ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First of all, my humble thanks and gratitude are due to God, for being my inspiration and strength throughout my life, especially during these days of research completion.

My sincere thanks and appreciation, from the deepest depth of my heart, are due to Professor K V Kaliappan, M A., D.M. & S.P., Ph.D, Head of the Department of Psychology, for his able guidance and assistance with a vision for the future.

I also remember with gratitude, late Dr. T.E Shanmugam for his help during the early days of my research work with regard to designing of the tool.

I am glad to express my thanks to Dr. V.D Swaminathan, Dr. S. Karunanidhi, Dr. Latha, Dr. Parvathi, Dr. Nirmala and all the other staff members, along with my research colleagues for their timely help and support.

I am so thankful to Dr. Karthikayan who was so kind to help me carry out the statistical analysis of the data and the editorial works of this thesis.

My thanks are due to my sister, Sr. Arulmary, M.Sc, M.Ed., M.Phil., my nephew, Fr. Xavier Raj, Mr. Sundar Rosario, B.A., B.L., Mr. Milton and
all other friends, especially, Fr. Pat, Fr. Larry, Miss. Sally, Deacons, John & Richard, Mr. & Mrs. Syl Gerry and Mr. & Mrs. John Ellen for their helps towards the completion of this great task.

I also wish to thank all the well wishers especially Archbishop of Madurai, Bishop of Sivagangai, and the other Priests of Sivagangai Diocese for their support and encouragement. I cannot also forget Archbishop of Madras, Fr. Devotta and other priests-friends for their concern and kindness towards my work and me.

Finally, my thanks are due to all brothers and sisters who had prayed for me and for the successful submission of my work. It would be incomplete if I forget to thank my loving mother, sister, brothers, nephews, nieces, and all other family members for their co-operation and prayers to complete this project successfully.

A. Santiago