

P R E F A C E

"Although the professional literature is replete with criteria for identifying "problem families" and criteria useful in the diagnosis of family problems, little is known about how we might identify "strong families". Sound researches into the dynamics of 'healthy or normal' families are minimal" H.A.Otto (1963).

This justifies the present research endeavour. Studies on families are plenty in India but very few on internal family life and behaviour. In the present research an arduous attempt has been made to probe various areas of normal families : family cohesion, family adaptability, family life satisfaction, marital life, dyadic communication, crisis and its management, parent child relationship, family strengths etc. Angell 1936, Hill 1958, Burr 1973, Olson 1983 and many others have made attempts in west in this direction.

Lupri and Lueschen (1972) have favoured the need for cross cultural studies in refining concept formation and theory building on family. Olson (1983) too emphasized on cross-cultural researches on 'cohesion' and 'Adaptability' of families in various cultures. This reinforced the strong faith of the present researcher to study urban slum families cohesion, adaptability and other correlates.

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ARUNA KHASGIWALA