



## Acknowledgement

The preparation of the thesis has been tedious and a difficult task. The work would not have taken the present shape without the cooperation and guidance of so many people, who have helped in various phases of this study.

I take this fine opportunity to express my profound sense of gratitude to my guide, Dr. V.D. Thomas, who has always given me immense support, guidance and has indulged me throughout the study period. I am grateful to him for his untiring patience and readiness. Without his encouragement and keen interest in my work this study would not have made headway.

I am extremely thankful to the Principal, Mrs. Gupta, and the concern Psychology teacher Mrs. Annie Jose, of Navrachna High School for allowing me to conduct my study in their school and rendering me with the required facilities.

I wish to express my sincere appreciation to those students, of the same school, who had been the subjects of my study, for their willing cooperation without which this study could not have been completed.

I wish to thank all the experts who have spared their valuable time for this work, especially I would like to thank Dr. N. Pradhan, Dr. S.D. Patankar, Dr. Z.M. Qureshi, Nandini Bhattachariyajee and other faculty members of M.S.University.

I would also like to thank the Principal, Fr. O. Coutinho, S.J. of Rosary School, for permitting me to carry out pilot study in his school, to validate the critical thinking tool.

I gladly acknowledge Dr. Richard Paul and Center for Critical thinking and Moral Critique, USA, for sending me the needed books and journals, related to the study.

I wish to thank Mrs. S. Padhye, librarian, Center of Advanced study in Education for helping me out with the needed books in connection with the study.

I also wish to express my gratitude to Mrs. Lizzy Francis, Mr. Jose Kurien, Mrs. Anita Thomas, and Rita Rai, for their timely support and encouragement.

Last but not the least, I like to express my gratitude to my parents and my brother Sameer for their constant encouragement and support.

The credit for this study, I share with so many people, who have contributed in terms of their esteemed advice and comments, but the flaws and the shortcomings of the study are absolutely mine.

Ami Meghani.