The obtained results have been discussed here to check how many hypotheses formulated in chapter III have been supported by the obtained results.

The investigation was conducted to assess the level of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. It has been mentioned in the previous chapter that two group design was used to study the emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst two groups i.e. adolescent children of working mothers and adolescent children of non-working mothers. For this emotional maturity, self confidence and security-insecurity scales were applied on each group consisted of 130 subjects (65 males and 65 females) with a total of 260 subjects. Five hypotheses were formulated in chapter III.

The obtained data were analyzed by applying t-test. The main aim of this study was to assess and compare the level of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. The first hypothesis predicted that there would be a significant difference between the level of emotional maturity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. For this purpose mean scores of both the groups were calculated and t-test was applied for testing the significance of difference.

Table 1: Showing the means, SD and t-value of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers on total emotional maturity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Group I (Adolescent children of working mothers)</th>
<th>Group II (Adolescent children of non-working mothers)</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Emotional Maturity</td>
<td>Mean 87.55, SD 5.73</td>
<td>Mean 90.58, SD 8.90</td>
<td>3.26**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Significant at 0.01 level.
It has been observed from the above table mean score of Group I was 87.55 whereas the mean score of Group II was 90.58. In order to find out the difference between the two groups t-value was calculated which was found to be 3.26 and significant at 0.01 level. This indicates that adolescent children of working mothers have significant higher emotional maturity than the adolescent children of non-working mothers. Thus the first hypothesis stating that there would be a significant difference between level of emotional maturity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers has been verified here.

Higher mean of adolescent children of non-working mothers shows their rigidity, lack of adaptability and flexibility, lack of self confidence and feeling of insecurity, dependence and aggressive tendencies. On the other hand their counterparts i.e. adolescent children of working mothers show lower mean which indicates their internal maturity, sense of responsibility, flexibility, adaptability, independence, stability and lack of aggression. This difference may be due to the mother’s employment outside the house which makes their children to be adjustable, independent, responsible and mature to look after themselves at the early stage of life. Figure 1 shows the graphical depiction of the results.

Figure 1: Mean scores of adolescent children of working mothers (Group I) and non-working mothers (Group II) on total emotional maturity.

The results can be explained as follows. All individuals have dependent and regressive tendencies in varying degree of strength, importance, the degree to which they are indulged or repressed and the balance they reach with the forces of emotional development and maturity. The results of the present study are in accordance with the
studies conducted earlier. Hangal and Aminabhavi (2007) found that the adolescent children of employed mothers have high emotional maturity than the children of homemakers.

Maternal employment is not a liability, rather an asset for their children, as it helps in grooming better adjustment (Muni and Panigrahi 1997). Mohanty and Parida (2009) reported that psychosocial problems are faced by adolescent children of non-working mothers especially in the area of finances, living conditions and employment as compared to the adolescent children of working mothers.

Maternal employment not only alters the life style of a mother but also changes the life of her adolescents. Mody and Murthy (1988) found that children of employed mothers develop a greater degree of autonomy and adult maturity than those with non-working mothers.

It seems that it is not the quantity but the quality of time devoted and interactions or transactions by the mothers, which are more important and are the deciding factors about the emotional maturity of their children.

The adolescent children of working and non-working mothers were further compared on five board factors of emotional immaturity of emotional maturity scale. These factors are emotional unstability, emotional regression, social maladjustment, personality disintegration and lack of independence.

Table 2: Showing the means, SDs and t-value of two groups on five factors of emotional immaturity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Group I (Adolescent children of working mothers)</th>
<th>Group II (Adolescent children of non-working mothers)</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Unstability</td>
<td>20.84</td>
<td>3.59</td>
<td>22.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Regression</td>
<td>18.62</td>
<td>3.39</td>
<td>19.84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Maladjustment</td>
<td>17.22</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td>17.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personality Disintegration</td>
<td>16.23</td>
<td>2.85</td>
<td>16.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lack of Independence</td>
<td>14.72</td>
<td>2.71</td>
<td>15.23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Significant at 0.01 level.
Results & Discussion

On first factor i.e. emotional unstability the mean score for Group I was 20.84 and Group II was 22.11, the t-value was calculated to be 2.67 which was found to be significant at 0.01 level. The higher mean of adolescent children of non-working mother on this factor meant for lack of capacity to dispose off problems, irritability, needing constant help for one’s day to day work, under ability and temper tantrum. A significant lower mean of the adolescent children of working mothers indicated just opposite positions i.e. quickness in the dispose of work, independence, stability and less involved in tensions. The subjects of group I are more emotionally stable than the subjects of Group II. This can be clearly seen in figure 2.

![Figure 2: Mean scores on five factors of emotional immaturity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.](image)

The mean scores of Group I on emotional regression was found to be 18.62 and it was 19.84 for Group II. The t-value (3.03) was found to be significant at 0.01 level. These results have been graphically depicted in figure 2. The higher mean scores of group II means that adolescent children of non-working mothers have feeling of insecurity, restlessness, hostility, self dissatisfaction and self centeredness compared to adolescent children of working mothers. Group I appears to be relatively free from these tendencies. They are more or less relaxed and satisfied.

Taking in to account the social maladjustment factor, it has been shown that the mean scores of Group I was 17.22 and 17.65 for Group II. The difference between the means of two groups was insignificant. This indicates that both the groups have
Results & Discussion

almost equal degree of social adaptability. In other words social maladjustment fails to differentiate between the two groups. This can be clearly seen in figure 2.

Regarding the personality disintegration the mean score for Group I was calculated to be 16.23 where as 16.37 for Group II and t-value was 0.35, which was insignificant. It indicates that both the groups are more or less adjusted to their environment and have low aggressive tendencies, which can be clearly seen in figure 2.

On the factor lack of independence the mean score for Group I was 14.72 and 15.23 was for Group II. The t-value (1.46) was found to be insignificant. Although the mean difference is insignificant but higher mean score of Group II shows their dependence on others, unstability, lack of objective interests and chronic follower trait. Whereas adolescent children of working mothers show interest in others individuals work and sense of responsibility. These results have been depicted in figure 2.

The findings suggest that on the whole adolescent children of working mothers are emotionally mature than adolescent children of non-working mothers. The children of non-working mothers are more emotionally unstable, insecure, restlessness and require constant help for day to day work. This may be due to the availability of help from non-working mothers. Emotional maturity not influenced by the availability of mother easily but a number of factors such as home environment (Gupta, Joshi and Pasbola, 2008), parenting styles (Steinberg, Lamborn, Darling, Mounts and Dornbush 2008) and attachment relationships (Aviezer, Resnick, Sagi and Gini 2002) play an important role in its development.

However, this is good that the difference is only on two factors and the scores were equal on social maladjustment, personality disintegration and lack of independence.

The second hypothesis of the present study stated that there would be a significant difference between the level of self confidence of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. For this purpose the mean scores were calculated and t-test was applied for testing the significance of difference.
Results & Discussion

Table 3: Showing the means, SD and t-value of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers on self confidence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Group I (Adolescent children of working mothers)</th>
<th>Group II (Adolescent children of non-working mothers)</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Self Confidence</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>20.00</td>
<td>6.99</td>
<td>26.71</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Significant at 0.01 level.

It has been observed from the above table the mean scores on self confidence for Group I was 20.00 whereas the mean score of Group II was 26.71. In order to compare the two means the t-value was calculated which was found to 7.79, which was significant at 0.01 level. The findings indicate that adolescent children of working mothers have high level of self confidence than their counterparts. Thus the second hypothesis stating that there would be a significant different between the level of self confidence of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers has been verified here.

Lower mean of Group I show their straightforwardness, emotional stability, feeling of security, quick decisive ability, courage and handling ability to difficult situations. On the other hand higher mean of adolescent children of non-working mothers shows their inhibition in taking decisions, hesitation in starting new jobs, confusing state, feeling of rejection, feeling of insecurity, discouragement, frustrations and maladjustments towards life. Figure 3 shows the graphical depiction of the results.

Figure 3: Mean scores of adolescent children of working (Group I) and non-working mothers (Group II) on self confidence inventory.
Self confidence is a positive attitude of oneself towards one’s self concept. It is an attribute of perceive self. It refers to a person’s perceived ability to tackle situations successfully and independently. The findings of present study are in line with some of the earlier studies. Hall and Rowe (1991) reported a significant relationship between adolescent’s self esteem and mother’s employment. Youth with employed mothers reported positive moods, higher self esteem and were more friendly with their mothers. (Richards and Duckett, 1994). Maternal employment does not appear to undermine children’s social cognitive development rather it enhances the social adjustment, academic outcomes sense of competence and confidence among their adolescents. (Moor and Driscoll, 1997; Hoffman, 1998 and Hill, Waldfogel, Brook Gunn and Han, 2005). Thus the mother employment status seems to be important for enhancing self esteem and self confidence of their children. (Sleskova, Tuinstra, Geckova, Dijk, Salonna, Groothoff and Reijenveld, 2006).

To conclude therefore, there was a significant difference in the self confidence of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers.

The third hypothesis predicted that there would be a significant difference between the level of insecurity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. The mean scores of both the groups were calculated and t-test was applied for testing the significance of difference. The mean scores and t-value are depicted in table 4.

Table 4: Showing the mean scores, SD and t-value of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers on insecurity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>Group I (Adolescent children of working mothers)</th>
<th>Group II (Adolescent children of non-working mothers)</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecurity</td>
<td>47.49</td>
<td>11.45</td>
<td>57.53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Significant at 0.01 level.

It has been observed from the above table mean score of Group I was 47.49 whereas the mean score of Group II was 57.53. The t-value (6.04) was found to be significant at 0.01 level. It implicates that level of insecurity is significantly different
among adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. The level of insecurity is significantly higher in subjects of Group II. Thus the third hypothesis stating that there would be a significant difference between the level of insecurity of adolescent children of working and non-working mothers has been verified.

The higher mean score of adolescent children of non-working mothers on insecurity show that they experience insecurity may be due to emotional instability and anxious and hostile behavior as compared to their counterparts. The insecurity may be due to lower self confidence, poor psychosocial adjustment and lack of emotional control over their emotions. The children of non-working mothers are under the supervision of their mothers which generates the dependency and insecure feeling in them. This influences the self confidence of adolescents. The adolescent children of working mothers had lower mean score. It indicates their calmness, emotional stability, self acceptance and well based self feeling of strength. This can be clearly seen in figure 4.

Figure 4: Mean scores of adolescent children of working (Group I) and non-working mothers (Group II) on security-insecurity inventory.

Insecurity is a feeling of general unease or nervousness that may be trigged by perceiving of oneself to be vulnerable in some way, or a sense of vulnerability which threatens one’s image. The results are in congruent with earlier studies. Dutta and Das (2010) showed maternal employment has significant positive effect on well being and personality of young adults of nuclear families. Greater maternal education and literacy skills enhanced positive links between mother’s employment and
improvement in adolescent cognitive and psychosocial functioning. Hence the work status of mother generates a feeling of security to adolescent (Coley, Bachman, Votruba-Drazal, Lohman, LiGrining, 2007).

On the contrary to these findings, Deb, Chateerjee and Walsh (2010) found that adolescent children of working mothers suffered more anxiety. A large number of them did not feel comfortable to share their personal issues with their parents. The women who have adjusted to the dual roles may be more likely to provide the emotional support and feeling of security by their children. However, there results of the present study do not match this second type of view and significant difference between the insecurity of adolescent children has been observed.

To conclude the findings of three hypotheses, it is clear that emotional maturity, self confidence and security was higher amongst the adolescent children of working mothers. It is not possible and realistic to force every mother to work. But there is a need to create this awareness amongst Indian population, so as to remove the worries of working mothers and also to remove the restrictions on the mothers regarding going out to work because of the children.

Next section refers to the gender differences. The fourth hypothesis of present study stated that 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. For this purpose, the mean scores and t-values were calculated and have been shown in table 5.

Table 5: Showing the means, SDs and t-value of male and female adolescent children of working mothers on emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th></th>
<th>Females</th>
<th></th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Maturity</td>
<td>88.66</td>
<td>5.67</td>
<td>86.45</td>
<td>5.60</td>
<td>2.24*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Confidence</td>
<td>18.71</td>
<td>6.53</td>
<td>21.29</td>
<td>7.25</td>
<td>2.13*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecurity</td>
<td>48.48</td>
<td>12.33</td>
<td>46.51</td>
<td>10.50</td>
<td>0.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Significant at 0.05 level.
The mean score of emotional maturity of male subjects was 88.66 compared to 86.45 of the female subjects of working mothers. The difference between two means was significant at 0.05 level. Figure 5 shows the graphical depiction of the results.

![Figure 5: Mean scores of male and female adolescent children of working mothers on emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity.](image)

Thus both the table and the figure show that male subjects scored higher on emotional maturity compared to females. Higher mean on emotional maturity is an indicator of emotional instability. Higher mean of male subjects show their feeling of insecurity, dependence, rigidity and aggressive tendencies. Whereas low mean score of female subjects reflect their sense of responsibility, flexibility, adaptability, independence, emotional stability, independence, emotional stability and lack of regression. The findings indicate that females are more emotionally stable than male subjects belonging to working mothers. This can be attributed to the fact that female children are encouraged to develop the qualities of emotional maturity such as adaptability, flexibility and sense of responsibility because of cultural expectations and to some extent due to vicarious learning by observing their mothers who are maintaining a good balance between their work and home.

The present results are in line with earlier studies. Daughters of employed mothers have been found to be more independent, assertive and higher on socioemotional adjustment (Hoffman, 1998), less stereotyped views of men and
women (Richards and Duckett, 1994) and emotionally stable (Hangal and Aminabhavi, 2007).

On the self confidence, it is apparent from the table 5 and figure 5 that both the groups were significantly different on this variable. Lower mean of male subjects indicates their emotional stability, decisive ability and ability to deal the critical situations efficiently and effectively. On the other hand females show their inhibitions in taking decisions, confusing state, frustration and maladjustment towards life and apprehensions to start a new job.

The findings of present study are in accordance with Hoffman (1998) and Pollack (1998). They found higher sense of efficacy and self esteem in the sons of employed mothers. The higher level of self confidence among male adolescent children of working mothers may be their exposure to outside world is more as compared to their counterparts.

On insecurity, the mean score of male subjects was 48.48 whereas the mean score of females was 46.51. in order to compare the two means t-value was calculated which was found to 0.98 and was insignificant. This indicates that male and female adolescent children of working mothers have equal level of insecurity. It may be due to role confusion during the crucial period of life. Emotional insecurity may make teens feel helpless and hopeless. Both male and female children want to share their physical, educational, emotional and behavioral problems with their parents especially with mother. May be due to working status of their mother they are not able to interact their mother to the extent of their satisfaction. This may be one of the cause of their insecurity.

The fourth hypothesis stated that 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. The results show that there is a significant difference between the level of two of variables undertaken i.e. emotional maturity and self confidence. No significant difference was observed in case of insecurity. To conclude fourth hypothesis is partially proved.

The fifth hypothesis of present study stated that 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. The mean scores and t-values were calculated and have been shown in table 6.
Table 6: Showing the mean scores, SDs and t-value of male and female adolescent children of non-working mothers on emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables</th>
<th>Males</th>
<th>Females</th>
<th>t-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean</td>
<td>SD</td>
<td>Mean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional Maturity</td>
<td>92.68</td>
<td>9.13</td>
<td>88.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Self Confidence</td>
<td>28.38</td>
<td>7.11</td>
<td>25.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insecurity</td>
<td>51.21</td>
<td>17.04</td>
<td>63.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Significant at 0.01 level.

The mean score of male adolescent children was 92.68 and 88.48 for female adolescent children of non-working mothers. The difference between two means was significant at 0.01 level. It indicates that female adolescent children are more emotionally stable than the male adolescent children of non-working mothers. This can be clearly seen in figure 6.

Figure 6: Mean scores of male and female adolescent children of non-working mothers on emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity.
The findings can be explained as that females have learned the adaptability and flexibility in their behavior by observing their mothers. The prime goal of their mother is to maintain a harmonious relation among family members by making adjustments in their lives. Subbaryana (2011) reported that females are more emotionally stable than male subjects.

Regarding self confidence it is apparent from table 6 and figure 6 that both male and female adolescent children were significantly different. Lower mean of female adolescent children suggests that they are more capable and confident in dealing with critical situations as compared to their counterparts. It also shows their better emotional stability and adjustment towards life as compared to male adolescent children. This increase self confidence may be due to their education and getting more opportunities to explore the world with support of their families.

On insecurity mean score for male adolescent children was 51.21 and 63.86 for female adolescent children of non-working mothers. The t-value (5.23) was found to be significant at 0.01 level. It shows that males are significantly feel more emotional security as compared to female adolescent children. This may be attributed to the cultural factors where investment in son’s education, however is related to the expectation that future employment will provide familial security. This importance and priority generates a feeling of security in them.

The fifth hypothesis stated that 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. The results show that there is a significant difference between the level of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity amongst male and female adolescent children of non-working mothers. The fifth hypothesis has been verified by present findings.

To summarize the results of the study there was significant difference in the level of emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity among adolescent children of working and non-working mothers. Further significant gender differences were observed in the emotional maturity and self confidence of adolescent children of working mother. Females were more mature emotionally than males whereas males were more confident. Insecurity did not differ significantly. In case of adolescent children of non-working mothers significant gender differences were observed in the emotional maturity, self confidence and insecurity. Again the females were more
emotionally matured as found in case of working mothers. But unlike the females belonging to working mothers, females belonging to non-working mothers had higher level of self confidence. However, feeling of security was more amongst the male children. Perhaps these could be the differences attributed not to the working/non-working but other factors also.

**Implications of the Study**

In India, although the number of working women is increasing yet there are many misbelieves that there is a negative impact of working women on the family. It influences the rearing practices leading to negative growth of children. It is believed that working women can never manage the family as nicely as a full time non-working mother. However, the results of this study have clearly indicated that adolescent children of working mother had higher emotional maturity, self confidence and security. So, the present study implies that the stereotype thinking and the inhibitions regarding the working mothers need to be shed off and awareness should be created among the present generation about the other factors which help in the holistic development of children. Results regarding gender differences implicate that there is a need to develop a responsive environment to nurture the self confidence and instill the feeling of self reliance and emotional security amongst female children.

**Suggestions for Further Research.**

Several recommendations for future researches can be made from the findings of the present study.

- First, taking into account the limitations of study, this study can be replicated with children from different age groups and socio-economic status level.
- Secondly, in the study only work status of mothers were taken. Therefore, further studies are needed to investigate the influence of different lengths of work hours and the nature of job of mother on children’s behavioral well-being and development.
- Thirdly, there is a need to study the father’s role, home environment and parenting styles as important mediators of link between the mother’s employment and child outcome.
- Finally, evidences suggest that possible social stressors attached to maternal employment for children and their parents should also be investigated.