CHAPTER-VI

CONCLUSION
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The major highlights of the study as already reported appear to converge at certain points on the basis of which the following conclusions may be drawn:

✓ 6.1 Significant profile differences among elderly personnel based on marital status have been found with regard to the selected variables.

• **Married elderlies** have significantly higher happiness, healthy dependency, vanity, entitlement, extraversion and lie scores in comparison to widowed, divorced and unmarried counterparts. They also have significantly higher authority, exhibitionism and overall narcissism in comparison to widowed and divorced elderly counterparts. The same group also has significantly higher self-sufficiency and superiority than widowed elderlies.

• **Widowed elderlies** have significantly higher scores on state anxiety, trait anxiety, destructive overdependence, dysfunctional detachment, exploitativeness, psychoticism and neuroticism in comparison to their married partners. They also have significantly higher happiness, healthy dependency and lie score compared to divorced and unmarried elderly partners. They have significantly higher dysfunctional detachment in comparison to their unmarried partners.

• **Divorced elderlies** have significantly higher state anxiety, trait anxiety, destructive overdependence, exploitativeness, psychoticism and neuroticism compared to married and widowed elderlies. They have significantly higher happiness and lie scores in comparison to unmarried elderly counterparts. The same groups of subjects have significantly higher dysfunctional detachment in comparison to all the other three groups, namely, married, widowed and
unmarried elderlies. When compared to widowed individuals, divorced elderly subjects scored higher on authority, self-sufficiency, superiority, entitlement, overall narcissism and extraversion.

- **Elderly unmarried individuals** have significantly higher state anxiety, vanity, entitlement and extraversion in comparison to widowed and divorced partners. They have significantly higher trait anxiety, destructive overdependence, authority, self-sufficiency, superiority, exhibitionism, exploitativeness, overall narcissism, psychoticism, and neuroticism compared to married, widowed and divorced partners. When compared to married partners elderly unmarried individuals have significantly higher dysfunctional detachment. Furthermore, when compared against divorced partners, the same group has significantly higher lie scores.

6.2 **Significant gender differences** have also been found.

- **Elderly married males** have higher scores on happiness, healthy dependency, authority, self-sufficiency, superiority, extraversion and lie scores while they have the least state anxiety, trait anxiety, exploitativeness, dysfunctional detachment, psychoticism, neuroticism. **Elderly married females** have the highest happiness, healthy dependency, vanity and lie score. They have the least state anxiety, trait anxiety, destructive overdependence, exploitativeness, psychoticism, neuroticism.

- **Widowers** have the least authority, self-sufficiency, superiority, entitlement, overall narcissism, and extraversion. **Widowed females** have been found to
have the least authority, self-sufficiency, superiority, exhibitionism, entitlement, overall narcissism, extraversion and lie scores.

- **Divorced males** have the highest state anxiety and dysfunctional detachment. They have the least healthy dependency, exhibitionism, vanity and lie scores. **Divorced females** have the highest dysfunctional detachment, superiority and exploitativeness. They have the least healthy dependency and vanity.

- **Bachelors** have the highest trait anxiety, destructive overdependence, exhibitionism, exploitativeness, vanity, entitlement, overall narcissism, psychoticism, and neuroticism. They have the least happiness among the different groups. **Spinsters** have the highest extent of state anxiety, trait anxiety, destructive overdependence, authority, self-sufficiency, exhibitionism, entitlement, overall narcissism, psychoticism, neuroticism, and extraversion. They have the least happiness, dysfunctional detachment and lie scores.

✓ 6.3 Significant intra-group results have also been found.

There is on the average, higher scores of married aged males than married females with respect to the following variables:

- Happiness (Not significant)
- Destructive overdependence
- Authority
- Exhibitionism
- Entitlement
- Narcissism
• Psychoticism (Not significant)
• Extraversion

There is on the average, higher scores of married aged females than married males with respect to the following variables

• State Anxiety
• Trait Anxiety
• Healthy Dependency
• Dysfunctional Detachment
• Superiority (Not significant)
• Exploitativeness
• Vanity
• Dysfunctional Detachment
• Neuroticism (Not significant)
• Lie score (Not significant)

There is on the average, higher scores of elderly widowers than aged widows with respect to the following variables

• Healthy Dependency
• Authority
• Superiority
• Vanity
• Narcissism (Not significant)
• Extraversion
• Lie Score
There is on the average, higher scores of elderly widows than aged widowers with respect to the following variables:

- State Anxiety
- Trait Anxiety
- Happiness (Not significant)
- Destructive overdependence
- Dysfunctional detachment
- Self-sufficiency
- Exhibitionism
- Exploitativeness
- Entitlement
- Psychoticism
- Neuroticism

There is on the average, higher scores of elderly divorced males than divorced females with respect to the following variables:

- Happiness
- Healthy Dependence
- Authority (Not significant)
- Exploitativeness (Not significant)
- Entitlement
- Vanity
There is on the average, higher scores of elderly divorced females than divorced males with respect to the following variables

- State anxiety
- Trait anxiety (Not significant)
- Destructive overdependence
- Dysfunctional detachment
- Self-Sufficiency (Not significant)
- Superiority
- Exhibitionism
- Narcissism

There is on the average, higher scores of elderly bachelors than elderly spinsters with respect to the following variables

- Happiness
- Dysfunctional detachment
- Healthy dependence
- Authority
- Superiority
- Vanity
- Exploitiveness
- Entitlement
- Narcissism
- Neuroticism
- Lie Score
There is on the average, higher scores of elderly spinsters than elderly bachelors with respect to the following variables

- State anxiety
- Trait anxiety
- Destructive overdependence
- Self-sufficiency
- Exhibitionism
- Psychoticism and Extraversion

Hence the study has clearly shown that marital status of an individual, be it male or female, has distinctive implications in mental and consequential behavioural frames in the tunes of different psychosocial variables. To have the smooth flow of life with generalized sense of well-being, one needs to decide on one’s marital choice at appropriate age, deriving the knowledge of life profile, being found in present work and related works in life.