Chapter Six

SUMMARY

Chapter One contains the detailed account of the concept of stereotyping in the form of definition, view point of Social Psychologists, advantages and disadvantages. Physical attractiveness phenomenon and issues relating to the assessment of attractiveness have also been discussed. Apart from the aforesaid factors chapter one takes into account the physical attractiveness stereotype and the methodological weakness and features relating to physique attractiveness. The significance of the present study were highlighted in terms of four issues concerning physical attractiveness stereotyping research. The first issue was concerned with assessment of stereotype. The second issue was related to the similarity between physical attractiveness stereotyping of the self and stereotyping of others and the similarity of stereotyping between the liked stimulus persons. The third issue was about determining similarity in stereotyping between high, medium and low attractive male and female subjects' self-evaluation and others' evaluation, and between asthenic, athletic and pyknic male and female subjects' self-evaluation and others evaluation. The fourth issue was concerned mainly with the hypothesis "what is liked is good", based on physical attractiveness stereotyping.

The present study precisely sought to determine:
- High, medium and low attractive male subjects' preferences for the high, medium and low attractive female stimulus persons.
- High, medium and low attractive female subjects' preferences for the high, medium and low attractive male stimulus persons.
- Asthenic, athletic and pyknic male subjects' preferences for the asthenic, athletic and pyknic female stimulus persons.
- Asthenic, athletic and pyknic female subjects' preferences for the asthenic, athletic and pyknic male stimulus persons.
- The significance of difference between high attractive male and female, medium attractive male and female, and low attractive male and female subjects' preferences for the similar-dissimilar facial attractive stimulus persons.
- The significance of difference between asthenic male and asthenic female, athletic male and athletic female, and pyknic male and pyknic female subjects' preferences for the similar-dissimilar physique stimulus persons.
- Similarity in stereotyping among high, medium, and low attractive male and female subjects' self-evaluation.
- Similarity in stereotyping among asthenic, athletic, and pyknic male and female subjects' self-evaluation.
- Similarity in stereotyping between high and medium, high and low, and medium and low attractive male and female subjects' self-evaluation.
Similarity in stereotyping between asthenic and athletic, asthenic and pyknic and athletic and pyknic male and female subjects' self-evaluation.

Similarity in stereotyping between high attractive male and female medium attractive male and female and low attractive male and female subjects' self-evaluation.

Similarity in stereotyping between asthenic male and female, athletic male and female, and pyknic male and female subjects' self-evaluation.

Similarity in stereotyping among high, medium and low attractive male and female subjects' evaluation for the similar-dissimilar facial attractive liked stimulus persons.

Similarity in stereotyping among asthenic, athletic and pyknic male and female subjects' rating for the similar-dissimilar physique attractive liked stimulus persons.

Similarity in stereotyping between high and medium, high and low, and low and medium attractive male and female subjects' evaluation for the similar-dissimilar facial attractive liked stimulus persons.

Similarity in stereotyping between asthenic and athletic, asthenic and pyknic and athletic and pyknic male and female subjects' evaluation for the similar - dissimilar physique attractive liked stimulus persons.

Chapter Two entitled as "Review of Literature" covers empirical studies on (a) Physical (Facial and Physique) attractiveness and liking, (b) Body parts and attraction, (c) Physical
(Facial) attractiveness stereotyping, (d) Physical (Physique) attractiveness stereotyping, and (e) Sex differences in Physical (Facial and Physique) attractiveness. Studies conducted in India were also reviewed under the appropriate head.

The chapter on methodology includes description of subjects, stimulus persons, procedure and testing, and data analysis. The present investigation included two separate studies, one relating to facial attractiveness stereotyping and the other to physique attractiveness stereotyping. Subjects for both the studies were selected on the basis of facial and physique attractiveness from the post-graduate classes of A.M.U., Aligarh. The age range of the subjects was 21-25 years. One hundred eighty students served as subjects for facial attractiveness stereotyping study. Of these, 90 were male and 90 were female students. The subjects were further split in terms of facial attractiveness (High Attractive: Male = 30, Female = 30, Medium Attractive: Male = 30, Female = 30, Low Attractive: Male = 30, Female = 30). 60 male and 60 female students served as subjects for another study relating to physique attractiveness. The subjects were further divided in terms of physique (Asthenic: Male = 20, Female = 20, Athletic: Male = 20, Female = 20, Pyknic: Male = 20, Female = 20).

Three stimulus persons of male and three stimulus persons of female in the form of photograph were used in this study. Within each sex, there was one stimulus person rated as being high, medium and low attractive by an independent panel of judges. Three silhouette of male and three silhouette of female stimulus persons
represent in to three types of physique were employed for studying physique attractiveness.

This study was conducted in two sessions. The first session, was meant for self-evaluation and the second session, was meant for others' evaluation in both the experiments. The data were analyzed by means of chi-square test. Subjects' self-evaluation and others evaluation for the facial and physique attractiveness stereotyping were presented in terms of numbers.

The data analyzed by means of chi-square test and simple numbers were presented in 20 Tables. The data based on facial attractiveness stereotyping and physique attractiveness stereotyping were given under two heads. The main findings of the study were:

(1) Male as well as female subjects of high, medium and low attractiveness showed significantly higher liking for the similar-dissimilar stimulus persons of the opposite-sex.

(2) High attractive male and female subjects differed significantly in their preferences for the high and medium attractive stimulus persons.

(3) Significant differences were found to exist between low attractive male and female subjects in preferences for the high, medium, and low attractive stimulus persons.

(4) Low attractive male subjects showed their preferences for the similar attractive stimulus persons of the opposite-sex whereas the low attractive female subjects did not show any preference for the low attractive male stimulus person.
The preference of asthenic, athletic, and pyknic male subjects do not differ significantly for the asthenic and athletic female stimulus persons.

The preferences of asthenic, athletic and pyknic female subjects were not found to be different for the asthenic and athletic male stimulus persons.

No sex differences existed between asthenic male and female, athletic male and female, and pyknic male and female subjects' preferences for the asthenic and athletic opposite-sex stimulus persons.

Pyknic male as well as pyknic female subjects did not show any preference for the pyknic silhouette of the opposite-sex.

Both the high and medium attractive male and female subjects, and asthenic and athletic male and female subjects preferred stimulus persons similar to their own face and physique.

Low attractive male and female subjects showed higher liking for the medium attractive stimulus persons. Pyknic male and female subjects showed higher liking for the athletic stimulus persons.

Similarity in stereotyping in respect of self-evaluation was of a markedly low order among the subjects belonging to facial and physique attractive groups.

There was greater similarity in stereotyping for both facial and physique attractiveness between the liked stimulus persons.
Perceivers' facial and physique attractiveness stereotyping seemed to have little to do with the perception of stereotyping of the liked stimulus persons.

The results were described and discussed (Chapter Five), mainly in terms of the findings of earlier Indian studies and the proposed hypothesis — "what is liked is good" for both facial and physique attractiveness stereotyping.