CHAPTER V

INTERPRETATION AND DISCUSSION OF RESULTS
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Any research literature on methodology and interpretation of results strictly cautions the researcher to interpret and explain the findings within the framework of objectives and hypotheses. In this way there is no place in scientific research for generalizations of research findings which go beyond the objectives under operation. Van Dalen (1973) in his research methodology titled, "Understanding Educational Research" has very aptly and precisely explained the format and development of a research report. The present investigator has profusely drawn instructions from his research report for the development of present discussion.

Some of the specific objectives which underlie the framework of present research are related to the personality correlates, value orientation and degree of deviancy and neuroticism among student activists and non-activists. The study, as mentioned, in chapter III was confined to a randomly drawn sample of 500 subjects who had been on the campus for the last three years. The preliminary screening
on the basis of LD proneness scale and MPI established that there were 50 students who had a pronounced streak of activist behaviour and had an established record in the administration for their confrontation with law and authority. On the other hand 50 subjects, who were established to be non-activists, were confirmed on the basis of test results as sober, non-confronting type, emotionally stable and law-abiding. These 100 subjects i.e. 50 activists and 50 non-activists were almost at par as regards the parental education social status, economic standing and exposure to mass media. It may, however, be mentioned that a one to one correspondence was not possible in the present research because the sample represented different types of social, political and economic background. However, only some general considerations, as have been mentioned above, were matched with the activist and non-activist groups and the inferences for the activist behaviour in the activism sample and socially desirable behaviour in the non-activist sample has been defended and discussed on the basis of statistical inferences.

Step I  The framework of the research design is based on four hypotheses which were considered to be tested with the help of Fisher's 't' test. In the first instance the student
activists \( (N = 50) \) and the non-activists \( (N = 50) \) were compared in relation to their scores on LD process scale, MPI, Cattell's 16 PF and value orientation. On the basis of LD process scale the activists have earned a mean score of 61.16 as compared to non-activist group whose mean score is 30.16. The difference between the two scores has been found to be significant at one percent level \( P > .01 \) and this is shown in Table No.I Chapter IV. It is established that the activist group by and large has a tendency towards acting out their emotions so as to offend administration and authority without any consideration to academic norms. Studies which have been conducted by Binnet (1960) and Lichoo (1970) have also established that delinquents as compared to non-delinquents are emotionally unstable and legally vulnerable to deviant acts. However, these results do not in any way support the present findings directly but consistency of student activists as regards their acting out behaviour lends support to the premise, that emotionally disturbed children grow into emotionally disturbed adults, and thus student activists on the campuses are those who have demonstrated persistently emotional instability in their personal and social relations. One more study on disciplined and indisciplined students by
Bhalla (1970) has established the difference on self-perception and self-regarding sentiment between the two groups. The author has come out with interesting findings which reveal that the indisciplined group had pronouncedly expressed their pleasure in taking to violence, watching such movies where there are violent scenes and participating in such activities where the rule of law and authority is challenged. On the other hand the disciplined group expressed their self-perception in terms of being shy, socially dependable and following the norms of society without questioning. Another research report compiled by Shah (1966) on the disciplined and indisciplined group of students has established that indisciplined group has a pronounced streak of misbehaviour, antagonistic towards teachers, peers and curriculum. On the other hand the disciplined group was found to be exhibiting a favourable attitude towards their teachers, peers and curriculum. In this way the results of the present study find enough support in the studies which have been cited and it is established that student activists, who violate the norms of administration and academic atmosphere on the campuses, are those who have their previous records in the same line and have been demonstrating their tendency towards vandalism in home, at school and in their college career. On the other
hand non-activists as established on the comparative family reports of the two groups are those who go by the word of law. The results of the present investigation are based on the composite score of LD proneness scale which includes, family background, emotional behaviour, socially desirable behaviour and sex behaviour. The comparative results of the two groups have objectively demonstrated the differences in their behaviour as regards the areas which have been mentioned above. In this way there is an agreement between the family reports of activists and their scores on LD proneness scale, as there is an agreement between the family reports of non-activists and their scores on LD proneness scale. In view of the significance of the differences between the means of activists and non-activists on LD proneness scale the hypothesis number one which reads that "student activists do not differ significantly in their socially desirable behaviour as compared to non-activists" stands rejected. This has been established that activists as compared to non-activists differ in their socially desirable behaviour. While comparing the findings of the present study with those of Lidhoo's (1979) it is worth mention that there is an agreement between the present research inferences and observations made by Lidhoo in which it has been contemplated that present day youth has lost the track of proper guidance and socially desirable value
orientation. The author further states that the social welfare agencies should foster their links with youth organizations in order to help them in channalizing their intellectual as well as emotional training. In this way it will help to formulate an atmosphere of intellectual understanding, fellow feeling and the qualities which go with international brotherhood.

The second area on the basis of which student activists and the non-activists were compared is neuroticism and extroversion. The concept of neuroticism and extroversion has been fully discussed in chapter I as envisaged by Eysenok's MPI. On the basis of test scores the investigator has found that student activists as compared to non-activists have a high score on both, the degree of neuroticism and degree of extroversion. The differences in these two areas between activists and non-activists are 11.90 and 14.32 respectively. Both the differences are significant at one percent level \( P > .01 \). In this way the null hypothesis number second which reads that "Student activists as compared to non-activists do not differ in the degree of neuroticism and extroversion established on the basis of MPI" has been rejected. And it has been established beyond doubt that student activists have a greater tendency
towards neuroticism and degree of extroversion. To quote Eysenck (1964) the neurotics have inherited a central nervous system which conditions very poorly and autonomic nervous system which reacts slowly. To explain the concept of Eysenck's thesis one can safely say that student activists as compared to non-activists have a higher degree of reactivity to any stimulus in an aggressive form as compared to non-activists who react to similar stimuli with rational and objective analysis. It is therefore in keeping with the results of the present research that student activists can be significantly discriminated from non-activists on the basis of their tendency towards neuroticism and extroversion. Research, as well as descriptive studies conducted by Jansen et al. (1968), Altaback (1970), Amrik (1982), Bahadur (1970), Banerji (1982), Jha (1982), Puri (1981) and Singhal (1977) have also established that student activists by and large are those who question the existing social order, policies of teacher recruitment and bureaucratic high-handedness. On the other hand non-activists have been found to be more conformist and non-interfering in the university administration and the various policies concerning students and their interaction with teachers and the administrators. The results
of the present investigation also finds support from an exhaustive study conducted by Wittaker and Watts (1971). The study has revealed that activist group had a high score on aggression, dominance, self-confidence and very low score on self abasement. On the basis of these findings the author has established that activists as a group appear to be more psychologically predisposed towards direct action and confrontation as a means of expressing social protest.

In the second analysis the investigator compared the scores of activist and non-activist students on 16 PF variables. The results revealed that student activists score high on the variables like Affectothymia i.e. outgoing, warm hearted; easy going; participating, Dominance i.e. assertive; aggressive; competitive; stubborn, Surgency i.e. happy-go-lucky; enthusiastic, Parmia i.e. venturesome; uninhibited; socially bold, Harria i.e. tough minded; self-reliant; realistic, protension i.e. suspicious; hard to fool, praxemia i.e. practical; down to earth concerns, Shrewdness i.e. astute; Polished; Socially aware, Guiltproness i.e. apprehensive;
self-reproaching; insecure; worried; troubled, Radicalism
i.e. experimenting; liberal; free-thinking, self-sufficiency
i.e. resourceful; profess own decisions, High ergic tension
i.e. tense; frustrated. On the other hand the non-activist
group score high on the extreme variables of the above
factors which have been expressed by the author as
Sizothymia i.e. reserved; detached, critical; aloof; stiff.
Submissiveness i.e. humble; mild; easily led; docile;
accomodating, Desurgence i.e. Sober; Serious, Thectia i.e.
shy; timid; threat sensitive, Premisia i.e. tender-minded;
Sensitive; over protected, Alexia i.e. trusting; accepting
conditions, Autia i.e. imaginative; bohemian; absent minded,
Artlessness i.e. forthright; Unpretentious; genuine but
socially clumsy, Untroubled adequacy i.e. self-assured;
placed; secure; complacent; serene, Conservatism of
temperament i.e. conservative; respecting traditional
ideas, Group adherence i.e. group dependent; a joiner,
Low ergic tension i.e. relaxed; tranquil; unfrustrated;
composed. The differences between the activist group and
the non-activist group in the mean scores of these
variables have been found to be significant beyond one
percent level P > .01. There were not pronouncedly
significant differences between activists and non-activists
on the variables like intelligence and weaker or stronger super ego strength. However, significant differences were established between activist and non-activist students on low-self-sentiment integration vs High strength of self-sentiment i.e. the activist group had a high score on low-self-sentiment integration variable as compared to non-activist group who scored high on controlled behaviour. Thus it is established that activists are undisciplined, self conflicting, following own urges and are socially defiant. On the other hand non-activists are controlled, socially precise, compulsive and have exacting will power. The differences are significant at five percent level $P > .05$. The statistical analysis of these variables and the significance of differences are shown in Table No.II Chapter IV. While comparing the results of the present investigation with the research findings of Flacks (1966), Janson and Winborn (1967), Block et al. (1969), Kerpelman (1969), Dabey (1971), Freeman and Brubaker (1971), Wittaker and Watts (1971) and Furzana (1974) it is established that student activists differ significantly from non-activists on personality characteristics, neuroticism and extroversion variables. Janson's findings have revealed that activists as compared to non-activists have low frustration tolerance, are more
inclined to project inner tension, more impulsive, enthusiastic, aggressive and are least concerned for the conventionalities. Freeman and Brubaker have also established that student activists (demonstrators) are more aggressive, tough-minded, suspicious, defiant and less conventional in their behaviour and social interaction.

To sum up the results of the present investigation and the findings of other studies (which have been cited here), it is established that student activists differ significantly in their behavioural interaction, personality correlates as compared to non-activists. These results support the findings that non-activists are Sober, Conformist, unpretentious, threat-sensitive, conventional and socially dependent. The hypothesis which reads as "That there are no significant differences in the personality correlates of activist and non-activist students" stands rejected.

The investigator, besides the study of deviancy, neuroticism and personality correlates of activist and non-activist students, also compares the value orientation of the activist group with the values held by the non-activists. This was done on the basis of expert guidance offered by examiner's while the investigator was working
on the problem at M.Phil level. The results of Allport Vernon and linzey study revealed that activists score high on social and political values whereas the non-activist group score high on theoretical, economic, aesthetic and religious values. These differences in the value orientation of activists and non-activists are significant at one percent level $P > .01$ and five percent level $P .05$. The findings are quite interesting and fall in line with the results established on the basis of Cattell's 16 PF scores. The results are also in line with the studies conducted by Goldsen et al. (1960), Flacks (1967), Kerpelman (1969), Dubey (1971), Aikara (1974) and Reddy (1980). It is interesting to note the observations of Goldsen, Dubey and Reddy who have established that students who have a manifestation towards activism are by and large higher in political value and social value. The authors state that the activist group generally toes the line of representatives from various political parties and thus generate a host of academic as well as administrative problems. Kerpelman's study has established that activists as compared to non-activists are socially non-conformists, prone to violence and emotionally instable. As for the religious value the author has found that
non-activists score high on religious value and on conformity behaviour. All in all the findings rejected the null hypothesis which reads as, "That there are no significant differences in value orientation among student activists and non-activists".

Besides the computation of test of significance between the activist and non-activist students on a number of variables the investigator also studied the correlational analysis of various factors which are positively or inversely related with deviancy, neuroticism and extroversion which contribute towards student activism. The correlation coefficients were computed for all the 25 variables separately for the activist and the non-activist group. These two tables have been presented in chapter IV under Table Nos. IV and V.

On the basis of correlation coefficients of the activist group the correlation matrix in the form of 25x25 variables has shown that there is a significant correlation between deviancy and neuroticism in the activist group. The correlation co-efficient which has been found to be .373 is significant at one percent level \( P > .01 \). Similarly there is also a significant correlation between neuroticism and economic value as established on the basis of test scores
of MPI and Allport Vernon Lindzey's value scale. A positive correlation has also been found between shrewed behaviour and behaviour of self-sufficiency in the activist group. This indicates that student activists are shrewed as well as self-oriented in their mode of behaviour and social interaction. The results of Fisher's 't' test have also shown that activists as compared to non-activists are shrewed as well as self-sufficient in their personal and social behaviour. Further, results of Fisher's 't' test on political value between activists and non-activists have been again confirmed. On the basis of correlation analysis student activists have a positive and high correlation between political value and shrewed behaviour. This again confirms the rejection of null hypothesis that there are no significant differences between activists and non-activists as regards shrewed behaviour and political orientation. On the basis of 16 PF scores the activist group has a high and positive correlation between self-sufficient behaviour and undisciplined versus controlled behaviour. It is interesting to note that there is an inverse correlation between religious value and controlled behaviour in the activist group. And finally it has been established that there is positive and significant correlation between social and political values in the activist group.
While comparing the correlation matrix of activists with the correlation matrix of non-activists it is interesting to note that non-activist sample has a positive and significant correlation between emotionally stable behaviour and tender minded attitude. It is again established that the null hypothesis which states that there are no significant differences between activists and non-activists in their emotional behaviour stands rejected. On the other hand while comparing correlation of activist group there are no significant correlations between these two variables which have been discussed above. Between the theoretical value and political value the correlation coefficients of non-activists is negative and highly significant. The correlation coefficient which is \(-.355\) is significant beyond one percent level \(P > .01\). There are some other correlations which are significant at five percent level for both the groups i.e. activists and non-activists, but these have not been taken into consideration for the purpose of discussion. Because the purpose of the investigator was to highlight the differences between activists and non-activists which are pronouncedly significant and reflect on the behavioural constellation of activists and non-activists.
In addition to correlation matrix stepwise multiple regression analyses were computed separately for the activist group and the non-activist group. And the inferences have shown a high degree of prediction in relation to some of the variables which contribute towards aggression, deviancy and activism. Among activists the regression analysis has shown that deviancy is significantly attributable to practical behaviour and economic value. These inferences have been found to be significant on the basis of F values which are 3.44 and 2.583 as shown in Table No.VI Chapter IV. While computing the regression analysis of twenty-one variables taking deviancy as a dependent variable the predictors have shown that they can influence deviant behaviour among activists upto 36 percent. However, the remaining influence can be attributed to such factors which were not included in the present research or were not considered independently or collectively for statistical inferences.

Again the result of the regression analysis for activists on the basis of neuroticism, as dependent variable, have shown that economic value and tough minded attitude are highly significant and contribute towards
degree of neuroticism. The F values for the two predictors are 11.545 and 4.482 as shown in Table No. VII Chapter IV. On the whole, while considering neuroticism as a dependent variable the other predictors can predict degree of neuroticism or activism upto 55.4 percent which is highly predictive in the sense that the collective influence of the remaining 19 variables makes a significant influence on the neuroticism or activism as has been operationally defined in the present research. Besides on the basis of third dependent variable, i.e. extroversion, the multiple regression analyses for 18 variables have shown that apprehensive behaviour contributes to the level of 11 percent towards the degree of extroversion. The F ratio which is 3.032, is significant beyond one percent level $P > .01$. Similarly tense behaviour which is one of the variables in the present study predicts upto the level of nineteen percent towards degree of extroversion. The F value for this is 2.657 which is significant at five percent level $P > .05$. These figures are shown in Table No. VIII Chapter IV. While evaluating the overall predictive level of the 18 predictors it has been found that they contribute up to the level of 31 percent. On the basis of which it can be safely stated that these variables determine the degree of extroversion which also breeds aggressiveness as well as activistic tendency in the activist group.
All in all the individual prediction of the variables and the cumulated degree of prediction of the predictors have shown a significant degree of influence on student activism. The Table Nos VI, VII & VIII support the thesis that suspicious behaviour, tough-minded attitude, high political value and emotional instability are some of the important factors which contribute towards student activism.

The comparative analysis of multiple regression analysis computed separately for the activists and non-activists have shown significantly different results as regards the contribution of variables towards activist behaviour. In the non-activist group, when deviancy was considered as dependent variable the shy and conscientious behaviour among the non-activists have been found to be significant attributes towards their socially desirable behaviour. The $F$ value for these variables which are significant beyond one percent level are 5.189 and 4.068 respectively. In the same vein while considering neuroticism as dependent variable the other twenty predictors for which regression equations were computed have shown interesting results. Non-activists have a significant $F$ values in the variables like conscientious
behaviour, forthrightness and religious value which contribute negatively towards neuroticism. Similarly while considering extroversion as dependent variable the regression equations have shown that variables like group dependence, emotional stability, humble attitude and religious value have a significant contribution towards socially desirable behaviour of the non-activist group. The F values for these variables which are significant beyond one percent level are 8.679, 2.975, 3.377 and 3.257 respectively. The F ratios for three dependent variables mentioned above are shown in Table Nos IX, X, XI Chapter IV. The comparative analysis has beyond doubt established that activists as compared to non-activists are more amiable to political manifestations. Further, activists as compared to non-activists are least attached to code of religious values which has been established with the help of F ratios. Similarly non-activists as compared to activists are more humble and emotionally stable. This has also been established on the basis of F ratios computed separately for activists as well as non-activists.

The analysis of multiple regression equations, which provided a glaring discrimination in the personality correlates and value orientation of activists and
non-activists, prompted the investigator for computing factor analysis through varimax rotated method for the study and constellation of those factors which go together with the activist group and the factors which go with the non-activist group. The analysis of factors which has been presented in Table Nos XII, XIII, XIV and XV Chapter IV has shown that for the activist group social and political factors form a separate constellation and these results have already been confirmed on the basis of Fisher's 't' test as well as multiple regression coefficients. This constellation has been redesignated as, "Socio-political awakening". In the second order of factors, factors like suspicious behaviour, shrewedness, independent attitude and low self sentiment integration have formed a separate constellation. The findings are very interesting in the sense that all the symptoms associated with activism and aggression have formed a separate constellation and this has been redesignated as, "Socially maladaptive behaviour". In the third order of factors deviancy, venturesome behaviour, practical, socially bold and undisciplined behaviour have formed a separate constellation which have been redesignated as, "Socially deviant attitude". While examining the constellation of factors in the eight column, it has been found that
venturesomeness, boldness, radicalism, undisciplined, self conflicting theoretical orientation and non-religious attitude have formed a separate constellation and this has been redesignated as, "adventurousness". Factors which have clubbed only with one another have not been considered for discussion.

While comparing the factor analysis of non-activists with activist group it has been found that non-activists have formed a different constellation of factors. In the first order of factors the constellation has been formed among introversion, submissiveness and conservative behaviour. This constellation has been redesignated as, "reserved behaviour". In the second order of factors, shyness, tender-minded attitude and non-political behaviour have formed a separate constellation. This grouping of factors has been redesignated as, "shy and placid behaviour". Similarly in the fifth order of factors, intelligence, sober attitude and conservative behaviour have formed a separate constellation and this constellation has been redesignated as, "conservative behaviour". In the eight-factor order the factors which have clustered together are, reserved and detached behaviour, forthright and
unpretentious attitude and faith in religious values. This constellation has been redesignated as, "socially conventional behaviour".

All in all the results which have been discussed in the foregoing pages have established that there are significantly different characteristics which go with student activists and non-activists. On the basis of cumulated statistical analysis, activists are shrewed, socially aware, indifferent towards religious values, apprehensive, undisciplined, tough-minded, emotionally unstable and politically active. On the other hand non-activists are conventional, shy, emotionally stable, forthright, unpretentious, imaginative, tender-minded, conservative and religious minded. The comparison of results provides an objective analysis as regards the divergent behavioural characteristics followed by activists and non-activists. It is of interest to mention that these characteristics and the comparison of activists and non-activists has also been confirmed with the help of intensive case study reports based on parent comment checklist (comprehensive information schedule). The comparison of the case histories is presented in appendix No.II.
To sum up the inferences in the light of postulates, which had been formed by the present investigator for comparing activist and non-activist students on a variety of personality correlates, it is established that activists as compared to non-activists are significantly those who have a tendency towards neuroticism, deviancy and are defiant. It has been proved, beyond doubt, by statistical evidence that the degree of neuroticism and deviancy can predict and distinguish those who are activists from those who are conformists.