CHAPTER –II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

The present review of literature will consider the conceptual phenomena as well as the variables under study assess empirical implication. Any research needs supports, verification and clarification by having critical evaluation of the literature available to the researcher to investigate the prescribed objectives of the study.

It has been a tradition to consult and review the earlier work on the related topics before analyzing and investigating the problem on hand. The process of accumulation of scientific knowledge is slow, steady and gradual. One investigator builds on the work of the other and in turn, contributes his own share and which sometimes acts as a precursor to future researches. Sometimes the previous works throws a challenge or leads to disagreement on some derived theories. In some cases either an examination of specialized theory may leave many problem unresolved or may give rise to new applications, which may not be revolutionary in form but are meaningful from the point of view of gradual accumulation of scientific knowledge.

One of the simplest ways of economizing effect in an inquiry reviews and builds upon the work done by other investigators. A comprehensive review of literature is must in any research endeavor and requires a thorough consideration and efforts on part of investigator. The investigator made a survey of literature by reviewing relevant research related to the area. An in depth literature review facilitates in knowing trend of thought and researches already done in the specific area of interest and in streamlining the present plan of work.
This chapter attempts to give an overview of the literature reviewed to tie the theoretical and empirical aspects of the study more securely.

**Arunima Gupta, Sarvdeep Kohli (2011) Background:** The changing life style and urbanization adversely affect the lives of most elderly people today, making them prone to anxiety and requiring lot of adjustments. **Aim:** The study aimed to explore the gender differences in the adjustment patterns and anxiety of the community-dwelling elderly. **Method:** A sample of 100 subjects, including 50 males and 50 females, aged between 65 and 75 years was selected. They were assessed using a semi-structured proforma, Bell’s Adjustment Inventory and Sinha’s Anxiety Scale. **Results:** Both the groups had adjustment problems and an average to high anxiety levels. Elderly females had significantly higher anxiety levels as well as higher adjustment problems in home, health and emotional subscales, while males had significantly higher social adjustment difficulties. **Conclusion:** More research on psychological health of elderly especially in their socio-cultural context is needed so as to evolve practical and effective preventive and remedial strategies.

**China papers (2011)** Parenting style mainly refers to a fixed cross-situational process as the centre of parent-child relationship in family and directly acts on the parent-child interaction process. This process has a cross-situational stability of the concrete expression of parental upbringing and education of their children in daily life and also refers to effective collection in the process which parents’ attitudes and behaviors pass to their children. Mothers, as the children’s first teachers and the main educators in family education, pass to their children social values, behavior, systems of attitude and social ethics through their own words and deeds. It has been universally recognized that
parenting styles can be affected by many factors, but the underlying factors that affect the parenting styles are not enough. Therefore, the study is to explore the relationship between mother’s personality and parenting styles. The completion of the study can enrich the theory of preschool education and psychological development, and, in practice, can also provide some reference to child’s education in family. This study combines questionnaire and observation. Questionnaire is used in measuring maternal personality. 1 to 3-year-old children’s mothers who are twice taken at random from Shenyang are 540 and 400 respectively. The collectably valid questionnaires are 494 and 382 respectively, which are used in revising personality questionnaire. Observation is used in measuring maternal parenting style. 32 1.5-year-old children’s mothers who are taken at random from Shenyang city are engaged in the experiment of parenting style. Mothers of participants of the experiment are requested to fill out the revised personality questionnaires. Finally, the relationship between maternal personality and parenting style will be treated with correlative and regressive analysis. The result of this study shows that: 1. Revised maternal personality questionnaire has high reliability and validity, which can serve as a tool to measure maternal personality. 2. Maternal neuroticism is significantly negatively related to the total score of parenting style and the shared affective ambience. Maternal high neuroticism is associated with the low level of parenting style and the shared affective ambience, while maternal low neuroticism is associated with the high level of parenting style and the shared affective ambience. The result of further regressive analysis shows that maternal neuroticism affects the level of one dimensions (the shared affective ambience) of parenting style. 3. Maternal empathy concern is significantly positively related to the total score of parenting style and the shared affective ambience.
Maternal empathy concern is associated with the high level of the total score of parenting style and the shared affective ambience; maternal low empathy concern is associated with the low level of the total score of parenting style and the shared affective ambience. The result of further regressive analysis shows that there is no causal relationship between them. 4. Maternal openness to experience is significantly positively related to the shared affective ambience, and maternal openness to experience affects the shared affective ambience. 5. Maternal conscientiousness and perspective taking is significantly positively related to responsiveness. Maternal high conscientiousness and perspective taking is associated with the more responsiveness; maternal low conscientiousness and perspective taking is associated with the less responsiveness. The result of further regressive analysis shows that maternal perspective taking affects their responsiveness, but there is no causal relationship between maternal conscientiousness and their responsiveness. 6. Maternal responsiveness is significantly negatively related to the negative signal of child directing. 7. There are significant differences of the different level of education for maternal neuroticism, agreeableness and perspective taking. 8. There are no significant differences of the different type of occupation for five dimensions of maternal personality.

Rose M E Huver and others (2010) Since parental personality traits are assumed to play a role in parenting behaviors, the current study examined the relation between parental personality and parenting style among 688 Dutch parents of adolescents in the SMILE study. The study assessed Big Five personality traits and derived parenting styles (authoritative, authoritarian, indulgent, and uninvolved) from scores on the underlying dimensions of support and strict control. Regression analyses were used to determine
which personality traits were associated with parenting dimensions and styles. As regards dimensions, the two aspects of personality reflecting interpersonal interactions (extraversion and agreeableness) were related to supportiveness. Emotional stability was associated with lower strict control. As regards parenting styles, extraverted, agreeable, and less emotionally stable individuals were most likely to be authoritative parents. Conscientiousness and openness did not relate to general parenting, but might be associated with more content-specific acts of parenting.

**Tenibiaje D.J (2010).** The study is aimed at associating personality traits, interest and parenting to successful entrepreneurship. Review of related literature revealed that personality traits and parenting are central elements of Holland’s E type. Personality traits, interest of youths and parenting are factors to be considered in entrepreneurial success in Nigeria. The descriptive survey research design was adopted for this study. The population for the study is all the youths in 16 local government areas of Ekiti State, between 15 and 19 years. The mean age of the respondents was 15.3 years. The sample consisted of 320 respondents drawn using multistage sampling technique. Data generated were analysed using simple frequencies and percentages. The findings revealed that low neuroticism and agreeableness with high extraversion are personality traits that influence entrepreneurship skills. Authoritative parenting and interest influenced youths in entrepreneurial success.

**D. Vig and I. J. S. Jaswal (2010)** A sample of 400 respondents (100 of each fathers, mothers, sons and daughters) from middle and upper middle class nuclear families were examined for role of emotional maturity of parents in determining quality of the parent-teen relationships. Parent child relationship scales and social adjustment
inventory was used for assessment. It was found that emotionally well-adjusted fathers were significantly more accepting, had more positive influence of their good marital relations on their teenagers and had more realistic role expectations from their sons and daughters. Sons perceived moderately maladjusted fathers as significantly indifferent however, daughters perceived them as significantly physically punishing. On the other hand, emotionally well-adjusted and moderately adjusted mothers did not differ in their perceptions. Sons and daughters also perceived their emotionally adjusted and moderately maladjusted mothers as similar on all the dimensions of parent-child relationship scale. Emotional adjustment of fathers contributed significantly in improving the quality of father-son relationship.

Lloyd, J. Ryan (2009). The relationship between parenting style and marital adjustment may be highly interconnected. However, little has been done to investigate this relationship directly. The direct association between parenting style and marital adjustment was examined by having participants complete an online survey consisting of the DAS-7, to measure marital adjustment and marital happiness, and two measures of parenting behavior derived. From the work of J. Balswick, J. Balswick, B. Piper, and D. Piper (2003). Analyses of variance did not support the hypotheses that participants who reported an authoritative parenting style would also report higher levels of marital adjustment and marital happiness. Significant but weak correlations were found between the parent behaviors of modeling and telling and marital adjustment and between modeling and marital happiness.
**Prinzie, Peter; and others (2009)** To investigate the association between Big Five personality factors and three dimensions of parenting—warmth, behavioral control, and autonomy support—the authors conducted meta-analyses using 5,853 parent–child dyads that were included in 30 studies. Effect sizes were significant and robust across mother and father reports and across assessment methods of parenting (self-report versus observations) but were generally small in magnitude. Higher levels of Extraversion, Agreeableness, Conscientiousness, and Openness and lower levels of Neuroticism were related to more warmth and behavioral control, whereas higher levels of Agreeableness and lower levels of Neuroticism were related to more autonomy support. Several factors moderated the relationship between specific personality dimensions and parenting: child and parental age, reliability of observational assessment of parenting behavior, and study design. Taken together, these results indicate that personality can be seen as an inner resource that affects parenting.

**Pamella H. Oliver (2009)** The direct links between mothers’ and fathers’ personality, parenting behaviors, and adolescent behavior problems were examined, as well as the potential mediating influence of parenting behaviors on links between parental personality and child adjustment. This longitudinal, prospective study included 111 adolescents and their mothers and fathers. Results based on mothers’, fathers’, and adolescents’ reports of behavioral adjustment concurred: adolescents with more conscientious mothers had fewer externalizing behaviors. Additionally, mothers and fathers who rated themselves as more conscientious reported greater ease in setting limits for their adolescents. For both parents, parenting behaviors related to their adolescent’s externalizing behavior problems. Maternal limit setting mediated the direct relation
between maternal personality and adolescent adjustment. These findings highlight parental conscientiousness as a personality trait related to parents’ ease in setting limits in their parental role and corroborate the significant relation between limit setting as a parental behavior potentially facilitating adolescents’ behavioral adjustment.

**Stephens, Meredith Ashley (2009).** The purpose of this study was to determine if there were any gender differences in parenting styles and if so, measure how they affect the parent-child relationship. Participants were given a survey asking basic demographic questions, questions about which parent/parents they have lived with the most, and questions that related to the gender roles of each parent. Participants were also given the Parental Bonding Inventory that measures maternal care and overprotectiveness and paternal care and overprotectiveness. There were significant gender differences in the ways that parents interacted with their children. For example most young people have been raised by traditional parents and felt closest to their mothers. Mothers on average spent more time with their children in general than fathers, spent more time taking care of their children, were more likely not to work full time, were seen as more overprotective and more caring, spent the most quality time with their children, and still speak to their children more often today. Another gender difference between fathers and mothers was that fathers were more likely to be overprotective of their daughters than their sons.

The results supported traditional gender expectations, with mothers spending more time with their children and children feeling closer to their mothers when growing up.
I. P. R. Vermaes and others (2008) Background  
Spina bifida (SB) can place parents at risk for increased levels of parenting stress. Little is known, however, about the role of parents’ intrapersonal resources. Therefore, based on ideas of the Disability-Stress-Coping Model, relations between the severity of SB, parents’ personality traits and parenting stress were examined.

Methods:  Forty-six mothers and 37 fathers of children with SB (6–14 years) participated. Severity of SB (physical dysfunctions and cognitive functions), parental personality (Big Five) and parenting stress (Parenting Stress Index) were measured. Multiple regression analyses were performed. Results: The severity of the child's physical dysfunctions was positively associated with parenting stress. Extraversion (mothers only), emotional stability and agreeableness (fathers only) were negatively related to parenting stress. In the final model, 64% of the variance in mothers’ and 67% of the variance in fathers’ levels of parenting stress was explained. Parents’ personality traits explained the largest proportions of variance in parenting stress. Conclusion: Mobility, bladder and bowel dysfunctions in school-aged children with SB represent ongoing stressors for parents. Parents’ intrapersonal resources of positive affectivity, however, are more important determinants of parental adjustment to SB than the child's physical dysfunctions.

Julie Desjardins and others (2007). The goal of the present study was to explore how parental BIS/BAS relates to parenting styles, and to investigate if subjective well-being (SWB) moderates these associations. Mothers (n = 95) were asked to complete measures of personality, parenting styles, and life satisfaction (SWB). Results revealed that mothers who reported high BAS were significantly more likely to report being
nurturing and were either more likely to be authoritative (high nurture and high control) or neglectful (low nurture and low control). Subsequent analyses revealed that mothers high in both BAS and SWB were significantly more likely to be authoritative, whereas mothers high in BAS and low in SWB were significantly more likely to be neglectful. Results suggest the value of considering personality in parenting research.

**Annemiek Karreman and others (2007).** In this study, the relation between self-reported parental personality, using the five-factor model, and observed parenting was examined. In addition, we investigated the moderating role of observed preschoolers’ temperamental effortful control (i.e., the ability to suppress a dominant response in order to perform a subdominant response) in this relation. The sample included 89 two-parent families and their firstborn 36-month-old children. Weak to modest associations were found between personality and observed parenting. Effortful control appeared to moderate the relation between parental personality and parenting: fathers’ neuroticism was positively associated with fathers’ positive control and fathers’ extraversion was positively associated with fathers’ negative control, but only when children had a low level of effortful control. Thus, individual differences in personality appeared to be most relevant during the demanding experience of parenting a less self-regulated child.

**Grazyna Kochanska and others (2007)** Parents’ personality was examined as a moderator of the impact of demographic risk on parenting in a longitudinal study (N = 102 families). Parents’ personality and demographic risk (i.e., education level, age, family income, and family size) were assessed when children were infants, and parents’
power assertion, warmth, and positive affect were observed in naturalistic interactions 2.5 years later. Parents’ personality moderated the adverse impact of demographic risk on parenting. For parents who had memories of unstable and unhappy childhood experiences and who reported low conventionality, higher risk was linked to more power assertion, but there was no such link for those parents who recalled happy childhood experiences and who embraced conventions. For both parents who lacked a sense of optimism and social trust, and for fathers who reported low conventionality, higher risk was linked to less affectively positive parenting, but there was no such link for parents who were optimistic and trusting or for fathers who were conventional. Higher risk was linked to more power assertion, but only for mothers low in Extraversion and for fathers high in Neuroticism.

Ritu Singh, S. K. Thind and Sushma Jaswal (2006). In this study, families with employed and non-employed women across different educational levels from Ludhiana city were compared on their existing level of marital adjustment. For it 300 Sikh families (N = 300) were selected according to the working status of woman in the family and divided into two categories of families, that is, families with employed women (n1= 150) and families with non-employed women (n2= 150). These two categories of families were selected by drawing equal numbers of families (n1i, n2i = 50) from each of the three levels of education (with reference to woman in the family) viz. post graduation and above (Level I), upto graduation (Level II) and matric and below excluding illiterate (Level III). A socio-demographic questionnaire was used to identify families for the sample under study. Level of marital adjustment in the selected families was assessed
using marital adjustment questionnaire. Arithmetic mean, standard deviation and t-test were used to analyze the data. The findings revealed that sexual dimensions of marital adjustment among husbands and wives was unaffected by wives’ education level and employment status. On the contrary, it was observed that wives employed and educated up to Level I or Level II and their husbands were significantly more socially adjusting than wives non-employed and educated up to Level III and their husbands respectively. Husbands showed no variation on the emotional dimensions of marital adjustment with wives’ educational level and employment status, whereas, wives were seen to be more emotionally dependent on their husbands when they were educated up to Level III or were non-employed.

**Erica L. Spotts and others (2005)** Previous research has found that genetic and non shared environmental factors influence marital quality (Spotts et al., 2004). The current study explored personality as a source for these genetic and environmental individual differences. A sample of 752 Swedish twin women and their spouses were used. Genetic and environmental influences were found for self-report measures of marital quality, but only environmental factors contributed to the variance of observational measures of marital quality. Wives' personality characteristics accounted for genetic and nonshared environmental variance in the wives' own marital satisfaction, their husbands' marital satisfaction, and the agreement between the spouses on the quality of their marriage. Genetic influences on the correlation between wives' genetically influenced personality characteristics and their husbands' marital satisfaction indicate a gene–environment correlation.
Contrary to expectations, husbands' personality did not explain large portions of wives' marital satisfaction beyond that explained by wives' personality. This study emphasizes the importance of spousal personality to the well-being of marriages, and results are discussed within the context of three different theories regarding associations between personality and marital quality.

Adam Winsler (2005) The goal of the present study was to investigate perceived similarities and differences in parenting styles between mothers and fathers in the same family. The 56 parents of 28 preschool children independently completed the parenting styles and dimensions questionnaire (PSDQ) [Robinson, C. C., Mandleco, B., Frost Olsen, S., & Hart, C. H. (2001). The parenting styles and dimensions questionnaire (PSDQ). In B. F. Perlmutter, J. Touliatos, & G. W. Holden (Eds.), *Handbook of family measurement techniques. Vol. 2: Instruments and index* (p. 190). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage]. Results reveal only modest similarity in parenting styles used by two parents within the same home. Permissive (and to a lesser extent, authoritarian) parenting was somewhat positively associated across parents but no cross-informant association was found for authoritative parenting. Fathers perceive their spouses to be more authoritative, more permissive, and less authoritarian than themselves, whereas mothers only perceive themselves to be more authoritative than fathers. Parents who share similar parenting styles are more accurate at reporting on their spouses’ parenting styles than are parents with differing styles. Correspondence in parenting style across both parents in the home is important as are parental perceptions of similarity and differences in styles. Independent assessment of both mother’s and father’s parenting styles, and each parent’s perception of their spouse’s parenting appears needed in research and practical settings.
Riitta-Leena MetsPelto, Lea Pulkkinen, (2003) This study used variable- and person-oriented approaches to examine the relationship between personality traits (at age 33) and parenting (at age 36) among 94 mothers and 78 fathers. The SEM revealed that Openness to Experience (O), low Neuroticism (N), and Extraversion (E) were related to parental nurturance; low O to parental restrictiveness; and low N to parental knowledge about the child’s activities. Cluster analysis based on the three parenting factors yielded six gender-related parenting types with distinguishable personality profiles. Authoritative parents (mostly mothers) and emotionally involved parents (mostly fathers), who were high in nurturance and high to moderate in parental knowledge, were high in E and high to moderate in O. Authoritarian parents (mostly fathers) and emotionally detached parents (mostly mothers), who were low in nurturance, high to moderate in restrictiveness, and moderate to low in parental knowledge, were low in O and E. Permissive parents, who were low in restrictiveness and parental knowledge and moderate in nurturance, were high in N, E, and O. Engaged parents, who were high in nurturance, restrictiveness, and parental knowledge, were moderate in all personality traits. Agreeableness and Conscientiousness did not differ between the parenting types.

Russell, A(1998) Sex-based differences in parenting styles were examined using mother and father self-reports from a sample of parents (N = 305) with a preschool boy or girl as the target. The 11 individual styles investigated were components of the authoritarian, authoritative, and permissive parenting patterns. A number of mean-level differences were found between the parenting styles of mothers and fathers, as well as between the parenting of boys and girls. For example, mothers were higher than fathers on the styles comprising the authoritative pattern, and there was evidence of fathers being
more likely than mothers to use the styles in the authoritarian and permissive patterns. The authoritarian styles were more likely to be used when parenting boys, and the authoritative style of reasoning/induction was more likely when parenting girls. The results were not related either to the sex composition of children in the family or to the child's birth order. Cluster analysis suggested two main parenting types, one containing authoritative styles and the other containing “negative” styles. Possible explanations for and consequences and implications of the sex-based differences in parenting styles are considered.

**Genevieve Bouchard and others (1999)** Using the five-factor model of personality, this study investigates the contribution of personality traits to marital adjustment. The sample is composed of 446 couples who completed the NEO Five-Factor Inventory, which measures the personality traits of neuroticism, extraversion, openness, agreeableness, and conscientiousness, as well as the Dyadic Adjustment Scale. Results of hierarchical regression analyses indicated that self-reported and partner-reported personality traits were significant predictors of self-reported marital adjustment for both men and women. Personality traits were found to contribute to the prediction of marital adjustment over and above the effect of neuroticism.

**Forehand, Rex; Nousiainen, Sarah(1993).** Three dimensions of parenting exhibited by mothers and fathers were examined: acceptance, firm control, and psychological control. Ss were 70 adolescents and their parents. The results indicated that (1) mothers reported exhibiting each parenting dimensions more than fathers; (2)
acceptance by each parent predicted that parent's relationship with the adolescent; (3) the father's acceptance score was the primary predictor of adolescent functioning outside the home; and (4) the mother's and the father's parenting styles interacted to predict some areas of adolescent functioning

**Ronald L. Simons and others (1990)** Social learning and exchange concepts and principles were utilized to generate a set of hypotheses concerning the determinants of parenting practices. The explanatory constructs involved parents' values, beliefs about parenting, and perceptions of the child, level of depression, marital satisfaction, education, and degree of financial distress. The predictions were tested with a sample of 61 families, each of which included a 7th grader. Self-report measures were employed to measure the explanatory variables, while coders' ratings of videotaped family interaction served as measures of parenting behavior. The results largely support the hypotheses. In general, the findings indicate that the determinants of parenting differ somewhat by sex and that different factors predict constructive versus destructive parenting practices.

**Long, Edgar C.; Andrews, David W, (1990).** Recently, theorists have argued that positive personality dispositions may facilitate the maintenance of satisfying personal relationships. On a sample of 159 couples (married an average of 23.8 years) it was hypothesized that perspective taking, defined as the cognitive tendency to put oneself in another person's place, would be positively predictive of marital adjustment. Three dimensions of perspective taking were measured. A general measure assessed self perspective taking in general social interaction. A second instrument assessed the perspective taking of the self, and the third assessed the perspective taking of another within the marriage relationship. Results indicated that for both husbands and wives, all 3
dimensions of perspective taking were predictive of marital adjustment. Wives had significantly higher scores than did husbands on all 3 perspective-taking scales. The results are discussed within the context of a model of relational competence.

**Bond, Catherine R.; McMahon, Robert J, (1984)** Examined the relationship of marital adjustment to maternal personal adjustment, maternal personality, maternal perception of child adjustment, maternal parenting behavior, and child behavior using 20 maritally distressed and 20 maritally non distressed mothers and their children (aged 3–7 yrs). Ss were given a battery of tests that included the Beck Depression Inventory, the Trait form of the State-Trait Anxiety Inventory, and the Personality Research Form—Form A. Results indicate that, compared to mothers in the marital non distressed group, mothers in the distressed group perceived themselves as significantly more anxious and depressed and perceived their children as having significantly more behavior problems, particularly in the area of under control. There were no differences between the groups with respect to maternal personality. Maritally distressed mothers showed less appropriate parenting behavior than did non distressed mothers and the children of maritally distressed mothers were more deviant than were children of non distressed mothers.

**Copeland, Anne P. (1984)** The literature on how parent gender influences responses to children has grown enormously in the past decade; mothers and fathers have been found to differ on many dimensions and to be similar on just as many. Conflicting evidence also exists on how a child's gender affects parenting style. This paper reports some important gender differences in the way women and men respond to their children and discusses mediation of these effects by parent personality and other variables. The
Family Changes Project, a study of post-separation families, allowed analysis of several aspects of these questions. Children in mother-custody families reported that their fathers often gave them no reason for the divorce, while mothers more often gave an explanation. Videotaped observations of mothers and children playing, made during the first post-separation year, revealed differences in children's responses by sex and age. Also, Type A mothers (impatient, achievement-striving, and aggressive) were found to be more directive with their sons, while Type B mothers were more directive with daughters. Results from the Pregnancy and Parenthood Project revealed parent gender differences in child caretaking, some influenced by the child's birth order and gender.

**Chen Zi and others (1984)** The link between marital adjustment and personality was investigated in 66 Japanese married couples using Locke and Wallace's Short Marital Adjustment Test (SMAT; Locke and Wallace, 1959) and the Eysenck Personality Questionnaire (EPQ; Eysenck and Eysenck, 1975). Structural equation modeling suggests that the husband's neuroticism score is related to the wife's marital satisfaction as is the wife's dyadic consensus score, although to a lesser extent, while the wife's extraversion score is related to the husband's marital satisfaction. Spouses' marital satisfactions were correlated with each other. The study suggests that the personality traits of a partner can predict an individual's marital adjustment.

**Havighurst, Robert J. Anderson, John E. (Ed), (1956).** In this introduction to the chapters on personality and social adjustment in aging, Havighurst notes that the papers agree in their interest in the process of aging and therefore in their fixing of attention on the adult years, from 30 or 40 to 60 or 65. They also agree that adjustment has 2 aspects: social and personal adjustment. All the papers which deal with personality
agree in using concepts which mean that a person who is well-adjusted is able to cope with a complex world. The concepts are: affective complexity, tolerance of ambiguity, flexibility and expansion. Opposed to them, and indicative of poor adjustment are: rigidity, simplicity, and constriction.

Frances M. Carp (1956) The study replicates and extends recent work on personality determinants of adjustment. Personality traits and adjustment criteria were selected for relevance to one type of real-life setting (public housing for the elderly that includes a senior center). Personality traits were measured by observer ratings; criteria, by self-report of respondents and perceptions of them by other residents and staff. In concurrent and longitudinal analyses controlling effects of competence and social status, personality traits accounted for significant and meaningful variance in all criteria, and the salience of particular traits varied across criteria. The results are consistent with earlier studies regarding the importance of extra version and neuroticism to subjective well-being and suggest that they are relevant also to adjustment as perceived by others. The additional traits of congeniality, culture, and nosiness/gossip were related to both inner and outer adjustment measures in the type of situations studied.