Youth are a major human resource for development and key agents of social change, economic development and technological innovation. No society can hope of translating its dreams and visions into reality without proper utilizing the potential and vigour of youth. At the same time, their problems are many and varied. In the emerging highly complex social scenario, every change and transformation with a right focus is expected to direct on youth since they will face the immediate consequences of whichever way it may turn out. Similarly, when a third of the total population is youth, it is expected that they become an active participant in the whole process of change. Therefore if potential of youth are properly harnessed and utilized, this could be powerful instrument of social, cultural and economic changes. Further youth power could also be utilized for the accomplishment of national goals viz. increasing production, wiping out illiteracy, protecting national property and utilizing leisure hours for social service.

Youth has always been regarded to be the nicest period of human lives. It is the period when young people can be carefree without the burden of responsibilities. We find today specific need and characteristic behaviour of youth. We are living in an era of rash change. Society has not only to prepare the young to take on the roles of maturity but it has simultaneously to adjust itself to its own changes.
Today's youth have become more vigorous, their actions manifest more their outlook and lifestyle more challenging, their vote bank is much in demand and they themselves have become more demanding. As we see the state of youth in India today, most of them are dissatisfied with the present and have no hopes in future. They continuously crave for and are in search of identity, attention and status. They are overwhelmed by loss of their own culture and joint & extended family environment and the impact of foreign-alien-culture. We also have a minority of youth from the affluent and influential families taking the hedonistic lifestyles and crimes for excitement and thrills. In contrast, there are millions of youth who are unemployed or under employed, uprooted from their traditional source of survival and also made unemployable elsewhere by elite education inaccessible and unaffordable to them.

Today the youth of the country are lacking their soul strength due to the social, educational & economical backwardness. They are facing number of problems: Sex discrimination, Generation gap, Insecurity, Low self - esteem, Depression, Addiction, College Problems, Rejection by peers, parents & society, dissatisfaction by own appearance and Problems with parents etc.

The problem is that the new generation of India is experiencing a mixed culture. Western culture is proving to be a dominating influence on India's younger generation, particularly in urban areas. They are mad about Brands, High Society and Pubs/Parties. They have high aspirations; they want to earn a lot of money within no time. The aspirations of 21st century's youth have changed. They opt mainly professional courses so that they may get jobs easily
and quickly. They prefer only those jobs which give them handsome packages (Salary/Annum). This type of culture reflects two sides of life. On one hand youth can easily get and settled in good jobs at very young age and on the other hand they become independent earlier.

Here the question arises as to how do we prepare a properly inspired, strongly motivated and dynamic youth for our country? Mainly the four factors influence and mould our young generation e.g. the home and family, the educational institutions, friends and peer group and the media. If all these influencing factors function in harmony towards a common goal of grooming the right young men and women, we will definitely have a massive, powerful youth fulfilling the dreams and the challenges of Swami Vivekananda as the youth of India build up the strength, unity and integrity of the country.

Hope that the results of this study may help the concerned persons like Parents, Teachers, Counsellors, Educationists and also the Policy Makers to make suitable policies and programmes for the 21st century's youth by which we can utilize their energy for the development of the society and country.

The report of the investigation is presented in five chapters. Attempts have been made to maintain sequence of thoughts and investigation throughout the research. The First chapter gives the introductory description of the problem in which Emergence, objectives, delimitations and significance of the study have been emphasized. In the second chapter the review of the related literature has been given. The third chapter deals with the procedure of the
study, which includes the method of the study, sample of the study, selection and construction of the tool, administration and scoring of the tools and statistical techniques used in the study. The fourth chapter contains the analysis and interpretation of the data and the justification of the results. The fifth chapter comprises the findings, conclusions, limitations and suggestions for future study.

As the sample of the study was only of 600 undergraduates which constitute very small part of the total youth of India, I shall not say that the results of this study can be applied to the whole youth of India but, I would like to emphasize that the results of this study are genuine and the full efforts have been made to make it up to the mark that is why the findings may be beneficial to the parents, teachers, educators, psychologist, policy makers and social workers to understand the youth psyche and to guide them properly to channelize their energy on the right path.

Thanking you,

(Ms. Nidhi Gupta)