

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 Conclusion.

Adolescence is a time of difficult transitions that differ from childhood regarding growth. Boys and girls develop physically, mentally, emotionally, and socially throughout their transition from childhood to maturity. Adolescence is when a person establishes their identity and chooses the route they want to take as they mature.

After studying *The Outsiders* by S.E. Hinton, I have some point as conclusion:

1. In the novel "The Outsiders" by S.E. Hinton, the perspective of society on the Greasers evolves over the course of the story. Initially, Greasers are seen as troublemakers and delinquents by mainstream society. They are often judged based on their appearance, socioeconomic status, and association with gangs. However, as the novel progresses and the reader gets to know the Greaser characters, including Ponyboy, Johnny, and Dally, their humanity and individual struggles become evident. The novel challenges stereotypes and encourages readers to empathize with these characters, understanding that their circumstances and choices are often a result of difficult life situations and a lack of support. By the conclusion of the novel, the perspective of society on the Greasers begins to shift. The tragic events that transpire throughout the story force some characters, including those in the Greasers' own community, to re-

evaluate their prejudices and judgments. The novel ultimately suggests that labelling people based on appearances and stereotypes is unfair and that true understanding comes from looking beyond these surface judgments.

2. Ponyboy Curtis experiences a crisis of identity throughout the story. His true identity is shaped by both his family and the gang he belongs to, but he also questions where he truly belongs in society. Ponyboy's crisis of identity stems from the tension between the expectations placed on him as a Greaser and his desire to break free from societal stereotypes. He's a sensitive and thoughtful individual who doesn't fit the tough Greaser image entirely. He loves literature and sunsets, which sets him apart from some of his peers. His true identity, however, is a blend of his loyalty to his family and his realization that there's more to people than their social labels. By the end of the novel, Ponyboy comes to understand that people, whether Greasers or Socs, have their own struggles and vulnerabilities. He learns to see beyond the surface and values human connections. So, Ponyboy's crisis of identity leads him to a deeper understanding of himself and the world around him. His true identity is not solely defined by his social group but by his capacity for empathy and his ability to bridge the gap between different social classes.

5.2. Suggestion.

It is evident that many other subjects might be addressed and expanded from this work in light of the study I completed and discussed before. *The Outsiders*

offers timeless teachings because social and economic class distinctions are still prevalent today. Teenagers need guidance and protection because they are human beings with extremely sensitive emotions, which will help them develop into better people. At this point, society and parents must play a part without even passing judgment on them based on their color, gender, economic background, or social standing.

