

CHAPTER 5

GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

5.1 GENERAL DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSIONS

Findings of the first experiment clearly indicate that the blind group is more aggressive than the sighted group with reference to personality trait. Social pressure seems to facilitate aggression among the blind in an effort to equalize their status in the society at large. The role of personality trait viz. violent, non-violent with instigated and uninstigated aggression is evident as the catharsis effects for both the groups under instigation are enhanced. The violent blind group has more frequently delivered high intensity shocks both in the shock and the wait condition as compared to their sighted counterparts, while the non-violent, as expected, has not shown any difference either in shock or wait condition. Uninstigated violent and non-violent groups do differ across shock and wait conditions.

The findings of the second experiment do not clearly bring out the role of personality viz locus of control with aggression. Also, the blind and the sighted groups have

shown no differences on aggression. Any definite assertions regarding this relationship are difficult to make, because a number of factors appear to mediate the relation. The main effects of groups and traits are not significant in the analysis. However, the first order interaction of groups with traits is significant. This thereby indicates that the blind group which has internal locus of control is more aggressive compared to its sighted counterparts. The second order interaction of groups x traits x instigation is significant, thereby indicating the blind group with internal locus of control under instigation delivered more number of shocks as compared to their sighted counterparts. However, the sighted group with external locus of control is almost equivalent to the blind instigated group with internal locus of control.

Both the experiments clearly indicate the basic impact of situation i.e. instigation in concealing the influence of personality. Thus, personality trait receives a secondary status with reference to aggression.

Experimental evidence does indicate to a certain extent that the blind are more aggressive than the sighted. However, due to the inconsistencies in results obtained in the two experiments it cannot be stated conclusively. To get clearer differences of the two groups further investigations are needed, suggestions for which are given in the next section.

5.2 SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

The investigator proposes to extend the present work on the following lines; Inclusion of recently blinded along with congenital blind group and sighted group may clarify the impact of blindness on personality and sex with reference to aggression. The results of previous investigations as well as the present one do not clarify to a great extent the role of personality in aggression. Hence if late blind subjects and non-rehabilitated congenitally blind subjects are included it would be interesting to discover these relationships with reference to authoritarianism, and obedience to authority. Effects of blindness and adjustment problems among the late blinded would be more, so they may express themselves through aggression.

The present investigation has reported contradictory findings for groups in the two experiments. As stated earlier, the contradiction may have occurred due to institutionalised blind subjects in these experiments. It may be possible to get a clearer picture if non-institutionalised blind subjects are also included in the sample. It is suggested that non-institutionalised subjects should also be used in future research for comparative personality studies of the blind.