Adolescence is a transition phase when a lot of psychological and physical changes take place and adolescents become more curious about different things especially about sexuality. The teen years can be tough for both parent and the child. Adolescents are under stress to be liked, do well in school, get along with their family and make important life decisions. Most of these pressures are unavoidable and worrying about them is natural. Owing to cultural barrier among parent-child relationship some children cannot share their personal problems with their parents and become dependent on peer group members. Hence, sometime there is a possibility of misguidance. At the same time, during this phase a good number of them develop a tendency to take risk, which sometimes results into early pregnancy, involvement in legally deviant activities and dependence on substance. Premarital unprotected sex exposes adolescents to the risk of sexually transmitted diseases including HIV/AIDS. This apart, the deviant behaviour, over expectation of parents, family violence, gap in parent-child relationship and un-fulfillment of curious mind regarding different issues also cause psychological stress, which in turn affect the career development.

Review of latest literature across the world indicates that a number of studies have been conducted on types of risk taking behaviour among adolescents, its prevalence, onset of first sexual activity and association of risk taking behaviour with addiction. But no such holistic approach has so far been made an attempt to demonstrate the causal and contributory factors behind behaviour aberrations of late adolescents and its association with various factors with special reference to gender difference, age, socio economic level, pattern of family the adolescent belongs to and the standard of his education.

This background in mind coupled with frequent conversations with Dr. Sibnath Deb, Faculty Member, Department of Applied Psychology, University of Calcutta and Council Member of the International Society for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect (ISPCAN), it became quite a strong urge to investigate the issue in detail in the context of Kolkata city. So the first
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A significant piece of work definitely takes toll from many brains and it also requires the guidance and assistance of a number of people and organizations. This thesis is no exception. Though such people and well-wishers were innumerable and priceless, still it must be worthy to cite the names of a few without whom the work would never have been complete.

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Today when my work has achieved a concrete shape, I have no tall claim for this. I have done it up to the best of my ability. I fondly hope to get valuable suggestions from the evaluators of my work, which will guide me to carry on further work for the good social cause. Every care was taken to present the data systematically and interpret the same logically and meaningfully, without any prejudice. However, if there is any mistake and/or typing error the same is regretted.

Tanusree Chakraborty, M.A.
Research Student, Department of Applied Psychology
University College of Science and Technology, Calcutta University
92, A.P.C. Road, Kolkata-700009, India