PREFACE

Birth of a child is a unique phenomenon bringing a new life into the world. Infants remain dependent on others for a considerable period. Therefore, throughout the stages they require utmost care on the part of parents in general and mother in particular. Since birth, a child remains more in the affectionate custody of mother for nutritional as well as physical, mental and emotional development. Therefore, Child Rearing Practices is very important and play an important role in the most formative years of a child’s life.

The ‘Home’ is probably the most influential factor of all the environmental impacts in determining the process of child rearing. Further, it is the mother who plays a central role in the family as regards the nurturing of children. Different parameters are there for child rearing practices and these have a tremendous impact on their developmental process - basically physical, mental, emotional and social. Child rearing practices differ from society to society, from country to country and from nation to nation. It depends on customs, tradition, methods, religion and also depends on the family and their background.

Child’s rearing process depends on the mother who knows her baby better than any one else, and by following her most basic instincts of touch, she provides the best start to a happy and healthy life. The researcher feels that this thesis has its own special features which touches the important parameters needed in child rearing practices and its impact on the physical and emotional development of the children. The investigator through her own experiences, efforts and observation has cited examples and has given explanation in the field study specially with those sample women who hail from Nalbari district, Assam. It is hoped that these examples, explanation and observation will meet the interest of the reader.
This thesis consists of six chapters. The first chapter is the introduction which contains information on child rearing practices—modern versus traditional practices, child rearing practices and its impact on the physical and emotional development of children, different parameters of child rearing practices, theories of child rearing practices, gender differences in child rearing practices, need and importances of child rearing practices, women of Nalbari district an overview.

In Chapter II, the investigator has made an effort to focus on the Review of Related Literature which includes works done in India and abroad and presented chronologically. In the present study, the investigator highlighted the latest research work in simple language and some have been incorporated in the bibliography appended at the end of the book. Again in the second chapter, the need and significance of the study, objectives, hypotheses and delimitations are also highlighted.

Chapter-III deals with the Methodology adopted for the study. It includes the research design and methodology.

Chapter-IV contains Analysis and Interpretation of data. Here the collected data are analyzed and tabulated systematically so that the inherent facts could be determined.

Chapter-V includes findings, discussions of results and suggestions.

The document closes with Chapter-VI on the summary of the study.

Efforts have been made by the researcher to maintain the quality of the study, so the present work would be of help to the parents, specially mothers having children between the age group of 0-6 years and also to all the new researcher who are interested on the said topic.

Further, the researcher seeks all kinds of suggestions or modification for further improvement of this work.

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