RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research will be historical research tracing the past, securing solutions to present problems and paving way for the future. Initially the research will study the Dharmashastras, Vedas, Puranas, Upanishads, Tikas, Nibandhas and Mimansa for a complete understanding of the past. In the past the philosophy of Hindus was solely based on Dharma. The kings who ruled interpreted the word Dharma according to his own knowledge and understanding. At that period women acquired a high and dignified place in society. After that various invasions took place things started changing, but it was the invasion by the Mughals which changed the whole system of law. The law deteriorated as the rulers had an oppressive attitude and the status of women diminished, purdah system came into being. It was the Britishers who had casted a lasting impression on the law of the land. At that period also it was no better as they had a background of prejudice towards women. The codification process wanted to reform the law but it was opposed by the majority and the outcome was an orthodox, rigid, patriarchal law with no respite for women. Here complete study of relevant literature will be done by evaluating, examining and critical analysis.

The next step will be to examine and verify the existing Hindu Law to ascertain the present trend by following the case study method. The case study will be conducted in the matter of marital disputes, maintenance, adoption and succession. For doing this two Family Courts of Pune and Mumbai will be taken into consideration. About 100 cases relating to marital dispute, 100 cases of maintenance, 50 cases of adoption and 50 cases of succession will be taken whose case study will be done.

A survey will also be conducted by applying the questionnaire method in the two Family Courts of Pune and Mumbai to ascertain the views relating to family matters. Three set of questionnaires will be prepared and distributed to judges, lawyers and common people. The
feedback will enhance the accuracy and authenticity of the results by the use of descriptive statistical tests.

A comparison of the available data can initiate the discussion process from where we can receive suggestions and recommendations. At this phase certain aspects common to all personal laws can also be examined which will help in setting out more favourable reforms for women and strive for a Uniform Civil Code in future which is also the dream of our Constitution.

- Study of relevant literature for historical aspects.
- Case study in the matter of marital disputes, maintenance, adoption and succession.
- 100 cases of marital disputes.
- 100 cases of maintenance.
- 50 cases of adoption.
- 50 cases of succession.
- Survey by applying questionnaires.
- Three different set of questionnaires are to be framed.
- The questionnaires are to be distributed amongst judges, lawyers and common people.
- The data collected results will be tested by applying descriptive statistical tests.