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Crack down on campus polarisation and enforce the rules before it is too

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THE call by Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad for universities to set up inter-racial clubs in order to promote understanding is timely and appropriate.

For too long this problem of polarisation has been allowed to fester and persist in institutions of higher learning. It has come to a point where there is visible segregation on campuses. Certain lecturers wilfully encourage this unsavoury practice.

They tell students of a particular religion that it is sinful to talk and mix with others of a different faith. They tell them to stay away from students of a different race. It is no wonder that this detestable attitude filters down to the students in their everyday lives. It definitely has to be curbed.

All talk with little action has gone on for too long. The first thing to do would be to identify lecturers who advocate separation and threaten them with dismissal if they continue with their deplorable activities. The recalcitrant ones may have to be packed off.

When inter-racial clubs are set up, membership has to be compulsory, and regular mixed activities must be carried out. Multi-ethnic and multi-religious rooming has to be implemented. Everyone should have their meals together. Those who refuse should be denied accommodation.

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Seremban