CHAPTER U
SUMMARY & CONCLUSIONS
CHAPTER-V

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

The aim of the present study was to find out need-autonomy, need-affiliation and need-achievement of children as related to childrearing practices of working and non-working mothers.

As students of human nature we know that the seeds of later personality characteristics are sown in early childhood. From this point of view, the field of childrearing practices becomes crucially important.

A systematic study of child-rearing practices which is a bi-product of the social system which it belongs to and personality variable is an elaborate and complicated process.

In the present study need for autonomy, need for achievement and need for affiliation was treated as dependent variable and child-rearing practices were the independent variable. Since child-rearing practice, may be influenced by socio-economic states of mothers or the family in general, socio-economic status was also studied as an independent variable, the profession of working mothers served as yet another independent variable. Similarly, our independent variables of need for autonomy, need-for
achievement and need for affiliation may be influenced by the
sex of the child. This variable was also studied as an
independent variable. The sample consisted of two hundred
sixty (260) children of working mothers (four different
professions) and non-working mothers residing in Aligarh
city. The sample was drawn randomly. The age range of
children who were studied, was six to ten years, and
accordingly they belonged to I, II, III, IV and Vth classes.

To measure need-autonomy, need-achievement and need-
affiliation, the children's Apperception Test (C.A.T) was
administered to one child in one sitting. In order to gather
information regarding child rearing practices, the parental
Attitude Research Instrument was administered on mothers and
fathers separately. For analyzing the data, the t-test and CR
was used to test the significance of difference between the
mean autonomy, achievement and affiliation scores of various
comparison groups based on age and sex of children; and
"working vs non-working" of mothers, as well as professions
of mothers (in case of working mothers). Multiple Regression
analysis was computed to discover the relationship between
child-rearing practices of the parents and their children's
scores on n-autonomy, n-achievement and n-affiliation.

In view of the objectives of the present study eight
hypotheses were formulated. The major findings of the present
study along with the hypothesis are discussed below:
Regarding our first hypothesis "working and non-working mothers will differ in their child-rearing practices" we observed that the working mothers scored significantly higher on the variables irritability, differentiation, suppression of aggression, rejection of home making role, inconsiderateness of the husband, ascendency of the mother and intrusiveness than non-working mothers.

The non-working mothers scored significantly higher on the variable of approval of activity than working mothers.

Regarding our second hypothesis "certain child-rearing practices contribute significantly to the development of n-autonomy, n-achievement and n-affiliation", the IVs (child-rearing practices) on the whole significantly contributed to the dependent variables of need-autonomy as the multiple R was found to be highly significant. The independent variables, which were found as having their unique contribution to the dependent variable of n-autonomy were strictness, approval of activity, avoidance of communication and intrusiveness.

The independent variables of child-rearing practices did not contribute significantly to the dependent variable n-achievement. However, comradeship and sharing had a unique though negative contribution to the DV.
The independent variables were not found as contributing significantly to the dependent variable of n-affiliation as the multiple R was not significant. However, strictness and deification had their unique contribution to the DV of n-affiliation.

Our third hypothesis "children of working mothers will differ in their need-autonomy, need-achievement and need-affiliation from children of non-working mothers" is confirmed. Comparison of the n-autonomy and n-affiliation scores of children of working and non-working mothers yielded significant. This means that the children of these two groups significantly varied in terms of their n-autonomy and n-affiliation scores. No real difference in the n-achievement scores of children of working and non-working mothers was obtained.

Our fourth hypothesis "children belonging to high socio-economic status group differ from those belonging to the low SES group in their need-autonomy, need-achievement and need affiliation" is partly confirmed. No real difference in the need-autonomy scores of children of three SES group was obtained. The children of medium SES scored significantly higher of low and high SES groups. The children of medium and high SES groups scored significantly higher on n-affiliation than children of low SES groups.
Our fifth hypothesis "Need-autonomy, need-achievement and need-affiliation among children will be influenced by the profession of the mother "is partly confirmed. There is no real difference in the need-autonomy scores of children of four profession of mothers. The children of nurses scored higher on need-achievement than children of doctors, Lecturers, and teachers. The children of lecturer scored higher on n-achievement than children of doctors and teachers. The children of nurses and doctors scored significantly higher on need-affiliation than children of lecturers and teachers.

Regarding our sixth hypothesis "children falling in the higher age group differ from those in the lower-age group in terms of their need-autonomy, need-achievement and need-affiliation" we had the following observations. The children of 10 yrs age group scored significantly higher on the n-autonomy than children of other age groups. There was no real difference in the n-achievement scores of children of five age groups. The children of 7 yrs age group scored significantly higher on the n-affiliation than children of 6 yrs, 8 yrs, 9 yrs and 10 yrs age groups.

Our seventh hypothesis "Boys and girls will differ in terms of their need-autonomy, need-achievement and need-affiliation" is not confirmed. None of the differences between male and female children were significant in any of
the comparison groups (working and non-working mothers) and total sample.

Regarding our eighth hypothesis "Mothers and fathers child-rearing practices will contribute differently in the development of need-autonomy, need-achievement and need-affiliation". We observed that in fathers sample where mothers were working, some of the independent variables have been found to exert their unique contribution to the dependent variables. Ascendency of the husband and forcing-independence have their unique contribution to the dependent variable of need-autonomy.

Strictness and forcing-independence have their unique contribution to the dependent variable of need-achievement.

The independent variables which were found as having their unique contribution to the dependent variables of need-affiliation were encouraging-verbalization, irritability, suppression of sexuality, and forcing-independence. In terms of the three attitudinal dimensions i.e. Authoritarian-Control, Hostility-Rejection, and Democratic, the following results were obtained. The working mothers scored significantly higher on the Hostility-Rejection and Authoritarian-Control dimensions than non-working mothers.

Multiple regression analysis for predicting need-autonomy in the working mother's sample yields unique and
positive contribution of Authoritarian-control dimensions of parental attitude. This result is consistently present in the other two groups also (non-working mother’s and in the total sample of the mother’s).

Need-autonomy could also be predicted by the Hostility-Rejection dimension (working mother’s sample and in the total sample of mothers).

The need-achievement is related with the Hostility-Rejection dimension of child-rearing attitude (working mother’s and non-working mother’s sample).

The two predictors of need-affiliation were Hostility Vs Rejection and Authoritarian - control dimension of child-rearing attitude.

Only one Democratic dimension of child-rearing attitude has been found to significantly contribute to only one need i.e. need for affiliation.

Child-rearing practices in the present study are concerned with the urban population. A study of child rearing practices of rural mothers and its relation to the present study variables will be a significant contribution in understanding the general pattern of child-rearing in India.
Further, the impact of parents, particularly of mothers need-achievement, need-affiliation and need autonomy on the development of same needs in children may be explored in future research.