ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I wish to acknowledge my debt to my supervising teacher, Dr. Razeena Padmam, Ph.D, Reader in charge, School of Behavioural Science, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, for her valuable help and guidance given to me. I am thankful for her perseverance and encouragement and also for sparing her valuable time.

I express my gratitude to Dr. K.A. Kumar, Professor and former Director of School of Behavioural Science, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, for providing me with the necessary facilities available in the department.

I also express my gratefulness to Dr. Vedagiri Ganeshan, Ph.D, Professor, Department of Psychology, Bharathiar University, Coimbatore for guiding me to take this topic for my research work.

I am highly indebted to Dr. P. Sukumaran, Ph.D, Lecturer, School of Behavioural Science, Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, for his unfailing help and guidance and also for giving suggestions during the process of thesis writing.

I wish to thank Dr. C.D. Spielberger, Ph.D, Professor, University of South Florida, Dr. R.E. Ham, Ph.D, Professor, The Florida State University and Dr. George Mathew, Professor, University of Kerala for allowing me to use their tools for the purpose of my study.
I wish to specially thank Dr. A.K. Sabapathy, M.S., Chief Medical Officer, Krishna Nursing Home and all other staff members of Krishna Nursing Home, Ernakulam, for providing me all the facilities to conduct the data collection. I also sincerely appreciate the co-operation of all the person who participated in the study. A special thanks to my friend and colleague Mr. S. Vinod Kumar, M.A, M.Phil, Consultant Psychologist, Krishna Nursing Home, Ernakulam for his timely help in various stages of the work.

I wish to thank the librarians of National Institute for Mentally Handicapped, Hyderabad, National Institute of Speech and hearing, Mysore, National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Science, Bangalore, University of Kerala, University of Calicut, Mahatma Gandhi University and National Informatic Centre, SNDT Women’s University, Mumbai for allowing me to use their libraries.

A special word of thanks to Dr. K. Gopakumar, Ph.D and Dr. Kesavan Nair, Ph.D, Central Institute of Fisheries Technology, Mr. Shaj Andrews, Lecturer in English, St. Michael’s College, Cherthala, M/s River Valley Technologies, Trivandrum, Mr. Krishna Prasad, L.L.M, Murdoch University, Perth, and Ms. Lekha, Cida, Trivandrum for their kindness and assistance rendered to me.

I am deeply indebted to my father, mother, my in-laws and my wife whose efforts could never be repaid. I could not complete this little work in time without their timely and prompt assistance and motivation.

MOHANDAS. M