

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

There was a time when I felt that journey of this research is unending. Today when I am about to complete this journey I would like to acknowledge those whose support took me nearer to the destination.

First of all, let me pray to God for giving me everything that I needed for the completion of the work, which is possible with the grace of God.

I express my gratitude to my guide Prof. Aruna Khasgiwala, who guided me through out the period of my research, right from conceptualizing the topic to finally writing of the report. It is a great feeling when your guide gives you priority keeping aside everything else. I have experienced this with her.

I would like to express gratitude to Prof. Anil S. Navale, Dean, Faculty of Social Work for constantly encouraging, motivating and supporting for completing the research work. Many a times during this period, I felt like giving up the work, but his encouraging words kept me going ultimately completing the work.

I am highly indebted to Prof. M. D. Vyas my senior colleague in the Faculty for extending his helping hand whenever I was in trouble. Interactions with him always proved fruitful and valuable.

Social Work practitioners who agreed without their cooperation, the study was impossible.

I extend my sincere thanks to my colleagues and friends in the faculty and outside the faculty whose support from time to time proved valuable.

I am thankful to Mr. Nitin Patel of Nikee Computers for taking labourious pain for typing meticulously.

The blessings of my mother and tremendous moral support from all my family members specially from my brother Shri Pradip Gaekwad and from my son Chi. Gaurav helped me to complete this long journey.