ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I express my deepest gratitude to my esteemed guide Prof. Anup Sud for providing multiple, novel perspectives and articulate a variety of opinions, techniques and approaches in the area of psychology. I feel fortunate enough to have had the opportunity of carrying out this study under her supervision.

I would like to thank all those people whose support has made this research work possible. I owe a great deal to all of them. I feel indebted to Prof. J.M. Jairath and Prof. L.S. Minhas from Psychology Department of Punjab University, Chandigarh for their invaluable guidance and encouragement during this endeavour. I am also grateful to Prof. Emeritus Sagar Sharma. I owe a great deal to Prof. Bal Krishan, Department of Commerce and Dalip Thakur, Department of Economics, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla, who made a vital contribution by guiding me at the crucial time of this research.

I am deeply indebted to Prof. D.K. Malhotra (Chairman, Psychology Department) Dr. R.S. Pirta, Dr. S.N. Ghosh and Dr. Sunil Kumar, Department of Psychology, Himachal Pradesh University, Shimla for their valuable suggestions and inspiring me throughout to tread over the research work.

I am thankful to Mr. A.K. Puri, DGP, Himachal Pradesh, who was kind enough to permit me to collect data for the present study at various police stations in Himachal Pradesh. My appreciation are also due to all the S.Ps, D.S.Ps especially S.P. Upender Thakur, J.R. Thakur and A.S.P. Virender Kanwar for their encouragement, cooperation and extending every possible help in data collection.
Grateful thanks are also due to all the police personnel for their co-operation and patience shown throughout the lengthy and tiring process of data collection.

My special thanks are extended to Mr. R.L. Jinta, my friend and colleague for his competent research assistance, suggestions at every step of this study.

I developed a great appreciation for my friends and boarders of HImkreet Boy's Hostel Himachal Pradesh University. They were generous with their time and advice and I would like to express my gratitude to all of them.

My gratitude further extends especially to Mr. Aaron Ponsonby, Sohan Singh Chandel, Rupesh Chauhan, Rakesh Kumar, Rakesh Prihar, Suresh Singha, Tilak Raj, Ashok Mehta, Yogesh Kalanta, Rajan Kaushal, Kulbhushan Verma, Upender Gupta, Diwan Verma, Anupam, Inderjeet Singh, Ujjival Sain Mehta, Yogesh Sharma, Anil Chauhan, Anjana Chauhan, Meenakshi Rana, Jyoti and Sarana Garg for their whole-hearted support despite their busy schedules.

I am also indebted to my brothers Jagdeep Ranta, Purushotam Ranta, Balbir Ranta, Dharmendar Ranta, Jitender Ranta, Yashpal Ranta and respective Bhabhijis Kanta Ranta, Kamlesh Ranta, Indu Ranta, Reenu Ranta, Rita Ranta and Sandishana Ranta and their respective sons Puneet Ranta, Preeti Ranta, Pranshita Ranta, Aadarsh Ranta, Ritvik Ranta, Sohard Ranta and Kaka along with Sudhir Ranta and Sachin Ranta who were always there to help me to come over my personal crises at the time of studies.
I would like to thank Chintamani Sharma and Partap Sharma for their skills, sensitivity and concern shown during the analytical part of the study.

I wish to thank Ghanshyam Verma who worked really hard to bring out the present shape of this study.

I express my deep regards to Sidhant Bali for his encouragement and inveterate affection shown to me during my study period.

I have drawn heavily on library services of Himachal Pradesh University and Punjab University, Chandigarh. My thanks are due to all library staff who were really helpful to me.

No expression of gratitude will be sufficient without recognition, the contribution of my uncles Narain Singh, Bahadur Singh and Joginder Singh and respective aunts Sunita Ranta, Vidhya Ranta and Enna Ranta and sisters Sangeeta Ranta, Nagina Ranta and Sandhya Ranta for their selfless persuasion and inspiration that virtually helped me to undertake this endeavour.

Finally, I express my special appreciation for encouragement and support and eternal inspiration of my parents Partap Singh and Bina Ranta. I take this opportunity to express my heart felt gratitude to them.

Randhir Singh Ranta