ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As I stand at the threshold of completing my Ph.D. Thesis, I would like to express my gratitude to all those who have given their valuable inputs and support in various phases of this endeavor and made a difference in me and my work from various ways.

- Words would be inadequate to convey my deep sense of gratitude, indebtedness and thankfulness to my learned and worthy supervisor Prof. Rajbir Singh, Department of Psychology, M. D. University, Rohtak, for his incessant encouragement, affectionate guidance and valuable help at all the stages of this work. Without his enthusiasm, constant encouragement and critical, constructive evaluation, this work would have not been accomplished.

- I extend my thanks to Dr. Naresh Kumar Chandel, Associate Professor, KLP College, Rewari, for encouraging and motivating me to pursue research.

- I extend my thanks to Dr. Anjali, Professor, Department of Psychology, M.D. University, Rohtak, for her affectionate guidance and support to initiate this research work.

- I am very thankful to Prof. Amrita Yadav, Professor and Head, Department of Psychology, M.D. University, Rohtak, and all the teachers for providing me the necessary facilities and their encouragement in the department.

- I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Dinesh & Dr. Manoj Bajaj for providing me not only academic support during my research work, but also helping me as an elder brother.

- I would like to express my special thanks to Library staff of M. D. University for providing me e-resources, wonderful computer lab and rich periodical section.

- I am grateful to the entire non teaching staff of the Psychology Department for their timely cooperation and motivation at every stage of the research.
• My sincerest thank to my loving parents and family members for their affection, which always boosted my morale and responsibility toward the study.

• I must extend my heartfelt thanks to my friends: Lalit Kumar, Kuldeep, Akhilesh, and Khushwant, Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pushp Vihar staff who have been a source of support throughout my research work. Despite their own commitments they were always with me when I was in need. Without their cooperation, it would have been impossible for me to complete my study.

• First of all, words fail to express my gratitude to all in my family, especially my Papa ji and Mummy ji, elder brother Neeraj and Nitesh who gave me all the support and confidence, enabling me to seek and scale new heights.

• I cannot forget to acknowledge the encouragement from my elder Sister and love from Nephew and Niece (Aayushi, Sanjna, Rijul, Shubhan, Shanvi and Ridhima) during this phase.

• I am deeply grateful to all the subjects who participated in the study and my friends, who acted as a confederate. Without their help data collection would have not been possible.

Lokesh Gupta