ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is my great pleasure to acknowledge with gratitude Dr. Akbar Husain for his skilled guidance and valuable suggestions which he rendered in preparing this thesis. Inspite of his busy schedule he was kind enough to spare time to supervise my work. It is needless to mention that without his active cooperation this thesis could not have seen the light of the day.

I am also grateful to Prof. Qamar Hasan, Chairman, Department of Psychology, for his analytical approach and invaluable help.

I owe a very special debt of gratitude to Prof. S. Sultan Akhtar for his very helpful and benign attitude and sincere concern from time to time.

My deep-seated gratitude shall always be there for my mother whose encouragement and affection were the key to crown the work success. Without her encouragement and concern this work could never come to an end.

Words are inadequate in expressing my thankfulness to my brothers Mr. Prashant Daga, Mr. Sushant Daga and Mr. Praveen Maheshwari for the help they rendered in preparing this thesis.

I must put on record the help rendered by my mother-in-law in overcoming various domestic hurdles which were obstructing my progress in work.
I don't find words to thank my husband, Mr. Atul Chandak for his encouragement and cooperation extended to me at the cost of inconvenience to his ownself. Helping me in my work, his attitude helped me to experience a deep sense of fulfilment and optimism, because it was a beautiful example of understanding and companionship.

I must recall with pleasure my friends Miss Humaira Siddiqua and Mr. Majazul Haque for their positive attitude at various stages of my work.

I wish to express my thanks to teachers, doctors and clerks of Aligarh and Jodhpur cities who readily accepted as the subjects for the present study.

Last but not the least, thanks are also due to Mr. Badar Afroz for typing this thesis.

( NAVITA DAGA )
Chapter - I

INTRODUCTION

Since 1980's various women's issues such as women's rights, discrimination against women, gender equality, and work ethics emerged and were addressed heatedly. Women's multiple roles in the family and the market place altered rapidly and radically in our society. Recently, "reservation of seats in the parliament" is one of the issues under discussion in the parliament which quest for the rights and privileges of women. Women have been striving to maintain their identity, liberty and dignity and posing some of the questions to themselves - "Who am I?", "What do I want to be?, and "How do I want others to respond to me?".

There is a need at the present time to explore how social and family role stress and social support affect the QOL of working women. The present study will provide new informations that can be employed for developing new intervention strategies in establishing prevention programmes, encouraging healthy environment in the family and organization, and in effecting changes in the social and family environment. The present study is without idea of directed observation, it would be difficult to follow any theory or model. With this exception the