CHAPTER VII

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS
CHAPTER VII

7.0.0 CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The present investigation was planned to study the impact of education on vertical social mobility as measured by income, occupational prestige and social status. Besides these the inter-relationships of education, job satisfaction, parental aspirations and caste in the two successive generations in the social set up of Chandigarh were also investigated. The influence of these relationships on social mobility were further examined.

The investigator surveyed a population of 450 families which included 150 fathers (old generation) in the age range of 46-65 years, and 1300 sons (new generation) age range of 26-45 years. Only those parents in both generations were selected who had more than one son. The data was collected through SES, Job Satisfaction, Occupational Prestige and Parental aspiration scales. It was classified and analysed taking the fathers’ educational attainment constant at six levels i.e. illiterate, elementary, secondary, graduate, post-graduate and research degrees. On the basis of the interpretation and discussion of the data in Chapter IV, the following conclusions were drawn:
7.3.1 Income as a measure of Social Mobility

Below are given the conclusions when income is taken as a measure of social mobility:

1. **Majority (93%)** of the illiterate fathers' population were in the income range upto Rs. 500 (fifth and fourth groups), whereas majority (77%) of their sons were found in the income range of Rs. 251-900 (fourth and third groups).

2. **Majority (85%)** of the fathers' population who were educated upto elementary level were in the income range of Rs. 201-900 (fourth and third groups), while majority (90%) of their sons were found in the income range of Rs. 501-1500 (third and second groups).

3. **Majority (90%)** of the fathers' population educated upto secondary level were found in the income range of Rs. 201-1500 (fourth to 2nd groups), whereas majority (85%) of their sons were found in the income range of Rs. 901 and above (second and first groups).

4. The fathers' population holding graduate degrees were found in the income range of Rs. 501-1500 and above (third to first groups) while majority of their sons (93%) were found in the income range of Rs. 901 and above (second and first categories).
The fathers' population holding post-graduate degrees were in the income range of Rs. 901 and above (second and first groups), while 80 per cent of their sons were in the income range of Rs. 901-1500 (second and first groups) and 20 per cent of them were in the income range of Rs. 501-900 (third group).

Majority (90%) of the research degree holder fathers were found in the income range of Rs. 1501 and above (first group), the same percentage of their sons was found in the income range of Rs. 901-1500 (second group).

Education and income of the old generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

The education of the old generation and income of the new generation were positively related to each other up to the graduate level of the fathers' education. In case of the post-graduate and research degree levels of fathers' education there was a downward trend and the relationship between income and education was negative.

The education and income of the new generation were positively and significantly related to each other.
7.0.2 Occupational Prestige as a measure of Social Mobility

The following conclusions were drawn when occupational prestige was taken as a measure of social mobility:

1. Seventy per cent of the illiterate fathers' population were in the poor prestige occupations (below fifth categories), whereas majority (86%) of their sons were found in the average prestigious occupations (fourth and third categories).

2. Seventy seven per cent of the fathers' who were educated upto elementary level were in the occupations of average prestige (fourth and third) categories, whereas a majority (91%) of their sons were found in above average prestigious occupations (third and second categories).

3. Eighty-six per cent of the fathers' population educated upto the secondary level were in the above average prestigious occupations (third and second categories), while majority (93%) of their sons were in the same prestige category of occupations.

4. Sixty four per cent of the fathers' population holding graduate degrees were in the occupations of higher level of prestige (second and first categories) whereas 82 per cent of their sons were in
the occupations of above average prestige (third and second) categories.

5. Sixty five per cent of the fathers' holding post graduate degrees were ranked in the second prestige category while the remaining 35 per cent of them were ranked in the occupations of first prestige category. 85 per cent of their sons were in the occupations of above average prestige (third and second) categories and only 15 per cent of their sons were in the occupations of high prestige (first) category.

6. Ninety per cent of the fathers' holding research degrees were in the top of occupational prestige (first) category the remaining 10 per cent of them were in the occupations of second prestige category. It is interesting to note that 90 per cent of their sons were found in the occupations of second prestige category and only 10 per cent of them in the first prestige category.

7. Education and occupational prestige of the old generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

8. The education of the old generation and occupational prestige of the new generation were positively related to each other upto the graduate level of their fathers' education. In case of the post-graduate and research
degree level of fathers' education there was a downward trend. The relationship between education and occupational prestige was negative.

9. The education and occupational prestige of the new generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

7.0.3 Social Status as a Measure of Social Mobility

Below are given the conclusions when social status was taken as a measure of social mobility.

1. Seventy per cent of the illiterate fathers' population were in the lower (LL) strata of SE3, while 54 per cent of their sons were in the lower middle and middle (MM) level of SE3 and some of them (27%) were in the upper middle level of SE3.

2. Eighty eight per cent of the fathers' population educated up to elementary level were in the lower (LL) and lower middle levels of SE3. While 60 per cent of their sons were in the middle (MM) and upper middle levels of SE3 and some of them (28%) were in the upper (UU) level of SE3.

3. Ninety per cent of the fathers' population educated up to secondary level were in lower middle and middle (MM) levels of SE3, whereas 77 per cent of their sons were in the upper middle and upper (UU) level of SE3.
4. Ninety one per cent of the fathers' population holding graduate degrees were in the middle (M) and upper middle levels of SES, while 80 per cent of their sons were in the middle (M) and upper middle levels of SES, and the remaining 20 per cent of the sons were in the middle (M) level of SES.

5. Ninety per cent of the fathers' population holding post graduate degrees were in the upper middle and upper (UU) levels of SES, whereas in 80 per cent of their sons were in the upper middle (UM) and upper (UU) levels of SES, and 20 per cent of the sons in the upper (UU) level of SES.

6. Ninety five per cent of the fathers' population holding research degrees were found in the upper middle and upper (UU) level of SES, whereas 95 per cent of their sons were in the upper middle and middle (M) levels of SES. Only 5 per cent of the sons were in the upper (UU) level of SES.

7. Education and SES of the old generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

8. Education of the old generation and SES of the new generation were positively related to each other up to the graduate level. In case of the post graduate and research degree holder fathers the trend was reverse and there was negative relationship between education and SES.
9. Education and SES of the new generation on the whole were positively and significantly related to each other.

10. Income, occupational prestige and social status of the old generation were significantly and positively related to one another.

11. The income, occupational prestige and social status of the new generation were significantly and positively related.

7.0.4 Job Satisfaction and education

The conclusions given below describe the relationship between job satisfaction and education:

1. The illiterate fathers' population had average level of job satisfaction whereas their sons had high level of job satisfaction.

2. The fathers' population educated upto elementary, secondary and graduate levels had high level of job satisfaction whereas the sons had very high job satisfaction.

3. The fathers' holding post-graduate degrees and their sons were at the same level (i.e. very high) of job satisfaction.

4. The fathers' population educated upto research degree level had very high level of job satisfaction, whereas their sons had slightly lower level of job satisfaction.
5. Education and job satisfaction of the old generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

6. The education of the old generation and job satisfaction of the new generation were positively related to each other unto the post-graduate level of fathers' education. In case of the research degree level of fathers' education there was a downward trend. The relationship at this level was negative.

7. The education and job satisfaction of the new generation were positively related to each other.

7.0.5 Parental Aspiration and Education

Below are given the conclusions, describing the relationship of parental aspirations with education:

1. The illiterate fathers' population has low level of parental aspiration whereas their sons had an average level of parental aspirations.

2. The fathers' population educated upto elementary level of parental aspirations whereas their sons had high level of parental aspirations.

3. The fathers' population educated upto secondary and graduate levels and their sons had the same level i.e. high level of parental aspirations.

4. The fathers' population holding post graduate degrees and their sons had same level i.e. very high level of parental aspirations.
5. The fathers' population holding research degree had very high level of parental aspiration but their sons had slightly lower level of parental aspirations.

6. Education and parental aspirations of the old generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

7. The education of old generation and parental aspiration of new generation were positively related up to the post graduate level of fathers' education. In case of the research degree level of fathers' education, there was a downward trend. The relationship at these levels was negative.

8. The education and parental aspirations of the new generation were positively related with each other.

9. The job satisfaction and parental aspirations of the old generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

10. The job satisfaction and parental aspirations of the new generation were positively and significantly related to each other.

7.0.6 Caste and Social Mobility

The conclusions given below describe the inter-relationships between caste and education.

1. Eighty six per cent of the illiterate fathers belonged to scheduled castes and backward classes and 14 per cent of the fathers were found as belonging to other castes.
2. Sixty-nine per cent of the fathers educated up to elementary level of education belonged to scheduled castes and backward classes and the remaining 31 per cent of them were from other castes.

3. Fifty two per cent of the fathers educated up to secondary level belonged to scheduled castes and backward classes, the remaining 48 per cent of them to the other castes.

4. Forty one per cent of the graduate fathers belonged to scheduled castes and backward classes and 59 per cent of them were from other castes.

5. Thirty five per cent of post-graduate fathers belonged to scheduled castes and backward classes, 65 per cent of them belonged to other castes.

6. Thirty per-cent of research degree holding fathers were from scheduled castes, and backward classes, whereas 70 per cent of them belonged to other castes.

7. The overall trend showed that the scheduled castes and backward classes were backward in education in comparison to high castes.

7.0.7 Impact of Education on Vertical Social Mobility

Below are given conclusions regarding the impact of education on Vertical Social Mobility:

1. Seventy-seven per cent families of the illiterate old generation went one to two steps vertically upward in
social mobility, scale which was designed for this study (Chapter III), while 16 per cent of them had three to four steps upward mobility. None of the families went downward in social mobility, whereas seven per cent of them had status quo.

2. Seventy-four per cent families of the old generation educated up to elementary level had one to two steps intergenerational upward social mobility whereas 23 per cent of them had three to four steps of vertical upward mobility. None of the families went downward in social mobility whereas 3 per cent of them had status quo.

3. Eighty-four per cent families of the old generation educated up to secondary level had one to two steps intergenerational vertical social mobility, whereas 6 per cent of them went vertically downward by one step and 8 per cent of them had status quo.

4. Sixty-two per cent of the old generation population educated up to the first degree level had one to two steps intergenerational vertical upward mobility. 25 per cent of them had the same SES as their fathers.

5. 22.5 per cent of the old generation sample of population educated up to the post-graduate degree level had one step intergenerational vertical upward social mobility and 32.5 per cent of them had one to two steps downward mobility whereas 45 per cent of them had status quo.
6. Five per cent of the old generation population holding research degrees had one step vertical upward intergenerational social mobility whereas 65 per cent of them had one to two steps vertical downward social mobility and 20 per cent of them had same status as their fathers.

7. The overall results indicate that 79 per cent of the total population had upward intergenerational social mobility, 10 per cent of them had intergenerational downward social mobility whereas 11 per cent of them had no intergenerational social mobility.

7.1.0 Suggestions

The following suggestions based on the conclusions reported earlier are offered:

1. It has been found that vertical social mobility was maximum at the elementary level of education and downward in case of the families where higher education such as post-graduate or research degree was available. Therefore, it can be easily suggested that to fill the social gap between the upper and lower strata of the society, the schemes for universal compulsory elementary education should be vigorously pursued. Our planners and government should lay more stress on the improvement of elementary and secondary levels of education. The present practice of spending huge amounts on higher
education seems to be a waste. A large number of highly educated people do not find employment to their satisfaction and majority of the sons of highly educated fathers who even though themselves (sons) have high educational qualifications (graduate and post-graduate) move downward in the mobility scale.

2. It has been found that lower strata of society had lower parental aspirations. The teachers should try to motivate the parents belonging to lower castes for sending their children for higher education. They should take active interest in raising the level of aspirations of the parents. This they can do by organising parent-teacher conferences as well as by individual contacts with the parents of lower castes and classes.

3. From the conclusions it has been observed that at higher educational levels the number of lower castes (scheduled castes and backward classes) was very small. This trend needs to be changed. Hence all types of incentives should be given to the Lower Castes for sending their children for higher levels of education.

In the end it may be asserted that the results show that in this country Socialism or Sarvodaya ideal of Gandhiji or Antyodya ideal can only be achieved if education is universalised up to secondary level because till this level there is high intergenerational upward mobility. The lowering of emphasis on higher education similarly is very much needed.
Special care needs to be taken to raise the level of aspiration of lower castes so that they are motivated to learn and to attain equality with the to-day's privileged classes.

7.2.0 Suggestions for Further Study

The present study was conducted with certain limitations, it is, therefore, suggested that further investigations in this direction may be taken up without many of such limitations:

1. The present investigation was limited to the fathers' sample only. An investigation on similar lines may be conducted involving mothers sample also.

2. The present study was conducted on a sample of 450 households of the Union Territory of Chandigarh. The sample may be extended to more households to validate the results of this study.

3. The sample of population under this study was selected from the urban area. It is, therefore, suggested that households may be selected from rural areas as well.

4. Other factors like family background, family size, religion, etc. may be influencing the vertical social mobility be also taken into consideration.

5. The studies regarding the influence of education on social change in Indian situation are very few, it is, therefore, necessary that in this area more studies are conducted. Such studies may help in building a theoretical framework and also provide more conclusive data for further studies and research.