ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is my prime and pleasant duty to express my sincere and profound gratitude to my Supervisor, Dr. Sagar Sharma, Professor in the Department of Psychology, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, who gave me unstinted support and made the completion of this laborious task possible in time by making himself available for consultations at all the stages. With his benevolent guidance, continual encouragement, untiring inspiration, wholehearted co-operation and scholarly supervision this modest attempt has been possible.

I would like to place on record my sincere feelings of thanks to Dr. A.S. Sethi, Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of Psychology, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla for his valuable help and consistent encouragement during the conduct of the research work. My thanks are also due to Dr. J.M. Jerath, Associate Professor, Dr. Dalip Malhotra, Assistant Professor, Dr. (Mrs.) Anup Sood, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology, Himachal Pradesh University for their valuable suggestions at different stages of the research work in its execution.

Also, I owe a special debt of thanks to Dr. Kulwinder Singh, Department of Education, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, for his kind co-operation and
invaluable assistance in various forms. In particular, I am grateful for the impetus provided by him. It was he who always helped me readily in clearing my doubts, especially in the statistical analyses, constructive and stimulating discussion as well as for going through the manuscript of the thesis critically.

Moreover, I would like to take the opportunity to express thanks to my friend Miss Sadhna Tanwar, Research Scholar in the Department of Psychology who more than any one else, has shared in this work also and has been instrumental in the completion of the research work.

It gives me immense pleasure to acknowledge my indebtedness to my Uncle, Shri Harbhajan Singh Ranote, Dy. Director, H.P. Press, Jalandar for his encouraging and inspiring attitude in the completion of the study through its different phases. I am equally thankful to Mr. Ramitra and Mr. K.D. Sharma who have been generous enough and more than co-operative in the execution of this research work and otherwise too.

Above all, though, the research for this thesis has been a part of my own consciousness raising and in this I am equally indebted to my Brother, Dr. Anil and Sister-in-law, Dr. Renu that the study has been completed in its greatly expanded form is to no small degree due to the stimulus and encouragement provided by them.
I will also like to thank the Principals and the concerned staff of different schools, who very kindly permitted me and extended all the co-operation for collecting the requisite data in their schools. The 'Respondents' who constituted the sample for this thesis and whose absolute co-operation and patience throughout the long and tiring process of data collection deserve my special thanks.

Sincere thanks are also due to Indian Council of Social Sciences Research, New Delhi for financing the research project for nine months which enabled me to complete this work without much financial constraint. Thanks are due to the Library staff of the Himachal Pradesh University as well as of Panjab University for allowing me to go through the literature for the study. I would also like to thank the Himachal Pradesh University for extending all administrative co-operation during the conduct of study.

I am especially thankful to Shri Ram Nath for rough typing and Shri Jai Ram Thakur for fair typing of the thesis with all exactitude and sincerity.

MARCH, 1986

(ANITA GUPTA)