Personality is one of the most fascinating subject of study to which both the researcher and the man in the street are equally attracted. Acquaintance with and understanding of the problem of personality will be helpful to an individual for his adequate adjustment in his wonted environment. The importance of one's personality make-up is patently manifest in every walk of life, whether one is working in an agricultural farm, fighting in a battle field or participating in a social gathering. Successful achievement in life depends to a large measure upon the possession of correctly developed personality. The nature of our emotional responses in different situations is attributable to our personality qualities of maturity, balance and integration. Mere intelligence does not take one far enough in the way of success. It has been often found that children possessing high degree of intelligence and showing apparently good promise in early childhood cannot shine as much as is to be expected for lack of development of an well adjusted personality. The educationists and psychologists lay emphasis, therefore, on personality development so that good human material may be fully utilised, wastage avoided as also problem behaviour or mental break-down safeguarded.
Common sense and studies have shown that growth and pattern of personality are determined by several factors, innate or environmental, of which family and home conditions play a very significant part, because it is in the family unit that the child is first received and nurtured. And in this family the parental behaviour leaves a deep impression on the mind of the child, which in turn influences the latter's personality. An enquiry into this problem is of abiding interest, and in spite of a number of studies conducted elsewhere will bear repetition. It is to be noticed that in this country studies of this kind are but few. A few works which have been initiated here were mainly based on studying the personality pattern of both parents and child or of parents only. Projective techniques have been used in their investigation. But the current researches in U.S.A. show that the recent method used is the application of questionnaires and inventories in the field mentioned above. So the present researcher made an attempt to explore the field with inventory and questionnaire. It is rather a new attempt.

The present study conducted by personal interviews with the help of questionnaires has two characteristics of its own. Assessment of parents' behaviour in terms of their self-rating has been duly taken into consideration. At the same time assessment made by the children of their parents has received weighty consideration. Small children being incapable of giving proper
assessment only adolescents or youths have been taken as participants in this investigation. In studying parental influence only one aspect of the child's personality, viz. Extroversion-Introversion, has been examined for reasons given in a following chapter.

Department of Psychology
University of Calcutta.
July, 1969.  ANJALI CHAUDHURI