other materials for cheating purposes.
- Using any digital gadget for copying or collecting information from outside.
- Giving or accepting assistance from any person who is not an invigilator.

These illegal practices are not allowed in an examination hall. It will lead to damage to your career. You will be booked under mal-practice. So, one has to work very hard to secure good percentage of marks. If you prefer to copy, the marks which you will secure through copying will not be helpful in any way. Knowledge always prevails. You need to study, memorise, practice and understand concepts then only learning happens. So, it is always preferable to get marking your own efforts not seeking help from others. If you get the marks through your own hard work, then you will be an achiever and a successful person in society. So, avoid unethical practices and prepare yourself to become the best student your college.

4.4.1.6 Other Fraudulent Practices

The opposite of ethical practices is fraudulent practices. Fraudulent practices refer to “any act of omission, including misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain financial benefits or to avoid obligation”. In simple terms, a fraudulent activity means being deliberately deceitful, dishonest or untrue. A higher learning institution owns the responsibility of creating professionals for all sectors of society. Students should be well versed with such knowledge so that they can safeguard the administration and eradicate the disease of ‘corruption’. Four types of terminology are used to understand the

fraudulent behaviour i.e., corrupt practices, fraudulent practices, coercive practices and collusive practices.

- Corrupt practices refer to the offering, giving, receiving or soliciting directly or indirectly of anything in terms of kind and money to influence for any personal benefit.
- Fraudulent practices refer to the omission, including misrepresentation that knowingly or intentionally misleads, or attempts to mislead a party/person/organisation, to obtain a financial benefit or to avoid an obligation.
- Coercive practices mean harming, threatening to harm any person, property or someone influence improperly, directly or indirectly
- Collusive Practice refers to the “arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, influencing someone directly in a corrupt mass.

Fraudulent activities and behaviour damage the integrity and lead to a corrupted society. Justice for common people is not achieved. Students are the future administrators. They must be conscious of these undesirable activities in society. Let us understand different types of fraudulent activities.

- Academic fraud
- Financial fraud
- Banking fraud
- Mail fraud
- Cyber fraud
- Debit and credit card fraud
- Voter fraud
- Healthcare fraud
- Tax refund fraud
- Internet fraud
- Licensing fraud
- Fraud in the medical sector
- Charities fraud
- Merchant fraud

These fraudulent activities are persisting in many ways.

- **Academic fraud**- Related to examinations, cheating, partiality, plagiarism,
- **Financial fraud**- Deception, money laundering, offering money for illegal

activities.

- **Banking fraud-** Stealing the personal financial information and swiping away the money.
- **Mail fraud-** Stealing data or information about someone or something through fraudulent schemes on mail
- **Cyber fraud-** Intention to corrupt someone's personal and financial information
- **Debit and credit card fraud-** Using someone's credit card and debit card information illegally
- **Voter fraud or electoral fraud-**This involves illegal interference with the process of election
- **Healthcare fraud-** Intentionally deceiving the health care system to receive unlawful benefits or payments
- **Tax refund fraud-**Tax- related identity stealing occurs when someone uses your stolen personal information, including social security number to file a tax return.
- **Internet fraud-**Stealing data from Facebook, social media or internet platforms, phishing and identity theft etc. using virus, malware etc
- **Licensing fraud-** Using others licences specifically driver's licences or illegal issue of licences.
- **Fraud in the medical sector-** Posing as doctors or medical associates, stealing organs or giving wrong prescription or dealing in fake medicines etc. for money- making.
- **Charities fraud-** The act of using deception to get money from people who believe they are making donations for a noblecause.
- **Merchant fraud-** When a fraudster poses as a merchant in order to process a transaction and steal the funds.

To prevent and control these activities various legal codes are available. The Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860 sets out the penal provisions concerning the majority of criminal offences in India. IPC penalises dishonest acts, misappropriation of property, criminal breach of trust, cheating and dishonesty including delivery of property, or forgery. Fraudulent behaviour exists in many ways as students are real stakeholders of the

country, and they need to move towards to achieve a nation faced with fraud and corruption.

4.2.5 Let us sum up

- Objectives-
 - To understand the essence of ethical practices
 - To enable you to realise your ethical responsibilities
 - To make you conscious of the need to lead a disciplined life
- Ethical principles and practices provide guidelines to modulate the behaviour of the individual.
- Ragging is a misconduct which causes mental torture, physical torture, harassment, hardship and raises fear and psychological stress in students. This is an unethical practice which will lead the ragger (who indulge into such activity) to imprisonment. It damages his/her conduct and career and they will never qualify for any job and will be identified as criminals.
- ‘Suicide’ is a major social problem. The mental illness of students leads to suicide. Many factors are responsible for suicide among students. Academic failure is a major challenge. So, each stakeholder in higher learning institutions needs to be concerned about students and understand the mental health of their student.
- Educational counselling means providing assistance and guidance to students to help them choose suitable careers and to opt for a preference of study, which will be suit their interests and preferences. An educational counsellor’s responsibility is to show students right career options, give them confidence, encourage them by convincing them that every field has its own platform to flourish. The pursuance of a career is always supported with skills, knowledge and learning abilities and one has to work hard on it.
- Violence means behaviour involving physical force. This is also prohibited at any place. All higher education institutions are built through the collective efforts of teachers, students’ and their parents’ contributions. When any damage happens through any type of violent action, we damage our homes, kill our own brothers, sisters and near and dear ones. This is also a criminal activity. If a student gets involved in any kind of violence, he/she will come under the purview of law. Peaceful protests can only save society from any unlawful actions, not violence.

Conflicts should always be expressed looked at from a positive angle. Agreement and disagreement should be in terms of the exchange of ideas, views and options but not in the form of gang wars. Conflict can be resolved in a peaceful way by discussing the issues involved.

- Unethical practices include the violation of intellectual property rights. These rights can be protected by patents, trademarks, copyrights and by avoiding plagiarism. Cheating in examinations and fraudulent behaviour are now common. Students should protect society and should participate in a movement in order to create a corruption- free society.

4.2.6. Keywords

- **Ethical practices:** Guiding principles and ethical code of conduct to modulate the behaviour at organisations/institutions
- **Ragging:** To make someone the object of unkind laughter. It is a mis-conduct which causes mental and physical agony to someone
- **Suicide:** Ending one's life
- **Educational Counselling:** Counselling to provide advice and assistance to students to develop their educational plans, help them to choose their career paths and choose appropriate courses
- **Violence:** Behaviour involving physical force intended to hurt, damage or kill someone
- **Peaceful Protest:** Protesting without engaging in any violent activity. Disagreement expressed through silent protest.
- **Conflict Resolution:** To solve a conflict or misunderstanding or disagreement through finding a win-win solution.
- **Intellectual Property Rights:** Right to protect one's intellectual contributions through patents, trademarks, copyright etc.
- **Plagiarism:** Presenting someone else's work as your own, without securing his/her consent or using quotation marks.

4.2.7. Check your learning

Q-1. Answer in two or three sentences:

- (a) Ethical practices.
- (b) Ragging
- (c) Suicide

- (d) Factors responsible for suicide
- (e) Educational counselling
- (f) Violence
- (g) Factors responsible for violence
- (h) Socialisation- prone violence.
- (i) Kinds of violence
- (j) Peaceful protest
- (k) Ragging- free campus
- (l) Laws to control ragging
- (m) Anti-ragging law
- (n) Laws related to right to protest
- (o) Conflict resolution.
- (p) Intellectual Property Rights
- (q) Copy right
- (r) Patent
- (s) Plagiarism
- (t) Types of fraud
- (u) Fraudulent behaviour
- (v) Corrupt practices
- (w) Mosaic plagiarism
- (x) Collusive practices
- (y) Self-plagiarism

Q-2. Answer in 50 words:

- (a) What is the importance of ethical practices?
- (b) Define ragging and how it affects students.
- (c) Explain factors responsible for suicide among students.
- (d) Outline the steps to stop the incidence of suicide in campus?
- (e) What are the laws related to ragging?
- (f) What is the need for educational counselling?
- (g) Differentiate between violence and peaceful protest.
- (h) Give an example of peaceful protest.
- (i) What are steps of conflict resolution?
- (j) What is Intellectual Property Right?
- (k) Define plagiarism and outline the types of plagiarism.

- (l) Cheating in examination is an unethical behaviour, explain.
- (m) What is fraudulent behaviour and what are the different types of fraudulent practice?
- (n) Explain different types of frauds.

Q-3. Answer in 250 words:

- (a) Explain challenges for adopting ethical practices in higher learning institutions.
- (b) Define ragging and discuss laws relating ragging.
- (c) What are the factors responsible for suicide and how suicide can be stopped in the campuses?
- (d) Describe the need for educational counselling.
- (e) Differentiate between violence and peaceful protest with suitable examples.
- (f) Define conflicts and discuss conflict-resolution steps.
- (g) How can Intellectual Property Right will be protected, discuss?
- (h) What is plagiarism and discuss the types of plagiarism?
- (i) Cheating in examinations is a crime. Discuss.
- (j) What is fraudulent behaviours and discuss various types of fraudulent practices.
- (k) What is fraud? Discuss different types of fraud.