Adolescence is one of the important periods of life. It can be defined as the transitional stage of development between childhood and adulthood, representing the period of time during which a person is biological adult but emotionally not at full maturity. Major physiological, cognitive and behavioral changes take place during this period. A person's body undergoes dramatic changes. Adolescent stage is associated with drastic changes in their mood sometimes known as mood swings, which influences their behavior a lot. Cognitive, emotional, attitudinal and behavioral changes which are the characteristics of adolescence, often take place during this stage, and this can be a cause of conflict on one hand and positive personality development on the other. Because the adolescents are experiencing various strong cognitive and physical changes, for the first time in their lives they may start to view their friends and peer group, as more important and influential than their parents. Sometimes they may indulge in antisocial actives under the influence of peer group, although this may be more of a social phenomenon than a psychological one. The home environment and family play a important role in adolescent psychology. In this modern society, which is changing and passing through a transitory period, the women have started seeking employment out of their homes in order to supplement their family income but due to this their household work, which is also a full time job for them is neglected.

However, post independence, it has been realized that the nation can not progress without active participation and cooperation of women in all fields of life. Therefore, there have been efforts to provide equal opportunities to women, be in the field of education or occupation. These efforts have increasingly brought a great change in the life of women, influencing their attitudes, values as well as participation in different walks of life. Various socio-economic factors have brought out a newly emerging middle class women working in India. Family which plays an important role in the personality development of adolescents is undergoing structural, emotional and interactional transformation. The contribution of mother in shaping the personality of their children can not be ignored.
Adolescence stage is considered as a stage of emotional turmoil because physical, emotional and behavioral changes take place. During this stage, he/she needs the company and guidance from parents, especially mother, with whom they can express their thoughts and emotions freely. Hence the proper guidance at this crucial phase in life is all the more important for enhancing their self concept and self confidence, enhancing their knowledge and skills in decision making, conflict resolution and management of emotions. Maternal employment not only influences the physical health but also affects the psychological health in both directions i.e. positive as well as negative. Therefore, a great need was felt to explore the impact of maternal work status on emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst adolescents.

Keeping in view the wide implications and impact, it was thought worthwhile to investigate this problem.

**PROBLEM**

To compare the emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.

**OBJECTIVES**

The present study was undertaken with the following objectives.

1. To assess and compare the level of emotional maturity amongst adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.
2. To assess and compare the level of self confidence amongst adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.
3. To assess and compare the level of insecurity amongst adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.
4. To assess and compare the gender differences of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst adolescent children of working mothers.
5. To assess and compare the gender differences of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst adolescent children of non-working mothers.

**HYPOTHESES**

The following hypotheses were formulated.

1. There would be a significant difference between the level of emotional maturity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.
2. There would be a significant difference between the level of self confidence of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.

3. There would be a significant difference between the level of insecurity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.

4. There would be a significant difference between the level of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst male and female adolescent children of working mothers.

5. There would be a significant difference between the level of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst male and female adolescent children of non-working mothers.

With this background one may now proceed towards the formulation of design and methodology for the study.