

## CHAPTER 3

### PROBLEM

This research is an attempt to standardize the Draw-A-Person Test (DAP) in Pakistan. This test was specially chosen by the author as it is an inexpensive, easy, quick and readily scorable test. The short instructions are easily translated into Urdu (the National Language of Pakistan), without losing or changing their meaning.

The author chose the DAP Test because of the research conducted on the DAP in the advanced countries showing that its utility has been proved in the Western countries especially in U.S.A. Its applicability for Pakistan is most suited for the above mentioned reasons.

The DAP test has been standardized in U.S.A. where it is used as an indicator of mental maturity and in the assessment of general intelligence I.Q., Goodenough (1926); it is used for broad categories of intelligence I.Q., Koppitz (1963); for the screening of Kindergarten readiness, Goldman, (1980), Charles; Baade and Paskewiez, (1981); for the prediction of school achievement, Burt, (1921), Koppitz (1962); for the identification of mental retardation; Koppitz (1963); for the diagnosis of emotional problems, Koppitz (1968). It has been widely used in schools, hospitals, clinics and in private practice by clinical psychologists.

In Western countries the importance of psychological tests has been realised for a long time. Pakistan is a developing country where the importance of psychological testing and psychodiagnosis has been recently realised and accepted by the professionals.

Due to the dearth of trained clinical psychologists, the standardization, norming and construction of new tests is in its infancy. Pakistan needs tests which can cater to the increasing number of school going children, keeping in view the various problems of availability of funds, lack of trained personnel etc. which are inherent in a developing country. Pakistan needs to identify how best to use its available resources for the maximum benefit of the maximum people. Suitable psychological tests need to be used for this purpose.

We cannot use the tests which have been standardized in other countries and cultures i.e. the U.S.A., in Pakistan because of the differences in cultural and social background. It is imperative to find the validity of this test in the Pakistani culture before we can adapt it in our country.

The standardization of this test is essential for a developing country like Pakistan as we have to identify the talents, aptitudes and mental problems of the children early enough in life so that we can guide them in their future planning.

This future planning is also imperative because we cannot waste our human resources and need to utilize their talents to the utmost. This can only be done when all the schools have the tested assessment of all the children and channelize them in the right direction. In this way we can also eliminate the aimlessness of education in our country. It is important to point out that people in our country have become aware of the usefulness of the higher education through the influx of the Western culture, but do not realise the importance of formulating aims and objectives of this education, with the result a lot of higher education is wasted.

In the light of the above facts it is essential that we first find out the potentials of the children and then guide them, which will lead to a happy life and growth of a well adjusted nation.