ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As a sense of accomplishment and joy permeates me at the completion of this academic voyage, I earnestly recall the good will, assistance and support received from various quarters during the long course of this study.

In all modesty and fairness, I submit that the conception and culmination of this academic voyage is owing to the proficient, dynamic guidance of my learned and worthy supervisor, Dr. V.V. Upmanyu, Reader, Department of Psychology, Panjab University, Chandigarh. His intellectual precision, critical and penetrative insight, enduring commitment to academic values, fanatical zeal for perfection and unparalleled curiosity to furrow new fields of knowledge have constantly encouraged me in myriad ways—academic, social and intellectual. He included in me a spirit of hardwork and dedication. Being his understudy was a privilege and a matter of pride for me. My sincere regards and earnest gratitude to him is profound and eternal.

Thanks and regards are due to all faculty members from whom I have learnt. I would like to record my gratitude to Dr.(Mrs.) P. Verma, Chairperson, Department of Psychology, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for her utmost cooperation during this study.

I am immensely grateful to Prof. M.W. Eysenck, University of London, our distinguished visiting Professor, for showing a keen and critical interest in my
field of research & offering valuable suggestions & critical comments.

My thanks are due to the library staff at the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR), Panjab University, Chandigarh, National Council of Educational Research & Training (NCERT), New Delhi, Common Wealth Asia Pacific Regional Centre, Chandigarh, Post-Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh, and the Panjab University, Chandigarh.

I would be failing in my duties if I do not mention the names of Headmasters and Principals of various schools and colleges who allowed me to collect the data from their institutions. I also wish to record my thanks to the students who fulfilled the questionnaires patiently and with great interest.

My warmest thanks to Mr. Akash Luxman, who have remained the bastion of support and understanding during this work with dedicated assistance, encouragement and the cheerful way in which he accepted many impositions throughout this endeavour.

My heartiest thanks are due to all my friends for their constant support and encouragement.

Last but not least I am also indebted to my parents for their valuable help and patiently sharing my burden during this research work.

(Raowinder Kaur)