



- ACKNOWLEDGMENT

A Loving Thank You

Angels are people of kind nature,
messengers from God ~

Angels are true friends we can count on, those
who give no facade ~

I am thankful for those angels who remembered me
in kind gesture and offered me a helping hand ~

In appreciation for their thoughtfulness,
I would like to "give back" the best I can ~

And even though it is simple,
it is a method tried and true ~

I ask my Lord to bless these angels
and from me I give a sincere and loving ~

Thank You ~

- LaDonna Faye Hoopes

In the course of compilation of this manual, many people have made significant contributions. I would like to thank all who have helped me during my work in their own special ways.

First and foremost my mentor, **Dr. Shagufa Kapadia**, Prof. & Head, Dept. Of Human Development and Family Studies, whose guidance has made my doctoral research experience - unique, memorable and meaningful. Her undivided attention, timely guidance, and personal concern encouraged me to put forth my best.

Special thanks is due to the experts in field of Human Development and Family Studies, **Dr. Sophia Gir**, **Dr. Nirupama Dave**, **Dr. Poonam Singh**, **Dr. Usha Kumawat** (Psychology and Education), **Dr. Usha Sharma** (Social Work) for their meticulous comments and expert observations which has helped me in contextualization of my study. Their attitude of 'you are always welcome' with a broad smile always made me feel at home in discussing my queries.

Heartiest thanks to the **Principals** of the schools, **Mrs. Geeta Nair**, **Maharana Mewar Public School** and **Mrs. Alka Sharma**, **Central Public School**, for granting permission to carry out my research in their schools. I deeply appreciate their friendly nature, constant encouragement and co-operation. A special thanks is due to all the **students** of standard VIII of the schools as well as their **parents**, and **class teachers** who have participated in my study. Their dedication for my program and spirit of learning has left me mesmerized. I can never forget my departing moments with them.

Thanks is also due to all the institutions and NGOs, whose earlier publications and documentations have helped me designing my program. Their recommendation and lessons learnt from their experiences have prevented me from committing mistakes which otherwise I would have made. I thank the following organizations for their earlier inputs - Sangath, Goa; VHAI, Delhi; RUWSEC, Tamil Nadu; CHETNA, Gujarat, CEDPA, PEACE CORPS, USA. .

My parents, sis, family, and friends for their unselfish love, constant encouragement, help and support.

My adorable *Chachu* whose dream I am fulfilling by creating this manual.