DEDICATION

This thesis is dedicated to my father - for providing support and strong will - power during a long period of time. Within the family, First, I would like to dedicate this to honorable father, Mr. M. N. BHAD Retd. State Project Director who dedicated 14 years of his service life with the Project Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan (S.S.A.M.) with which the present study deals. He was in the project from the very beginning. He is the rock on which my life is built. His work experience with the project helped me to provide project related remarkable guidance while still expecting me to put forth my own amount of motivation to complete this task. By expecting me to exert independent effort toward my goals, he has helped me to not only complete this thesis, but also to provide the foundation I need to become a scholar who can work independently, recognize my own weaknesses, and understand how to reinforce my limitations. I have learned so much from him, and I am eternally indebted to him for helping me to become the person I am today. Constant encouragement made this possible, as there were times when I was off of the path, and his encouragement got me back on track. The world is a better place because he is the role model of my life and I will forever love him.

I also dedicate this to my child, Shreel. He is the light and makes the path worthwhile. I know that everything I do in this world is to enrich his life, as he has given me unconditional love and support. His understanding during this process came without asking. I have learned more from him then I could ever teach him.

I thank my mother for the example and work ethic that she provided for me. From an early age I was able to see that if you worked hard enough, you can achieve anything. In addition, I thank her for instilling in me the importance of education; at the time I did not know that it would become my world. The special thanks to my husband, I am heartily grateful to him for his daily insistence to complete the work.