SUMMARY

Aggression has always been an important concern of mankind. Violence has now become world problem. However, violent conflict has been found to be greatest in developing nations, least in modern nations and intermediate in least developed nations. Growing urbanization leading to migrating population from neighbouring places, loosening of social sanctions and depersonization, unemployment, income disparity, increase in population, cultural homogenization etc. have been found to be conducive to violence. In fact, progressive crumbling of the family system, due to changes in the socioeconomic climates has been considered as a basic cause of the problem of violence (Palermo and simpson 1994).

Over the last decade our society has witnessed a drastic social unheavy Globalization. Urbanization and cross contigenental visual media, has brought about a major change in the social structure. Nuclear families have taken the place of joint families. In Indian society joint family is a control institution and a source of security. But in today's society it's structure and functions have been changed from a benevolent to materialistic. Materialistic values are increasing. People are moving to urban areas from rural areas as result they are being uprooted from their basic soil and traditional value system. In this process family has been reduced to a group of separate individuals within a hypothetical wide where each one is moving toward a different horizon.
The bond of Kinship neighbourhood and friendship which united the society, are giving way to alienation and cultural relationship. In view of the rapid social change, it was felt that a study of the relationship between culture and aggression could provide insight into the genesis of aggression.

Since urban /rural societies differ in term of objective cultural dimension while the subjective dimension is reflected across generation so it was felt that a comparison across rural/urban subcultures and subsequent generations could provide insight into the genesis of aggression. Therefore the following problem was formulated.

**Problem:** Values and Aggression

An across generational and rural/urban study of aggression and values as mediated by insecurity and guilt reactions.

**Objectives:**

The following were the objectives of the study:

1. To study the independent and interactional effects of sub-cultural variations and generation on aggressive behaviour.
2. To study the relationship between values and moral disengagement.
3. To study the relation between aggressive behaviour and values / moral disengagement.
4. To study the contribution of values, insecurity, and guilt reactions to aggressive behaviour.
Hypotheses:

To fulfill the objectives of the study the following hypotheses were formulated.

1. There would be a differential effect of generation on different parameters of aggressive behaviour.
2. There would be a differential effect of sub-cultural variations on different parameters of aggressive behaviour.
3. There would be a interactive effect of sub-culture and generation on aggressive behaviour.
4. Values would be differentially related with moral disengagement.
5. Values would be differentially related with aggressive behaviour.
6. Moral disengagement would be positively related with aggressive behaviour.

Design:

An expost facto design was used to study variations in aggressive behaviour among rural/urban respondents of three subsequent generations and to explore a casual link between values and aggression via mediating variables such as insecurity and guilt reactions.

Sample:

Multi stage purposive sampling was used for the selection of sample. The sample of the present study (N=300) was limited to Haryana and a comparison was made between rural/urban respondents in order to determine whether aggressive behaviour is subject to urban environmental and social factors. Further, the sample was stratified across three subsequent generations. In order to reduce
within group variance. The study was restricted to male respondents, as earlier researches had reported clear cut gender differences in aggression and values.

**Tools used:**

For obtaining a measure of aggression, values, guilt reactions and security/insecurity, a number of standardized questionnaires, scales were used since Aggressive behaviour has been considered to a mutlicomponential concept. Aggression is considered to be personal disposition and generally implies destructive behaviour towards other persons or objects while anger is viewed as an emotional state which is the result of a blockage in goal achievement. Therefore, two measures of aggressive behaviour which measured the cognitive/behavioural aspect were considerer. Aggression scale by Pal and Naqvi (1983) and Anger Expression scale by Speilberger (1988) were used to measure of Aggressive behaviour.

Values are internalized social norms and attitudes which regulate human behaviour. They are ingrained within the individual as a process of socialization. However, disengagement i.e. removal of the controlling influence of self sanctions, has powerful impact on the behaviour of the individual. Therefore, two tools were used to measure values, one which provided a measure of social/personal values. The second provided a measure of disengagement from self/social sanctions i.e. moral disengagement. Personal Value Questionnaire by Sherry and Verma (1971) and Moral Disengagement scale by Bandura, et al., (1996) were used to obtain a measure of values and disengagement from values.
Two measures of mediating variables i.e. insecurity and guilt reactions were chosen. In the present social set up, insecurity is increasing as social and personal institution are breaking down therefore, this variable was taken up. Security/insecurity inventory by Tiwari and Singh was used. Two measures i.e. Fear of Punishment and Need for Reparation scales by Caprara, Manzi and Perugini, (1992) were obtained to measure guilt reactions.

Among the tools chosen for the present investigation three of scale namely, Moral disengagement, Fear of punishment and Need for reparations were in English and were translated into Hindi.

Procedure:

The battery of tests was administered to the respondents in two phases. In Phase I Personal value questionnaire, Aggression scale and Security/Insecurity inventory were administered successively to the three respondents and the respective instructions were given. In some cases where the grandfathers were illiterate/unable to read, the questions/statements were read out and the responses were recorded by the investigator.

On the next day the remaining tools i.e. Anger Expression Scale, Fear of Punishment Scale, Need for Reparation Scale, Mechanisms of Moral Disengagement Scale were administered in the same manner.

Since the procedure was lengthy, it was difficult to obtain the cooperation of some of the respondents. In some cases, where difficulty was faced the battery was truncated and only 5 scales were administered in a single setting. Thus, finally the complete battery
could be administered to 234 subjects, while the truncated version was administered to 66 subjects.

Results and discussion:

The obtained Aggression and Anger Expression scores of the respondents were analysed by applying Two-way ANOVA with repeated measure, in order to study the independent and interactional, effects of sub-cultural dimension and generation. Correlational analysis (Intracorrelation and Pearson’s Product movement) was used to determine the relationship between the aggression/anger expression scores of the three generations, relationship between values (PVQ and Moral disengagement) and between values and aggressive behaviour. Multiple Regression was applied in order to determine the significant contributors to aggression and anger expression.

Considered together, the results of the present investigation show that aggression in significantly higher among the rural respondents while anger expression was higher in the urban. Thus, it appears that nature of aggressive behaviour is susceptible to subcultural influences. The popular belief that aggressive behaviour has increased over the last decade was not supported, as aggressive behaviour was not found to differ across the three generations. Correlational analysis indicated that outward or inward expression of anger leads to reduction in aggression while control results in an increase.

A relationship between moral disengagement and values was not found, indicating that this is not a negative aspect of values. Rather it was found to be positively related with power and hedonistic
value, thereby indicating that these value increase the propensity towards moral disengagement. Moral disengagement was found to be higher among rural respondents, while values had a differential relationship with subcultural dimension. Interestingly, materialistic values, such as economic and aesthetic were higher among the urban respondents. Surprisingly religiosity was found to be higher among the urban masses. This can be attributed to the increased insecurity and tensions of urban life and the ritualization of religious behaviours and customs, which are propagated by the media. Consideration of the relationship between aggressive behaviour and values showed a differential relationship, while moral disengagement was found to be positively related to both aggression and anger expression.

Among values and mediating variables, four variables emerged as significant predictors of Aggressive behaviour. These were insecurity, family prestige, moral disengagement and religious value. Religious values contributed positively to Anger Expression, but had a negative relationship with aggression. In case of family prestige this relationship was found to be reversed. Fear of punishment contributed to Aggression, while power and subcultural dimension contributed to anger expression.

Thus the present study shows that aggression behaviour is influenced by values, specially moral disengagement, and insecurity is an important contributor.

From among the 6 hypotheses proposed for the study 3 were supported (2,5,6) while the remaining 3 were not supported. However,
some important contributors to aggressive behaviour could be identified.