

CHAPTER III

CONCLUSION

Based on an analysis of Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice* (1813) using Alfred Adler's Birth Order Theory, this study concludes that Mary Bennet is portrayed as a middle child through two main characteristics: high competitiveness and difficulty adapting. Mary's competitiveness is reflected in her efforts to distinguish herself from her sisters through knowledge, achievements, and intellectual ability. Meanwhile, her difficulty in adapting is shown through her tendency to respond to social and emotional situations through rational considerations and moral principles rather than by understanding the emotional conditions of others.

Mary's portrayal as a middle child is influenced by the lack of attention she receives and her relatively minor role within the family. She is often overshadowed by her sisters and receives little recognition for her abilities. This condition encourages Mary to seek recognition through her knowledge, achievements, and intellectual abilities. Thus, Mary's portrayal as a middle child is not only related to her birth order but is also influenced by her position and experiences within the Bennet family.

Overall, this study demonstrates that Alfred Adler's Birth Order Theory serves as the main theoretical foundation, while Kevin Leman's discussion of middle-child characteristics is used as a supporting reference to identify the traits displayed by Mary

Bennet. Mary's character illustrates how the position of a middle child may influence an individual's efforts to construct an identity and gain recognition within the family.