A physical handicap is a socially critical condition under which an afflicted person, even though mentally sound with all the five perceptive senses intact, starts developing a negative personality. The present research worker on the basis of her research, is of the opinion that this is due to constant criticism by members of society either directly or indirectly. For example, a physically handicapped person, who is unable to walk straight, would not be invited or asked out for a dance or a walk in the park, thus keeping him constantly alive to the fact of his handicap. This more often than not, results in the development of a negative personality. How far this hypothesis is correct is the main problem tackled in the present work.

Research done in the case of handicapped individuals leads to a greater chance of understanding them and tolerating their unpredictable behaviour. For to understand the significance of their actions is to gain an insight into their problems; to see what lies behind their conduct is perhaps to forgive it, where previously one would have attacked it.

Thus even though numerous research workers may have undertaken a study of anxiety, neuroticism and other forms of positive and negative aspects of personality in normal and physically handicapped individuals, research in this field has never been in vain. The different set of circumstances existing in different parts of the world makes one's study on this subject vary. Even in a place like India the reports of the study would be marginally different not only between the towns and the villages but also between two geographically different parts. The present research worker has confined her study within the limits of Ahmedabad, a big city in Western India.

In the present research work, more or less equivalent age groups have been selected, among the physically handicapped persons on one hand and normal school-going adolescents, known as the control group, on the other. The research worker has on the basis of the mental capacity of each group equated them and tried to investigate the achievement & adjustment levels they demonstrate.