CHAPTER - V

FINDINGS, CONCLUSION LIMITATIONS AND SUGGESTIONS
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CONCLUSION, LIMITATIONS, AND SUGGESTIONS

The present Chapter is the last and the final chapter of the thesis entitled, “A Comparative Study of Personality and Behavioural Characteristics of Divorced and Married Women”. The chapter embodies the Findings, Conclusion, Limitations of the present work, and Suggestions for future research, and Implications of Results.

FINDINGS

The descriptive, as well as, inferential analysis of the research data, revealed the following facts and findings, in regard to the Personality and Behavioural Characteristics (D.Vs.) viz.

08. There was no differential effect of any I.V. on both the Personality Characteristics i.e. Extraversion and Neuroticism.

09. There was no differential effect of Stage (Age Group) (Early and Late Stage) of these women on any of the Behavioural Characteristics, as well as, Personality Characteristics.

10. The Divorced women were found superior to Married women on the Behavioural Characteristics, viz. Frustration, Depressive Emotions, Insecurity, Decision Making, and Sexual Pathology; while in case of Behavioural Characteristics, Thought Pathology it is contra indicated.

11. The Divorced women of early stage were found superior to their Married counterparts on Behavioural Characteristics, Frustration, Depressive Emotions, Insecurity, and Decision Making; while converse was the case for Behavioural Characteristics Thought Pathology and Rationalization.
12. The Divorced women of late stage were found superior to their Married counterparts on **Behavioural Characteristics** Frustration, Depressive Emotions, Insecurity, Rationalization, Decision Making, and Sexual Pathology. While Married women of late stage were superior to Divorced Women of late stage on Thought Pathology.

13. The Divorced women of late stage were found superior to their early stage counterparts on the **Behavioural Characteristics** viz. Thought Pathology, Rationalization, and Sexual Pathology.

14. The Married women of early stage were found superior to their late stage counterparts on the **Behavioural Characteristics** viz. Decision Making, and Sexual Pathology.

The Results of the Analysis of 2 X 2 Factorial Experiments [Marital Status * Stage (Age Group)] for all the nine dependent variables i.e. **Behavioural Characteristics**: 1.Frustration, 2.Thought Pathology, 3.Depressive Emotions, 4.Insecurity, 5.Rationalization Behaviour, 6.Decision Making, 7.Sexual Pathology and **Personality Characteristics**: 8. Extraversion, and 9. Neuroticism; investigated under the present study revealed the following findings:-

13. The Marital Status (Divorced and Married) Women of Early Stage and Late Stage emerged out as the only affecting independent variable. It produced differential effect on six (06) out seven (07) Behavioural Characteristics and one (01) out of two (02) Personality Characteristics.

14. The Stage (Age Group) (Early Stage and Late Stage) of Divorced and Married Women did not emerge as an affecting independent variable. It did not produce any differential effect on any of the seven (07) Behavioural Characteristics and two (02) Personality Characteristics.
15. Divorced Women were higher on the Behavioural Characteristic **Frustration** in comparison to Married Women.

16. Married Women were higher on the Behavioural Characteristic **Thought Pathology** in comparison to Divorced Women.

17. Divorced Women were higher on the Behavioural Characteristic **Depressive Emotions** on in comparison to Married Women.

18. Divorced Women were higher on the Behavioural Characteristic **Insecurity** in comparison to Married Women.

19. Neither of the two Independent Variables i.e. Marital Status and Stage of Women produced any differential effect, individually, on the Behavioural Characteristic **Rationalization**. However they produced interaction effect [Marital Status * Stage (Age Group)] on **Rationalization** with the differential hierarchy: Divorced Women of Late Stage> Married Women of Early Stage> Married Women of Late Stage> Divorced Women of Early Stage.

20. Divorced Women were higher on the Behavioural Characteristic **Decision Making** in comparison to Married Women. In addition the significant interaction effect of Marital Status * Stage (Age Group) on **Decision Making** showed the following differential hierarchy: Divorced Women of Late Stage> Divorced Women of Early Stage> Married Women of Early Stage> Married Women of Late Stage.

21. Divorced Women were higher on the Behavioural Characteristic **Sexual Pathology** in comparison to Married Women. In addition the significant interaction effect of Marital Status * Stage (Age Group) on **Sexual Pathology** exhibited the following differential hierarchy: Divorced Women of Late Stage> Married Women of Early Stage> Divorced Women of Early Stage> Married Women of Late Stage.
22. Neither of the two Independent Variables i.e. Marital Status and Stage of Women produced any differential effect, individually or jointly on the Personality Characteristics **Extraversion** and **Neuroticism**.

23. However the insignificant interaction effect of Marital Status * Stage (Age Group) on the Personality Characteristics **Extraversion** needs to be paid attention and given due consideration. Here the difference in probability causing insignificance is extremely meager only 0.001 (i.e. $p = 0.051$ against $p = 0.050$ required for significance). The differential hierarchy is Married Women of Early Stage > Divorced Women of Late Stage > Divorced Women of Early Stage > Married Women of Late Stage.

24. Similarly, the insignificant interaction effect of Marital Status * Stage (Age Group) on the Behavioural Characteristic **Thought Pathology** needs to be paid attention and given due consideration. Here the difference in probability causing insignificance is very meager only 0.008 (i.e. $p = 0.058$ against $p = 0.050$ required for significance). The differential hierarchy is Married Women of Early Stage > Married Women of Late Stage > Divorced Women of Late Stage > Divorced Women of Early Stage.

**CONCLUSION**

The Results and Findings of the present study made the researcher to conclude that the Marital Status (Divorced and Married) of Women emerged as one and the only discriminating factor/variable, in the exploration and probing into their Behavioural Characteristics viz. 1.Frustration, 2.Thought Pathology, 3.Depressive Emotions, 4.Insecurity, 5.Rationalization, 6.Decision Making, 7.Sexual Pathology, and Personality Characteristics i.e. 8.Extraversion, and 9.Neuroticism. The other variable, the Stage (Age
Group) (Early and Late) of these women, did not show any differential effect on any of the Behavioural and Personality Characteristics investigated upon in the present study.

The Divorced Women exhibited their superiority on the following Behavioural Characteristics viz. Frustration, Depressive Emotions, Insecurity, Decision Making and Sexual Pathology, over their Married counterparts; while the Married Women exhibited their superiority over their Divorced counterparts on the Behavioural Characteristic-Thought Pathology. Neither of the above women, Divorced or Married, showed their superiority over their counterparts on the Behavioural Characteristic- Rationalization.

None of the two independent variables (Marital Status and Stage of women) exhibited any differential effect on any of the two Personality Characteristics viz. Extraversion, and Neuroticism.

The picture of the inner-self or psyche of the Divorced women painted by the results of this piece of investigation brings to the fore and lime light the bitter and dreadful reality as to how much the psychological wellbeing of these divorced women is shattered and to which extent they are suffering. The Behavioural Characteristics viz. Frustration, Depressive Emotions, Insecurity, Decision Making, and Sexual Pathology; which have come to light are all negative ones and their negative effect on the psyche of the divorced women has not ceased to inflict them, rather their effect on this segment of women is long term and escalating their sufferings day by day. In addition, their psychosomatic bearings and socio-cultural milieu does not allow them any redressal from their sufferings. These negative effects lead most of them to suffer form Depression and other diseases and ultimately force them to become clinical cases. The limit is that many are pushed into the blind alleys of life, where the only solution left to alleviation of their sufferings is the final and fatal suicide.

Our aim and purpose is invert the path of sufferings of these divorced women and devise, design, and implement ways and means and programmes; which can foster fast all
round wellbeing to them in particular and free our society and culture from the evil of divorce, once for ever, though gradually.

**LIMITATIONS**

No investigation, even though planned with meticulous design and details, and conducted with utmost care, can be immaculate and free from limitations. The present study too, is not an exception and free from limitations. These, from the investigator’s point of view, are the limitations of study, and these have been pointed out below:-

01. The sample (N=200) for the present study, though was adequate for the purpose but small in quantum. The sample constituted of the Divorced Women Early Stage (N=50), Divorced Women Late Stage (N=50), Married Women Early Stage (N=50), Married Divorced Women Late Stage (N=50). The reason being that the limited sample for Divorced Women constituted of cases decreed divorce by the Family Courts of the Kanpur District, and even out of those many did not accept to disseminate any information about themselves. The Married Women served as control. A larger sample of at least 300 elements or still more would have been better for the study and would have provided sound and firm basis for generalization of results.

02. The Stage (Age Group) (Early and Late) of the Divorced and Married Women are limited, only two, Early Stage and Late Stage; towards the completion of the work it became evident, that more categories of Stage of Divorced and Married Women would be desirable.

03. The Educational, Social, and Economic Level of these Divorced and Married Women were not given due consideration. These must have affected the marriage and divorce process and needed due consideration.

04. Only two Personality Characteristics viz. Extraversion, and Neuroticism were considered. The Personality of these Divorced and Married Women, needs to
be studied more intensively and extensively in its global perspective, encompassing more Personality Characteristics.

05. The Marital Adjustment and Marital Satisfaction play the leading role in retaining or relinquishing the marriage and as such these are meaningful and significant variables in the study of marriage and divorce need to be given place in this study too.

06. While studying the Divorced and Married Women, due consideration to the families to which they belong is also imperative. The type of family, and climate of the family and other family related factors need to be given due consideration.

07. The study of Divorced and Married Women should not be treated as complete in the absence of behaviouiral, and personality characteristics and other factors related to their spouses. This is a vital factor which needs to be given due consideration.

08. The Coping behaviour of these Divorced and Married Women has an interplay with the behavioural and personality characteristics of these and needed due place in the present study.

It would be apt and appropriate to reiterate at this point that, the present investigation is, as a matter of fact, a very important study comparing and relating the Behavioural, and Personality Characteristics of Divorced and Married Women of Early and Late Stage. But as the researches in this area, taking into account these or related variables are conspicuous by their rarity or total absence, many findings of the present study could not be confirmed. The above noted limitations or the suggestions offered for future researches, no way undermine the importance, scope, psycho-social implications, and/or accuracy, validity, and applicability of this study towards fostering the wellbeing to the divorced women.
SUGGESTIONS

The present investigation entitled “A Comparative Study of Personality and Behavioural Characteristics of Divorced and Married Women” is a very important topic related to the Personality and Behavioural Characteristics of Divorced Women aimed to alleviate their problems and foster wellbeing to them. Taking into consideration, the Divorced and Married Women enhances its importance, relevance, and scope, manifold. This comes under the domain of Family studies and addresses to the psycho-social and psychosomatic wellbeing and welfare of Divorced females, in particular and, of the families and the society as a whole, at large.

The investigator has the following suggestions to make for future researches in this area, with these and related variables:-

01. In will be apt and appropriate to have a sample of 300 or still more. The Stage of Divorced and Married Women may be (i) Divorced/ Married within One Year, (ii) Divorced/ Married within Five Years, (iii) Divorced/ Married within Ten Years, and (iv) Divorced/ Married within and above Fifteen Years. The Sample element of 50 for each category of Stage of Divorce and Marriage will make the sample size to 400, large enough.

02. Increasing the territory of sample collection from the city of Kanpur to nearby cities of the state will not only be instrumental in increasing the sample size but will enhance the scope of the study.

03. The Educational, Social, Economic and Working & Non-working Level of these Divorced and Married Women needs to be given due consideration. These must have affected the marriage and divorce process and needed consideration. These Divorced and Married Women may be placed in suitable categories on the basis of their Educational as well as their Economic levels.
04. While planning future studies on Divorced Women with the objective of probing into the psyche of this target segment of women and for the purpose of fostering all round well being to them; apart from Personality & Behavioural Characteristics of Divorced and Married Women other intellectual, emotional, psychosomatic, familial, socio-cultural and above all religious and spiritual variables need to be given due consideration.

05. Assessment should also be made as to how much harm the divorce has done to the psychological and social wellbeing of these women. The harm due to this and other related factors can be so hard and harsh that it can push the inflicted woman into the blind alleys of life to the extent that the only solution left for her is suicide. This has to be stopped at all costs and now.

The investigators of future may gain substantially by paying due attention and thought to the limitations of this study and suggestions offered for the future research in this and related areas.

The findings of the present study, by probing into the Personality & Behavioural Characteristics of Divorced and Married Women, through the extremely important variables: seven (07) Behavioural Characteristics viz. 1. Frustration, 2. Thought Pathology, 3. Depressive Emotions, 4. Insecurity, 5. Rationalization, 6. Decision Making, 7. Sexual Pathology, and two (02) Personality Characteristics i.e. 8. Extraversion, and 9. Neuroticism; show the way, how these divorced women, target segment of this study, could be benefited through it, and how their well-being, psycho-social, as well as, psychosomatic, can not only be restored, but enhanced substantially towards providing total well-being to them.

**IMPLICATIONS OF RESULTS**
The negative Behavioural Characteristics and their negative psychological effect, short term and/or long term, on the psyche of these divorced women shatters their psycho-socio-cultural, economic, and all round well being and forces them to lead a diseased and depleted low quality life. The only solution that seemed tenable and feasible to the researcher, as well as, to many other Psychologists, Sociologists and Marriage Councellors round the globe; is to ensure that the marital bond remains unbroken and intact lifelong and for ever.

Some psychologists have suggested that the youth going to enter into marital alliances should undergo proper and through training to teach them as to how to keep their marital relations ever flourishing, enjoyable, happy and enduring lifelong. Such an approach, it is hoped earnestly, would certainly avert the ever escalating rate of divorces, in our modern techno-oriented society and will not only reduce the number of divorcees but pave a way towards fostering fast total all-round wellbeing to the suffering divorced women in particular but the entire society at large.

We should, as early as possible, devise, design and implement programmes to educate youth planning to enter into marriage; as to how to keep their marriages happy and everlasting. In addition special programmes should be devised, designed and implemented to train and counsel the partners of marriage in case they are entrapped in marital disharmony or other marital problems. They must also be made aware of; as how to alleviate their psychological problems & sufferings and provide them all-round wellbeing, so as to enable them to lead their married lives peacefully and happily.

While in the process of finalization and giving finishing touch to the present study a news item in a National Daily Newspaper “Hindustan” (Hindi) (24th August, 2008-Remix- Pp.1- Last Block), did not only caught the attention of the investigator rather it glued and fixated her attention and thought. The researcher could not resist the temptation of quoting/mentioning it. The news item could be translated as under:-

“THEY DON’T ALLOW WOMEN TO LIVE”
“In the recent years the incidents of suicide in our country have increased to considerable extent. According to a national survey nowadays situation is such that at every eight minutes a man commits suicide while every thirteen minutes a woman. These figures tell the story of sufferings and exploitation of women, because there is a drastic increase in the tendency of suicide in women. There is an increase of 43% in the rate of suicide in women due to divorce, and illegitimate pregnancy and 39% increase in the rate of suicide on account of failure in marital relations.”

It is evident and can safely be inferred that unsuccessful marriage and/or divorce is a very potent factor degenerating the psyche of the divorced women, in particular, and well being at large, and is forcing many of them to the extent of committing suicide.

This once again reinforced and supported our findings of the present research and compelled the researcher to recommend and plead the cause of divorced women to one and all in our society to take measures to foster fast total wellbeing to those women suffering at the hands of divorce.