ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

A formal acknowledgement will hardly meet the ends of justice in the expression of my deep sense of gratitude and obligation to all those who helped me in the completion of this research.

The journey of this research began three years back, the road was difficult, but in the end I succeeded with the guidance and help from my research guides. I simply fumble for suitable words to adequately express my sincere gratitude to my research guides, Prof. Veer Singh, Professor Emeritus, Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh, presently, Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR, Hyderabad and Prof P.S. Jaswal, Chairman, Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh and Director, University Institute of Legal Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh, for their valuable and stimulating suggestions, inspiring guidance and all out support in producing this thesis, from the conceptual to completion stage. It is their profound subject knowledge that they infused in me and their perpetual guidance that I could deliver the best and for that matter, would remain indebted to them. Their support was not only academic but emotional as well. They gave me the moral support and the freedom through the rough road to finish this thesis.

I am also grateful to Prof. R.S. Grewal, former Director, University Institute of Legal studies, and all my colleagues at University Institute of Legal Studies, Panjab University, Chandigarh for the confidence they reposed on me. My special thanks also go to Prof. Nishtha Jaswal, Department of Laws and Dean Student Welfare (women), Panjab University, Chandigarh for her kind encouragement and blessings. I am also extremely thankful to all the faculty members of the Department of Laws, Panjab University, Chandigarh for their guidance & support.
Special thanks are also due to all respondents including academicians, legal professionals, health practitioners who favourably responded to my request and spared time out of their schedules to grant personal interviews for this research. On a more personal note, I would like to thank Prof. Tapas Mukhopadhyay, Director Human Genome Centre, Panjab University, Chandigarh for his valuable guidance. My special thanks to Prof. Sherry Sabharwal, Chairperson, Department of Sociology, Panjab University, Chandigarh who opened up the sociological dimension of Genomic Research. I also thank Prof. Rajesh Gill, Department of Sociology, Panjab University, Chandigarh for guiding me and clearing my doubts regarding various aspects of research methodologies.

My special thanks to my parents, who have stood firmly beside me in all my endeavours and activities. To my In-laws for always encouraging me in my academic endeavours. To my husband Amit for being there and for allowing me to be who I am. And finally to my son Agasthya who has always calmed me with his bundle of innocence.

I appreciate the cooperation extended by the library staff and librarians of A.C. Joshi Library Panjab University, Chandigarh, University Institute of Legal Studies, Panjab University, and Department of Laws Panjab University, Chandigarh, Indian Institute of laws, Delhi, Indian Society of International law, Delhi for providing the relevant material required for research work. A special thanks goes to Kapoor Photostat, Sector14, Chandigarh, for meticulously working through the manuscript.

Stellina Jolly