ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

“To Dear God, whose eternal blessings and divine presence helps us to fulfill all our goals”

I would like to express a sense of gratitude to my guide Dr. Sridhar Y.N., for his patience, encouragement, guidance and for choosing this research area.

My deepest appreciation, gratefulness and heartfelt thanks to Dr. Yeshodhara K., Professor of Education, for her invaluable suggestions on the research design and statistical analysis.

I would like to thank the Chairperson Dr. Sarvamangala D. R. and the other faculty members of the Department of Studies in Education, University of Mysore, for their insightful comments and suggestions.

I am highly indebted to Dr. Srikantawamy, Dr. Venkatesan, Prof. Manjunathaiah and Prof. Venkataramanashetty, for they have been kind enough to give their valuable guidance for constructing the tool.

I place a record of my gratitude to the Head Masters/Head Mistresses, teachers of various Government and Private Schools for their cooperation to carry out this research work. I thank all the students of Class IX, who so willingly served as subjects and for their enthusiasm and cooperation for participating in the survey.

My thanks are also due to all the research scholars of the department for their cooperation. Special thanks to my childhood friends who have always inspired me to do this work.

I thank all the non-teaching staff of the Department of Studies in Education, Manasagangotri, Mysore for the cooperation extended in the conduct of this research work.

An immense debt of gratitude to Smt. C.R. Usha, Lab Assistant, Department of Studies in Education, University of Mysore, for encouragement, caring attitude and moral support in my stressful period during this research work.
I take this opportunity to thank Dr. Lancy D’Souza, Lecturer in Psychology, Maharaja’s College for his advice and assistance with generating the statistics and various other aspects of the research study.

I thank all the staff of the Computing Center, Softouch for being there, when I needed help and also for typing the Thesis in a neat format.

Finally, I find ‘God’ in my parents, who instilled in me a perseverance to face challenges in life, infused a fervor for learning and inspired me to pursue higher studies.

Last but not the least, I would love to acknowledge my sister Dr. Rupa A. and my brothers, Mr. Pramod and Mr. Pradeep, and my dearest niece ‘Sonu’, for their enduring love, encouragement and magnanimous cooperation throughout my life and career.

Rekha A.