CHAPTER - VII

Summary
SUMMARY

An attempt has been made in the present research to study the perceptions of three generations on grandparents' role in bringing up grandchildren.

The current study attempted to provide a picture of perceptual trends among three generational families, for which the historical, demographic and empirical roots that converged to form the current field of study were briefly reviewed and presented in detail in the second chapter.

Among the empirical studies, studies examining the relationship between generations were presented in Chapter II, Section-1 and studies related to socio-demographic variables of three generations were presented in another section. The studies related to behavioural variables of three generations were presented followed by the statement of the problem.

After reviewing the literature, the problem of the research was defined the objectives and hypotheses were formulated for further probe.

The objectives of the study:

1. To study the perceptions of grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren among generation-I, generation-II, generation-III with respect to socio-demographic variables.
2. To study the influence of various behavioural variables on the perceptions of generation-I, generation-II and generation-III with respect to grandparental role.

The hypothesis formulated for the present study

1. Socio-demographic variables (age, gender, education, type of grandparent, family type, number of grandchildren and socio-economic status) significantly influence the perceptions of grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren among generation-I.

2. Socio-demographic variables (age, gender, education, occupation and family type) of generation-II significantly influence their perceptions on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

3. Socio-demographic variables (age, gender, education and birth order) of generation-III significantly influence their perceptions on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

4. Life satisfaction of generation-I significantly influence their perceptions on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

5. Marital adjustment of generation-II significantly influence their perceptions on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

6. Academic achievement of generation-III significantly influence their perceptions on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

Chapter IV covers the details of the methodology and the plan of study. The study was conducted in Tirupati town of Andhra Pradesh, India. The sample selected has one hundred and fifty (150), adolescents (25 male and 26 female) from each age group of 13+, 14+ and 15+ years who were living with
both the parents and at least one set of grandparents were purposively selected for the study. Three hundred (300) parents of these children, and three hundred (300) grandparents were also part of the sample. Thus the total number of subjects were seven hundred and fifty (750) individuals.

The details regarding the description and the procedures employed for administration, scoring and interpretation of the appropriate tools used in the research were included in the methodology.

The tool to measure the perceptions of generation-I, generation-II and generation-III were developed separately for three generationers by the investigator. Life satisfaction inventory developed by Ramamurthy (1979), marital adjustment inventory developed by Desh Pande (1971) and socio-economic status scale of (Rao, 1991) were used to obtain information on socio-demographic details and behavioural aspects of the sample.

Chapter-V shows the analysis of results and output of various statistical techniques like 't' test and ANOVA were employed to determine the influence of socio-demographic variables on the perceptions of three generations. Step-wise multiple linear regression analysis was used to identify the most significant contributing variables to the perceptions of three generations. For the significant contributing variables, interaction effects were also tested to see the differential associations by using multiple analysis of variance.

Chapter-VI refers to Discussion where the output of data were discussed with supportive evidences and the findings were compared with already available studies from Indian and abroad literature.
The following are some of the important findings of the research reported in this thesis:

1. Socio-demographic variables of generation-I (age, gender, socio-economic status, type of grandparent) significantly influenced their perceptions of grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

2. The number of grandchildren significantly influenced the perceptions of grandfathers and family type significantly influenced the perceptions of grandmothers on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

3. There was no significant influence of education on perceptions of grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren among generation-I.

4. Socio-demographic variables of generation-I (age, gender, occupation) significantly influenced their perceptions of grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

5. There was no significant influence of family type on perceptions of grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren among generation-I.

6. There was no significant influence of age, education and gender of the grandchild on perceptions of grandparents role in bringing them up, whereas birth order of the grandchild significantly influenced their perceptions on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren.

7. There was a significant relationship between the perceptions of three generations on grandparental role in bringing up grandchildren with respect to behavioural variables of generation-I (with life satisfaction), generation-II (with marital adjustment) and generation-III (with academic achievement).

Studies of this nature enables the common people to understand the significance of elderly in the family and interrelationships among the family members. This also helps the family counsellors, educationists and policy makers to formulate intervention programmes to improve the quality of family life.