ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I take this opportunity to put my deepest sense of gratitude to the people who have stood by my side, helping, guiding and encouraging me in this accomplishment. My gratitude cannot be spelt out in few words. I will nonetheless try.

I express my sincere thanks and deepest sense of gratitude to Dr. (Mrs.) Jyoti Sarin, Principal, M.M. College of Nursing, M.M. University, Mullana, Ambala for her constant encouragement, guidance, inspiration, suggestions and support. Her encouragement and soothing words at the time of immense stress were great source of solace. It’s a matter of great honor and pride for me to complete this project under her supervision.

A heartfelt sincere acknowledgement is extended to members of departmental research committee for their valuable suggestions which helped me to give shape to this project.

A sincere expression of gratitude is extended to experts for their valuable suggestions in the validation of interview guide.

I am grateful to Dr. Jyoti Gupta, Infertility Specialist, Amrit IVF Center, Karnal for facilitating the conduct of the study in her hospital.

Sincere acknowledgement to all childless women who participated in study enthusiastically, bared their emotions and shared experiences honestly to let me gain insight about the phenomenon.

A word of commendation to Ms. Harneet, Mr. M.S. Kharab, Mrs.Sulakshna Chand and Ms. Kranti for taking pains in translating, editing and polishing this manuscript.

My special thanks to Ms. Rashmi, Mrs. Suman, Mrs. Parul, Ms. Vandana, Ms. Sabita, Mrs. Taarika and Mrs. Kanika who helped me immensely in voluminous task of transcription, validation of transcription and themes. I am extremely grateful to Mr. Sembian N and Mr. Ajesh Kumar TK who carefully reviewed manuscript and offered excellent suggestions for improvement during peer debriefing.

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of my husband towards the successful completion of this project. I thank him for his support and encouragement. There are not enough words to describe my gratitude to my greatest asset, my parents for their strength, support, encouragement and blessings without which it would have been impossible to complete this study. With a sense of deep indebtedness, I pay my grateful salutations to Mr. M.S Malik and Mrs. Nirmal Malik and all family members for their never ending support and valuable prayers that helped me to complete this endeavor.

Last but not the least; I would like to express deep sense of gratitude to God Almighty who has protected me under His watch and showered blessings on me, which made it all possible.

Poonam Malik