

Dr Anuradha Sovani

Psychologist and Psychotherapist. Professor and Head, Department of Psychology, SNDT Women's University, Mumbai. Has formerly headed Department of Applied Psychology, University of Mumbai. Trustee and Consultant, Institute for Psychological Health, Thane, Maharashtra.

M.A., M.Phil., Ph.D., University of Mumbai. Chancellor's Gold Medallist at Masters' level. Recipient of various scholarships and awards, including the UGC Research Fellowship, the National Talent Search Scholarship, the Mankar Prize of the University of Mumbai, and recipient of the best research paper award of the Indian Psychological Association, the award for the best paper published in *Disabilities and Impairments* in 2004 and best book award for Children's literature awarded by Maharashtra State. Has successfully guided nine Doctoral students, six more working towards doctoral degree. Has authored ten Marathi books, four on Child Mental Health, one on Quality of Life, one on couple relationships and couple counseling, a popular new series called "Maanas-rang" as well as over 65 research papers in national and international journals, and book chapters in National and International publications. A new Marathi book on Personality Disorders just published.

Has served as Consultant to National and State level bodies like National Institute for the Mentally Handicapped Secunderabad, Rehabilitation Council of India, HSC board for syllabus construction, the Maharashtra State Mental Health Authority, *Yashada*, Pune, Institute for Vocational Guidance and Selection, Maharashtra, and the Thane Police cell for Women's welfare, the *Saamajik Suraksha Kaksh*. Serves on ethics committees of bodies including ADAPT at the National Resource Center for Inclusion, Research Society at Sewree special school, and the Global Fund project, Round 7, counseling component, of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai. Consults of a number of committees for Prevention of Sexual Harassment, including TISS, Tata Memorial Hospital and several corporates.

Interest areas include community awareness about mental illness and health, mental health of children and women, working through the print, newspaper columns and audio-visual media, as well as through live community based programs; schizophrenia and other severe psychological conditions and rehabilitation. Currently serves on Core Committee for Rehabilitation, Department of Health Services, Maharashtra State, and Rugna Kalyan Samiti (patient welfare), Regional Mental Hospital, Thane, Maharashtra.