I have always been fascinated by the drawings and paintings of children. I have wondered what the artworks of the young want to actually convey to the grown-ups. The drawings and paintings of the young reflect their originality and imagination. It is like a language for them through which they offer us glimpses into their inner worlds. The quality of the artworks produced by children change as they grow older and develop. The transition to adolescence is reflected clearly in their drawings. I have often wondered if the personalities of children and adolescents are mirrored by the artworks they produce. My quest for the answer to this question led me to this area of research.

In carrying out this piece of research I have come across many hurdles in my way. The major problem was convincing the parents to allow their offsprings to participate as subjects in this investigation. The children and adolescents with their busy schedules, short attention spans, naughtiness and in some cases casual attitudes posed problems in data collection. Today's society being materialistic, some children and adolescents wanted monetary benefits and costly gifts in exchange for serving as subjects in the present study. However, such instances were few.

I shall feel satisfied if the findings of this investigation make people realize the value of the artworks created by children and adolescents. It will also be gratifying if professionals working in the fields of child and adolescent psychology and human development lobby for the greater use of drawings created by the young as data for their psychological evaluation. This will lift the stress associated with psychological testing off the children and adolescents.

Date: 18-12-08
Place: Kolkata
Signature