

Psychological Problem of the Main Character in James Bird's the Brave

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Abstract: The title of this research is Psychological Problem of the Main Character in James Bird's The Brave. This study aims to determine the psychological problems faced by the main character, the causal factors that contribute to the main character, and what effects of the psychological issues toward the family relationships and social life of the main character. This data was collected by reading the novel repeatedly and then using the note-taking technique to find statements related to the topic to be analysed. The main and supporting theories that are applied in writing this research are taken from Stanley Rachman and Padmal de Silva in their book entitled Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (2009).. Based on the results of the analysis, the psychological problems of the main character are found to be Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder from childhood. Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder affects him and the environment by blaming himself, making his anxiety recur, and making his brain panic and traumatized. In addition, the effect of Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder on those around him is that he makes people frustrated and annoyed when talking to him, and he loses his friends..

Keywords: Bekasi; Family Hope Program; Poor Households; Public Policy; Social Welfare

1. Introduction

Literature is a vital record of what men have seen in life, what they have experienced, and what they have thought and felt about those aspects of it that have the most immediate and enduring interest for all of us (Hudson, 2006: 10). In terms of genre, literature can be divided into three, namely fiction, poetry, and drama, as designations of the three major literary genres. The basic characteristics of these literary genres, as well as those of film, constitute a fourth textual manifestation in the widest sense of the term.

Psychological problems are human behaviours that include thoughts and feelings. A psychological problem is damage to the human mind due to the results of sad experiences or repeated events over a long period that cannot be forgotten quickly. In the end, it hurts psychological health, such as experiencing anxiety disorders in the long term. Psychological problems in the main character also affect the plot of a novel so that it can be lively, and readers can also think about how the ending of the story involves psychological problems in the story.

The most interesting novels that will be used as the data for the research is The Brave written by James Bird. This novel has won many nomination awards, such as A New York Public Library Best Book of 2020, A School Library Journal Best Book of 2020, A Book Riot Best Book of 2020, and Best Children's Books of the year 2021 edition selection, Bank Street College of Education. Besides, James Bird's The Brave shows fascinating psychological

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problem in the story, where Collin suffered from OCD issues by counting every letter in people's sentences.

The general aim of this research is to increase my knowledge in doing research on literary subjects, especially in analysing psychological problems that is found in a novel. The general aim of this research is to increase my knowledge in doing research on literary subjects, especially in analysing psychological problems that is found in a novel.

2. Research Method

This research used three methods. There are data sources, data collection, and data analysis. The data source of this research is a novel entitled *The Brave* by James Bird. This novel is a work of fictional literature because this novel used to be a source of data. After all, a lot of psychological problems can be found in the story of James Bird's *The Brave*.

This research used observation method in collecting the data. This data was collected by using the library research method. Data consist of field notes: rich, detailed descriptions, including the context within which the observation were made. Then, it followed by analysing data, all of the data in this research is analysed by using the descriptive qualitative method. In order to analyse this research, there are two theories are used. Theory of Psychology by Lajos Egri and Theory psychology about OCD by Rachman & Padmal.

3. Results And Discussion

3.1. Result

3.1.1 Characterization of the Main Character in Bird's *The Brave*

The main character is generally present in most books and is heavily involved in the main storyline. Usually, the main character is discussed at length and shows important actions in the story and their consequences that can affect the content of the storyline. The main character is the one who creates the conflict and moves the play forward. Without the protagonist, the story would never happen. In the story to be discussed, Collin is the main character.

As the main character, Collin plays a central role in this story, and each character has three dimensions as the basic structure, namely physiological, sociological, and psychological aspects. These three dimensions are the three elements that build a character's characterization in a story. The story will discuss and explain the psychological problems of the main character, namely OCD, in the three aspects that have been described. Based on the text above, the main character Collin, in James Bird's *The Brave* can be analyzed as follows:

Physiologically, Collin inherited half of his father's physique and the other half of his mother's. Collin finds out that he has the physical half of his mother's face. It can be seen as the following quotation:

“The only thing I inherited from my dad was his pale skin and stubbornness. Once, when I was nine years old, he told me that I have my mother’s cheekbones and her almond-shaped eyes.” (Bird, 2020: 35)

While in Minnesota, Collin knew Orenda. Through Orenda, he wants to become a fearless Native American warrior. Orenda advises training Collin by starting from the first step. She wants Collin to train in boxing at his garage house. Unfortunately, his first boxing training is difficult because Collin's body is still relatively weak. Collin also has poor stamina. He is not strong enough to exercise and gets tired quickly because he is skinny and practicing the exercises rarely. Collin's physical condition can be seen in the following quotation.

“Hitting the bag with my left, then my right. It moves, but not much. My arms are beginning to burn and feel as heavy as elephants. My heart pounds. My breathing changes. I begin to sweat. My punches feel like they’re moving in slow motion, through quicksand.” (Bird, 2020: 136)

Collin just came home from school. Josh and his friends just bullied him. They are the new bullies for Collins in Minnesota. Because he is afraid to see his messy condition by Orenda's father, Collin immediately enters the house so that Orenda's father cannot see him. Collin’s physical characteristics can be seen in the quotation below:

“Orenda’s dad is sitting cross-legged in the center of his front yard, staring up at the sun with his eyes closed. He has long, straight black hair, like his daughter, and his body is lean and strong-looking. If I thought it was possible, I’d work out every day and devote my life to being able to look like him one day. But it’s not possible. I’m too pale and scrawny.” (Bird, 2020: 172)

Sociologically, Collin is a student. He lives with his father in California. He has Obsessive-compulsive Disorder (OCD), where he will always count the letters of every sentence of the person who spoke to him. Collin has a complicated life. From childhood, he was raised by his grandparents because his parents did not like their relationship, so they lived apart. Collin's birth was like an accident. Collin always felt confused about his birth into the world. It can be seen as the following quotation:

“Truth is, I don’t think they were in love. And if love didn’t make me, how could either of them actually love me? My dad kept me so he could keep his parents happy, and my mom, well, I don’t know why she gave me up. I guess I’ll find out soon enough.” (Bird, 2020: 19)

Living with his father, Collin never get closer with him. Collin's father was almost annoyed that Collin didn't live up to his expectations. Because of Collin's condition, the school advised Collin to attend school at home. But Collin's father couldn't afford to support his home-school especially after resigning from working. The debate can be seen from the quotation below:

“Forty-eight. It looks like the school wants me to stay home, but you don’t want me there either. So, you’re shipping me off to live with someone I don’t even know.” (Bird, 2020: 16)

Instead of Collin's condition, his father's economic problems also diminished. He quit his job for reasons he could not explain to his son. Collin almost felt his father was very busy at work because he almost dressed nicely to go out. Unfortunately, it was just a lie. In the final decision, Collin's father moved him to live with his mother in Minnesota, who didn't even know who is his mother. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“I lost my job, kiddo.”

“Fifteen. What? I mean how?” I ask. “When? Why?” (Bird, 2020: 16)

“A month and a half ago.” (Bird, 2020: 17)

Collin has almost been an easy target for bullying by his friends because of his condition. Collin was disturbed by them during break time, where Collin was forced to count every letter in every word they said. Collin was tired of running away from the same problem every time. Therefore, Collin tried not to run away and wanted to defend himself by fighting. However, when Collin hoped for justice, Collin was blamed by the principal. He called Collin's father to discuss the matter at school. It can be seen as the following quotation:

“Fourteen. Like I said, I was minding my own business, just drawing. When they started talking over each other, reciting a bunch of tongue twisters to watch me struggle to count, I tried to leave, but he shoved my food tray into my chest and tripped me. I got up and hit him. He hit me back. I hit the ground. That’s what happened,” I say.”

“He said that was an accident,” Principal Harris says. “Twenty-three. And you believe him?” “I do.” “Three. Then you’re an idiot,” I say before thinking. (Bird, 2020: 10)

The principal felt his school could not accept Collin's condition of always counting letters. At the same time, Collin was very hurt but couldn't do anything to argue the principal's decision. The situation can be seen in the quotation below:

“My dad goes silent, and Principal Harris delivers the death blow. “We think it’s best if you transferred schools.” I should’ve seen this coming. This is a familiar road between schools and me. I show up, quickly become that “weird” kid, and before I have a chance to let the jokes settle with the dust, I’m hauled off to another campus, and it all starts over. And over. And over. Forever being the freak.” (Bird, 2020: 12)

When Collin arrived in Minnesota and transferred to high school in Duluth, Collin thought Minnesota would be a little different. But unfortunately, not. Collin had the same fate as at his previous school. When his friends found out about Collin's condition on the first day of school, on the second day, they wanted to bully Collin as Collin's friends did at his previous school. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“What do you want?” I say.

“I want a double bacon cheeseburger, two large fries, one large Coke, three sets of chicken wings, a side of onion rings, and a tuna sandwich ... to go,” he says.” (Bird, 2020: 112)

I should have known this school would be no different. Bullies are bullies, wherever you go. Their names may change, their haircuts may change, but they’re always definitely jerks. “One hundred and fourteen.” As the number leaves my mouth, I exhale, and I’m finally able to breathe again.” (Bird, 2020: 113)

The situation of Collin in his new middle school in Duluth, Minnesota is also the same as in California. Josh and his friends bullied Collin twice on the second day of school. They forcibly removed Collin's earplugs. Josh said complicated words so Collin can count back on each letter. Collin couldn't avoid it because Collin could not escape this annoying situation. What happened, made Collin's head full of disturbing numbers that he had to count quickly. Otherwise, his head will hurt a lot, and his breathing will be very short. Collin was forced to count on it to feel relieved. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“Give them back!” I shout, watching the cord dangle above his desk as he waves the earmuffs around like a cheerleader with pom-poms.

“Nope.”, “Four. Please.”

“First tell me ... How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood? Well, freak, the answer is, a woodchuck could chuck as much as a woodchuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood,” he says, which now has the entire class laughing with him.” (Bird, 2020: 114)

Psychologically, Collin has an OCD problem within him. He will always be counting the letters of every word or sentence uttered by the person he is talking to or who is speaking to him. Collin has suffered from this disease since he was a child. Collin tried to get out of the situation, but if he didn't count every letter of the other person, he would start to get nervous, and his head would be exploded. Because of his condition, Collin was categorized as someone who was traumatized by meeting new people. He will always be overthinking to other people's views of him. Collin also doesn't like being the centre of attention because it can make Collin's anxiety becomes relapse. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“Again, each letter invades my skull, separating itself into a countable sequence. First, they appear as puffy white clouds, but then morph into smoky white numbers, similar to those planes you see in the sky that leave messages for people: “50% off sale!” or “Will You Marry Me?” But mine aren’t cute. My letters are stubborn and invasive. And I can’t ignore them. They are in my head, pressing hard against the backs of my eyes until I give in and give them my attention.” (Bird, 2020: 8)

Unfortunately, Collin's first day at school didn't go smoothly. In general, Collin had to introduce himself in front of the class. Because of the teacher's opening words that greeted

him, Collin was forced to count the words spoken by the teacher who would teach the class. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“Welcome to math class, Collin Couch. What we like to do here is get to know each other before we get down to work, so if you wouldn’t mind, can you stand and tell us a little bit about yourself?”

It’s a violent pileup of letters smashing into each other inside my head. They burst from the impact, splintering off into shards of numbers. It’s so loud I want to scream. Every single student is looking at me. My heart beats out of my chest. I feel the blood in my body begin to heat up and boil. I forget to breathe, which makes me gasp for air. I can feel my face turning redder by the second.” (Bird, 2020: 88)

Because of his OCD in his first day of school, his friends looked into him because of his condition when he had to introduce himself in front of the class. The condition of Collin can be seen from the quotation below:

“I slowly put my backpack on and stand up. My hands are shaking. My legs feel wobbly, but they still work, so I use them before they have a chance to quit on me. I try to breathe as calmly as I can, but anxiety grabs my throat and squeezes. There are too many eyes watching. I hope I don’t faint. (Bird, 2020: 88)

I stumble to the sink and even with my shaky hands, I manage to turn the nozzle. I take a deep breath and stare at my reflection. I need to accept my defeat. And why not? Losing is what I do best.” (Bird, 2020: 89)

On Collin's second day of school in Minnesota, Collin tried his best to go back to school and ignored the people around him. But it is not easy to do. Collin is bullied again by Josh and his friends. Because of this bullying, Collin got an extraordinary effect, such as exploded head and shortness of breath if he didn't count every letter. That condition of Collin can be seen from the quotation below:

“My mind nearly explodes by the plethora of letters battle-ramming my head, trying to enter like invading Vikings. There’s so many that my vision starts to blur. I try to stand, but I feel dizzy. The letters burst in and storm my brain. It has begun. How ... is three. Much ... is four. Wood ... is four ... I launch out of my seat. I need to breathe. I need to breathe now. I’m almost done counting, just a couple more. “One hundred and fifty-two. Now just stop, dammit!” I shout. I’m gasping for air, like I just swam 152 miles.” (Bird, 2020: 114).

On the same day, on the second day of school, after being bullied by his classmate, Josh, Collin went straight to the exit door. Because of Josh's long words and demanding Collin count them, Collin embarrassed himself, becoming the center of attention in class, even in front of his teacher. Because he counted too much, Collin felt an extraordinary effect. So, he unaware, stood at his table. Collin became the center of attention of everyone in the class.

Collin felt embarrassed and frustrated. That condition of Collin can be seen from the quotation below:

“Not a word. Please,” I say and I run out of the classroom. How did this happen? My second first day of school is even worse than my first. Confidence sucks.....” (Bird, 2020: 115)

Collin is very frustrated. He blames himself for losing the battle. He doesn't want to care about anything, but it doesn't work. He tries to ignore them, but his efforts are in vain. Because of this, Collin doesn't feel confident anymore. He tries another effort, but it fails again. Collin also feels his brain panic because he is forced to count. Because of his psychological condition, it's not surprising that Collins hates numbers.

3.2 Discussion

3.2.1 The Factors that contributed OCD Issue for The Main Character in Bird's The Brave

a. Precipitating events and stress

From Rachman and De Silva theory, they stated that factor of OCD is caused by three factors. They are precipitating events and stress, parental influence, and heredity. Precipitating and stress, in cases where a specific time of onset can be traced, a single clear precipitating event is not always found. However, among those where there is a single event preceding the disorder, the onset can be sudden and dramatic—onset within a matter of days or even hours of the precipitating event are not unknown. On the other hand, stressful experiences of various sorts in the period of time preceding a more gradual onset of the disorder are frequently reported. These include emotional problems in relationships, overwork, pregnancy and childbirth, problems in marriage or sex life, illness, and death or illness of a close relative. In a significant minority of cases, the onset of obsessive-compulsive disorder is preceded by an episode of depression.

This analysis will explain the factors of obsessive-compulsive disorder that Collin has. Collin has had OCD since childhood. He lived with his grandparents from the time he was a child until he was six years old. At the same time, his parents did not live together because there was no blessing from Collin's grandparents. Collin's grandparents kept Collin away from his mother. They also concluded that Collin's father was too young to be a father and too poor to raise a child. However, expectations did not match reality. Collin had OCD. His grandparents had brought in a group of speech therapists and doctors a dozen times. As there was no progress in healing, Collin's grandparents gave up on treating Collin. In the end, Collin was returned to his father because it was time for Collin to grow up and face the realities of the world. That can be seen in the following quotation:

“My grandparents kept their word about raising me for the first six years of my life, but after a dozen failed attempts by a bunch of speech therapists and doctors, they handed me back to my dad and told him it was high time he grew up and faced reality.” (Bird, 2020: 19)

From the above quotation, it can be seen that Collin has had a history of OCD since childhood. He lived with his grandparents for six years. Meanwhile, his father and mother lived apart. While living with his grandparents, they tried to find a therapist and doctor for Collin's condition.

b. Parental Influence

If a child grows up in a household where one of the parents is severely affected by obsessive-compulsive disorder, is it likely that he will also develop the same problem? Many children briefly display comparable behavior, but very few develop obsessive-compulsive disorders. Children of an affected parent seldom develop lasting, specific compulsive behavior. If anything, they are more likely to develop overdependence and timidity.

Collin was born to a father who was an all-star athlete his entire life and an ordinary mother. Unfortunately, when Collin's father found out that Collin's mother was pregnant unplanned, Collin's father became a drunkard, and Collin's mother had to live far from them because of the decision of his grandfather and grandmother, who did not bless their relationship. Collin's father never told Collin about his mother. All Collin knew was that his mother was a Native American. His father approached her at a rock concert at that time. It can be seen from the quotation below:

“He was an all-star athlete his entire life, but as he grew older and had a kid without planning to, reality kicked him in the head.” (Bird, 2020: 15)

“All I was able to get out of him was that my mom was a twenty-five-year-old Native American girl he met at a rock concert thirteen years ago.” (Bird, 2020: 18)

From the above quotation, Collin was born from parents who had no history of OCD. Therefore, Collin's background states that there is no factor in the influence of parents or the behaviour of those who suffer from OCD. The data of OCD is listed explicitly in the novel.

c. Heredity

A study carried out in London, which compared the first-degree relatives (father, mother, brother, sister, son, daughter) of 50 obsessive-compulsive patients with those of a matched group who did not have the disorder, showed that the former group had a higher rate of lifetime psychiatric problems—i.e. the relatives of the obsessive-compulsive patients had more psychiatric disorders in general at some time in their life, than did the relatives of the comparison group. However, no greater incidence of obsessive-compulsive disorder itself was found among this group. Taken together, the available studies suggest that there is a

genetic contribution, but that this does not make someone specifically vulnerable to obsessive-compulsive disorders. What appears to be inherited is a general emotional oversensitivity, which can predispose one to the development of some form of anxiety disorder.

Collin grew up in a pretty complicated family. His father and mother were forced to live separately because their paternal grandmother and grandfather did not have the blessing of their relationship. It happens because of differences in social and economic status. Collin's mother was from across the port city of Duluth, Minnesota. Meanwhile, Collin's father comes from the United States, California. Collin's paternal grandparents came from a wealthy family. They moved to Florida Beach when they handed Collin over to his father. Meanwhile, Collin's maternal grandfather and grandmother came from a low-income family, but they have passed away. Collin's father was a heavy drinker. When he was drunk, there were certain times when Collin's father would reveal secrets about his mother and how he was born. This can be seen in the quotation below:

"Not all his nights of drinking were bad, though. One time, he actually let a few details about my mom slip out. He mentioned that my mom was very pretty and very funny, but back then," (Bird, 2020: 19)

From the above quotation, Collin is a child who was born to two normal parents. The grandparents on both sides and the brothers and sisters of Collin's father and mother were not described as having a history of OCD. It is not clear from Collin's background that there is a hereditary factor for the cause of Collin's OCD. It clearly noticed that Collin has got OCD problems in the novel.

3.2.2 The Effects of OCD Issue of the Main Character in Bird's *The Brave*

a. Effects on Family

From Rachman and De Silva theory, they stated that effects of OCD are caused by two part., there are effect of family and effect on work and social life. In family, Obsessive-compulsive disorders usually have a significant effect on the other members of a patient's family. It is a puzzling disorder and the affected families struggle to find the best way to help their son, daughter, or spouse. There is no golden rule for family members to follow; the problems faced by each family are distinctive. In principle, however, it is advisable to provide emotional support and encouragement to obtain treatment, but to refrain from being drawn into the patient's rituals and compulsions.

This analysis will explain the effect of obsessive-compulsive disorder that Collin has in his family environment. Collin and his father have a rare relationship, and they rarely interact or even communicate with each other. However, once they speak, they will argue. While living with his father, it is not uncommon for them to argue just because of the conditions experienced by Collin. The reason is that Colin always counts the letters his father says when they

talk. His father always feels annoyed if he has to speak to him. Therefore, their relationship is not very good. This can be seen in the quotation below:

“We’re almost home, and my dad hasn’t said one word to me. That’s not too strange, though. We hardly ever talk. Sometimes we try, but neither of us has the patience it takes. And it’s not only because he gets super annoyed by hearing me tally up his letters. It’s mainly because we are so different from each other.” (Bird, 2020: 15)

While in Minnesota, Collin's mother sends Collin to his new school. He sends Collin to high school in Duluth. Collin's mother has high hopes that Collin can go to school here. But it did not go well. On the first day of school, Collin felt anxious because his condition was a little traumatized by other people's views about his OCD. Therefore, Collin left school too early. When he comes home, Collin's mother discovers that Collin has skipped school. Because of this, Collin's mother felt disappointed and punished Collin in the Ojibwe way. As punishment, Collin had to start a fire in the wood-burning fireplace, which he had never made during his time in California. This can be seen from the quotation below:

“As I think these thoughts, the flames begin to rise. Success! My mom comes in and sits in front of the fire. She doesn’t look impressed. She still just looks disappointed. Darn it. “Why did you ditch school today?” she asks. “They all made fun of me,” I say. (Bird, 2020: 126)

“No matter which school I go to, it’s always the same. The moment I start counting, I’m labelled a freak. I don’t belong anywhere, Mama. So I ran. I’m sorry,” I say.” (Bird, 2020: 127)

From the above quotation, because of skipping at school, Collin's mother looks a little disappointed and angry with him. Collin's condition even affects his new family. Because of Collin's condition, his mother was a little disappointed and angry because Collin didn't dare to go through his first day of school. In the Ojibwe way, Collin had to reflect on his every action by looking at the fire in the fireplace he had made.

b. Effects on work and social life

The second effect is on work and social life. The occupational and social effects of an obsessive–compulsive disorder depend on the severity of the problem. In mild to moderate cases, patients are usually able to continue working and maintain a reasonable social life. However, in severe cases, the social and occupational effects of the disorder can be incapacitating. It is slowness and checking, and related doubting, that is most likely to affect an obsessive–compulsive person’s occupational effectiveness. An advanced student made no progress with the writing of her major report because of severe perfectionism. One male student who feared contamination from others gradually stopped going to class, or even to the university library. If a person spends a great deal of time checking or cleaning, or engaging in compulsive rituals, he has correspondingly less time, or indeed inclination, to engage in social activities.

This analysis will explain the effect of obsessive-compulsive disorder that Collin has on his school and social life. Collin has an OCD problem in him. He will always count the letters of every word or sentence uttered by the person who spoken to him. He has suffered from this disease since he was a child. Because of his condition, many people are very annoyed with him because he always be counting the letters of every word they say. This can be seen from the quotation below:

“How’s your nose, Collin?” Principal Harris asks from under his thick tobacco-stained mustache. “Eighteen,” I say, and wipe the small stream of blood escaping out of my right nostril.

Principal Harris and my dad, who sits beside me, both stare at me like I’m a stain that won’t come out of an expensive carpet.

“Can you not do that right now?” Principal Harris asks, with irritation aimed at me.”(Bird, 2020: 8)

Collin's condition also has an impact on his friendships. Collin's condition also affects his friendships. Collin's father always takes Collin shopping to change the black clothes that he wears so that Collin can make friends. But it all doesn't work. At first, they want to be friends with Collin. But when they discover that Collin counts all their letters, they will be fed up with Collin and do not want to be friends with him. Collin thinks wearing black clothes would be better because no one would ask him to talk. This can be seen from the quotation below:

“Which is good, because the last thing I want to do is let them talk just to see that look on their face when I start tallying up their letters.” (Bird, 2020: 26)

They also see Collin as a freak. While in Minnesota, Collins had been fighting to distract people's attention from his condition for two days of school. But the result ends badly. Collin tries to stay strong and dares to keep going to school. Collin returns to school after struggling to overcome his fear of being judged in a social environment. After the math lesson, Collin came out in a hurry because he wanted to go to the toilet.

Unfortunately, Collin finds Josh and his friends in the toilet. When they see Collin, they call Collin a ‘freak’. Not only that, they also immediately bullied Collin by urinating on Collin's lower trousers. This can be seen from the quotation below:

“I’m in the middle of math class, where the teacher has suggested I sit in the back, so I don’t bother anyone with my counting. No one crumples their paper up in frustration because there are numbers written on them ... but if I happen to respond in numbers, people label me a freak.” (Bird, 2020: 169)

“Hey, freak,” Josh says. “Eight,” I say back, hoping this is all they have. But I know it isn’t. “Just leave me alone, guys,” I say. “I’ve heard it all a hundred times.” (Bird, 2020: 170)

From the above quotation, Collin will be bullied again by Josh and his friends. Not only that, they say that Collin is a freak. The effect of Collin's condition when he is seen as a freak by his friends. Because of this, Collin is always the target of bullying at school. Collin tries to get out of this situation again but fails.

4. Conclusion And Sugestion

From the analysis of the previous chapters, it can be concluded that the discussion is about the psychological problems of the main character, the factors that influence them, and the effects that contribute the obsessive-compulsive disorder in the novel *The Brave* by James Bird. Based on the analysis of the existing problems, it cannot be denied that Collin Couch, the main character in the novel *The Brave* by James Birds, has a psychological problem of Obsessive-compulsive disorder.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder is a type of mental disorder that causes Collin Couch to do specific actions repeatedly. The main character in this story has a psychological problem that always counts every letter in the sentences of the people who talk to him. Collin had this disease since childhood when he was still living with his grandparents until the age of six. Collin has this disease because of his childhood trauma of having to live apart from his parents because Collin's grandparents disapproved of their relationship. When he was a teenager, Collin lived with his father because Collin's parents lived apart. However, because of problems at school, he moved to live with his mother. During his life, Collin has always been seen as a strange person. Because of his condition, he also became an easy target for bullying by his friends at school. Collin becomes traumatized when meeting new people because he thinks people will always see him as a strange boy.

Collin will experience such an extraordinary effect if he starts counting every letter of the word. Collin feels uncomfortable; his brain panics like it wants to explode if counting, and Collin's anxiety becomes a relapse. Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder also affects the environment both in his family and in his social environment, like Collin, who can't be close to his father. They always argue in every conversation because his father is disturbed by Collin's condition, who always counts whenever they talk. There are also many people in his social environment who are disturbed and even frustrated when talking to Collin. Because of his condition, people see Collin as a freak person.

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