

A C K N O W L E D G E M E N T S

I wish to record here with gratitude the help and encouragement given to me in selecting the research problem and in its completion by my guiding teacher Professor A. S. Patel, M. A., M. Ed. (Bombay), M.Sc., M. S., Ph. D. (Wis.), Head, Department of Psychology, Faculty of Education and Psychology of the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda. His grasp of the statistical techniques has proved to be of great help to me in drawing valid inferences from the relatively huge data collected during the investigation.

I am thankful to Prof. D. M. Desai, Dean, Faculty of Education and Psychology, Prof. R. N. Mehta, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Prof. S. M. Sethna, Head, Department of Chemistry, Faculty of Science, Baroda for the encouragement I received from them. My thanks are due also to Prof. Amita Verma, Head, Department of Child Development, Faculty of Home Science, Baroda and Dr. Pramila Phatak of the same Department for helpful suggestions and for providing facilities for the bibliographical work.

Dr. P. S. Gupte of the Department of Anatomy of the Baroda Medical College was kind enough to guide me in

locating the physical landmarks for anthropometric measurements of the human body. I am thankful to Dr. Gupte for this help.

Dr. P. K. Bhattacharya of the University Department of Chemistry, Baroda and his associates Kumari Purnima Parikh and Shri Mohan Kumar helped me in carrying out part of the statistical calculations, and I am thankful to them.

I am also thankful to Shri Jain and Shri B. B. Joshi of the Data Processing Unit of the Alembic Chemical Works, Baroda for their help.

Bulk of the processing and computation of the data was done by the Computer Centre of the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) Ahmedabad. I wish to record here my thanks to Dr. Dineshbhai Patel and his staff of the Centre for the assistance rendered. I am thankful to Dr. P. D. Angreji of the PRL who helped me in speeding up the work.

My thanks are due to the authorities of the Nagar Prathamik Shikshan Samiti, Baroda and Principals, Head Masters and teachers of the Balwadis of Baroda and outside included in this investigation for their cooperation.

I am grateful to the parents of the children, particularly of the age group two-to-three years, for their cooperation, but for which the work would have suffered in quality.

Dr. S. N. Padate, Dr. G. Prathapasenan, Shri Kamleshjee Lulla and Shri S. Shantharam actively helped me in checking the data and in preparation of the manuscript for which I am very thankful to them.

Shri P. T. Dindorkar deserves all credit and my thanks for the excellent graphical drawings and photographs included in the body of the thesis. Similarly the painstaking labour of Shri P. S. Bhoite who typed the whole manuscript contributed in no small measure to the presentation of the thesis.

The work involved repeated visits to schools located in Baroda and in distant villages and was certainly expensive. I am thankful to the Maharaja Sayajirao University of Baroda for awarding to me a University Research Scholarship during the course of the investigation. The scholarship covered part of the expenditure.

A married woman with young school-going children faces quite a few problems when she undertakes a field study extending over a number of years. I am thankful to the members of my family for bearing mostly cheerfully^{with} all the inconveniences they suffered because of my preoccupation with this investigation for a long period.

B-2, Vikram bag,
Baroda-2.
24th February, 1975.

Yogini Pathak.
(Yogini C. Pathak)