ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

It is a pleasure for me to express my gratitude to several people who have contributed in their respective capacities to assist me in my efforts to the completion of this research endeavour.

A constant quest for knowledge is the golden thread of a teacher's professional and personal development. We need a guide who loves knowledge and provides expert assistance to us. First of all, it is with a deep sense of gratitude that I acknowledge my indebtedness to my respected teacher and guide Dr. (Mrs.) V. M. Purandare, Professor, Department of Psychology, M. S University of Baroda, for her extremely stimulating guidance, for providing the incentive toward improvement in the work, and all the moral support I needed to carry out this research.

I am greatly indebted towards Mr. Rashmin Sompura, Lecturer, Department of Psychology, for his invaluable help in the statistical analysis.

I would like to thank Professor (Mrs.) Parimu, Head of the Department of Psychology, for her permission to carry out this study.

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the Red Cross and Green Cross Societies in Baroda and Ahmedabad for helping me collect the sample data.

I also wish to thank all the parents of thalassaemic children who served as the respondents for this study, as it wouldn't have been possible to have conducted this study without their help. These special people, unaware of their pivotal role, always deserve affection.
My heartfelt thanks to all my friends in believing me and for their personal involvement in every step of this research endeavour

Last but not the least; I am deeply indebted to my parents and the rest of my family for their moral support and encouragement during my research work

Mamta Shah