CHAPTER – V

DISCUSSION

In the previous chapter the data have been analyzed by using suitable statistical techniques and the results pertaining to the data has been presented and described.

In the present chapter an attempt has been made to examine critically the obtained results in the light of the foregoing studies and various hypotheses proposed in the present study.

Before discussing the results there are couple of points which need to be clarified and explained.

1. The Religious Attitude Scale used in the present study has six subscales namely.

   i. Nature of God - GOD
   ii. Prayer and worship - PRY
   iii. Formal Religion - FOR
   iv. Priests - PRI
   v. Future Life - FUL
   vi. Spirits and Spirit world - SPR

2. Lower score on each scale indicates more acceptance (favorable attitude) of the traditional religious beliefs.
HYPOTHESIS NO. 1

“Personality type (Introversion) would be positively associated with the religious attitude.”

Table 5 reveals that Introversion correlated negatively and significantly ($r = -0.30$, $p < .001$) with the total score on religious attitude. Introversion also correlated negatively and significantly with the three subscale of the Religious Attitude Scale–Nature of God ($r = -0.36$, $p < .001$), Prayer and worship ($r = -0.40$, $p < .001$), and Formal Religion ($r = -0.27$, $p < .001$). Since on the Religious Attitude Scale and its subscales, lower score indicates more acceptance (favorable attitude) of the traditional religious beliefs in the respective areas, it can be concluded that introversion is positively associated with the religious attitude and also belief in God, prayer and worship, and formal religion. However introversion did not correlate significantly with the remaining there subscales of the Religious Attitude Scale – Priests ($r = -0.08$), Future Life ($r = -0.06$) and Spirits and spirit world ($r = 0.02$). Thus, the results in the present study partially support the hypothesis.

The results of the present study are consistent with the finding of Eysenck (1965) which revealed that introverts are more religious than extroverts. The results of this study are also in line with the findings of Leslie, J. Francis, et. al. (1981), who found empirical evidence that, introverts are more religious and they condition more easily than extroverts. The results of the present study are in agreement with the findings of Eysenck (1967) who reported significant relationship between extroverts and religiosity.
However, the results on certain dimension or subscales of Religious Attitude Scale show that there is no significant correlation between introversion and religiosity. Thus the results partially support the hypothesis stating that “the personality type (Introversion) would be positively associated with religious attitude.”

Generally and traditionally it is believed that introverts are religious people. Introverts live in their own world. They are more occupied with their own knowledge and inner happenings. Since they do not involve in other (social) activities, they get enough time to think about God and religion. They believe in God and think that religion is the only way (source) to worship or reach the God, the supreme power.

**HYPOTHESIS NO. 2**

“Need for Achievement would be positively associated with the religious attitude.”

As per the results from table 5, the need for achievement correlated negatively and significantly \((r = -0.22 \ p < .001)\) with the total score on religious attitude. Need for achievement also correlated negatively and significantly with the three subscales of the Religious Attitude Scale – Nature of God \((r = -0.31, \ p < .001)\), Prayer and worship \((r = -0.039, \ p < .001)\), and Formal Religion \((r = -0.23, \ p < .001)\). Since on the Religious Attitude Scale and it’s subscales, lower scores indicate more acceptance (Favorable attitude) of the traditional religious beliefs in the respective areas, it can be concluded that achievement need is positively associated with the religious attitude and belief in God, Prayer and worship and
Formal religion. Need for Achievement did not correlate significantly with the remaining three subscales of the religious attitude scale. The correlational value of Priests ($r = -0.07$), Future life ($r = 0.09$), and Spirit and spirit world ($r= 0.13$). Thus the results partially support the hypothesis stating that Need for Achievement would be positively associated with the religious attitude.

The above results show that the need for achievement and religious attitude are positively associated with the first three subscales of religious attitude scale. These subscales are Nature of God, Prayer and worship and Formal Religion. However, need for achievement is not correlated significant with the remaining three subscales of Religious Attitude Scale viz. Priests, Future Life and Spirits and spirit world. It means, the hypothesis is partially supported by the findings of this study.

Results of the present study are consistent with the findings of Otwell (1988) who reported that out of four predictor variables religions belief’s was a statistically significant predictor of high achievement in a group of college freshmen, as high achievers made significantly higher scores on the religious inventory. The results are also consistent with the findings of Elize Botha (1971), Sinha and Ojha H. (1983) who reported positive correlation between, Religion Attitude with n-Ach.

However, there are also some findings which show no significant correlation between religious attitude and need for achievement. Even the results in the present study do not fully support the hypothesis. It may be because of the nature of sample used in this study. The subjects are college going students from metropolitan city, who are not fully aware of religious norms, values and spirituality, or may be due to an influence of
Western culture on them, they are forgetting their own religious and cultural values and perhaps that is the reason why the results of the present study partially support the hypothesis.

Most of the successful persons in different fields are religious and theists. We often read in the newspapers about the great people like Amitabh Bacchan, Anil Antani and many more, visiting the temples or religious places and seeking blessing of the God. Before launching any project or before any important event, they perform “pooja” or carry out religious rituals. According to these people their faith in God and religion bring them great mental satisfaction. By performing pooja, they feel closer to the God. Even Dr. Babasaheb Ambedkar, a great scholar and social reformer, was a staunch believer of the religion of Lord Buddha. These people are high achievers in their respective fields and are still religious.

These all suggest and confirm the hypothesis that “need for achievement and religious attitude are positively associated to each other”.

**HYPOTHESIS NO. 3**

“Moral judgment would be positively associated with the religious attitude.”

Reference to table 5 indicates that Moral judgment correlated insignificantly \( r = -0.01 \) with the total score in the Religious Attitude Scale and it’s six subscales. Thus the results reject the hypothesis No 3
stating that better moral judgment would be positively associated with religious attitude.

Moral judgment correlated values with subscales of Religious Attitude Scale are – Nature of God – 0.01, Prayer and worship -0.04, Formal Religion – 0.11, Priests 0.04, Future life 0.02, and Spirits and spirits world 0.09 which all are insignificant. Thus the results of the present study show no significant correlation between Moral judgment and Religious attitude.

Results of the present study are inconsistent with the findings of Derek Weright and Edwin Cox (1967) who found that the more ascetic the moral issue, the stronger the association with religious beliefs and practices.

However the results are in accordance with the findings of Marvin (1981) who found no significant correlation between Moral judgment and other variables such as age, sex, religion, socio-economic status and discipline. Similar results were found by Kohlberg (1967) in his study where he found no differences in the development of moral judgment between public school and catholic school.

Infact, morality and religiosity are closely related concepts. Morality is the base of all the religions. Religion teaches us moral values. Therefore there should have been a high degree of positive relationship between religious attitude and moral judgment. Religious person cannot disoblige the moral values of his religion. However, the results in the present study do not show any correlation between Religious attitude and moral judgment. The results reject the hypothesis No. 3.stating that “moral judgement would be positively associated with the religious attitudes.”
HYPOTHESIS NO. 4

“Females have more religious attitude than males.”

From the tables 1 and 4, it is revealed that females scored significantly lower than the males on the total religious attitude scale \( t = 8.55, p < .001 \) and also on the first four subscales namely Nature of God \( t = 10.83, p < .001 \), Prayer and worship \( t = 12.09, p < .001 \) Formal Religion \( t = 8.56, p < .001 \) and Priests \( t = 2.43, p < .05 \).

On the Religious Attitude Scale and its subscales, lower score indicates more acceptance (favorable attitude) of the traditional religious beliefs in the respective areas.

Table 3 (section 4.2) where in first three subscales – Nature of God (0.69) Prayer and worship (0.77) and Formal Religion (0.54) correlate substantially with the canonical variate, best separating males and female. The fourth subscale also correlated with the canonical variate though, comparatively by a small amount. Thus, mean scores of females are significantly lower than the mean scores of males on the total religious attitude scale and the first four subscales which indicates that females have more religious attitudes than males. However, on the remaining to subscales namely Future Life and Spirit and Spirit World, there are no significant differences. Hence, the results partially support the hypothesis No. 4.

Table 4 revealed that the effect sizes for gender differences, in terms of Cohen’s \( d \) for the subscales Nature of God (1.08), Prayer and worship (1.21) and Formal religion (0.86) are large; the effect size for the subscale
prayer and worship (0.24) is, however, small. For the total score on the religious attitude also the effect size is large.


There could be several reasons why females are more religious than males. Socio-cultural environment in India is partly responsible for females being more religious than males. In Indian culture females are encouraged or sometimes even forced (if necessary) to stick to the old customs, traditions and outdated values of their culture. Society directly or indirectly imposes restrictions on females and compels them to be religious even if they don’t want to be. It means, females are more religious because our culture (we) want them to be so. Moreover it is like stereotyped pattern which comes down from one generation to the next generation. (What mother does, so does her daughter).

Males, on the other hand, enjoy slightly more liberty or freedom. It is not very hard and fast for males to stick to the old customs and traditions of religion. It is found that there is difference between the tendency of males and females looking at religion. It is also found that women are more generous in observing the rites and rituals of their religion, hence they (women) are more religious than men.

**HYPOTHESIS NO. 5**

“Females would be more introverted than the males.”
It has been noted from table 1 and 4 that the means of introversion for males and females are 152.59 and 165.49 respectively. Thus, females are found significantly more introverted than males (t = 8.60, p < .001). Gender explained 15.7%, variance in introversion and effect size in terms of Cohen’s $d$ (0.86) has been found to be large. Thus the results support the hypothesis stating that the females are more introverted than the males. These results are in line with the conclusions derived from table 3 section 4.2) wherein Introversion correlated substantially with the canonical variate best separating males and females.

Several studies in this area conducted earlier are in line with the results of the present study and some studies do not agree with the results of the present study. Jens B. Asendorp and Susanne Wilpers (1998), Kumar and Mishra (1985) found that in comparison females are more introvertive than males. However, Michael S. Humphroys (1984), Dale Caird (1987), found no significant correlation between gender and introversion.

Gender (male and female) is the basic difference in population. So naturally, the personality of male and personality of female differ biologically, socially and psychologically as well.

From certain investigations, it has been observed that women are slightly inclined towards introversion whereas males are inclined towards extroversion. The reason of this difference in male and female personality can be found in socio-cultural set up. From the ancient time, (and even today) women were treated as a second sex. Society had imposed lots of restrictions and social taboos on women. The role of women in social and family affaire was confined to certain limits. As a result, females could
not get wider exposure to the outer world. Moreover, they were encouraged to be within the four walls of the house and look after the children. Women were not allowed to educate themselves or to participate in any public activity. A lady who is less talkative, shy, wearing “ghoonghat” and obeying the orders of the husband and elders and respect her husband like a God, was supposed to be an ideal “Bhartiya Nari.” These strict traditions and old customs made women an introvert. Such a condition of women was more or less the same throughout the world. But now the situation is changing fast, the things are not as they were in the past. Now women can educate themselves, they are being given equal treatment, rights and opportunities. However, the situation has not changed completely in many religions and cultures. And perhaps that is the reason why females are more introvert than males.

The results of the present study indicate the same thing and support the hypothesis No. 5 stating that “females would be more introverted than the males”

**HYPOTHESIS NO. 6**

“The females would have more need for achievement than the males.”

Table 1 and Table 4 reveal that mean scores of males and females for n-Ach are 129.49 and 150.98 respectively. Thus, females scored significantly higher than males on the need for achievement ( t = 9.80, p < .001) Results support the hypothesis No. 6. Gender explained 19.4% variance in the Need for achievement and effect size in terms of Cohen's d (0.98) has been found to be large. Thus the results support hypothesis
stating that the females would have more Need for achievement than the males. These results are in line with the conclusion derived from table 3 (section 4.2) wherein N-Achievement correlated substantially with the canonical variants best separating males and females.

These results are consistent with the findings of Ukey, V. U. (2001), Chaudhari (1972) and Gokulnathan (1971), who reported that females have more n-Ach level than males. However, the results of the present study are inconsistent with the findings of Ugal A. (1990) who found male’s superiority over females in n-Ach.

By and large in the modern times the attitudes of the parents as well as the entire society regarding child rearing practice has been positively changed. Now a days female child is also treated as equally as did the male child. Specially, in modern and educated families, there is no bifurcation between male child and female child. On the contrary, the good and responsible parents pay special attention on upbringing of girl child so as to make her self dependent and competent enough to face the challenges in future life. So also, the people realized the importance of educating the girl child, as they knew that the same little girl today is going to be a responsible mother tomorrow, and produce an ideal generation.

“There will never be a generation of great men until there has been a generation of free women or free mothers” (Ingersoll R.G.). These ‘pro-girl child’ attitudes of parents helped females to enhance achievement motivation in themselves. The present study revealed the results supporting the hypothesis No. 6 stating that “the female would have more need for achievement than the males.”
HYPOTHESIS NO. 7

“The females would have better moral judgment than the males.”

It is noted from table 1 and table 4 that there are not significant gender differences in moral judgment. In table 1, the mean of moral judgment for male is 40.52 and for female the mean is 40.23. It hardly shows any difference between the two scores. Table 4 also indicates 0.50 non-significant value. Thus the results reject the hypothesis No. 7 stating that the females would have better moral judgment than the males.”

The results of this study are consistent with the findings of Gupta N. (1995) of Himachal Pradesh which revealed no significant differences on principled morality. Similar results were reported by Henry Coady, (1986), Jack Arbuthnot (1975), who found no significant difference between male and female in moral judgment. However, Charles Blak Keasey (1972), found the mean moral judgment quotient for girls was slightly higher than that for boys (201 versus 199), but the difference did not approach statistical significance. Similarly Tntutufye, S. et. al. (1991), Freud (1949), Piaget (1932), Kohlberg (1976) have indicated that there was sex difference in moral reasoning of men and women.

From the ancient period, in Indian culture woman is looked upon with great respect and worshiped as a Goddess of power (Shakti). Woman is the one who takes care of every member of the family and looks after the well being of her family. Therefore it is believed that women have better sense of morality. Women are highly conscious about their moral
character. For an Indian women, her moral character is more important than anything else. She is known for her virtuous conduct. Due to all these qualities of women, it is believed that females have better moral judgment than the males. However, this assumption is not supported by the results of the present study. Hence the results of the present study reject the hypothesis No. 7.

**HYPOTHESIS NO. 8**

“Gender would moderate the relationship between moral judgment and religious attitude.”

Referring to Table 8 and Table 9, the value of Unstandardized Regression Coefficient-(β) for Gender and Moral Judgment (GEN x MJ) interaction is 1.43, suggesting that in males a higher score of MJ is associated with higher scores on Religious Attitude; in females the higher score on Moral Judgment is associated with lower scores on Religious Attitude. The obtained correlations for females $r = -0.17$; is in line with this interpretation. The obtained correlation for males ($r = 0.11$) is positive but insignificant. Since lower score on religious attitude indicates more favorable attitude towards religion, it can be concluded that the female’s better moral judgment is associated with favorable attitude towards religion. The difference between the two correlations is statistically significant ($z = 2.82; p < .01$). Thus, the results support the hypothesis.
The studies of Sally Sieracki and Jeanne Mellinger (1980), Wadhwa B.S. and Jain Ritu (1990), Adam B. Cohen and Paul Rozin’s (2001), Sayed Firoz Ali & S. Karunanidhi,(1995), derived the similar results supporting the hypothesis

There is scope to say that gender (female) comes to be as an important factor which can moderate the relationship between moral judgment and religious attitude. By and large it is believed that women are more religious than the males. They are more sensitive and more conscious about moral values. Women strictly observe the rites and rituals of their religion and culture. Therefore the females moderately inclined towards religiosity. On the other hand, males are found to be least bothered about morality. The new (modern) generation of male is systematically adopting the western culture and forgetting their own. This clearly indicates close relationship between the gender and moral judgment.

HYPOTHESIS NO. 9

“Gender would moderate the relationship between n-Achievement and Religious attitude.”

As per Table 8, the results of regression analyses with interaction terms, for attitude towards religion, (ATT), the value of $b$ – coefficient for Gender and Need for Achievement (GEN x NACH) interaction is $-0.55$, $Se_b = 0.12$, $t = 4.59$ and $p < .001$. It suggests that in males the higher score on n-Ach is associated with lower score on religious attitude; in females the higher score on n-Ach is associated with higher score on religious attitude. This interpretation is in line with the findings that the correlation between n-Ach and religious attitude are $-0.25$ ($p < .001$) for
males and 0.24 ($p < .001$) for females. The two correlations are significantly different (Table 9, $z = 4.94, p < .001$) However, since lower score on religious attitude indicate more favorable attitude towards religion, it can be concluded that in females higher achievement need is associated with less favorable attitude towards religion and in males higher achievement need is associated with more favorable attitude towards religion.


N-Achievement and Religious Attitude are closely related to each other. People with high n-Achievement motivation are also likely to be religious. Amongst the high achievers, females in particular, are more religious than males. This kind of relationship between n-Ach and religious attitude may be due to the influence of socio-cultural environment on human behaviour. Because in Indian culture, women firmly believe that their faith in God and religion directly or indirectly enables them to achieve their goals in life. Even they perform religious rituals (pooja) in order to achieve their goals and fulfill the desire. Therefore it seems that females are more achievement oriented than males.

The present study reveals the similar results and support the hypothesis No. 9 stating “gender would moderate the relationship between n-Achievement and religious attitude.”
HYPOTHESIS NO. 10

“Gender would moderate the relationship between introversion and religious attitude.”

Table 8 reveals the result of Regression Analysis with the total score on religious attitude of introversion = b = -0.30, Se b = 0.09, β = -0.17, t = 3.44, and (r = p < .001).

Table 9 reveals gender differences in correlations for males –0.25, for females –0.10 and z = 1.55. The p is insignificant.

Though the results in the table No. 9 show that there are gender differences on the correlation between INTR and PRY (Introversion and Prayer and worship) i.e. correlation for male – 0.35, for female – 0.11, z 2.52 and (r = p < .05). All other subscales of Religious attitude are insignificant. Such occasional differences between the results derived from the two different analysis are not infrequent.

Since lower score indicate more acceptance (favorable attitude) of the religious beliefs, it means females are more religious than males. Therefore, it can be assumed that gender can play major role in forming an association between introversion and religious attitude.

The results in the present study are in consonance with the findings of Gaston, J.E. K Brown, L.B. (1991); Fearn, Michael: Lewis – Cheristopher Alan : Francis Leslie J. (2003), and Francis, Leslie J. V. Katz Yaacov. J. (1992).

Generally it has been observed that introverts are more religious. So far as gender is concerned, females, in general are found to be more
introvertive as well as more religious than males. The reasons for such differences in male and female could be due to socio-cultural environment which makes women more introvertive and more religious. The present study reveals the similar results and supports the hypothesis No. 10 stating that “Gender would moderate the relationship between introversion and religious attitude.”

**HYPOTHESIS NO. 11**

“Introversion would be positively related to need for achievement.”

Appendix A – 1 and Appendix A – 2 reveals the correlations among different variables for males and females respectively. The inter correlations between introversion and need for achievement (INTR x NACH) for male is 0.18 p < .05, and for female it is (r = 0.04). Pooled within cell correlation of introversion with n-Ach is (r = 0.13, p< .01). The results support the hypothesis-No. 11.

The results of the present study supported the previous findings of Bimteshwar De and Aftab Ahmad Khan of Patna University (1969), Muthayya B.C. (1968) of Madras University, Jyothi P. (1984), Prayag Mehta (1969).

By and large, it has been observed that introvertive people are high achievers. The reason may be that these people get fully involved in the work and they are fully dedicated to the work due to which they reach their target easily. These people have tremendous capacity to concentrate on the task. Their certain qualities like dedication, involvement in work, capacity to concentrate on task make these people the high achievers.
HYPOTHESIS NO. 12

“Introversion would be positively correlated to moral judgment.”

With reference to Appendix A – 1 and Appendix A – 2, the correlations among different variables for males and females respectively, the inter correlation between INTR x MJ for male = 0.12 and for female = -0.03. The pooled within cells correlation of introversion with moral judgment (MJ) = 0.06. (Not significant) All other inter correlations including subscales of Religious Attitude Scale are also insignificant. Thus the findings of the present study reject the hypothesis stating that “the Introversion would be positively correlated to moral judgment.”

Findings of the present study are consistent with the results of samples reported by Heather A Walker, Guy L. Rowland, Michale Boyes et. al. (1991), Nandalal Gupta (1995).

Generally it has been observed that introverts are the people who have deep faith in morality and follow moral principles in life. However, the results in the present study do not agree with the conventional view and reject the hypothesis No. 12 stating that “introversion would be positively correlated to moral judgment”.

HYPOTHESIS NO. 13

“Need for Achievement would be negatively related to moral judgment.”
The results in the tables of Appendix A – 1, and Appendix A – 2 show the correlation among different variables for males and females respectively. As per the results the inter correlation between n-Ach and moral judgment for male = -0.06 and for females = 0.09. The pooled within cells correlation of n-Ach with moral judgment is = -0.01. Results indicate that there is negative inter correlation for males and positive inter correlation for females, but both the inter correlations are insignificant. The pooled within – cells correlation between n-Ach and MJ is also negative and insignificant. Thus, the results in the present study reject the hypothesis “stating that n-Ach would be negatively related to moral judgment.”

Need for Achievement and moral judgment are in fact, two different factors (dimensions of personality). People with high level of n-Ach motivation can not be equally high on moral judgment level, or vice versa. It is observed that high achievers anyhow (without giving much importance to moral and ethical values) tend to achieve their goals. On the other hand, people with high moral judgment always respect moral values. Therefore there can not be a significant correlation in between these two factors. The results of the present study also do not support the hypothesis.