

Acknowledgement

I hereby thank the people without whose support and co-operation the successful completion of this dissertation would not have been possible. At the very outset I would like to thank my principal **Dr. Sulabha Natraj** who has been an unending source of inspiration inspite of the various ways and means which we keep devising to drain her of the same.

I must acknowledge the help and support of my guide **Dr. Nandita Nagar**, who had to practically set up a 24-hours-available “Shubhangi Care” to answer all my questions which did not always consider the time of the day before popping up their heads and also to calm down my doubts. None of the questions and problems which I shot at her could survive before her innovative solutions. Our loveable **Dr. Bharti Rathore** and helpful **Dr. Shamsha Emanuel** also put in their informative inputs into the recipe of this dissertation.

I also thank all the principals and teachers of the various schools whom I terrorized with my data collection. If not for their patience shown towards us inspite of their busy schedule, there would have been no data to begin with.

Then I acknowledge the help provided by my friends, prominent among who has been **Tanvi Solanki**, whose cheerful nature has always ensured that the dissertation proved to be a happy journey among the laughter kindled by her wise-cracks.

I also thank **my family** who has been a constant support in all my endeavors and always stood by me. There are also others who have put in their time and talents to help complete this dissertation. I sincerely acknowledge and thank each and every one of them.

-Shubhangi Bhardwaj