

## **DEDICATION**

To my parents, M.V. Varunny and Reethamma Varunny, who always encouraged me to pursue my studies and instilled in me the first lessons of knowledge and wisdom.

## A NOTE ON DOCUMENTATION

I, hereby, would like to acknowledge that the documentation in the thesis is prepared in accordance with the style format suggested by *MLA Handbook for Writers of Research Papers* (7<sup>th</sup> edition).