ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indebted to many people who helped me in my thinking and analysis by encouraging me to develop and write this thesis. Among them, there are a few names to be acknowledged here with sincere gratitude and obligation.

First and foremost is my Research Guide, Prof. Dr. Y.P. Rama Subbaiah, Dean, Faculty of Law, Acharya Nagarjuna University who has guided and helped me throughout this study. I also acknowledge the valuable inputs and feedback from Prof. Dr. L. Jaya Sree, P.G. Department of Legal Studies & Research, Acharya Nagarjuna University.

Words cannot fully express my gratitude to the participants of this study without whom this study would not have been possible. I wish the participant children to realize of their acts and transform as responsible citizens of the future society. My sincere thanks to the authorities of the juvenile and observation homes who have extended their cooperation during my survey.

There are many professors, colleagues, family members, friends from the A.P. Judiciary, other institutions and other elite, besides staff of the university and staff of the Judicial Department at the places of my working since the year 2005; who all contributed in one way or other to this research work, whom I owed to wish by making a mention here in individually but for space constraint and as such I thank one and all herein for the help and assistance I received.

B. Siva Sankara Rao