Data Collection

3.1 Selection of the sample

The investigator plans research because she wants to investigate about behaviour. To do this, she must select certain subjects to study. The nature of the research project determines the composition of the sample. This is an important step because she wants to generalise her findings from the subjects she studies to the larger group. Those who participate in her research (experiment) constitute her sample. Generally, population means the total number of possible items of a class that might be studied. It is entire group of items from which a sample is drawn.

Here, the investigator is interested in finding out the relationship between self concept, intelligence, academic achievement and some personality variables at the Junior College level. For this purpose the adolescence period is selected because self concept is in the stage of highly complex development during this period. Therefore, 832 students from the final year of Junior college were selected for the present study. All the adolescent boys and girls were randomly selected and represent the rural/urban population. The junior colleges selected for data collection are noted below:

(1) New College, Kolhapur.
(2) Maharashtra High School and Junior College, Kolhapur
(3) S. M. Lohia Junior College, Kolhapur
(4) Vivekanand College, Kolhapur.
5) Commerce College, Kolhapur,
6) Rajaram College, Kolhapur,
7) Shahu College, Kolhapur,
8) B.M.Rote Junior College, Kolhapur,
9) Warana Mahavidyalaya, Waramanagar, Distt. Kolhapur,
10) Smt, Mathubai Garware Kanya Mahavidyalaya, Sangli.

The colleges were so selected that the students in these colleges represent all the socio-cultural and economic levels of the society. Students of Arts, Commerce and Science faculties were placed in the sample. The sample included both boys and girls. The number of boys was 419 and that of girls 413. The urban rural bias also was looked after while selecting the colleges.

In short, every attempt was made to make the sample representative of the adolescent student population of XII Standard of junior colleges of Kolhapur region.

3.2 COLLECTION OF DATA

Following standardized tests were administered to the sample as shown below.

1) Self Concept Inventory
2) Sinha's Anxiety Scale
3) Level of Aspiration Scale
4) Intelligence Test
5) Achievement Motivation Scale

The gap was thirty minutes between the two sittings. The tests were administered to a group of 40-45
students at a time.

The investigator personally visited the different colleges to collect the data. The students of XII standard acted as subjects. First, the investigator explained the purpose of the study. They were assured again and again that whatever information they give would be kept confidential and would be used only for research purposes. They were asked to write name, age, class, college, etc. in every test. Every effort was made for eliminating the fear of identification and for expressing the honest responses. Careful rapport was established to elicit true responses. Instructions to the students were already given with the questionnaires. Further oral instructions were given to clarify any doubts or difficulties about answering the questionnaires. In the case of intelligence test clear cut instructions were given to the students. One practice trial was given. In the first picture of set A, there are six alternatives. The students were asked to choose the correct one from these six alternatives. They were asked to write the number of the chosen alternative or answer in the answer sheet. It was checked whether all the students have understood the instructions and have written the answer number in a correct and proper way. They were asked then to proceed further. Students were requested not to take any help from others in answering questions and to record their true and sincere answers. All the students were quite
unfamiliar with such type of tests. Therefore, no time limit was fixed for filling up the tests but the students were requested to fill them as quickly as possible.

The students are told to check the tests after completion in order to see that no item is left unanswered. They are requested to do the work sincerely and get clarification from the investigator if they have any doubt or problems.

The procedure adopted at the first sitting is followed at the second sitting. In every test, students are requested to write true relevant information regarding name, age, class, etc. In one of the test, they are requested to write the percentage of marks they expect to secure at XII standard examination so as to use it as their level of aspiration. The data collection was done during the period from 7.12.1982 to 20.1.1983. Marks obtained in XII standard examination were also obtained after the results of H.S.S.C. Board were declared. For this purpose, the seat numbers of the students were collected from their respective junior colleges. These marks were used as achievement scores. Six scores of different variables of the same individual were tagged together. It was called a completed case. Incomplete cases were discarded. The investigator collected 832 complete cases. Thus the sample of 832 students (Male 419 and Female 413) was used for the statistical analysis and interpretation.
3.3 SCORING

After completion of data collection the scoring of all the tests was done in accordance with the procedure explained in chapter II.

In Self Concept Inventory, the three aspects of self concept were scored separately and the summation of these scores were taken as total self concept score. In Anxiety Scale, total number of correct responses were measured and that total number was called anxiety score of that individual. In Achievement Motivation Scale, total achievement motivation score is the summation of positive and negative scores. Intelligence Test was scored with the help of the scoring key. The discrepancy between expected and actual achievement of the individual at XII standard examination is considered as his goal discrepancy score.

The scores were tabulated in the proforma shown in Appendix 7. These scores were considered for further statistical analysis.