



A Comparative Study of Attitude towards Ragging among Government and Private College Students

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ABSTRACT

According to Gordon Allport, a famous social psychologist, an attitude is a hypothetical construct that represents an individual's degree of like or dislike for something. Hence in the present study an initial attempt has been made to A Comparative Study of Attitude towards Ragging among Government and Private College Students. For accomplishing the objectives the sample of 200 students of Govt and private collage of Agra city were included in the age range of 18 years to 22 years. Both males and females were included in the sample and studied thorough aging attitude scale. 2way ANOVA was applied to see the within and between interaction effect between private and govt male and females students. The result based on quantitative research revealed that in there is no significant difference between ragging attitude of government and private college students ($F=.119, p>.789$) but private college students had high ragging attitude as compare to their counterparts Govt collage. Similarly there is no significant difference between ragging attitude of male and female college students ($F=.110, P>.796$), but scores shows female students had high aging attitude as compare to male countepat. Finally there is a significant difference interaction effect between ragging attitude in gender and institution, ($F=10.840, P<0.01$).

Keywords: Adolescence, Ragging Attitude, Government and Private College.

An attitude is a psychological construct, it is a mental and emotional entity that inheres in, or characterizes a person. According to Gordon Allport, a famous social psychologist, an attitude is a hypothetical construct that represents an individual's degree of like or dislike for something. Attitudes are generally positive or negative views of a person, place, thing, or event; often referred to as the attitude object. People can also be conflicted or ambivalent toward an object, meaning that they simultaneously possess both positive and negative attitudes toward the item in question. Attitude of a person is determined by psychological factors like ideas, values, beliefs, perception, etc. all these cognitive factors have a complex role in determining a person's attitude.



Societies play an important role in formatting the attitudes of an individual. Culture, tradition, home environment, society, language etc., influence a person's attitudes.

Ragging was started as a Positive attitude but with passage of time it has become a painful practice. On the positive side earlier ragging comprised only of some basic introduction that makes new student familiar with the college environment. It is a kind of approach which enables new students to remove hesitation to express views but now ragging involves existing students baiting or bullying new students. Ragging is any conduct by any student or students whether by words spoken or written or by an act which has effect of teasing, treating or handling with rudeness, any physical and psychological harm/abuse or to raise fear or apprehension on a fresher or any other students. It often takes a cruel form wherein the newcomers may be subjected to psychological or physical torture. In 2009 the University Grant Commission of India imposed regulations upon Indian universities to help curb ragging, and launched a toll-free 'anti ragging helpline'.

The very first incident of ragging took place in USA in 1657, when the University of Harvard fined the senior students for fresher hazing. However, this is what has officially been reported. Unofficially the brutal of ragging started long ago. Ragging is a term used in India to refer to criminal activity, which takes place inside education institution. Ragging is different from other crimes because the motive is solely to get perverse pleasure. The so-called "Ragging culture" did not exist in India before 1960-1970. In India, education institutions were treated as "holy places". Ragging in education institution was limited to verbal abuse. However, as the days went by physical abuse and sexual abuse became part of Ragging. The very first official step against ragging was taken by Tamilnadu Govt. in 1997, they brought legislation against ragging. Later different states of India followed their steps and tried to ban ragging legally.

Definition of ragging

According to the Maharashtra prohibition of ragging act, 1999," ragging means display of disorderly conduct, doing of any act which causes or is likely to cause physical or psychological harm or raise apprehension or fear or shame or embarrassment to a student in any educational institution and includes: i) teasing , abusing , threatening or plying practical jokes on , or causing hurt to such student; or ii) asking a student to do any act or perform something which such student will not in the ordinary course of any educational institution is prohibited."

A study was conducted by Aina & Kulshrestha (2017) examined the level of awareness of sexual harassment in educational institutions in Delhi NCR (India). This paper grouped the results of all respondents into two categories, i.e. Private and State institutions, wherein a total number of 430 respondents were selected from ten private and state universities by simple random sampling from their respective law faculties. The statistical tools used in analyzing the data collected were frequency and chi square which revealed that the level of awareness of private or individually owned institutions is relatively high but lacks clarity, and boils down to a lower level of awareness as compared with state or government owned institutions. The findings also revealed that private universities experience sexual harassment just like state universities. Based on these results, the



author recommends the augmentation of awareness programs in all universities, especially private ones. Compulsory sexual education courses for new intakes could be arranged, and final year students could also be re-oriented before they graduate.

Justification of the problem

- In current situation, ragging is one burning topic, which is very serious among the youngsters.
- There are very limited studies of government and private college students.
- Ragging is a problem of the students and by the students; and therefore, the solution to it also lies with students. Hence, thoughtful the attitude of students will definitely be beneficial.
- With ragging becoming rampant in college, it is about time that the student community awakens its conscience to this inhuman practice.
- Every day we come across some or the other news related to ragging, therefore we need to focus toward this issue seriously.

PROBLEM

- A Comparative Study of attitude towards ragging among government and private college students

HYPOTHESES

The following hypotheses were formulated for the present investigation

- There is no significant difference between ragging attitude of government and private college students.
- There is no significant difference between ragging attitude of male and female college students.
- There is no significant interaction effect between ragging attitude of Institute (government and private) and Gender (male and female)

VARIABLES

- **Independent Variables**

- | | |
|-------------|-----------------------|
| Institute - | 1) Government College |
| | 2) Private College |
| Gender – | 1) Male |
| | 2) Female |

- **Dependent Variables**

- 1) Ragging



- **Relevant Variables**

- 1) Age (students between 18 to 22 years will be selected)
- 2) Education level (Under Graduate)

SAMPLE

The sample of the study consisted of 200 students (100 Government college student 50 male and 50 female 100 Private college students 50 male and 50 female). Sample was include students between the ages of 18 years to 22 years (both male and female students) and purposive sampling technique was used .

INSTITUTE	GENDER	
	MALE	FEMALE
Government College	50	50
PRIVATE College	50	50

TOOL

“Attitude towards Ragging Scale (ATRS)” by Kumar & Sadhwani

The scale consisting of 30 statements, the items are categorized on a five point scale ranging from strongly agree, agree, neutral, disagree and strongly disagree. There are positive and negative statements in the scale. Item number 2, 4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,14,15,22,23,24,26 are positive items and 1,3,12,13,16,17,18,19,20,21,25,27,28,29 & 30 are negative items. The positive statements carry 5,4,3,2,1 scoring; while negative statements carry 1,2,3,4,5 scores respectively.

Total obtained score were added and test score was calculated by dividing the obtained score with the total number of item.

$$\text{Test Score} = \frac{\text{Obtained Scores}}{\text{Total no. of items}}$$

In the statements 5 score is given to “ Strongly agree”, 4 to “agree”, 3 score to neutral, 2 to disagree & 1 to strongly disagree alternatively Negative statements are reversed scored. The test score below 3 are considered as unfavorable, and above 3 are considered as favorable, and score 3 is stated as neutral.

DESIGN

2x2 factorial designs was used.



ANALYSES AND INTERPRETATION OF RESULT

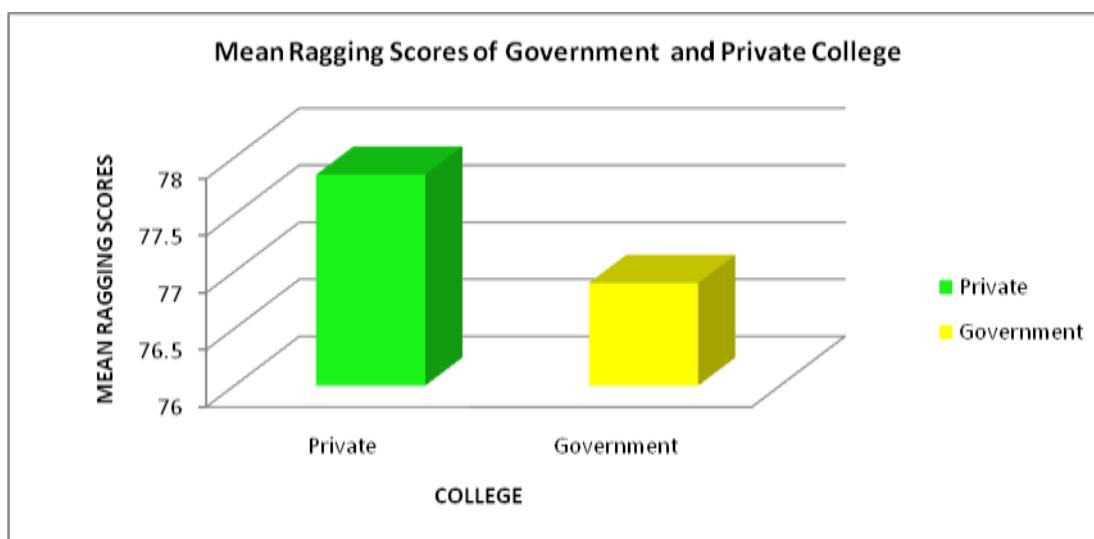
Table- 1.1 Mean Ragging scores of Government College and private college

Institute	N	Mean
Private	100	77.85
Government	100	76.90

N= Number of Students

On the basis of the test scores obtained on the ATRS (100 Private and 100 governments) the mean scores are shown in Table- 1.1. The result Table – 1.1 shows that the overall mean value of Private College is 77.85 and Government College 76.90. It is shown that private have higher favorable attitude towards ragging than Government College. This reflects that private female students have more inclination towards ragging than male.

Graph -1.1 (a) Mean Ragging scores Graph of Government College and private college



N= 200 (100 Private and 100 Government)

This investigation has also graphically depicted the mean scores of the attitude towards ragging of private and government colleges students. Graph shows private college students had high attitude towards ragging.



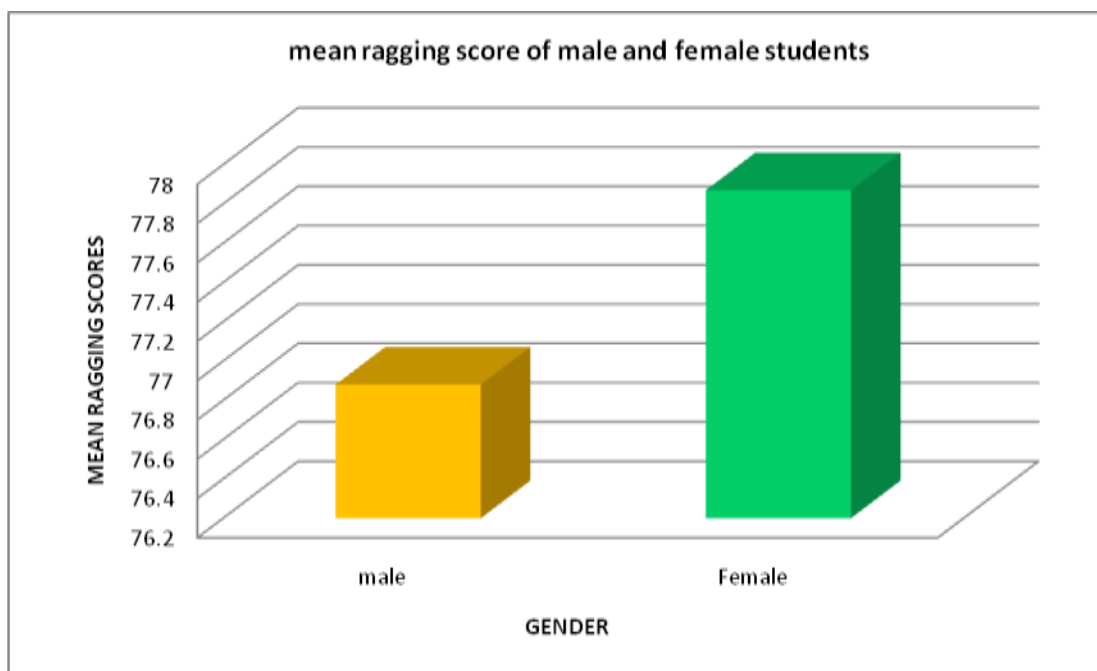
Table- 1.2 Mean Ragging scores of male and female Students

Gender	N	Mean
Male	100	76.88
Female	100	77.87
Total	200	77.38

N= Number of Students

On the basis of the test scores obtained on the ATRS (100 Male and Female 100) the mean scores are shown in Table- 1.2. The result Table – 1.2 shows that the overall mean values of male students are 76.88 and female students 77.87. It is shown that female have higher favorable attitude towards ragging than male students. This reflects that female students have more inclination towards ragging than male.

Graph - 1.2 (b) mean ragging score graph of male and female students





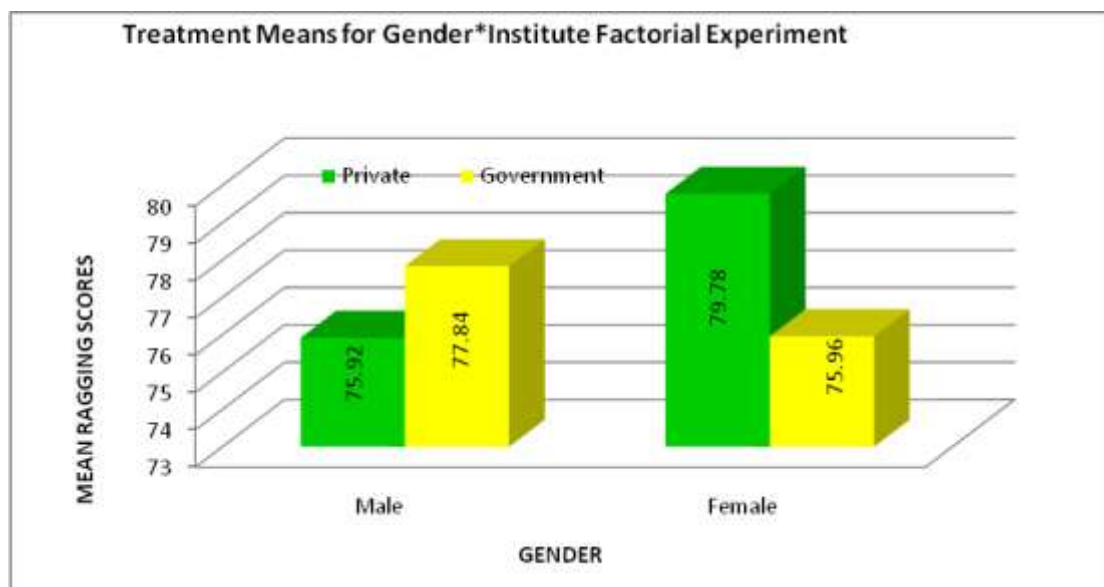
This investigation has also graphically depicted the mean scores of the attitude towards ragging of male and female college's students. Graph shows female students had high attitude towards ragging.

TABLE 1.3 - Mean Ragging scores of Government College and private college on the bases of their gender (male and female).

Institute	Gender		Mean
	Male	Female	
Private	75.92	79.78	77.85
Government	77.84	75.96	76.90
Total	76.88	77.87	77.38

On the basis of the test scores obtained on the ATRS (100 Private college student, 50 male and 50 female and 100 governments college's student 50 male and 50 female) the mean scores are shown in Table- 1.3 the result Table – 4.3 shown that the overall mean values of Private College is male 75.92 and female student 79.78 and total 77.85 and Government College male student 77.84 and female student 75.96 and total 76.90. It is shown that private college student (female) have higher favorable attitude towards ragging than male college student. This reflects that government college student male students have higher favorable attitude towards ragging than female college student more inclination towards ragging than female.

Graph 1.3(c) mean ragging score graph of Government College and private college on the bases of their gender (male and female).



This investigation has also graphically depicted the mean scores of the attitude towards ragging of private and government colleges students (male and female student) in figure-1.3.

Table 1.4 - SUMMARY OF ANALYSIS OF VARIANCE: 2x2 ANOVA on attitude towards ragging scale (ATRS)

SOURCE OF VARIANCE	SS	Df	MS	F	LEVEL OF SIGNIFICANCE
Gender (A)	49.005	1	49.005	.119	P>0.05
College (B)	45.125	1	45.125	.110	P>0.05
Gender* College (AB)	411.845	1	411.845	10.840	P<0.01
Within Group error	7446.900	196	37.994		
Total	7952.88	199	543.969		

Effect of gender



The Main Effect of the first independent variable (i) Gender ($F_{\text{gender}} (1,196) = 119, p = .789$) on the dependent variable ragging of college student was found insignificant, which suggest the accepted of any Null Hypothesis (that would have been formulated) and in turn, directs to the acceptance of directional hypothesis related to the variable framed and formulated for the purpose. This supports the interpretation that ignoring the Gender (male and female) and Institute (private and government) certainly produces differential no effect on ragging of the students The difference between the Means $\text{Male} = 76.88 < \text{female} = 77.87$ is reliable and no difference of value on ragging in comparison to gender. Thus the hypothesis, *male and female insignificantly on ragging of student's institute*, stands accepted.

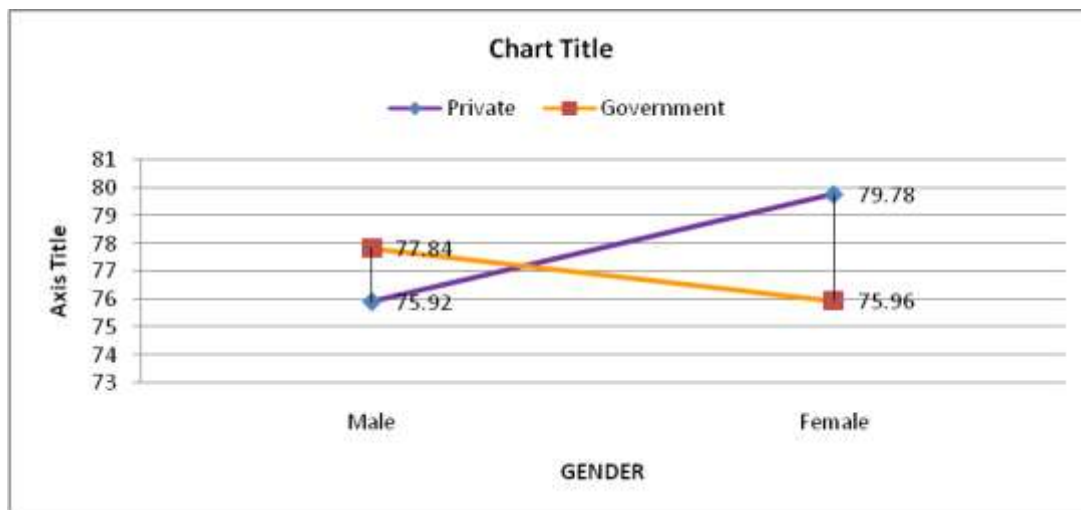
Effect of institute

The other hand the Insignificant Main Effect of the second independent variable (ii) Institute ($F_{\text{institute}} (1,196) = 110, p = .796$) on the dependent variable ragging was found insignificant, which suggest the non-rejection of any Null Hypothesis (that would have been formulated) and in turn, directs to the non-acceptance (rejection) of directional hypothesis related to the variable framed and formulated for the purpose. This in turn supports the interpretation that ignoring the gender of male and female (gender) and institute (private college and government college student) of intuition do not produce differential effect on ragging of intuition, i.e. The difference between the Means $\text{private} = 77.85 > \text{government} = 76.90$ is not reliable and there is no real difference between the ragging on the basis of their Stage (institute)i.e. Private and government) and as such the related hypothesis., *Institute of both private and government collage differ significantly on ragging*, stands rejected.

Interaction Effect of gender and different institute:

The Interaction Effect of the two variables * Gender* Institute ($F_{\text{Gender* Institute}} (1,196) = 10.840, p = .01$) again is significant, and thus this causes the rejection of the null hypothesis pertaining to the interaction of the two variables, and in turn directs to the -acceptance (rejection) of directional hypothesis framed and formulated for the purpose. This supports the interpretation that, both the variables gender (male and female), as well as, their Institute (Private and Government College) do produce differential effect, jointly, on ragging. The differences among the Means, $\text{institute private college} = 77.85 > \text{institute - government college} = 76.90 > \text{gender - male} = 76.88 > \text{gender - female} = 77.87$ are reliable, which in turn imply that the that the apparent differences between the ragging of male of private < male of government < female of private > female of government are real. Thus the hypothesis related to the interaction effect of the two I.V.s on ragging of gender, i.e. *male of private and government collage and female of private and government collage, differ from each other significantly, on ragging*, stands rejected

Graph 1.4 (c) The Interaction Effect of the two variables GENDER* INSTITUTE (private and government collage) is presented graphically .



N=100male and 100 female in each government and private college student

MAIN FINDINGS

The main findings of the present investigation are summarized as follows

- There is no significant difference between ragging attitude of government and private college students ($F=.119, p>.789$).
- There is no significant difference between ragging attitude of male and female college students ($F=.110, P>.796$).
- There is a significant difference interaction effect of between ragging attitude gender and institution, ($F=10.840, P<0.01$).

CONCLUSION

Behavior is an outcome of attitude so to change the behavior we first need to change the attitude. For prevention of ragging, it's important to study the attitude towards ragging. If the attitude towards ragging is found favorable, it can be changed by psychological interventions. The results of the present study motivate us to take up the challenger of dealing with the issue of ragging among students.

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