

Acknowledgement

First and foremost, I thank **God Almighty** for his immense blessings and grace showered upon me to complete my work.

My heartfelt gratitude is expressed to the honorable chancellor **Dr. P.R Krishnakumar**, vice chancellor, **Dr. Premavathy Vijayan**, the registrar, **Dr. S. Kowsalya**, the Dean, School of Arts and Social Sciences, **Dr. K.T. Geetha** for all the support rendered by them throughout the period of my research.

My sincere thanks to the **Administrative Staff** of the institution for their help and support.

My gratitude to **Dr. G.P. Jeyanthi**, Director, (Research and Consultancy) for her support throughout the process.

I am extremely grateful to **Dr. S. Gayatridevi**, Professor and Head, Department of psychology, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for her continuous support.

With immense pleasure I express my deep sense of gratitude and respect to my guide **Dr. N.S. Rohini**, Professor and Former Head, Department of Psychology, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, who enlightened and encouraged me throughout the course of my study. With persistence and patience, she valued my ideas and interests enriching me with insightful suggestions that evolved into creative outcomes.

I express my sincere gratitude to my co-guide **Dr. R. Subhashini**, Dean and Former Head of Department of Counselling Psychology, Madras School of Social Work, Egmore, Chennai, for her constant guidance and support throughout my research process.

I express my deep gratitude to **Dr. A. Velayudhan** Professor and Head, Department of Psychology, Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore and **Dr. S. Srividhya** Post-Doctor Candidate Department of Psychology, Bharathiyar University, Coimbatore for their immense support, suggestions and encouragement. Their valuable inputs helped me in completing my research successfully.

I extend my sincere gratitude to **Dr. P.R. Padma**, Dean of School of Biosciences Professor and Head, Department of Biochemistry Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, who gave me strength and support during various times of my research.

I express my sincere thanks to **Institutional Human Ethics Committee Forum** Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, and the **Ethics Committee Forum**, Chennai for their insights for conducting my research successfully.

I express my heartfelt gratitude to the **Faculty Members** of the Department of Special Education, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, for their support.

My sincere gratitude to the **University Grants Commission (UGC)** for awarding me the **Rajiv Gandhi National Fellowship for Students with Disabilities (RGNFD)**

I thank the Institutional authorities of **National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Multiple Disabilities (NIEPMD)** Kovalam, Chennai and **The Spastic Society of Tamil Nadu (SPASTN)** Taramani Chennai for permitting and supporting me to conduct my research in their esteemed institution.

I sincerely thank my **Research Participants** (parents, teachers and students) from both the institutions for their constant co-operation.

My sincere thanks to **Mr. Karthik Lakshmanan R. M.** Counseling Psychologist, Chennai, counseling services for his extended help and support throughout the process

I thank Miss **Adam Fathima Farhana** Applied Psychologist, Knowledge Academy, Pammal- Chennai, for her constant support.

I am thankful to all the **staff members, Research Scholars and Students** in the Department of Psychology, Avinashilingam Institute for Home Science and Higher Education for Women, Coimbatore, who gave me care and support during my research.

A word of thanks with pleasure from the bottom of my heart to my **family, friends and relatives** who led me with immense blessings, care, love and support.

Blessy Ann Varughese