SUMMARY, CONCLUSION, AND SUGGESTIONS
The present study was designed to investigate the Perception of Child Rearing Practices, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement of children of working and non-working mothers. Due to paucity of research on Perception of Child Rearing Practices by children in India, and non-availability of appropriate measuring devices to gauge the Perception of Child Rearing Practices, the first step required for the purpose of the present study was the construction of an inventory measuring the same.

The study, therefore, was divided into two phases. The first phase consisted of construction and standardization of the Perception of Mother's Child Rearing Practice Scale. In the second phase of the study the scores on PMCRP Scale, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement were analysed. The scores of male and female children of working and non-working mothers on PMCRP Scale were used for measuring the difference, if any, in the perception of male and female children of working and non-working mothers. The study also investigated relationships among Perception of Mother's Child Rearing Practices, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement of male and female children of working and non-working mothers.

OVERVIEW

FIRST PHASE OF THE STUDY: Construction of PMCRP Scale:

Phase I consisted of construction of the PMCRP Scale with 32 items covering eight areas of child rearing practices.
which include Academic, Social, Recreation, Economic, Nutrition, Clothes, Puberty Development, and Demonstration of Love. The scale was administered to 500 subjects, an equal number of male and female children in the age range of 15 to 17 years. Out of 500 subjects, 120 subjects (60 male and 60 female children) were selected for Phase I and item validity of PMCRP Scale was established. Validity indices of 28 items were found to be significant. Means and SD's were computed for male and female adolescents separately. Correlation coefficients were also found out.

**1st Revision:**

Questions pertaining to 'Nutrition' area were revised and two more areas were introduced. There were ten areas in all consisting of forty items. The questionnaire was administered to 140 subjects (60 male and 80 female children). Validity indices of 38 items were found to be significant and two items were on the border line. Means and SD's were also computed for male and female children separately. Intercorrelations were found.

**2nd Revision:**

Items found significant in 1st revision were retained. Items which were on the border line with regard to their level of significance and others which presented some doubt regarding their acceptance were modified for use in the 2nd revision. Thus there were total number of ten sub-scales, each consisting
of four items.

Final Phase:

Test retest reliability of PMCRP Scale was established. Validity of the latest version of PMCRP Scale was established by using Bentivegna’s (1983) method. Inter-correlations were calculated to study the relationships among all the items of the ten areas along with sub-total and grand total on PMCRP Scale by Pearson Product-Moment Method (Garrett, 1979). Almost all the items of the PMCRP Scale were yielding positive significant correlations with each other, with the total of its sub-scale, and with overall child rearing practices (Refer Chapter III "Construction of PMCRP Scale").

SECOND PHASE OF THE STUDY

In the second phase of the study PMCRP Scale and Bell’s Adjustment Inventory were administered to 400 children, 200 of each sex from the 10th and 11th classes of Public Schools and Colleges of Chandigarh. The scores on PMCRP Scale, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement were analysed and Means and SD’s were computed for male and female children of working and non-working mothers. In order to test the significance of difference between the means, if any, on the Perception of Mother’s Child Rearing Practices, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement of male and female children of working and non-working mothers, ANOVAs were performed on PMCRP Scale, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement of children. Correlations were also found among PMCRP Scale, Adjustment, and Academic Achievement of male and female children.
of working and non-working mothers. The results obtained are summarized below:

1. Results revealed that the children of working mothers perceived their mothers' child rearing practices to be significantly better than did the children of non-working mothers in the areas of (a) Academic and (b) Demonstration of Love.

2. Female children perceived the child rearing practices of their mothers to be significantly better than male children did in the areas of (a) Recreation, (b) Nutrition, (c) Puberty Development, (d) Demonstration of Love, and (e) Overall Child Rearing Practices; whereas male children perceived the child rearing practices of their mothers to be significantly better than female children did in the area of 'Health'.

3. Male children of working mothers perceived the rearing in terms of 'Clothes' to be significantly better than did the male children of non-working mothers. On the other hand female children of non-working mothers perceived the rearing in terms of 'Clothes' to be significantly better than did the female children of working mothers.

4. The children of working mothers showed significantly better emotional adjustment as compared to children
Male children showed significantly better adjustment in the areas of (a) Health, (b) Emotional, and (c) Total Adjustment as compared to female children.

Male children of working mothers are better socially adjusted than male children of non-working mothers, whereas female children of non-working mothers are better socially adjusted than female children of working mothers.

Female children obtained significantly higher scores in the subjects of (a) English, (b) Science, (c) Social Studies, and (d) Total Academic Achievement as compared to male children.

Male children of non-working mothers obtained significantly higher scores in the subject of (a) English and (b) Total Academic Achievement as compared to male children of working mothers. Female children of working mothers obtained significantly higher scores in the subject of (a) English and (b) Total Academic Achievement as compared to female children of non-working mothers.

The results of the correlational matrix of PMCRP Scale reveal that all the areas of PMCRP Scale correlate positively and significantly with each other and with the overall child rearing practices.
(10) The significant results of correlation between PMCRP and Adjustment reveal that the Overall Perception of Mother's Child Rearing Practices is positively related to (a) Home, Social, and Overall Adjustment for male children, (b) all the areas and Overall Adjustment for female children, (c) Home, Social, and Overall Adjustment for children of working mothers, (d) all the areas and Overall Adjustment for children of non-working mothers, and (e) Home, Social, Emotional, and Overall Adjustment for the Total Sample.

(11) The significant results of the correlations between PMCRP and Academic Achievement indicate that: (a) In the case of female children (i) Social area and Demonstration of Love are positively correlated with Maths and English respectively; (ii) Clothes area is negatively correlated with English, Science, and Overall Academic Achievement; (iii) Personality Development is negatively correlated with Science. (b) In the case of children of working mothers (i) Social and Puberty Development areas are positively correlated with Maths and Science respectively; (ii) Health area is negatively correlated with Science. (c) For children of non-working mothers (i) Nutrition area is positively correlated with English; (ii) Clothes area is negatively correlated with English, Science, Social Studies, and Overall Academic Achievement; (iii) Demonstration of Love is positively correlated with
English and Social Studies. (d) For the Total Sample
(i) Areas of Social, Puberty Development, and Demonstration of Love are positively correlated with Maths, Science, and English respectively; (ii) Clothes area is negatively correlated with English, Science, Social Studies, and Overall Academic Achievement.

(12) The significant results of the correlations between Academic Achievement and Adjustment show that Overall Academic Achievement is (a) negatively related with Emotional Adjustment for male children, (b) positively related with Home Adjustment for female children, (c) negatively related with Emotional and Overall Adjustment for children of non-working mothers, and (d) negatively related with Emotional Adjustment for the Total Sample.

SUGGESTIONS:

Research promotes human understanding. The understanding of a research project implies a tentative approach to a specific area. During the course of the project, fresh perceptions are gained into the subject in hand. At the completion of the study, one arrives at certain proven hypotheses thereby lending credence to the initially posited suggestions. However, this does not indicate that the author has reached a point, beyond which no improvement is conceivable. Quite often, the author himself or herself feels that there is a wide scope and quite a lot can be done to diversify and enrich the research work. With this in
mind the following suggestions are put forth:

(1) The validity of certain items was on the border line according to item analysis (Garrett, 1979). These items need modifications so as to improve their validity indices.

(2) In India, we have many regional languages and therefore the Perception of Mother's Child Rearing Practice Scale can be translated into some of the regional languages, so as to meet the needs of the Indian population.

(3) During the administration of the questionnaire the casual, non-serious attitude of the adolescents, has resulted in some off hand and erratic responses without any deliberation on part of the subjects. This is an indication of casual and non-serious attitude toward life. Thus special attention should be paid to understanding adolescents perception and in developing their values and seriousness toward life because they are the future leaders of our country.

(4) Maternal employment is not the only major influence in the lives of children. More research in this area is not necessary but study of the range and diversity of care taking arrangement and efforts are needed to cope with social changes in ways beneficial to children.

(5) Perception of Mother's Child Rearing Practice Scale can be correlated with various other psychological variables such as personality, self concept, need achievement, and parental preferences.
Mothers employment is not the only source of influence affecting the adolescents perception of mother's child rearing practices, other variables interact with employment status and ultimately lead to different developmental outcomes, for example, influence of father, his role, mothers satisfaction, the available social support system, parent-child interaction, features of the employment situation, and family characteristics which influence maternal employment, and affect adolescents' perception. Thus, these variables should be kept in mind while studying adolescents' perception of mother's child rearing practices.