

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY
J. S. SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
ASSAM UNIVERSITY
SILCHAR – 788011, INDIA

DECLARATION

I, Sharmistha Chakraborty, Ph.D scholar, bearing Registration No; *Ph.D-1863/12Dt. 20.04.2012* hereby, declare that the thesis titled **I, ME AND OTHER: A STUDY OF SINGLE WOMEN IN AGARTALA TOWN** is a record of work done by me and to the best of my knowledge the contents of this thesis have not been a basis for award of any degree to me or anybody else. The thesis has not been submitted to any other University/institute and therefore, it is submitted to Assam University for award of the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology.

Place: Assam University

Date: 7 April 2017

(Sharmistha Chakraborty)

Ph.D. Research Scholar

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Assam University, Silchar

Date: 7 April 2017

(Sharmistha Chakraborty)

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LOCATION MAPS

1. Map of North East India



2. Map of Tripura



4. Map of Agartala Town



PREFACE

The study entitled *I, ME AND OTHER: A STUDY OF SINGLE WOMEN IN AGARTALA TOWN* explores the self-perception and social attitudes of single women in Agartala Town of Tripura. The single women include widow, divorced and unmarried women of Agartala town. The study has been planned in eight chapters in all entailing bibliography/references and preceded by a preface.

The first chapter, **Framework of the Study** introduces the study, reviews the existing literature, theoretical framework, types and source of data collection and analysis. The second chapter, **Field of the Study** discusses the geographical location, ethnic composition, sex ratio, literacy rate, religion and important places of the field. The third chapter is **Society and the Single Women** which describes age structure, religion, caste and tribe, size of the family, marital status, mode of marriage, age of marriage, length of conjugal life and cause of being single etc. The fourth chapter titled **Economy and the Single Women** analyses the occupation, monthly income, control over income, property, savings and their work environment etc. The fifth chapter **Power Structure and the Single Women** examines the pattern of family headship, role in decision making process of family and formal organization, awareness about cast panchayat, functions of municipality, pattern of participation in various formal political organizations etc. The sixth chapter, **Health and the Single Women** analyses various aspects related to single women living condition, personal hygiene habits, food and nutrition, diseases, pattern of treatment, health expenditure, reproductive health and mental health condition. The seventh chapter **Self-Perceptions, Social Attitude and the Single Women** analyses the understanding of their own self, level of satisfaction, self-esteem, self-identity and society attitude towards them. The eighth chapter **Summary, Findings and Conclusion** summarizes the study, brings out the major findings and concludes it along with some suggestions for improvement of their condition.

Dedicated

to

my father, Late

Shri Samir Chakraborty