American Nuclear Family Traditional Values
In “Malcolm in the Middle” Drama

A Thesis
Submitted to Letters and Humanities Faculty
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Strata One Degree of Letters Scholar

By
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ENGLISH LETTERS DEPARTMENT
LETTERS AND HUMANITIES FACULTY
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY
“SYARIF HIDAYATULLAH” JAKARTA
2010
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ABSTRACT


This research is intended to give understanding of what the American nuclear family traditional values in the drama “Malcolm in the Middle”. The writer tries to describe and analyze the American nuclear family traditional values reflected in the drama “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer. This drama was studied by using the descriptive qualitative method. In analyzing, the writer explains the description of the American nuclear family tradition values. Next, the writer analyzes the major characters followed by American nuclear family traditional values expressed in the script. Afterwards, the writer tries to find the correlation of the major characters and the American nuclear family traditional values.

From the data analysis, the writer found that there are nine characters of American nuclear family traditional values represented in the drama. They are: the old still prefer living with children, the younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life, enjoyable to share weal and woe of family, a stable environment, behavioral stability, a sense of consistency, learning skills, sharing responsibility, and physical and emotional support as well as it symbolized the nuclear family traditions at that time.

Each of major characters expressed the values of life tradition of nuclear family in America. Sure, there are similarities between the drama and the traditional values background behind the drama. Consciously or not, Linwood Boomer had tried to deliver the message and describe the values of American nuclear family tradition in a brief way through this drama. This drama can be considered as an alternative drama to help to improve people in understanding the nuclear family traditional values in America.
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The thesis has been defended before the Letters and Humanities Faculty’s examination Committee on March 5, 2010. It has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Strata 1.

Jakarta, March 5, 2010

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.

Jakarta, March 5, 2010

Bisri Musthofa
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the name of God, the Infinitely Good, the All-Merciful

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Jakarta, March 2010

The Writer
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CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

America, the popular country in the world - is rich with kinds of social aspect especially during the 2000, when the Indian housing price climbed by remarkable 10.9 percent to almost $160,000.\(^1\) The high life-style makes them different view of society when they see themselves as individuals who are different from other individuals.\(^2\) This fact does not make America escape from literature especially drama as one of their cultures until this time.

Muhammad Sobary said that:

“Sastra menyodorkan ke hadapan kita ekspresi estetis tentang manusia dan kebudayaannya. Di dalamnya tercakup kompleksitas ideologi, dunia nilai, norma hidup, etika, pandangan dunia, tradisi, dan variasi-variasi tingkah laku manusia. Dengan kata lain, sastra berbicara tentang tingkah laku manusia di dalam kebudayaannya.”\(^3\)

(Literature promotes us aesthetic expression about human being and its culture. It comes within an ideology complexity, the world assess, the life values, ethics, worldview, tradition, and variations of human being behaviors. In other word, literature converse about human behaviors in its culture.)

Drama is a kind of literature that studied by many students of literature. Drama, not only existing in Indonesia, the country enriched by variety of cultures, but also it is available in America before the twenty century. Hundreds of writers and

\(^1\) Hal Rothman & Neon Metropolis, How Las Vegas started the twenty first century, (New York, Rontledge, 2003), p. 274
\(^3\) Muhammad Sobary, “Sastra, ideologi, dan Dunia Nilai,” Kompas, 3 juni, 2006, p 43
actors appear there and come with their qualified and famous literary work; like poems, folk story, fairy tale and drama. Day by day passes and the author of those kinds of literature are still pleasant in front of all people in the world wide. Of course, we will think that drama also still exists there even though this literary work is not written by the old author any more like we have known them some. It is the fact that the literary works will never end as the new author always comes after the old one. This can be seen from the fact that drama had began from that in ninetieth, especially the drama titled “Great White Way” which was presented in 1940s. And later, until this era it still exists with a poem titled “Boy Breaking Glass” by Gwen Dolyin Brooks.

Here, the writer would like to introduce the new author of drama during early twenty first century who has come with his well-performed drama during this era. This name is Linwood Boomer who was born on October 9th 1956 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, the beautiful country with its Canadian Rockies which is one of dramatically fast and beautiful geological transition. Boomer is the second youngest of four children. He is an Emmy award winning Canadian-born television producer, writer, actor, and creator of teen drama in 2000. His other works are like The Young and the Restless in 1984, Silver Spoons in 1985, Night Court in 1986, Flying blind in 1992, The Boys Are Back in 1994 and his famous drama in America

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4 Mc Conachie Bruce, *American Theater, in the cultural of the cold war*, (Iowa City, University of Iowa Press, 2003), p. 66
Malcolm in the Middle, which won the Emmy Award 2000 for outstanding writing in a comedy series.

“Malcolm in the Middle”, which later called MIM, presents us the family life of Malcolm - the third born children in the family- when his oldest brother called Francis was shipped off to Military School leaving his three little brothers behind; Reese, Malcolm and Dewey living at home. Since then, Malcolm become the second oldest of the three, and this is the title of the show. Malcolm then becomes adolescent genius, and his eccentric, although early normal life. This is to show that Malcolm takes an important role in his family.

Since this drama has different tradition and the most wanted one in the era of 2000, the writer is really intended to analyze this literary work. The other reason of the writer choosing this drama is that play “MIM” is the biggest and most popular work of Linwood Boomer.

B. Focus of the Study

The writer will focus this study on traditional values of nuclear family in America, which has correlated into the life in this era. Then the writer tries to describe data taken from episodes in the drama, which related to the American nuclear family traditional values.
C. Research Question

Based on the background of study, the writer will formulate the matter in order to find the right research in appropriate way. The matter is:

1. What are American nuclear family traditional values represented in “Malcolm in the Middle”? 

D. Significance of the Study

After reading this research, the writer hopes that the audiences will understand more about the American nuclear family traditional values as the stimuli to sharpen up their sharp ability on analyzing the literary work. In addition, the writer hopes this research will develop people’s intention to dig deeply more and more in order to find amazing value in the literary work. There are so many literary works like poem, prose and drama reflect to the social life where the literary work was written. That is why many literary works are analyzed by using sociology of literature.

E. Research Methodology

1. Objective

This research aimed to know the traditional values of American nuclear family based on the analysis of the play.
2. **Method**

The method of this research is descriptive qualitative method. The writer tries to represent the American nuclear family traditional values reflected in the drama entitled “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer.

3. **Technique of Analysis**

In this research, the writer uses the concept of Margareth Mead to analyze the available data. The American Nuclear Family Traditional Values in “Malcolm in the Middle” will be described based on some episodes in the play. The next, the existing data will be explained and analyzed in order to find the answer as mentioned in the research question.

4. **Unit of Analysis**

Analysis unit used in this research is the script of drama “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer presented during 2000.

5. **Instrument of Research**

Research instrument is the writer himself by marking and classifying data from several sources related to the drama.

6. **Place and Time**

This study was taken place in the State Islamic University started on February 2008 until October 2009, the academic year of 2008/2009.
CHAPTER II

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Sociology of Literature

1. Definition of Sociology

Sociology is an evolution of society, including the forms, institutions, functions of human group. Thomas Ford Hoult dictionary of Modern Society defines sociology as the intellectual discipline concerned with developing systematic, reliable, knowledge about human social relationships in general and about the product of such relationship.7

The sociology intends to know how the structure of social life, how the people can live peacefully, and how they can exists. Those structures are like religion, family, politics, culture, etc. We can find the description from those structures of how the people adapt with the society, mechanism, cultural process where finally they will be placed as social member in the society.8

Both of Sociology and literature has the correlation with the society the environment of the society is able to rise a literary work, because the work that represented by the author is a reflection from the environment, or the experience where he or she lives. This can be seen when Ernest Hemingway praises his

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beloved heart through his poem, “No second Troy’ which presents praises to his wife. Another like Robert Frost serves his poem titled “Two Roads Not Taken” which presents two choices that is not taken. Moreover, the other is “The Crucible” by Arthur Miller, which presents McCarthyism when communism touches American social life.

Thus, sociology and literature are inseparable as both of them always give influence between one another. That is why Suwardi Endaswara said that literary sociology is reflective. This is because literary work is a creation that reflects social life. Not only that, but also literature can give social effect.

Sociology theory, or called literary sociology shows that literary work cannot be separated from social context in which it was created. Even sociology and literature are different; they can give explanation to the literary text meaning. We can say this because the object of both elements is the same one. It is of course, a society.

2. Definition of Literature

Before going to further information the writer would like to explain what literature is. As we know that all of us like to hear things, hear stories, we like to hear music, we like to hear things happened to other people. We also like to hear radio and TV. We like going to the movie because we like to see and hear something happening. Those elements are always increasing our experience of going places, of doing things in our imagination that we might never have a
change to do otherwise. Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination.

Literature, in its broadest sense, includes its all written materials. Into this general grouping fall history books, philosophical works, novels, poems, plays, scientific articles, dictionaries, directories, instructional manuals, travel folders, magazines and school text books. We can divide this large mass of material into two different groups. The first we can place those things that mainly present information and the other is that mainly entertain. A famous writer defined this by saying:

“There is first, the literature of knowledge, and secondly, the literature of power. The function of the first is to teach and the function of the second is to move”.

Terry Eagleton writes, “Literature must indeed be re-situated within the field of general cultural production; but each mode of such production demands a semiology of its own, which is not compliable with some universal cultural discourse.”

Literature is an influence. Every influence comes from literature is literature. There is an influence between the readers and the literature itself.

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10 Eagleton 1976). (Peter Widdowson. Literature, the New Critical Idiom., (New York: Rutledge Publisher, Inc. 1999)
11 Thaha Nada. Sastra Bandingan., (Depok UI 1999.).
Meanwhile, Arnold put literature upon an equal footing with science. He says that literature and science considered philosophically.\textsuperscript{12}

So, what is the meaning of literature?

Literature means that the arranged texts or used are not merely for practice communicative aims and temporal running. It is done somehow to use in communication situation, which is arranged by environmental situation of certain culture.\textsuperscript{13}

Sartre said that literature is a prose, because he argues that it is capable of a purposeful reflection of the world, because in prose, the words are significative; they describe people and object.\textsuperscript{14}

\section*{B. Definitions of American Family}

A family is a domestic group of people, or a number of domestic groups, typically affiliated by birth or marriage, or by comparable legal relationships including adoption. There are a number of variation in the basic family structure. The nuclear family consists of husband, wife, and their children, while the extended family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Other family patterns include polygamous usually patriarchal and single parent families usually headed by a female.

\begin{itemize}
\item[\textsuperscript{12}] Allen Tate, \textit{“The Man of Letters” In the Modern World}. (New York: Meridian Book, inc.1955), p.35
\item[\textsuperscript{13}] Jan Van Luxemburg, \textit{Pengantar Ilmu Sastra.}, (Jakarta: Gramedia 1989), p. 9
\item[\textsuperscript{14}] Jean Paul Sartre. \textit{What is Literature.}, (London: Routledge 2001). P. 23
\end{itemize}
Smith, D.E. defined standard North American Family as follows:

“It is a conception of the family as a legally married couple sharing a household. The adult male is in paid employment; his earnings provide the economic basis of the family-household. The adult female may also earn an income, but her primary responsibility is to the care of the husband, household, and children. Adult male and female may be parents (in whatever legal sense) of children also resident in the household”.  

Throughout history, families have been central to human society; a key indicator of a society's well-being is the health of its families. For this reason, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State." The family is the basic social unit for the expression of love between man and woman and the creation and rising of children. The family tames the wilder impulses of men to the responsibilities of fatherhood, enables young women to blossom as mothers, and cultivates morality in children. Moral virtues, empathy, and good human relationships are learned in the family.

All religions recognize the importance of the family and have moral teachings that support it. Some religions regard the family as an institution created by God for people to perfect themselves, become like God and experience oneness with God.

Some scientists appeared definitions of American family such as follow:

1. Social Scientists' Definition of Family  

Anthropologists say a culture's biological and marital kinship rules and patterns of reciprocal obligations define family. Each culture defines who is biological and marital kin, and who is not kin, and defines the obligations kin have to one another. In one culture, kinship is based on the father's biological line; in another, kinship is based on the mother's biological line; in another, kinship is based on a combination of both the father's and mother's biological line, but kinship obligations may quickly end about the level of uncles, aunts and first cousins. American culture maintains a distinction between brothers, sisters and cousins, but some early African societies made no distinction between brothers, sisters and cousins and used a single word to designate these kin. The rules for kinship and marital family relationships are virtually unlimited.

Structure-functionalists say the patterns of reciprocal obligations among people and between structures of people and the greater society define family. The greater society has needs that must be met; in order to meet those needs, society creates subsets of people structured to help meet the needs of society. The family is one of those structures. The definition of "family" changes as the needs of the greater society change. When the greater society needs rapid population growth — after a time of

war, for example — society's definition of family emphasizes heterosexual bonding, procreation and child rearing; but when the greater society is faced with over-population and the need to limit population growth, society's definition of family may be modified to include homosexual bonding and may be more supportive of childless couples.

Institutionalists define family as a "traditional," biological, procreative and child-rearing structure and emphasize the biological relationship among family members. Interactionists, on the other hand, define family based on the voluntary assumption of family-related role behaviors. Institutionalists focus on the presence of a biological mother and father and biological offspring to define family. Interactionists merely require the presence of persons assuming mother, father and child roles to define a group as a family. For interactionists, it is performance of family roles that is important, not the biological or marital relationship.

Situationalists focus on social, cultural and physical forces beyond the individual's control which compel individuals to assume family-related role behaviors. Family may be either a relatively permanent or temporary phenomenon. For example, in the midst of war, natural disaster, or even foreign travel, individual adults and/or children may be thrown together into temporary "family" structures with individuals in the group assuming family role behaviors, especially parental and sibling roles, as the group seeks to endure or survive an ordeal. Temporary "families" may also develop in orphanages boarding schools or military units. The American
system of serial monogamy creates and dissolves temporary sequential families and step-families as the adults marry, divorce, and remarry.

Psychoanalysts focus on the individual's stage of development and unconscious needs in defining family. Social-psychologists focus on the self's need to belong and to achieve. The two separate approaches are similar since the individual's sense of attachment or estrangement is important in defining family. Thus, abused or estranged biological offspring may sever their psychological association with the family and effectively dissolve the family. Others, who are not biological kin, may consider themselves to be "family" and effectively create a family or join an existing family.

Developmentalists focus on physical growth and maturity and the imposition of societal definitions on individuals based on the individual's chronological age. The anthropologist and the institutionalist, on the other hand, would probably define this pair as a family based on the biological kinship relationship.

Economists focus on production and consumption activities; the family is a production and consumption unit. Historical economists may define the household slave in an African or Arabian household or the indentured servant in an early-American household as part of the family since the slave or servant works and subsists as a member of the family, living in the family household, eating at the family table and participating in family activities.
2. The State's Definition of Family

The state tends to define family in structure-functional terms. From all the various alternative definitions of family, the state selects portions from each to create authoritative and legal definitions of family. The definitions of family are based on the needs of the state. Instead of creating one single all-encompassing definition of family, various governments, and various agencies of the various governments, each have slightly different needs and objectives, so each creates its own individual definition of family. It is the state's needs and objectives that determine the definition, not the society's, the individual's or the family's needs and objectives.

Since one of the state's historic functions is accounting for numbers of people (the census), the state needs to be informed on the whereabouts and living arrangements of all people under its jurisdiction. One way to maintain accountability is to license and register couplings, cohabitations and procreations. Only licensed and registered couplings create a "legitimate" family. To protect its definition of family, the state enacts laws against fornication and adultery, insuring only licensed and registered couples cohabit and copulate, and discourages "illegitimate" births. Zoning codes prevent two unlicensed people from cohabiting as a "family," prevent anyone other than a legally defined child or parent from cohabiting with a family, and prevent residential occupancy by non-traditional "families," including fraternities and sororities. These and a host of other government-enacted and government-enforced

\[17\text{ Ibid. p. 2}\]
laws and regulations insure the state's ability to account for the physical location of people under its jurisdiction.

Throughout most of history, states sought to expand their populations by various means, including the procreation of its citizens. Marriage legalizes and legitimizes the offspring and creates a "family." In many nations, and in many American states, the failure to procreate is grounds for divorce or annulment of the marriage and dissolution of the family.

In state-enacted marital and divorce law, the economic obligations among family members insure that children and women are prevented from becoming the financial responsibility of the state. Again, the needs of the state define family and family obligations.

3. The Definition of Family in a Conservative Free Society

In a Conservative "free society," such as one envisioned by sociologist Robert Nisbet, with a severely reduced role for the state and an enhanced role for alternative social institutions — church, economy, educational system — the state's needs no longer prevail in the definition of family. Instead, the needs of the alternative social institutions are paramount. In a Conservative free society, individuals and couples merely exchange the state's definitions of family for definitions imposed by other social institutions.

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18 Ibid. p. 3
4. The Definition of Family in a Libertarian Free Society\textsuperscript{19}

In a Libertarian "free society," with severely reduced roles for all social institutions, the needs and interests of the individual are paramount in defining family. Rather than being defined in structure-functional terms, family is defined in interactional, situational, psychoanalytical and social-psychological terms. Persons define family for themselves.

Family in a Libertarian free society is a voluntary union for the mutual personal gratification, mutual personal and group need fulfillment, and personal self-actualization. This voluntary union may be limited to two adults, or extended to include several adults; it may or may not include children, biological or otherwise. This voluntary union may have rigid boundaries, if that is what the members of the union desire, or may have relatively open permeable boundaries, with members entering or exiting the union at their will.

With family defined in interactional, situational, and psychological terms and each family of individuals free to define family for themselves, the variations in family are limitless. Even without institutional authorities to create, defend and enforce some common framework for the definition of family, and even with the number of competing definitions approaching the infinite, the concept of "family" will still have meaning.

Family in a Libertarian free society will be an open, voluntary relationship based on the mutual and reciprocal benefits family participants receive from family

\textsuperscript{19} \textit{Ibid}
membership. Family status will be recognized by general humanity, although general humanity will share little or no common agreement concerning the definition of family. Family will function to meet the needs of offspring created through the family, if not in the biological unit of conception, then in some other family created for the nurturing and rearing of children.

C. American Family

   Once, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a “one family” zoning law that stopped a group of college students from living in a house. According to the local zoning rules, a "family" was "one or more persons related by blood, adoption, or marriage, living and cooking together as a single housekeeping unit, exclusive of household servants. A number of persons but not exceeding two living and cooking together as a single housekeeping unit though not related by blood, adoption, or marriage shall be deemed to constitute a family." Justice Marshall objected that this was discriminating against unmarried couples, but the majority found it to be a valid exercise of the locality’s police power.20

   There are three kinds of American family:

1. Blended families

   According to etymology, blended family is to mix a family formed when parents bring together children from previous marriages.21

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It means that Blended families are formed when remarriages occur or when children living in a household share only one or no biological parents. The presence of a stepparent, stepsibling, or half-sibling designates a family as blended.

The process of blending a family is quite simply a choice to do what is in the best interests of the children. It is putting us in uncomfortable situations because it is best for the children. It is working at relationships that we had no intentions on continuing. It is putting in the time, effort, heartache, and madness of rebuilding relationships that have been damaged. Not in hopes that they will become what they once were but so we can all participate, be involved, encourage, and love our children together. However, the terms may be interchangeable and we can all grasp what the concept is of the logistics, blending a family is an action, a verb. It is something we do and therefore we are. We inherit stepfamilies through relationships. We create blended families.

A blended family will face many of the same struggles and hardships that a traditional nuclear family will face. Nevertheless, being part of a blended family means you will also face struggles and hardships that are inherent to blended families and are unlike any that other families may face. Blended families are complex extensions of prior relationships and they have complex issues. It is possible to have a successful, happy blended family and it is more rewarding than one can even imagine.22

2. Extended family

Around the world, the structures of family norms are different. Ideas of what constitute a family changes based on culture, mobility, wealth, and tradition. Yet, as James Q. Wilson has stated:

In virtually every society in which historians or anthropologists have inquired, one finds people living together on the basis of kinship ties and having responsibility for raising children. The kinship ties invariably imply restrictions on who has sexual access to whom; the child-care responsibilities invariably imply both economic and non-economic obligations. And in virtually every society, the family is defined by marriage; that is, by a publicly announced contract that makes legitimate the sexual union of a man and a woman.23

In many cultures, the need to be self-supporting is hard to meet, particularly where rents property values are very high, and the foundation of a new household can be an obstacle to nuclear family formation. In these cases, extended family forms. People remain single and live with their parents for a longer period. Generally, the trend to shift from extended to nuclear family structures has been supported by increasing mobility and modernization.

Some have argued that the extended family, or at least the three-generational family including grandparents, provides a broader and deeper foundation for raising children as well as support for the new parents. In particular, the role of grandparents has been recognized as an important aspect of the family dynamic. Having

experienced the challenges of creating a family themselves, they offer wisdom and encouragement to the young parents and become a reassuring presence in the lives of their grandchildren. Abraham Maslow described the love of grandparents as "the purest love for the being of the other." The benefits of these intergenerational encounters are substantial for all involved.

An extended family is a group of related persons who usually reside together and consists of:

- a family nucleus and one or more ‘other related persons’, or
- two or more related family nuclei, with or without other related persons.

People who usually live in a particular dwelling, and are members of an extended family in that dwelling, but who are absent on census night, are included, as long as they are reported as being absent by the reference person on the dwelling form.

Therefore, it can be concluded that extended family is a household where a child lives with at least one parent and someone other than a parent or siblings, either relatives or non-relatives. It is a type of family in which relatives in addition to parents and children (such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins) live in a single household. A nuclear family forms the core of an extended family.

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3. Nuclear family

This term from sociology refers to a household consisting of a mother, father, and a child or children. By contrast, many families are more than just this nucleus. An extended family may include grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, or other relatives living in the same home. A blended family could also include a stepmother or stepfather, half-sisters and half-brothers, and so on.

The word 'nuclear' here means 'central and elemental', not 'radioactive'. Live forever points out, however, that the term 'nuclear family' is also used in the media to refer to the nuclear club of nations with nuclear weapons.26

The term nuclear family developed in the western world to distinguish the family group consisting of parents, most commonly a father and mother, and their children, from what is known as an extended family. Nuclear families can be any size, as long as the family can support itself and there are only parents and children (or the family is an extended family).

For a group to be called a nuclear family there must at some time be a father, mother and at least one child. This type of family structure is found in almost all societies, although the length of time in which the family remains in this form varies even within the same society. The nuclear family was most popular in the 1950’s and 60’s.27


The nuclear family can be a nurturing environment in which to raise children as long as there is love, time spent with children, emotional support, low stress, and a stable economic environment. In nuclear families, both adults are the biological or adoptive parents of their children.

The nuclear family consists of a married couple and their children. The nuclear family is ego-centered and impermanent, while descent groups are permanent (lasting beyond the life-spans of individual constituents) and reckoned according to a single ancestor. One’s family of orientation is the family in which one is born and grows up, while one’s family of procreation is formed when one marries and has children.

Claims made for the universality of the nuclear family, based upon the universality of marriage, do not hold up the nuclear family are widespread, but not universal. In societies where the nuclear family is important, this structure acts as a primary arena for sexual, reproductive, economic, and acculturative functions, but it is not the only structure used by societies for these.

Take an example 53.7 % of Canadians live in two parent, or nuclear families. There are three types of married nuclear families depending on employment status of the woman and man.

In the first type, the man works outside the home while the woman works inside the home caring for the children 28 percent of all households fit this description.
In the second type of married nuclear family, the woman works outside the home and the man cares for the children. This constitutes 2 percent of the families in this country.

In the third kind of married nuclear family, both the wife and the husband work outside the home or are income providers. In some situations, the woman might have a home-based business, such as a day care center. Nearly 60 percent women with children under the age of six were in the workforce during the past decade.  

Marxist feminist suggest that the nuclear family meets the needs of capitalism for the reproduction and maintenance of class and patriarchal inequality. It benefits the powerful at the expense of the working class and women. They look at issues like inheritance, individualism, privacy, women work and pretty power. Bellows are some statements taken from nuclear family: “Nobody has ever before asked the nuclear family to live all by itself in a box the way we do. With no relatives, no support, we’ve put it in an impossible situation” (Margaret Mead).  

“The great advantage of living in a large family is that early lesson of life’s essential unfairness” (Nancy Mitford).

Pearl S. Buck criticized current system on part of emotional security aspects. He said, “that the lack of emotional security of American young people is due, he believes, to their isolation from the larger family unit. No two people – no mere father and mother – as he has often said, are enough to provide emotional security for a child. He needs to feel himself one in a world of kinfolk, persons of variety in age and

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28 Ibid
temperament, and yet allied to himself by an indissoluble bond which he cannot break if he could, for nature has welded him into it before he was born.”

Murdoch, a functionalist and other functionalists in America believe that the nuclear family is the only acceptable family structure as it provides and supplies the needs of every member of the family. Radical Feminists have an entirely different view, believing that the nuclear family does not benefit anyone, except the men of society.

Functionalists have a very clear view on the nuclear family. They believe that society actually benefits from the nuclear family because of what they provide. Functionalists feel that the nuclear family helps to educate children whilst stabilizing adult personalities, which in turn benefits society greatly. This in turn is helping to train children who will become the workers of the next generation. Murdock, who is a functionalist, feels that the nuclear families are an excellent role model for children; providing them with both a guide to follow their life by and values to believe in.

We need to consider, however, if the values that he is sitting are actually benefiting the modern people. It is a well known that functionalists tend to generalize the “facts,” which they are trying to talk about. Murdock is trying to avoid real life situations, which arise quite frequently within families. He is practically ignoring the downsides of family relationships that can be seen through things like domestic violence.

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30 http://www.buzzle.com/editorials 6-23-2004 55793.asp (July 19, 2009), Loc. cit
31 http://everything2.com/title/Nuclear+Family
Feminist Alison Jaggar notes that:

“some feminists also criticized nuclear traditional family values because of their broader social implications. Radical feminists charged that the nuclear family promoted a norm of heterosexuality, regarded as indispensable for maintaining male dominance, whereas Marxist and socialist feminists argued that the nuclear family fulfilled a variety of vital economic functions for capitalist society.”³²

However, Radical Feminists feel that the nuclear family is made to serve only the interests of men this is because radical feminists believe that our society is very much a male-dominated society (or Patriarchy), believing that women are exploited. Whilst the nuclear family carries on with the segregation of roles, these women feel that men are holding them back; so they are unable to become more independent. Radical Feminists argue that during industrialization, their job was simply named as “wife-mother” and they were not even given the chance to work. They also argue that nuclear families do not serve the needs of the whole society.

Therefore, we can see that both views on the nuclear family are very different. Functionalists believe that the nuclear families benefit society and Radical Feminists believe that the nuclear families exploit the women in society. Both views have good points as the nuclear family could provide a stable home for a child and its parents. However, we have to consider that these opposing opinions are, in fact, both correct but perhaps need to be less one-sided in their argument. To conclude, we feel that with a mixture of both views would show that the nuclear family could be desirable with adaptation.

³² http://www.conservapedia.com/Nuclear_Family
For better or worse, human beings seem to be programmed to live in families. Research indicates that most Americans (71 percent) still idealize the traditional family even as they grow more accepting of divorce (78 percent), cohabitation (49 percent), and single-parent families.³³

As far back as our knowledge takes us, human beings have lived in families. We know of no period where this was not so. We know of no people who have succeeded for long in dissolving the family or displacing it again and again, in spite of proposals for change and actual experiments, human societies have reaffirmed their dependence on the family as the basic unit of human living—the family of father, mother and children.

The graphic of American family structure³⁴

Family arrangements in the United States have become more diverse with no particular household arrangement representing half of the U.S. population.³⁵

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³⁵ ibid
Today, many people tend to idealize the two-parent nuclear family as the ideal family structure. The man typically is responsible for income and support, the woman for home and family matters. Social conservatives often express concern over a purported decay of the family and see this as a sign of the crumbling of contemporary society. They look with alarm at the dramatic increase in households headed by single mothers and by same-sex couples. Yet anthropologists point out that these are merely variations on family types that have existed in other societies.

Even when people bypass the traditional configuration of father, mother, and their biological children, they tend to follow its patterns anyway, showing the fundamental need they feel for its structure. Couples live together and raise children, even children from previous relationships. Same-sex couples assume masculine and feminine roles and demand legal recognition of their unions; many seek to adopt children. Homeless children tend to congregate in gangs that serve as surrogate families. On the other hand, as families universally are built around the marriage bond and the responsibilities for raising children, there would seem to be some rationality to giving preference to the two-parent nuclear family—particularly over family structures headed by only one parent. As James Q. Wilson has stated:

In virtually every society in which historians or anthropologists have inquired, one finds people living together on the basis of kinship ties and having responsibility for raising children. The kinship ties invariably imply restrictions on who has sexual access to whom; the child-care responsibilities invariably imply both economic and non-economic obligations. And in virtually every society, the family is defined by marriage; that is, by a publicly announced contract that makes legitimate the sexual union of a man and a woman.36

36 Wilson, James Q (1993), loc.cit.
In many cultures, the need to be self-supporting is hard to meet, particularly where rents and property values are very high, and the foundation of a new household can be an obstacle to nuclear family formation. In these cases, extended families form. People remain single and live with their parents for a long period of time. Generally, the trend to shift from extended to nuclear family structures has been supported by increasing mobility and modernization.

The emotional pull of these intergenerational encounters remains strong even for those who have split off to form nuclear families. Individuals who leave the village and their extended families for the economic benefits of life in the city may feel a sense of isolation and a longing for the thick relationships and warm love of the extended family of their origin. This suggests that, economic issues aside, people are happiest living in extended families, or in nuclear families that treasure close bonds with their kinfolk.

D. The Description of American Nuclear Family Traditional Values

It’s also called Family culture, which is defined as aggregate of attitudes, ideas and ideals, and environment, which a person inherits from his/her parents and ancestors.

The nuclear family traditional values are made up of a father, mother and a couple of children or so, and hence is compact and small. The father’s role is of providing for the family as well as protecting it, while also being the family’s disciplinary role model. The woman’s role within the traditional nuclear family
consists of housework and motherhood. It is based on a heterosexual relationship generally involving romantic love.

In recent decades, this traditional form of the family has undergone major changes, with increasing rates of divorce leading to single-parent families, remarriages, resulting in extended families.

Margareth Mead listed some American nuclear family traditional values as follow:\textsuperscript{37}

1. \textit{The old still prefer living with children.}

   Despite the growing number of nuclear families in big cities, the tradition for several generations to live under one roof is far from being outdated in some rural areas, where most senior citizens still prefer living with their children and grandchildren.

   In a recent survey among senior citizens some 96 percent of the respondents said they prefer to be under the care of their children, rather than going away to a senior citizen’ center. And their choice is always backed by their children, who closely observe traditional codes, in particular, the filial piety.

   A big family in county leaves with four generations under the same roof. The great grandparents, both over 80, are immersed in happiness and enjoy good health, thanks to the love and care from their children and grandchildren.

2. \textit{The younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life.}

\textsuperscript{37} Margareth Mead (2007), \textit{loc. cit}
They take up all the household chores, from farming, cooking, cleaning to caring for the old couple in time of sickness. From time to time, they would take the old couple to sightseeing tours.

Latest statistics show that 65 percent of the senior citizens are in rural areas. Most of them live with their sons, daughters and in-laws. Big families therefore, have amounted to 152,000, and the number is still going up.

3. **Enjoyable to share weal and woe of family.**

People tend to be more attached to their family as they grow old, said an expert on the aging issue. He said also that they wish to live with, or at least be close to, their children, and to help with domestic affairs as much as possible.

An old couple of a nuclear family said that life is enjoyable when you or we share the weal and woe of the family. It’s exciting when a grandchild goes to college or gets married.

4. **A Stable Environment.**

Children raised in a family with the same parents during their growing years have a higher likelihood of having stability in their relationship and emotional bonding. Children that grow up in a single-parent household have higher chances of feeling a sense of loss regarding the absent parent, and miss out on the advantage of the emotional support and dual insights that both a father and a mother can provide.

5. **Behavioral Stability.**

With both the father and the mother, children get a better sense of what is acceptable and unacceptable, as far as behavior is concerned, especially when both
the parents look after their nurturing. When both parents agree on the kind of behavior that they want from the children, it adds authority, and thus can be instilled in a better way.


When children grow up in a nuclear family, they get a sense of consistency, especially when it also includes closeness with other members of the family like grandparents, aunts and uncles, and cousins. This enables them to feel as if they are a part of a wider whole, particularly during traditional get-togethers. This provides a strong foundation to their roots, and can be a guiding principle all their lives.


In a nuclear family, children usually get far more extensive training in life skills. For instance, mothers usually teach their children relationship skills, like emotional response skills and how to have smooth relations with others, while fathers, in general, teach their children handiwork skills and sports skills, like fixing things around the house or hitting a baseball, as well as how to deal with the world outside.


With two parents sharing the responsibility of raising the children, enables one parent to take time to pursue other interests or get a rest while the other parent plays or works with the children. Children that are raised in a traditional nuclear family also tend to take on some of the sharing of the responsibilities, such as older
siblings taking care of younger siblings. In a nuclear family, such roles are usually performed by expectation and example, rather than formal instruction.


Nuclear families usually have more physical and emotional resources with which they can reinforce the whole. Through observing their parents and by following the examples set by them, children learn how to help in the building of the family.
CHAPTER III
RESEARCH FINDINGS

A. Description of Malcolm in the Middle Drama

*Malcolm in the Middle* is one of teen American comedy drama that presented during 2000 created by Linwood Boomer for the Fox Network, which consists of 7 seasons and 151 episodes. It is a seven-time Emmy-Winning, one-time Grammy Winning and seven-time Golden Globe-nominated American sitcom created by Linwood Boomer for the Fox Network. The series was dominant broadcast on January 9, 2000, and ended its six and a half year run on May 14, 2006, hind hand seven seasons. It now can be viewed on FX Network (United States) in syndication.38

“*Malcolm in the Middle*”, presents us the family life of Malcolm. The show starred Frankie Muniz as Malcolm, the third born of four, later cast, children in the family, parented by Lois (Jane Kaczmarek) and Hal (Bryan Cranston). The oldest child, Francis (Christopher Masterson), was shipped off to Military School, leaving his three little brothers behind; Reese (Justin Berfield), Malcolm and Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan) living at home. Malcolm being the second oldest of the three (hence the easement of the show). The show early seasons centered on Malcolm and the rigors of being an adolescent genius, and his eccentric, although early normal life. This is to show that Malcolm takes an important role in his family. Later seasons additionally

38http://vido.google.com/videosearch?hl=id&q=Malcolm+in+the+middle&um=1&ie=UTF-8&ei=v3aeSdD-B4KqsAODz4jZCQ&sa=X&oi=video_result_group&resnum=4&ct=title#
began to explore the supplemental members of the family and their friends in more depth.

B. American Nuclear Family Traditional Values Presented in “Malcolm in the Middle” Drama

In this part, the writer would like to analyze the traditional values of American Nuclear Family based on the concept of Margaret Mead and the drama scripts that is presented per episode. The American nuclear family traditional values mentioned in the chapter two would be described based on the evidence available in episode of MIM. Here are some evidences and explanations taken episode including its original airdates and production;

1. The younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life.

   It is told in the first that one of the characters Reese, the Malcolm’s brother, Reese is the second oldest of the children, and is also the least intelligent and most destructive, although at some times, he shows even more intelligence than Malcolm when devising fiendish, partly as is a bully at school. He bullies the “Krelboynes” in Malcolm’s class, as well as his younger brothers, especially Dewey. Due to this, Reese is seen working out a lot to give himself a muscular build.

   During his ten years, Reese ran off to join the US military under a faked name and forged age for being that he was underage at time, without telling his
family where he had gone. He was successful in completing Basic Training and was praised as one of the most brilliant soldiers in his platoon after he learned to “turn his brain off” and surrender his will to his superiors. After being sent to Iraq in combat conditions, Reese struggles to stay alive. When his mother, Lois, catches wind of what Reese has done, she tracks him down in Iraq and personally brings home without objection from the military since Reese was underage.

It has been hinted that Reese may also be a genius, like Dewey and Malcolm. At the end of his senior year of high school, he is seen studying all day and night multiple times. He says that the tests are a bunch of true-false questions. When his results on the final exams come back, it is found out that he had done so bad that he couldn’t make it up in summer school so he would have to repeat the year and thus, not move out or need to get a job.

Not wanting to loose the change of becoming more genius like his brother, Malcolm tries to find a college even it becomes a nightmare for his mother, Lois. However, it is nothing but due to the family’s glory, like the evidence below:

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Malcolm Visits College”</td>
<td>March 28, 2004</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>101</td>
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*Malcolm looks forward to visiting college, but it becomes a nightmare when Lois comes along and they meet the dorm head, Leland. Dewey steals items around the house to drive Hal nuts and to build a piano. Reese pretends to be a drug dealer to go out with the school’s narc. Francis and Otto take care of a day care, with disastrous results.*
Malcolm has a fellow called Herkable. Just the same with other students who are willing to study and improve the skill, he finally forces Malcolm to enter the Academic Octathlon.

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<th>Original Airdate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Academic Octathlon&quot;</td>
<td>April 13, 2003</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>79</td>
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</table>

*Herkabe forces Malcolm to join the academic octathlon team. When Herkabe decides for them to cheat, Malcolm chooses to make everyone pay.*

The next evidence shows us the effort of young girl after coming from Europe and improves her skills there. Self-improvement for the family progress and life is really a proper thing that they usually do in order to support their old parents.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Cynthia’s Back”</td>
<td>February 17, 2002</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>55</td>
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</table>

*Cynthia returns from Europe and Malcolm discovers that she has a more 'developed' figure.*

The other evidence that shows the effort of younger children to improve their ability and capability in almost everything is what Dewey (Malcom’s brother) does during his childhood like the evidence below;

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<tr>
<td>“Dewey’s Special Class”</td>
<td>May 2, 2004</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>103</td>
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*Dewey, after deliberately failing rather than excel on an I.Q. test and be in a similar class as Malcolm, is sent to a special class due to Malcolm's advice.*

From the description above, it is proved that Dewey has the top intelligent. The fact that when Malcolm has complete Dewey’s test, which accidentally gets Dewey thrown into the “Special “ class, which is full of kids considered lost
causes. Students in this class are known as the “Buseys”. Dewey has since organized the class to want to be all they can be, and is teaching them standard lessons. He has been trying to show that they are just as capable as others, and has organized them to do things such as performing an opera he wrote based on his family.

Unlike Malcom, his parents intend for Dewey to be rich and happy later in life. Lois even once told Malcolm that “Dewey is a flier, he will just drift and float through life and things will turn out for him, but you and I Malcolm are burrowers, we are at our best when our heads are down and we’re grinding through a mountain of drudgery.” He spends much effort making sure his brother Jamie does not feel neglected like he did.

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<tr>
<td>“Graduation”</td>
<td>May 14, 2006</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>151</td>
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*In the series finale, Malcolm struggles with his speech as Valedictorian of his graduating class. Reese attempts to become a high school janitor permanently. Francis finds a 9-5 job he actually enjoys. Hal has problems with Malcolm’s Harvard tuition. The family says goodbye, as Malcolm leaves for college. 3 months later Lois becomes pregnant again*

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<tr>
<td>“High School Play”</td>
<td>December 10, 2000</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>25</td>
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*Malcolm gets a role in a high school play and becomes obsessed with gossip. Caroline Miller gives birth in the school parking lot when the Krelboynes' model rocket launch goes awry.*
2. The old still prefer living with children.

Sharing kinds of feeling within the nuclear family is something has been vested in everyone of its member. This strong habit grows until they come to their olds. That’s why the grand father or grand mother still wants to live together with their grand children. This is because they think the life is enjoyable when they can share the weal and woe of the family. This is what an old couple said. They are also excited when their grandchild gone to college or get married. They often visit their family in order to, eat least, and see their grandchild.

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<tr>
<td>“The Grandparents”</td>
<td>February 11, 2001</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>31</td>
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3. Enjoyable to share weal and woe of family.

Sad and joy always come to the human life and American nuclear family is accustomed with sharing both of feelings to their family, because it can make life exciting. Weal and woe are as ingredients during human’s life and when they can share these feelings, the life is really valuable and honored. Malcolm has proved it with his act of becoming baby sits when his family has to live in a trailer in the yard for the house is being fumigated, like the evidence below;
“Malcolm Baby Sits”  February 13, 2000  105  5

After the family has to live in a trailer in their yard when their house is being fumigated. Malcolm becomes a babysitter for a rich family, once he finds out that they were spying on him with hidden cameras. He then pretends he is going to kill the family fish and admits that he found the camera. He gives the money back and leaves with disgust.

The life does not merely consist of sorrow, the lights of fun and joy must come some day and it is the great event and a forgotten memorial item when the family gathered with all its members and share this feeling in a special place. The picnic, for the example, can be purposed to escape all the annoying things in the daily activity or jobs in the office. American nuclear family presents it with the evidence below;

“Company Picnic (1)”  February 3, 2002  311  52

The family attends Hal's family picnic. Hal tries to avoid his new boss because of his bleak history of first impressions and Malcolm sees an old crush.

“Company Picnic (2)”  February 3, 2002  312  53

The conclusion to the first part of the episode. Reese & his scavenger hunt partner wreak havoc, Hal confronts his boss and Malcolm gets himself into a very awkward position.
Malcolm’s family and the Kenarbans spend vacation together on a houseboat.

It is told in the first that the family is the place where they can share the feeling of sad and fun. It is interesting of being together in every condition with the family. There is no place to submit all kinds of feeling as care as family. Now here the Malcolm’s family is excited with the birthday of Hal, the good father of his four children. Francis as the oldest son comes to this party with his wife to celebrate this great moment, as stated below;

A birthday surprise - Francis comes home on Hal’s birthday with his new wife - Piana (Emy Coligado).


Craig drives the family insane while living with them. The boys buy and repair a mini bike, which Reese promptly crashes.

Reese, Malcolm and Dewey plot to hitchhike with Stevie to the county fair.

Lois, the mother of five children, presents behavioral stability. Even she is described as a hard-nosed, manipulative and slightly crazy mother and something of an embarrassment to her five kids, she does her best due to her children’s future, especially her effort to keep her kids of misbehavior by joining a women’s book;

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<tr>
<td>“Book Club”</td>
<td>November 18, 2001</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>44</td>
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Lois attempts to escape the boys' nightly misbehavior by joining a women's book club, but she soon realizes that the night is merely an excuse for the women to socialize--and to plot against a PTA mom who seems to handle her children and all other motherly duties with ease. Meanwhile, Hal struggles to keep the boys in order and away from the illegal fireworks hidden in the backyard.

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<tr>
<td>“Stock Car Races”</td>
<td>April 2, 2000</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>10</td>
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Hal takes the boys to see stock-car races on a school day. Meanwhile, Lois searches for her paycheck (which Hal took) and, with the help of Malcolm's Krelboyne class teacher, finds enough evidence to ground the boys for life and Francis sneaks a snake into the academy.

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<tr>
<td>“Old Mrs. Old”</td>
<td>January 7, 2001</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>27</td>
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Malcolm must help an old woman (Florence Stanley) in the neighborhood with whatever she wants of him, and he ends up driving her car. Francis' boyhood friend Ritchie is sent to the same military academy.
6. **A Sense of Consistency.**

A sense of consistency has been run in Malcolm’s family, like his brother, Reese. Despite Reese’s outwardly unintelligent facade, he discovered a gift for cooking in his late teen years. He is gifted at gourmet cooking and finds a lot of enjoyment in it; the only effective way his parents can find to punish him is banning him from the kitchen. He finds success in a meatpacking job, but is fired after setting all the cows free to impress a girl.

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<th>Episode</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Reese Cooks”</td>
<td>March 4, 2001</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reese is taken to a cooking class as punishment, and quickly finds that he excels at it.

From the evidence above, it appear that even a punishment can be so valuable that it gives a very good experience to master the cooking quickly.

That was not all, especially when Reese in his late teen years, gets married to an attractive immigrant girl who requires the marriage to stay in the U.S. Reese truly cares for her, and she claims to care about him. However, the marriage falls apart when Reese and Lois discover her sleeping with another man inside the couple’s garage apartment. Added to the fact that Reese miserably failed the immigration test to keep his wife in the country (he mistakenly wrote that she has a tail), the character is never heard from again and presumably deported.
Then, the next consistency proved as follow:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Kitty’s Back”</td>
<td>December 12, 2004</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Kitty (Merrin Dungey) returns after having done everything imaginable and wants to return to her family to Lois's dismay.*

This evidence serves us the good sample of consistency. After being succeeded and having done everything that she has been dreaming of, Kitty returns to her family. This is as the fact that nuclear family teaches the best things for its members.

As well as Kitty, Reese comes with an example of not forgetting his brother, Malcolm. When he graduates from high school, he moves in with Craig Feldspar and finally finds success, as a junior in his former high school. According to his phone call with Malcolm in the season finale, he tells Malcolm that when the principal found the peepholes in the bathroom, the head janitor was fired, and his job was given to Reese.

7. Learning Skills.

The next tradition presented in MIM is learning skills. Learning skills here is not restricted to special things at certain places, but it is more than that. The abilities and capabilities may be provided at any places, even in the time when groups of family or class enjoy the leisure time. It is not the leisure that merely as the main destination of a group, but it could be more than a having fun. It is a presentation of skills that they have to show to others, like the episode below:
“Krelboyne Picnic” | March 12, 2000 | 108 | 8

*Malcolm's class demonstrates their abilities at a picnic. Malcolm tries to get out of going because it's on the same day Francis comes home.*

This can be understood, because many episodes revolve around Malcolm’s attempts to reconcile his genius-level 165 IQ with his desire to lead what he would consider a normal social life. However, Malcolm remains a social outcast in school. In middle school, Malcolm uncomfortably socializes with his fellow Krelboynes, but when the group moves on to high school, they no longer have, classes together and stop interacting. Malcolm and Reese, particularly toward the end of the series, have no discernible group of friends. At this point, the only people Malcolm interacts with socially on a regular basis are his family, his genius best friend Stevie Kenarban, and a handful of short-term girlfriends.

Dewey, the youngest brother in Malcolm Family, presents the other evidence of learning skill. Dewey begins to exhibit a high degree of intelligence, seen mainly in his talent of playing the piano. Dewey is about to follow his brother into the gifted class, only to have Malcolm help him stay in normal classes. In such early childhood, he was able to play a piano.

“Malcolm Visits College” | March 28, 2004 | 516 | 101

*Malcolm looks forward to visiting college, but it becomes a nightmare when Lois comes along and they meet the dorm head, Leland. Dewey steals items around the house to drive Hal nuts and to build a piano. Reese pretends to be a drug dealer to go out with the school's narc.*
8. **Sharing Responsibility.**

The life within the family will be more exciting, when each of its members becomes responsible of other members. It is as if a great unity between them that it seems inseparable between one member to the others as well as a great building that one element strengthens the others.

In Malcolm’s family feeling of responsibility has been proved. Especially when the boys get a letter from Francis’s Academy saying that he drove the tractor into a pool. Being worried about Francis doomed life and in order to save him, the family members put all the family’s treasure in a cart and cover it in paint. Moreover, they still worried about him. Here is the evidence;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Sunday”</td>
<td>May 14, 2000</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*The boys stay home on a school day when Lois is so sick she thinks it is Sunday. Hal considers buying a Porsche. The boys get a letter from Francis’ academy-saying he drove a tractor into a pool, which they inadvertently let Lois find. In order to save Francis from a doomed life, they put all of the family’s treasured keepsakes in a cart, cover it in paint, and roll it off the roof just as Hal is driven home in a Porsche he threw up in. suffice to say, after ruining the keepsakes and sports car, they have little worries about Francis’ fate.*

Physical and emotional support run together in order to live better to face all kinds of life problem. American people like to join the sport to keep healthy. Sometimes they may go to some places to do some exercise, as stated below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Bowling”</td>
<td>April 1, 2001</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Sliding Doors-style interwoven stories follow a trip to the bowling alley with Lois or Hal. Won an Emmy.*
CHAPTER IV
CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusions

“Malcolm in the Middle” is such an example of drama using American Nuclear Family Traditional values issues as a theme. Moreover, drama as the work of art of course represents the idea of the scriptwriter whether it is his personal experience, his family life condition, his imagination or even maybe his physiological condition.

This drama was studied by using the descriptive qualitative method. It means that the comprehension of the message of this drama involves the understanding of social and traditional values background of the time this drama was created, because as a product from social world that always changes, drama as a literary work is a meaningful dynamics unity, as a reflection of the important values and events in his period.

This study has proved that the drama entitled “Malcolm in the Middle” represents the nuclear family traditional values in America at the time it was created such as; the old still prefer living with children, the younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life, enjoyable to share weal and woe of family, a stable environment, behavioral stability, a sense of consistency, learning skills, sharing responsibility, and physical and emotional support as well as it symbolized the nuclear family traditional values in America at that time.
Sure, there are similarities between the drama and the socio-traditional background behind the drama. Consciously or not, Linwood Boomer had tried to deliver the message and describe the American nuclear family traditional values in a brief way through this drama.

B. Suggestions

To analyze a drama or a literary work, researcher has to use the right approach or theory in analyzing the drama and literary work itself. “Malcolm in the Middle” is an interesting subject to be studied and analyzed. This study has proved that the drama “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer has represented the American nuclear family traditional values.

However, the writer would like to suggest to the readers and students who are interested in studying this field to study and explore more about the socio-traditional background related to the drama to understand it. Through this study, the writer also wants everybody to know that every drama indeed has messages. Finally, the writer hopes that this study will be able to enrich the literary studies in the English Letters Department, Letters and Humanities Faculty, State Islamic University “Syarif Hidayatullah” Jakarta.
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BIOGRAPHY OF LINWOOD BOOMER

Linwood Boomer was born on October 9th, 1956 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Boomer is the second youngest of four children. He is an Emmy award winning Canadian-born television producer, writer, actor, and creator of teen drama in 2000. He grew up with a strict mother, Eileen, and was enrolled in a gifted program at school.

Linwood's first behind-the-scenes work was as writer and producer on the NBC series "Silver Spoons" (1982) (1985-86) and "Night Court" (1984) (1986-88). After developing an adaptation of the popular British sci-fi comedy "Red Dwarf" for American television that disappointingly didn't get past the pilot stage, Boomer moved on to the relatively short-lived sitcoms "Flying Blind" (1992) (Fox, 1992-93) and "The Boys Are Back" (1994) (CBS, 1994-95), writing episodes for both and serving as executive consultant of the former and co-executive producer of the latter. In 1996, he was one of the executive producers of the hit NBC sitcom "3rd Rock from the Sun" (1996) and the failed ABC entry "Townies" (1996). While he also served in the same capacity for the edgy but controversial animated series "God, the Devil and Bob" (2000) (NBC, 2000), he found immediate success with the envelope-pushing Fox family comedy "Malcolm in the Middle" (2000) (2000- ).

A mid-season replacement, "Malcolm" quickly won an audience with its boldly realistic yet off-kilter comedy focused on a struggling middle-class family of six: high-strung disciplinarian mother Lois (Jane Kaczmarek); dim but well-meaning father Hal (Bryan Cranston); smart aleck eldest son Francis (Christopher Masterson) consigned to military school; bullying second-eldest son Reese (Justin Berfield), reluctant boy genius Malcolm (Frankie Muniz); and just plain weird youngest child...
Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan. The series steered clear of the traditional sitcom trappings as it was shot in a single-camera style, with no laugh track and with frequent fourth wall-breaking commentary by the title hero. "Malcolm in the Middle" (2000) set itself apart from its competitors with a fresh and consistently funny perspective and the remarkable performances by the entire cast. Perhaps this was in part because the show was loosely autobiographical for Boomer. Linwood continues to work behind the scenes on several TV show projects. He resides in Los Angeles.
Margaret Mead (December 16, 1901 – November 15, 1978) was an American cultural anthropologist, a pioneer of the feminist movement in America, an important popularizer of anthropology, and one of the most prominent public intellectuals of her time. When she died, Mead was considered the most famous anthropologist in the world.

Mead was a gifted writer with an outgoing personality and a complex worldview that combined her Anglican Christianity and an emphasis on the importance of early childhood development with positive views of free sex and a strong presumption of cultural relativism tending toward moral relativism. Mead sought to understand cultures not just through anthropological generalizations but through details of specific individuals' life experience, attitudes, and worldviews.

Mead was not only an innovative anthropologist; she was also an outspoken activist. Applying her conviction that cultural conditioning is a more major determinant of human behavior than genetic inheritance, she challenged prevailing assumptions about gender roles and aroused hope for a better human society. However, lacking a model of family and society appropriate to the culture of the West, and in particular the United States, her activism had negative as well as positive impact. In breaking down narrow societal norms regarding human sexuality her work supported the sexual revolution and increased promiscuity. Nevertheless, her optimistic view of the potential of human behavior to change for the better is her enduring legacy.

In 1923, Mead married Luther Cressman, a theology student. He remained in New York while she spent nine months studying local customs in Samoa in 1925-1926. She published her findings in 1928. Mead received her Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1929.
On the ship back to the US from Samoa via Europe, she fell in love with Reo Fortune, a psychologist from New Zealand who later shifted to anthropology. Mead divorced Cressman in 1928, married Fortune in the same year, and the newly married couple moved to New Guinea, where they spent several years studying child and adolescent development in the Manus cultures.

In 1935, Mead divorced Fortune and in 1936 married the English anthropologist Gregory Bateson. The couple spent four years, from 1936 to 1939, studying Indonesian cultures. Finally, in 1939, Mead fulfilled a long-standing dream and bore her first and only child, Mary Catherine Bateson, who also became an anthropologist. The couple divorced in 1950.

In addition to her three marriages, Mead also a close relationship with Ruth Benedict. They were professional collaborators who at times also shared an intimate sexual relationship. Despite marriages, affairs, and fieldwork that took them both to many different parts of the world, Mead and Benedict remained close over the 25 years until Benedict's death (Lapsley 2001). "Both Ruth and Margaret espoused free-love doctrines that called for sexual experimentation and prohibited jealousy, but both also believed in marriage and feared compromising their careers" (Banner 2003). This was not Mead's only close relationship with a woman. During a period of 17 years (1961-1978) Mead shared a house with Rhoda Metraux while the two of them co-authored a regular column for Redbook magazine.

Mead had a distinguished academic career. She had joined the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, as assistant curator, in 1926 and eventually served as its curator from 1961 to 1969. In addition, she taught at Columbia University, at New York University, Emory University, Yale University, and the University of Cincinnati. She founded the Department of Anthropology at Fordham University.

Mead received numerous honorary doctorates, and served as president of the American Anthropological Association, the Anthropological Film Institute, the
Scientists Institute for Public Information, the Society for Applied Anthropology, and the American Association for Advancement in Science.

As a celebrity, Mead spoke out on a wide range of social issues including women's rights, parenting, racism, drug abuse, pollution, and war. She was an advocate of birth control, repeal of anti-abortion laws, and right to die legislation.
APPENDIX
MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE

Genre : Comedy
Original Run : January 9, 2000 – May 14, 2006
No. of episodes : 151 (Seasons 7)
Created By : Linwood Boomer

Main Characters :
- Malcolm, played by Frankie Muniz
- Lois, played by Jane Kaczmarek
- Reese, played by Justin Berfield
- Hal, played by Bryan Cranston
- Dewey, played by Erik Per Sullivan
- Francis, played by Christopher Masterson
- Jamie, played by James and Lukas Rodriguez

SYNOPSIS OF “MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE” DRAMA

“Malcolm in the Middle drama” is a seven-time Emmy-winning, one-time Grammy-winning and seven-time Golden Globe-nominated American sitcom created by Linwood Boomer for the Fox Network. The series was dominant broadcast on January 9, 2000, and ended its six-and-a-half-year run on May 14, 2006, hind hand seven seasons. It now can be viewed on FX Network (United States) in syndication.

The show starred Frankie Muniz as Malcolm, the third-born of four, later cast, children in the family, parented by Lois (Jane Kaczmarek) and Hal (Bryan Cranston). The oldest child, Francis (Christopher Masterson), was shipped off to military school, leaving his three little brothers behind: Reese (Justin Berfield), Malcolm, and Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan) living at home, Malcolm being the second oldest of the three (hence the easement of the show). The shows early seasons centered on Malcolm and
the rigors of being an adolescent genius and his eccentric, although eerily normal, life; later seasons additionally began to explore the supplemental members of the family and their friends in more depth.

The series was different from many incomparable in that Malcolm broke the fourth wall and talked directly to the viewer; it was shot using a spinster camera; and it used neither a burst into blue shorter track nor a live studio audience. Emulating the style of hour-long dramas, this half-hour show was shot on film instead of video. A disconnected unique aspect is that the cold open of every episode is unrelated to the main story; exclude episodes which were the second part of a two-part series, which open with a summary of part one.

CHARACTERS AND CHARACTERIZATIONS

1. Malcolm

Malcolm is the main character and protagonist in Malcolm in the Middle. He is being the 3rd born of four siblings has never been easy for Malcolm, but when he is diagnosed as being as a genius, life gets a little more complicated. Now enrolled in a class for brainiacs, he has to find a way to accept his gift while surviving home and school.

In the episode “Stock Car Races”, Hal reveals that Malcolm is named after a race car driver called Rusty Malcolm (he mutters that it took 3 children to win that argument). At the beginning of the series, Malcolm’s teacher recognizes him as a gifted student and places him in an accelerated learning class. Much to his dismay, the move brands him as a “krelboyne”, a reference to Seymour Krelboyne from the Little Shop of Horrors.

2. Hal

He is very much a child at hearth. Sometimes his antics cause more trouble than all of the kids combined, which often makes his wife, Lois, shake her head in disbelief.
Hal is married to Lois, and is father to Francis, Malcolm, Reese, Dewey and Jamie. He is more relaxed in parenting than Lois, mainly because he is afraid to make the wrong choice. However, he does discipline his boys most of the time when Lois is disciplining them to back her up, and sometimes even when she is not around.

Several episodes refer to him as a former rebel and troublemaker, much like his sons. He ran a pirate radio station in college under the name of Kid Charlemagne. His indecisiveness supposedly stems from a childhood incident in which he accidentally caused a clown to get attacked by a snake (both of which he is now afraid of). When Lois is away, he quickly loses self-control and indulges in his baser enjoyments, such as smoking, gambling, loud music, and building “killer robots” (as explored in one episode).

3. Lois

Lois is described as a hard-nosed, Manipulative and slightly crazy mother and something of an embracement to her five kids and devoted husband, Hal. Lois and Hal married after she became pregnant with Francis. Jane Kaczmarek herself describes Lois as ‘a great mother’.

Lois is in tensely disliked by Hal’s wealthy and snobby family, as seen in the fourth-season episode “Family Reunion”. They consider her low-class, and have taken to referring to her as “Lois Common Denominator”.

She is an outspoken mom who does her best to raise her four children even if it means taking an over-the-top approach. She walks the thin line of trying to stay one step ahead of the boys while trying to keep her sanity.

4. Francis

He is Malcolm’s oldest brother who has been sent away to military camp by his parents to try to curb his wild streak – whether it will work or not is still up for debate.

The oldest of the brothers and the biggest trouble-maker, Francis is a regular character on the show; though he has lived outside of the house since before
season 1 began. His mother, Lois, was in labor with Francis in the middle of her and Hal’s wedding.

Francis was a troublemaker from a young age; he broke curfew, drank, smoked and slept around. Lois exiled him to a military academy after he was caught in bed with his girlfriend and crashed her car, which proceeded to burn up, though the last straw was when he got his nose pierced. From afar, francis provides many fodder for many interesting subplots.

5. **Reese**

He is Malcolm’s older brother whose fists do most of the talking. He’s got a knack for getting into trouble and often doesn’t know when he is crossed the line. He is also the least intelligent and most destructive, although at some times, he shows even more intelligence than Malcolm when devising fiendish plans. He even had a mean streak in the womb; while his mother Lois was in labor, he kicked her so hard that she forcefully gave ‘pre-mature’ birth to him. Immediately following his delivery he kicked the doctor in the nose.

His obsession with violence horrifies the family and leaves him with few friends, partly as he is a bully at school. He bullies the “Krelboynes” in Malcolm’s class, as well as his younger brothers, especially Dewey. Due to this, Reese is seen working out a lot to give himself a muscular build.

6. **Dewey**

He is the youngest in the family and is often the recipient of his older brother’s pranks. Being the youngest also makes him an ideal scapegoat when his older brothers find themselves on thin ice with mom.

Dewey is portrayed as being quieter and more inclined to the arts than his brothers, at least until Jamie was born, the youngest of the four. It was noted in one episode that Dewey was exposed to radiation from a cracked microwave while in the womb. He hides his intellect from Malcolm and Reese, in many cases cleverly taking advantage of them. But for much of the series he is frequently beat up and picked on by Reese and Malcolm.
7. Jamie

Jamie was played by identical twin brothers James and Lukas Rodriguez in his later episodes. In his earlier episodes, he was played by twin sisters Kara and Jessica Sanford. The character first appeared in season four of the show on May 18, 2003. Jamie is the youngest of the family for almost all of the series, but that changes on the series finale's Epilogue where it is revealed that Lois is pregnant again. Like his older brothers, in the episode "Lois battles Jamie", Jamie proves to be more than a handful for Lois; refusing to eat his peas, getting himself banned from a nursery school and being able to slip away from his chair numerous times.

He is also the first of the boys to attempt to kill Lois by pushing a huge shelf on her, but is unsuccessful, as Lois rolled away just in time. (However, it was revealed that Reese had been giving him 4 cans of Kapow soda, which is why Jamie had been acting so crazy. According to Reese, "half a can made him nuts.")

PLOT SUMMARY OF “MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE” DRAMA

One of the better examples of how the traditional American nuclear family sitcom has been remodelled for a new century, Malcolm In The Middle centres on the title character (Frankie Muniz), the second-youngest of four boys who also happens to have a high IQ and is considered a gifted student.

Instead of being with normal kids at a normal school, Malcolm is stuck in a class for exceptional students (known as the Krelboynes) with other socially-challenged kids, including Stevie (Craig Lamar Taylor), Malcolm's African-American, wheelchair-bound, asthmatic best friend.

Malcolm's biggest problem is his family, which consists of younger brother Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan); older brother Reese (Justin Berfield); his no-nonsense and hot-tempered mom Lois (Jane Kaczmarek); his laid-back "Peter Pan" father Hal (Bryan Cranston). Also in the family is Malcolm's oldest brother Francis (Christopher Kennedy Masterson) who spent his first few seasons at a military academy before finding work in Alaska, marrying a foreign girl and working on a dude ranch.
The family lives in your typical messy and disorganized suburban home. Lois works at a chain drug store; Hal works in an office; nobody has time to clean. Unlike many of her sitcom mom predecessors, Lois seems to love disciplining her boys; making love to her husband; and living on the financial edge. Hal basically lets Lois do much of the disciplining; he's too soft on the boys. And Hal himself is a boy who never grew up emotionally. As a result, he usually ends up in the same doghouse with his sons. To a certain extent, he accepts his lot; as he reluctantly pointed out to Lois: "We've got you outnumbered five to one and we're still losing". Malcolm became more of a middle-man in the 2002-03 season, as Lois and Hal became parents again (prompted by Kaczmarek's real-life pregnancy).

On most episodes, Malcolm comments on the plot's action to viewers. It may be an overused gimmick on some shows, but the on-screen asides give "Malcolm" a context and dimension missing from many other family sitcoms. In a parody of the show (entitled "Malcontent In The Muddle"), "Mad" magazine--that wonderful barometer of American humour--came this line: "In real life, when a kid starts talking to somebody who's invisible, they jack up his dosage of Ritalin.

Malcolm In The Middle comes from the mind of Lynwood Boomer, a former actor on the drama Little House On The Prairie who later became a television writer and producer. In an interview with the "Philadelphia Daily News", Boomer admits many of "Malcolm's" situations are "from my old childhood, filtered through a lot of self-serving lies and distortions". That may be why we never know the last name of Malcolm and his family (although some websites list the last name as Wilkerson) or the town where they live, or even the boys' current ages. The last few seasons have had all the boys growing up. Muniz has seen the most physical and emotional changes; those changes were incorporated into the show.)
APPROVEMENT

AMERICAN NUCLEAR FAMILY TRADITIONAL VALUES IN “MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE” DRAMA

A Thesis

Submitted to Letters and Humanities Faculty in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for Strata One Degree (S1)

By

Bisri Musthofa
NIM. 101026021483

Approved by:

Moh. Supardi, Ss, M. Hum
Supervisor

ENGLISH LETTERS DEPARTMENT
LETTERS AND HUMANITIES FACULTY
STATE ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY “SYARIF HIDAYATULLAH”
JAKARTA
2010
ABSTRACT


This research is intended to give understanding of what the American nuclear family traditional values in the drama “Malcolm in the Middle”. The writer tries to describe and analyze the American nuclear family traditional values reflected in the drama “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer. This drama was studied by using the descriptive qualitative method. In analyzing, the writer explains the description of the American nuclear family tradition values. Next, the writer analyzes the major characters followed by American nuclear family traditional values expressed in the script. Afterwards, the writer tries to find the correlation of the major characters and the American nuclear family traditional values.

From the data analysis, the writer found that there are nine characters of American nuclear family traditional values represented in the drama. They are: the old still prefer living with children, the younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life, enjoyable to share weal and woe of family, a stable environment, behavioral stability, a sense of consistency, learning skills, sharing responsibility, and physical and emotional support as well as it symbolized the nuclear family traditions at that time.

Each of major characters expressed the values of life tradition of nuclear family in America. Sure, there are similarities between the drama and the traditional values background behind the drama. Consciously or not, Linwood Boomer had tried to deliver the message and describe the values of American nuclear family tradition in a brief way through this drama. This drama can be considered as an alternative drama to help to improve people in understanding the nuclear family traditional values in America.
LEGALIZATION

Name : Bisri Musthofa
NIM : 101026021483
Title : America Nuclear Family Traditional Values In “ Malcolm in The Middle” Drama

The thesis has been defended before the Letters and Humanities Faculty’s examination Committee on March 5, 2010. It has already been accepted as a partial fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Strata 1.

Jakarta, March 5, 2010

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DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this submission is my own work and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, it contains no material previously published or written by another person nor material which to a substantial extent has been accepted for the award of any other degree or diploma of the university or other institute of higher learning, except where due acknowledgement has been made in the text.

Jakarta, March 5, 2010

Bisri Musthofa
ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

In the name of God, the Infinitely Good, the All-Merciful

First of all the writer would like to thank to Allah SWT, the Lord of the universe, for creating this macro cosmos. Without him, none of this paper would be done. Peace and blessings be upon to the prophet Muhammad SAW, his fellows and followers.

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The writer can’t finish all his study without spirit that comes from surrounding him, either it comes from friends or family. The writer can’t reciprocate their kindness. May Allah bless and give the greatest award for them. Eventually, the writer realizes that this thesis is far from being perfect, then, the writer will be very appreciated for any suggestions and criticisms.

Jakarta, March 2010

The Writer
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APPENDIX

BIOGRAPHY OF LINWOOD BOOMER

Linwood Boomer was born on October 9th, 1956 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. Boomer is the second youngest of four children. He is an Emmy award winning Canadian-born television producer, writer, actor, and creator of teen drama in 2000. He grew up with a strict mother, Eileen, and was enrolled in a gifted program at school.

Linwood's first behind-the-scenes work was as writer and producer on the NBC series "Silver Spoons" (1982) (1985-86) and "Night Court" (1984) (1986-88). After developing an adaptation of the popular British sci-fi comedy "Red Dwarf" for American television that disappointingly didn't get past the pilot stage, Boomer moved on to the relatively short-lived sitcoms "Flying Blind" (1992) (Fox, 1992-93) and "The Boys Are Back" (1994) (CBS, 1994-95), writing episodes for both and serving as executive consultant of the former and co-executive producer of the latter. In 1996, he was one of the executive producers of the hit NBC sitcom "3rd Rock from the Sun" (1996) and the failed ABC entry "Townies" (1996). While he also served in the same capacity for the edgy but controversial animated series "God, the Devil and Bob" (2000) (NBC, 2000), he found immediate success with the envelope-pushing Fox family comedy "Malcolm in the Middle" (2000) (2000-).

A mid-season replacement, "Malcolm" quickly won an audience with its boldly realistic yet off-kilter comedy focused on a struggling middle-class family of six: high-strung disciplinarian mother Lois (Jane Kaczmarek); dim but well-meaning father Hal (Bryan Cranston); smart aleck eldest son Francis (Christopher Masterson) consigned to military school; bullying second-eldest son Reese (Justin Berfield), reluctant boy genius Malcolm (Frankie Muniz); and just plain weird youngest child
Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan. The series steered clear of the traditional sitcom trappings as it was shot in a single-camera style, with no laugh track and with frequent fourth wall-breaking commentary by the title hero. "Malcolm in the Middle" (2000) set itself apart from its competitors with a fresh and consistently funny perspective and the remarkable performances by the entire cast. Perhaps this was in part because the show was loosely autobiographical for Boomer. Linwood continues to work behind the scenes on several TV show projects. He resides in Los Angeles.
BIOGRAPHY OF MARGARETH MEAD

Margaret Mead (December 16, 1901 – November 15, 1978) was an American cultural anthropologist, a pioneer of the feminist movement in America, an important popularizer of anthropology, and one of the most prominent public intellectuals of her time. When she died, Mead was considered the most famous anthropologist in the world.

Mead was a gifted writer with an outgoing personality and a complex worldview that combined her Anglican Christianity and an emphasis on the importance of early childhood development with positive views of free sex and a strong presumption of cultural relativism tending toward moral relativism. Mead sought to understand cultures not just through anthropological generalizations but through details of specific individuals' life experience, attitudes, and worldviews.

Mead was not only an innovative anthropologist; she was also an outspoken activist. Applying her conviction that cultural conditioning is a more major determinant of human behavior than genetic inheritance, she challenged prevailing assumptions about gender roles and aroused hope for a better human society. However, lacking a model of family and society appropriate to the culture of the West, and in particular the United States, her activism had negative as well as positive impact. In breaking down narrow societal norms regarding human sexuality her work supported the sexual revolution and increased promiscuity. Nevertheless, her optimistic view of the potential of human behavior to change for the better is her enduring legacy.

In 1923, Mead married Luther Cressman, a theology student. He remained in New York while she spent nine months studying local customs in Samoa in 1925-1926. She published her findings in 1928. Mead received her Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1929.
On the ship back to the US from Samoa via Europe, she fell in love with Reo Fortune, a psychologist from New Zealand who later shifted to anthropology. Mead divorced Cressman in 1928, married Fortune in the same year, and the newly married couple moved to New Guinea, where they spent several years studying child and adolescent development in the Manus cultures.

In 1935, Mead divorced Fortune and in 1936 married the English anthropologist Gregory Bateson. The couple spent four years, from 1936 to 1939, studying Indonesian cultures. Finally, in 1939, Mead fulfilled a long-standing dream and bore her first and only child, Mary Catherine Bateson, who also became an anthropologist. The couple divorced in 1950.

In addition to her three marriages, Mead also a close relationship with Ruth Benedict. They were professional collaborators who at times also shared an intimate sexual relationship. Despite marriages, affairs, and fieldwork that took them both to many different parts of the world, Mead and Benedict remained close over the 25 years until Benedict's death (Lapsley 2001). "Both Ruth and Margaret espoused free-love doctrines that called for sexual experimentation and prohibited jealousy, but both also believed in marriage and feared compromising their careers" (Banner 2003). This was not Mead's only close relationship with a woman. During a period of 17 years (1961-1978) Mead shared a house with Rhoda Metraux while the two of them co-authored a regular column for Redbook magazine.

Mead had a distinguished academic career. She had joined the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, as assistant curator, in 1926 and eventually served as its curator from 1961 to 1969. In addition, she taught at Columbia University, at New York University, Emory University, Yale University, and the University of Cincinnati. She founded the Department of Anthropology at Fordham University.

Mead received numerous honorary doctorates, and served as president of the American Anthropological Association, the Anthropological Film Institute, the
Scientists Institute for Public Information, the Society for Applied Anthropology, and the American Association for Advancement in Science.

As a celebrity, Mead spoke out on a wide range of social issues including women's rights, parenting, racism, drug abuse, pollution, and war. She was an advocate of birth control, repeal of anti-abortion laws, and right to die legislation.
APPENDIX
MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE

Genre : Comedy
Original Run : January 9, 2000 – May 14, 2006
No. of episodes : 151 (Seasons 7)
Created By : Linwood Boomer

Main Characters :
• Malcolm, played by Frankie Muniz
• Lois, played by Jane Kaczmarek
• Reese, played by Justin Berfield
• Hal, played by Bryan Cranston
• Dewey, played by Erik Per Sullivan
• Francis, played by Christopher Masterson
• Jamie, played by James and Lukas Rodriguez

SYNOPSIS OF “MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE” DRAMA

“Malcolm in the Middle drama” is a seven-time Emmy-winning, one-time Grammy-winning and seven-time Golden Globe-nominated American sitcom created by Linwood Boomer for the Fox Network. The series was dominant broadcast on January 9, 2000, and ended its six-and-a-half-year run on May 14, 2006, hind hand seven seasons. It now can be viewed on FX Network (United States) in syndication.

The show starred Frankie Muniz as Malcolm, the third-born of four, later cast, children in the family, parented by Lois (Jane Kaczmarek) and Hal (Bryan Cranston). The oldest child, Francis (Christopher Masterson), was shipped off to military school, leaving his three little brothers behind: Reese (Justin Berfield), Malcolm, and Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan) living at home, Malcolm being the second oldest of the three (hence the easement of the show). The shows early seasons centered on Malcolm and
the rigors of being an adolescent genius and his eccentric, although eerily normal, life; later seasons additionally began to explore the supplemental members of the family and their friends in more depth.

The series was different from many incomparable in that Malcolm broke the fourth wall and talked directly to the viewer; it was shot using a spinster camera; and it used neither a burst into blue shorter track nor a live studio audience. Emulating the style of hour-long dramas, this half-hour show was shot on film instead of video. A disconnected unique aspect is that the cold open of every episode is unrelated to the main story; exclude episodes which were the second part of a two-part series, which open with a summary of part one.

CHARACTERS AND CHARACTERIZATIONS

1. Malcolm
Malcolm is the main character and protagonist in Malcolm in the Middle. He is being the 3rd born of four siblings has never been easy for Malcolm, but when he is diagnosed as being as a genius, life gets a little more complicated. Now enrolled in a class for brainiacs, he has to find a way to accept his gift while surviving home and school.

In the episode “Stock Car Races”, Hal reveals that Malcolm is named after a race car driver called Rusty Malcolm (he mutters that it took 3 children to win that argument). At the beginning of the series, Malcolm’s teacher recognizes him as a gifted student and places him in an accelerated learning class. Much to his dismay, the move brands him as a “krelboyne”, a reference to Seymour Krelboyne from the Little Shop of Horrors.

2. Hal
He is very much a child at hearth. Sometimes his antics cause more trouble than all of the kids combined, which often makes his wife, Lois, shake her head in disbelief.
Hal is married to Lois, and is father to Francis, Malcolm, Reese, Dewey and Jamie. He is more relaxed in parenting than Lois, mainly because he is afraid to make the wrong choice. However, he does discipline his boys most of the time when Lois is disciplining them to back her up, and sometimes even when she is not around.

Several episodes refer to him as a former rebel and troublemaker, much like his sons. He ran a pirate radio station in college under the name of Kid Charlemagne. His indecisiveness supposedly stems from a childhood incident in which he accidentally caused a clown to get attacked by a snake (both of which he is now afraid of). When Lois is away, he quickly loses self-control and indulges in his baser enjoyments, such as smoking, gambling, loud music, and building “killer robots” (as explored in one episode).

3. Lois

Lois is described as a hard-nosed, Manipulative and slightly crazy mother and something of an embracement to her five kids and devoted husband, Hal. Lois and Hal married after she became pregnant with Francis. Jane Kaczmarek herself describes Lois as ‘a great mother’.

Lois is in tensely disliked by Hal’s wealthy and snobby family, as seen in the fourth-season episode “Family Reunion”. They consider her low-class, and have taken to referring to her as “Lois Common Denominator”.

She is an outspoken mom who does her best to raise her four children even if it means taking an over-the-top approach. She walks the thin line of trying to stay one step ahead of the boys while trying to keep her sanity.

4. Francis

He is Malcolm’s oldest brother who has been sent away to military camp by his parents to try to curb his wild streak – whether it will work or not is still up for debate.

The oldest of the brothers and the biggest trouble-maker, Francis is a regular character on the show; though he has lived outside of the house since before
season 1 began. His mother, Lois, was in labor with Francis in the middle of her and Hal’s wedding.

Francis was a troublemaker from a young age; he broke curfew, drank, smoked and slept around. Lois exiled him to a military academy after he was caught in bed with his girlfriend and crashed her car, which proceeded to burn up, though the last straw was when he got his nose pierced. From afar, francis provides many fodder for many interesting subplots.

5. Reese

He is Malcolm’s older brother whose fists do most of the talking. He’s got a knack for getting into trouble and often doesn’t know when he is crossed the line. He is also the least intelligent and most destructive, although at some times, he shows even more intelligence than Malcolm when devising fiendish plans. He even had a mean streak in the womb; while his mother Lois was in labor, he kicked her so hard that she forcefully gave ‘pre-mature’ birth to him. Immediately following his delivery he kicked the doctor in the nose.

His obsession with violence horrifies the family and leaves him with few friends, partly as he is a bully at school. He bullies the “Krelboynes” in Malcolm’s class, as well as his younger brothers, especially Dewey. Due to this, Reese is seen working out a lot to give himself a muscular build.

6. Dewey

He is the youngest in the family and is often the recipient of his older brother’s pranks. Being the youngest also makes him an ideal scapegoat when his older brothers find themselves on thin ice with mom.

Dewey is portrayed as being quieter and more inclined to the arts than his brothers, at least until Jamie was born, the youngest of the four. It was noted in one episode that Dewey was exposed to radiation from a cracked microwave while in the womb. He hides his intellect from Malcolm and Reese, in many cases cleverly taking advantage of them. But for much of the series he is frequently beat up and picked on by Reese and Malcolm.
7. Jamie

Jamie was played by identical twin brothers James and Lukas Rodriguez in his later episodes. In his earlier episodes, he was played by twin sisters Kara and Jessica Sanford. The character first appeared in season four of the show on May 18, 2003. Jamie is the youngest of the family for almost all of the series, but that changes on the series finale's Epilogue where it is revealed that Lois is pregnant again. Like his older brothers, in the episode "Lois battles Jamie", Jamie proves to be more than a handful for Lois; refusing to eat his peas, getting himself banned from a nursery school and being able to slip away from his chair numerous times.

He is also the first of the boys to attempt to kill Lois by pushing a huge shelf on her, but is unsuccessful, as Lois rolled away just in time. (However, it was revealed that Reese had been giving him 4 cans of Kapow soda, which is why Jamie had been acting so crazy. According to Reese, "half a can made him nuts.")

PLOT SUMMARY OF “MALCOLM IN THE MIDDLE” DRAMA

One of the better examples of how the traditional American nuclear family sitcom has been remodelled for a new century, Malcolm In The Middle centres on the title character (Frankie Muniz), the second-youngest of four boys who also happens to have a high IQ and is considered a gifted student.

Instead of being with normal kids at a normal school, Malcolm is stuck in a class for exceptional students (known as the Krelboynes) with other socially-challenged kids, including Stevie (Craig Lamar Taylor), Malcolm's African-American, wheelchair-bound, asthmatic best friend.

Malcolm's biggest problem is his family, which consists of younger brother Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan); older brother Reese (Justin Berfield); his no-nonsense and hot-tempered mom Lois (Jane Kaczmarek); his laid-back "Peter Pan" father Hal (Bryan Cranston). Also in the family is Malcolm's oldest brother Francis (Christopher Kennedy Masterson) who spent his first few seasons at a military academy before finding work in Alaska, marrying a foreign girl and working on a dude ranch.
The family lives in your typical messy and disorganized suburban home. Lois works at a chain drug store; Hal works in an office; nobody has time to clean. Unlike many of her sitcom mom predecessors, Lois seems to love disciplining her boys; making love to her husband; and living on the financial edge. Hal basically lets Lois do much of the disciplining; he's too soft on the boys. And Hal himself is a boy who never grew up emotionally. As a result, he usually ends up in the same doghouse with his sons. To a certain extent, he accepts his lot; as he reluctantly pointed out to Lois: "We've got you outnumbered five to one and we're still losing". Malcolm became more of a middle-man in the 2002-03 season, as Lois and Hal became parents again (prompted by Kaczmarek's real-life pregnancy).

On most episodes, Malcolm comments on the plot's action to viewers. It may be an overused gimmick on some shows, but the on-screen asides give "Malcolm" a context and dimension missing from many other family sitcoms. In a parody of the show (entitled "Malcontent In The Muddle"), "Mad" magazine--that wonderful barometer of American humour--came this line: "In real life, when a kid starts talking to somebody who's invisible, they jack up his dosage of Ritalin.

Malcolm In The Middle comes from the mind of Lynwood Boomer, a former actor on the drama Little House On The Prairie who later became a television writer and producer. In an interview with the "Philadelphia Daily News", Boomer admits many of "Malcolm's" situations are "from my old childhood, filtered through a lot of self-serving lies and distortions". That may be why we never know the last name of Malcolm and his family (although some websites list the last name as Wilkerson) or the town where they live, or even the boys' current ages. The last few seasons have had all the boys growing up. Muniz has seen the most physical and emotional changes; those changes were incorporated into the show.)
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

America, the popular country in the world - is rich with kinds of social aspect especially during the 2000, when the Indian housing price climbed by remarkable 10.9 percent to almost $160,000.¹ The high life-style makes them different view of society when they see themselves as individuals who are different from other individuals.² This fact does not make America escape from literature especially drama as one of their cultures until this time.

Muhammad Sobary said that:

“Sastra menyodorkan ke hadapan kita ekspresi estetis tentang manusia dan kebudayaannya. Di dalamnya tercakup kompleksitas ideologi, dunia nilai, norma hidup, etika, pandangan dunia, tradisi, dan variasi-variasi tingkah laku manusia. Dengan kata lain, sastra berbicara tentang tingkah laku manusia di dalam kebudayaannya.”³

(Literature promotes us aesthetic expression about human being and its culture. It comes within an ideology complexity, the world assess, the life values, ethics, worldview, tradition, and variations of human being behaviors. In other word, literature converse about human behaviors in its culture.)

Drama is a kind of literature that studied by many students of literature.

Drama, not only existing in Indonesia, the country enriched by variety of cultures, but also it is available in America before the twenty century. Hundreds of writers and

³ Muhammad Sobary, “Sastra, ideologi, dan Dunia Nilai,” Kompas, 3 juni, 2006, p. 43
actors appear there and come with their qualified and famous literary work; like poems, folk story, fairy tale and drama. Day by day passes and the author of those kinds of literature are still pleasant in front of all people in the world wide. Of course, we will think that drama also still exists there even though this literary work is not written by the old author any more like we have known them some. It is the fact that the literary works will never end as the new author always comes after the old one. This can be seen from the fact that drama had began from that in ninetieth, especially the drama titled “Great White Way” which was presented in 1940s. And later, until this era it still exists with a poem titled “Boy Breaking Glass” by Gwen Dolyin Brooks.

Here, the writer would like to introduce the new author of drama during early twenty first century who has come with his well-performed drama during this era. This name is Linwood Boomer who was born on October 9th 1956 in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, the beautiful country with its Canadian Rockies which is one of dramatically fast and beautiful geological transition. Boomer is the second youngest of four children. He is an Emmy award winning Canadian-born television producer, writer, actor, and creator of teen drama in 2000. His other works are like The Young and the Restless in 1984, Silver Spoons in 1985, Night Court in 1986, Flying blind in 1992, The Boys Are Back in 1994 and his famous drama in America

\[ \text{4 Mc Conachie Bruce, American Theater, in the cultural of the cold war, (Iowa City, University of Iowa Press, 2003),p. 66} \]
\[ \text{6 __________ Northwest 2003, (North Cicero Avenue, Mapquest, 2002), p. 398.} \]
Malcolm in the Middle, which won the Emmy Award 2000 for outstanding writing in a comedy series.

“Malcolm in the Middle”, which later called MIM, presents us the family life of Malcolm - the third born children in the family- when his oldest brother called Francis was shipped off to Military School leaving his three little brothers behind; Reese, Malcolm and Dewey living at home. Since then, Malcolm become the second oldest of the three, and this is the title of the show. Malcolm then becomes adolescent genius, and his eccentric, although early normal life. This is to show that Malcolm takes an important role in his family.

Since this drama has different tradition and the most wanted one in the era of 2000, the writer is really intended to analyze this literary work. The other reason of the writer choosing this drama is that play “MIM” is the biggest and most popular work of Linwood Boomer.

B. Focus of the Study

The writer will focus this study on traditional values of nuclear family in America, which has correlated into the life in this era. Then the writer tries to describe data taken from episodes in the drama, which related to the American nuclear family traditional values.
C. Research Question

Based on the background of study, the writer will formulate the matter in order to find the right research in appropriate way. The matter is:

1. What are American nuclear family traditional values represented in “Malcolm in the Middle”?

D. Significance of the Study

After reading this research, the writer hopes that the audiences will understand more about the American nuclear family traditional values as the stimuli to sharpen up their sharp ability on analyzing the literary work. In addition, the writer hopes this research will develop people’s intention to dig deeply more and more in order to find amazing value in the literary work. There are so many literary works like poem, prose and drama reflect to the social life where the literary work was written. That is why many literary works are analyzed by using sociology of literature.

E. Research Methodology

1. Objective

This research aimed to know the traditional values of American nuclear family based on the analysis of the play.
2. Method

The method of this research is descriptive qualitative method. The writer tries to represent the American nuclear family traditional values reflected in the drama entitled “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer.

3. Technique of Analysis

In this research, the writer uses the concept of Margareth Mead to analyze the available data. The American Nuclear Family Traditional Values in “Malcolm in the Middle” will be described based on some episodes in the play. The next, the existing data will be explained and analyzed in order to find the answer as mentioned in the research question.

4. Unit of Analysis

Analysis unit used in this research is the script of drama “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer presented during 2000.

5. Instrument of Research

Research instrument is the writer himself by marking and classifying data from several sources related to the drama.

6. Place and Time

This study was taken place in the State Islamic University started on February 2008 until October 2009, the academic year of 2008/2009.
CHAPTER II
THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

A. Sociology of Literature

1. Definition of Sociology

Sociology is an evolution of society, including the forms, institutions, functions of human group. Thomas Ford Hoult dictionary of Modern Society defines sociology as the intellectual discipline concerned with developing systematic, reliable, knowledge about human social relationships in general and about the product of such relationship.7

The sociology intends to know how the structure of social life, how the people can live peacefully, and how they can exists. Those structures are like religion, family, politics, culture, etc. We can find the description from those structures of how the people adapt with the society, mechanism, cultural process where finally they will be placed as social member in the society.8

Both of Sociology and literature has the correlation with the society the environment of the society is able to rise a literary work, because the work that represented by the author is a reflection from the environment, or the experience where he or she lives. This can be seen when Ernest Hemingway praises his

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7 Peter Worsley, Pengantar sosiologi; Sebuah pembanding,. (Yogyakarta: PT Tiara wacana, 1991). p.19
8 Sapardi Djoko Damono, Sosiologi Sastra, Sebuah Pengantar Ringkas,. (Jakarta: Pusat Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Bahasa Departmen Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan, 1984). p.6
beloved heart through his poem, “No second Troy’ which presents praises to his wife. Another like Robert Frost serves his poem titled “Two Roads Not Taken” which presents two choices that is not taken. Moreover, the other is “The Crucible” by Arthur Miller, which presents McCarthyism when communism touches American social life.

Thus, sociology and literature are inseparable as both of them always give influence between one another. That is why Suwardi Endaswara said that literary sociology is reflective. This is because literary work is a creation that reflects social life. Not only that, but also literature can give social effect.

Sociology theory, or called literary sociology shows that literary work cannot be separated from social context in which it was created. Even sociology and literature are different; they can give explanation to the literary text meaning. We can say this because the object of both elements is the same one. It is of course, a society.

2. Definition of Literature

Before going to further information the writer would like to explain what literature is. As we know that all of us like to hear things, hear stories, we like to hear music, we like to hear things happened to other people. We also like to hear radio and TV. We like going to the movie because we like to see and hear something happening. Those elements are always increasing our experience of going places, of doing things in our imagination that we might never have a
change to do otherwise. Literature is simply another way we can experience the world around us through our imagination.

Literature, in its broadest sense, includes all written materials. Into this general grouping fall history books, philosophical works, novels, poems, plays, scientific articles, dictionaries, directories, instructional manuals, travel folders, magazines and school textbooks. We can divide this large mass of material into two different groups. The first we can place those things that mainly present information and the other is that mainly entertain. A famous writer defined this by saying:

“There is first, the literature of knowledge, and secondly, the literature of power. The function of the first is to teach and the function of the second is to move”.  

Terry Eagleton writes, “Literature must indeed be re-situated within the field of general cultural production; but each mode of such production demands a semiology of its own, which is not complicable with some universal cultural discourse.”

Literature is an influence. Every influence comes from literature is literature. There is an influence between the readers and the literature itself.

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10 Eagleton 1976). (Peter Widdowson. Literature, the New Critical Idiom., (New York: Rutledge Publisher, Inc. 1999)
11 Thaha Nada. Sastra Bandingan., (Depok UI 1999.).
Meanwhile, Arnold put literature upon an equal footing with science. He says that literature and science considered philosophically.\textsuperscript{12}

So, what is the meaning of literature?

Literature means that the arranged texts or used are not merely for practice communicative aims and temporal running. It is done somehow to use in communication situation, which is arranged by environmental situation of certain culture.\textsuperscript{13}

Sartre said that literature is a prose, because he argues that it is capable of a purposeful reflection of the world, because in prose, the words are significative; they describe people and object.\textsuperscript{14}

B. Definitions of American Family

A family is a domestic group of people, or a number of domestic groups, typically affiliated by birth or marriage, or by comparable legal relationships including adoption. There are a number of variation in the basic family structure. The nuclear family consists of husband, wife, and their children, while the extended family includes grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins. Other family patterns include polygamous usually patriarchal and single parent families usually headed by a female.

\textsuperscript{13} Jan Van Luxemburg, Pengantar Ilmu Sastra., (Jakarta: Gramedia 1989), p. 9
\textsuperscript{14} Jean Paul Sartre. What is Literature,. (London: Routledge 2001). P. 23
Smith, D.E. defined standard North American Family as follows:

“It is a conception of the family as a legally married couple sharing a household. The adult male is in paid employment; his earnings provide the economic basis of the family-household. The adult female may also earn an income, but her primary responsibility is to the care of the husband, household, and children. Adult male and female may be parents (in whatever legal sense) of children also resident in the household”.15

Throughout history, families have been central to human society; a key indicator of a society's well-being is the health of its families. For this reason, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, "The family is the natural and fundamental group unit of society and is entitled to protection by society and the State." The family is the basic social unit for the expression of love between man and woman and the creation and rising of children. The family tames the wilder impulses of men to the responsibilities of fatherhood, enables young women to blossom as mothers, and cultivates morality in children. Moral virtues, empathy, and good human relationships are learned in the family.

All religions recognize the importance of the family and have moral teachings that support it. Some religions regard the family as an institution created by God for people to perfect themselves, become like God and experience oneness with God.

Some scientists appeared definitions of American family such as follow:

1. Social Scientists’ Definition of Family

Anthropologists say a culture's biological and marital kinship rules and patterns of reciprocal obligations define family. Each culture defines who is biological and marital kin, and who is not kin, and defines the obligations kin have to one another. In one culture, kinship is based on the father's biological line; in another, kinship is based on the mother's biological line; in another, kinship is based on a combination of both the father's and mother's biological line, but kinship obligations may quickly end about the level of uncles, aunts and first cousins. American culture maintains a distinction between brothers, sisters and cousins, but some early African societies made no distinction between brothers, sisters and cousins and used a single word to designate these kin. The rules for kinship and marital family relationships are virtually unlimited.

Structure-functionalists say the patterns of reciprocal obligations among people and between structures of people and the greater society define family. The greater society has needs that must be met; in order to meet those needs, society creates subsets of people structured to help meet the needs of society. The family is one of those structures. The definition of "family" changes as the needs of the greater society change. When the greater society needs rapid population growth — after a time of

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war, for example — society's definition of family emphasizes heterosexual bonding, procreation and child rearing; but when the greater society is faced with over-population and the need to limit population growth, society's definition of family may be modified to include homosexual bonding and may be more supportive of childless couples.

Institutionalists define family as a "traditional," biological, procreative and child-rearing structure and emphasize the biological relationship among family members. Interactionists, on the other hand, define family based on the voluntary assumption of family-related role behaviors. Institutionalists focus on the presence of a biological mother and father and biological offspring to define family. Interactionists merely require the presence of persons assuming mother, father and child roles to define a group as a family. For interactionists, it is performance of family roles that is important, not the biological or marital relationship.

Situationalists focus on social, cultural and physical forces beyond the individual's control which compel individuals to assume family-related role behaviors. Family may be either a relatively permanent or temporary phenomenon. For example, in the midst of war, natural disaster, or even foreign travel, individual adults and/or children may be thrown together into temporary "family" structures with individuals in the group assuming family role behaviors, especially parental and sibling roles, as the group seeks to endure or survive an ordeal. Temporary "families" may also develop in orphanages boarding schools or military units. The American
system of serial monogamy creates and dissolves temporary sequential families and step-families as the adults marry, divorce, and remarry.

Psychoanalysts focus on the individual's stage of development and unconscious needs in defining family. Social-psychologists focus on the self's need to belong and to achieve. The two separate approaches are similar since the individual's sense of attachment or estrangement is important in defining family. Thus, abused or estranged biological offspring may sever their psychological association with the family and effectively dissolve the family. Others, who are not biological kin, may consider themselves to be "family" and effectively create a family or join an existing family.

Developmentalists focus on physical growth and maturity and the imposition of societal definitions on individuals based on the individual's chronological age. The anthropologist and the institutionalist, on the other hand, would probably define this pair as a family based on the biological kinship relationship.

Economists focus on production and consumption activities; the family is a production and consumption unit. Historical economists may define the household slave in an African or Arabian household or the indentured servant in an early-American household as part of the family since the slave or servant works and subsists as a member of the family, living in the family household, eating at the family table and participating in family activities.
2. The State's Definition of Family

The state tends to define family in structure-functional terms. From all the various alternative definitions of family, the state selects portions from each to create authoritative and legal definitions of family. The definitions of family are based on the needs of the state. Instead of creating one single all-encompassing definition of family, various governments, and various agencies of the various governments, each have slightly different needs and objectives, so each creates its own individual definition of family. It is the state's needs and objectives that determine the definition, not the society's, the individual's or the family's needs and objectives.

Since one of the state's historic functions is accounting for numbers of people (the census), the state needs to be informed on the whereabouts and living arrangements of all people under its jurisdiction. One way to maintain accountability is to license and register couplings, cohabitations and procreations. Only licensed and registered couplings create a "legitimate" family. To protect its definition of family, the state enacts laws against fornication and adultery, insuring only licensed and registered couples cohabit and copulate, and discourages "illegitimate" births. Zoning codes prevent two unlicensed people from cohabiting as a "family," prevent anyone other than a legally defined child or parent from cohabiting with a family, and prevent residential occupancy by non-traditional "families," including fraternities and sororities. These and a host of other government-enacted and government-enforced

\[17 \text{ Ibid. p. 2} \]
laws and regulations insure the state's ability to account for the physical location of people under its jurisdiction.

Throughout most of history, states sought to expand their populations by various means, including the procreation of its citizens. Marriage legalizes and legitimizes the offspring and creates a "family." In many nations, and in many American states, the failure to procreate is grounds for divorce or annulment of the marriage and dissolution of the family.

In state-enacted marital and divorce law, the economic obligations among family members insure that children and women are prevented from becoming the financial responsibility of the state. Again, the needs of the state define family and family obligations.

3. The Definition of Family in a Conservative Free Society

In a Conservative "free society," such as one envisioned by sociologist Robert Nisbet, with a severely reduced role for the state and an enhanced role for alternative social institutions — church, economy, educational system — the state's needs no longer prevail in the definition of family. Instead, the needs of the alternative social institutions are paramount. In a Conservative free society, individuals and couples merely exchange the state's definitions of family for definitions imposed by other social institutions.

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18 Ibid. p. 3
4. The Definition of Family in a Libertarian Free Society\textsuperscript{19}

In a Libertarian "free society," with severely reduced roles for all social institutions, the needs and interests of the individual are paramount in defining family. Rather than being defined in structure-functional terms, family is defined in interactional, situational, psychoanalytical and social-psychological terms. Persons define family for themselves.

Family in a Libertarian free society is a voluntary union for the mutual personal gratification, mutual personal and group need fulfillment, and personal self-actualization. This voluntary union may be limited to two adults, or extended to include several adults; it may or may not include children, biological or otherwise. This voluntary union may have rigid boundaries, if that is what the members of the union desire, or may have relatively open permeable boundaries, with members entering or exiting the union at their will.

With family defined in interactional, situational, and psychological terms and each family of individuals free to define family for themselves, the variations in family are limitless. Even without institutional authorities to create, defend and enforce some common framework for the definition of family, and even with the number of competing definitions approaching the infinite, the concept of "family" will still have meaning.

Family in a Libertarian free society will be an open, voluntary relationship based on the mutual and reciprocal benefits family participants receive from family

\textsuperscript{19} Ibid
membership. Family status will be recognized by general humanity, although general humanity will share little or no common agreement concerning the definition of family. Family will function to meet the needs of offspring created through the family, if not in the biological unit of conception, then in some other family created for the nurturing and rearing of children.

C. American Family

Once, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld a “one family” zoning law that stopped a group of college students from living in a house. According to the local zoning rules, a "family" was "one or more persons related by blood, adoption, or marriage, living and cooking together as a single housekeeping unit, exclusive of household servants. A number of persons but not exceeding two living and cooking together as a single housekeeping unit though not related by blood, adoption, or marriage shall be deemed to constitute a family." Justice Marshall objected that this was discriminating against unmarried couples, but the majority found it to be a valid exercise of the locality’s police power.20

There are three kinds of American family:

1. Blended families

According to etymology, blended family is to mix a family formed when parents bring together children from previous marriages.21

It means that Blended families are formed when remarriages occur or when children living in a household share only one or no biological parents. The presence of a stepparent, stepsibling, or half-sibling designates a family as blended.

The process of blending a family is quite simply a choice to do what is in the best interests of the children. It is putting us in uncomfortable situations because it is best for the children. It is working at relationships that we had no intentions on continuing. It is putting in the time, effort, heartache, and madness of rebuilding relationships that have been damaged. Not in hopes that they will become what they once were but so we can all participate, be involved, encourage, and love our children together. However, the terms may be interchangeable and we can all grasp what the concept is of the logistics, blending a family is an action, a verb. It is something we do and therefore we are. We inherit stepfamilies through relationships. We create blended families.

A blended family will face many of the same struggles and hardships that a traditional nuclear family will face. Nevertheless, being part of a blended family means you will also face struggles and hardships that are inherent to blended families and are unlike any that other families may face. Blended families are complex extensions of prior relationships and they have complex issues. It is possible to have a successful, happy blended family and it is more rewarding than one can even imagine.22

2. Extended family

Around the world, the structures of family norms are different. Ideas of what constitute a family changes based on culture, mobility, wealth, and tradition. Yet, as James Q. Wilson has stated:

In virtually every society in which historians or anthropologists have inquired, one finds people living together on the basis of kinship ties and having responsibility for raising children. The kinship ties invariably imply restrictions on who has sexual access to whom; the child-care responsibilities invariably imply both economic and non-economic obligations. And in virtually every society, the family is defined by marriage; that is, by a publicly announced contract that makes legitimate the sexual union of a man and a woman.23

In many cultures, the need to be self-supporting is hard to meet, particularly where rents property values are very high, and the foundation of a new household can be an obstacle to nuclear family formation. In these cases, extended family forms. People remain single and live with their parents for a longer period. Generally, the trend to shift from extended to nuclear family structures has been supported by increasing mobility and modernization.

Some have argued that the extended family, or at least the three-generational family including grandparents, provides a broader and deeper foundation for raising children as well as support for the new parents. In particular, the role of grandparents has been recognized as an important aspect of the family dynamic. Having

experienced the challenges of creating a family themselves, they offer wisdom and encouragement to the young parents and become a reassuring presence in the lives of their grandchildren. Abraham Maslow described the love of grandparents as "the purest love for the being of the other."\(^{24}\) The benefits of these intergenerational encounters are substantial for all involved.

An extended family is a group of related persons who usually reside together and consists of:\(^{25}\)

- a family nucleus and one or more ‘other related persons’, or
- two or more related family nuclei, with or without other related persons.

People who usually live in a particular dwelling, and are members of an extended family in that dwelling, but who are absent on census night, are included, as long as they are reported as being absent by the reference person on the dwelling form.

Therefore, it can be concluded that extended family is a household where a child lives with at least one parent and someone other than a parent or siblings, either relatives or non-relatives. It is a type of family in which relatives in addition to parents and children (such as grandparents, aunts, uncles, and cousins) live in a single household. A nuclear family forms the core of an extended family.

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3. Nuclear family

This term from sociology refers to a household consisting of a mother, father, and a child or children. By contrast, many families are more than just this nucleus. An extended family may include grandparents, aunts and uncles, cousins, or other relatives living in the same home. A blended family could also include a stepmother or stepfather, half-sisters and half-brothers, and so on.

The word 'nuclear' here means 'central and elemental', not 'radioactive'. Live forever points out, however, that the term 'nuclear family' is also used in the media to refer to the nuclear club of nations with nuclear weapons.²⁶

The term nuclear family developed in the western world to distinguish the family group consisting of parents, most commonly a father and mother, and their children, from what is known as an extended family. Nuclear families can be any size, as long as the family can support itself and there are only parents and children (or the family is an extended family).

For a group to be called a nuclear family there must at some time be a father, mother and at least one child. This type of family structure is found in almost all societies, although the length of time in which the family remains in this form varies even within the same society. The nuclear family was most popular in the 1950’s and 60’s.²⁷

The nuclear family can be a nurturing environment in which to raise children as long as there is love, time spent with children, emotional support, low stress, and a stable economic environment. In nuclear families, both adults are the biological or adoptive parents of their children.

The nuclear family consists of a married couple and their children. The nuclear family is ego-centered and impermanent, while descent groups are permanent (lasting beyond the life-spans of individual constituents) and reckoned according to a single ancestor. One’s family of orientation is the family in which one is born and grows up, while one’s family of procreation is formed when one marries and has children.

Claims made for the universality of the nuclear family, based upon the universality of marriage, does not hold up the nuclear family are widespread, but not universal. In societies where the nuclear family is important, this structure acts as a primary arena for sexual, reproductive, economic, and acculturative functions, but it is not the only structure used by societies for these.

Take an example 53.7 % of Canadians live in two parent, or nuclear families. There are three types of married nuclear families depending on employment status of the woman and man.

In the first type, the man works outside the home while the woman works inside the home caring for the children 28 percent of all households fit this description.
In the second type of married nuclear family, the woman works outside the home and the man cares for the children. This constitutes 2 percent of the families in this country.

In the third kind of married nuclear family, both the wife and the husband work outside the home or are income providers. In some situations, the woman might have a home-based business, such as a day care center. Nearly 60 percent women with children under the age of six were in the workforce during the past decade.\(^{28}\)

Marxist feminist suggest that the nuclear family meets the needs of capitalism for the reproduction and maintenance of class and patriarchal inequality. It benefits the powerful at the expense of the working class and women. They look at issues like inheritance, individualism, privacy, women work and pretty power. Bellows are some statements taken from nuclear family: “Nobody has ever before asked the nuclear family to live all by itself in a box the way we do. With no relatives, no support, we’ve put it in an impossible situation” (Margaret Mead).\(^{29}\) “The great advantage of living in a large family is that early lesson of life’s essential unfairness” (Nancy Mitford).

Pearl S. Buck criticized current system on part of emotional security aspects. He said, “that the lack of emotional security of American young people is due, he believes, to their isolation from the larger family unit. No two people – no mere father and mother – as he has often said, are enough to provide emotional security for a child. He needs to feel himself one in a world of kinfolk, persons of variety in age and

\(^{28}\) Ibid

temperament, and yet allied to himself by an indissoluble bond which he cannot break if he could, for nature has welded him into it before he was born.”

Murdoch, a functionalist and other functionalists in America believe that the nuclear family is the only acceptable family structure as it provides and supplies the needs of every member of the family. Radical Feminists have an entirely different view, believing that the nuclear family does not benefit anyone, except the men of society.

Functionalists have a very clear view on the nuclear family. They believe that society actually benefits from the nuclear family because of what they provide. Functionalists feel that the nuclear family helps to educate children whilst stabilizing adult personalities, which in turn benefits society greatly. This in turn is helping to train children who will become the workers of the next generation. Murdock, who is a functionalist, feels that the nuclear families are an excellent role model for children; providing them with both a guide to follow their life by and values to believe in.

We need to consider, however, if the values that he is sitting are actually benefiting the modern people. It is a well known that functionalists tend to generalize the “facts,” which they are trying to talk about. Murdock is trying to avoid real life situations, which arise quite frequently within families. He is practically ignoring the downsides of family relationships that can be seen through things like domestic violence.31

30 http://www.buzzle.com/editorials 6-23-2004 55793.asp (July 19, 2009), Loc. cit
31 http://everything2.com/title/Nuclear+Family
Feminist Alison Jaggar notes that:

“some feminists also criticized nuclear traditional family values because of their broader social implications. Radical feminists charged that the nuclear family promoted a norm of heterosexuality, regarded as indispensable for maintaining male dominance, whereas Marxist and socialist feminists argued that the nuclear family fulfilled a variety of vital economic functions for capitalist society.”

However, Radical Feminists feel that the nuclear family is made to serve only the interests of men this is because radical feminists believe that our society is very much a male dominated society (or Patriarchy), believing that women are exploited. Whilst the nuclear family carries on with the segregation of roles, these women feel that men are holding them back; so they are unable to become more independent. Radical Feminists argue that during industrialization, their job was simply named as “wife-mother” and they were not even given the chance to work. They also argue that nuclear families do not serve the needs of the whole society.

Therefore, we can see that both views on the nuclear family are very different. Functionalists believe that the nuclear families benefit society and Radical Feminists believe that the nuclear families exploit the women in society. Both views have good points as the nuclear family could provide a stable home for a child and its parents. However, we have to consider that these opposing opinions are, in fact, both correct but perhaps need to be less one sided in their argument. To conclude, we feel that with a mixture of both views would show that the nuclear family could be desirable with adaptation.

32 http://www.conservapedia.com/Nuclear_Family
For better or worse, human beings seem to be programmed to live in families. Research indicates that most Americans (71 percent) still idealize the traditional family even as they grow more accepting of divorce (78 percent), cohabitation (49 percent), and single-parent families.33

As far back as our knowledge takes us, human beings have lived in families. We know of no period where this was not so. We know of no people who have succeeded for long in dissolving the family or displacing it again and again, in spite of proposals for change and actual experiments, human societies have reaffirmed their dependence on the family as the basic unit of human living—the family of father, mother and children.

*The graphic of American family structure*34

Family arrangements in the United States have become more diverse with no particular household arrangement representing half of the U.S. population.35

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35 ibid
Today, many people tend to idealize the two-parent nuclear family as the ideal family structure. The man typically is responsible for income and support, the woman for home and family matters. Social conservatives often express concern over a purported decay of the family and see this as a sign of the crumbling of contemporary society. They look with alarm at the dramatic increase in households headed by single mothers and by same-sex couples. Yet anthropologists point out that these are merely variations on family types that have existed in other societies.

Even when people bypass the traditional configuration of father, mother, and their biological children, they tend to follow its patterns anyway, showing the fundamental need they feel for its structure. Couples live together and raise children, even children from previous relationships. Same-sex couples assume masculine and feminine roles and demand legal recognition of their unions; many seek to adopt children. Homeless children tend to congregate in gangs that serve as surrogate families. On the other hand, as families universally are built around the marriage bond and the responsibilities for raising children, there would seem to be some rationality to giving preference to the two-parent nuclear family—particularly over family structures headed by only one parent. As James Q. Wilson has stated:

In virtually every society in which historians or anthropologists have inquired, one finds people living together on the basis of kinship ties and having responsibility for raising children. The kinship ties invariably imply restrictions on who has sexual access to whom; the child-care responsibilities invariably imply both economic and non-economic obligations. And in virtually every society, the family is defined by marriage; that is, by a publicly announced contract that makes legitimate the sexual union of a man and a woman.36

36 Wilson, James Q (1993), loc.cit.
In many cultures, the need to be self-supporting is hard to meet, particularly where rents and property values are very high, and the foundation of a new household can be an obstacle to nuclear family formation. In these cases, extended families form. People remain single and live with their parents for a long period of time. Generally, the trend to shift from extended to nuclear family structures has been supported by increasing mobility and modernization.

The emotional pull of these intergenerational encounters remains strong even for those who have split off to form nuclear families. Individuals who leave the village and their extended families for the economic benefits of life in the city may feel a sense of isolation and a longing for the thick relationships and warm love of the extended family of their origin. This suggests that, economic issues aside, people are happiest living in extended families, or in nuclear families that treasure close bonds with their kinfolk.

D. The Description of American Nuclear Family Traditional Values

It’s also called Family culture, which is defined as aggregate of attitudes, ideas and ideals, and environment, which a person inherits from his/her parents and ancestors.

The nuclear family traditional values are made up of a father, mother and a couple of children or so, and hence is compact and small. The father’s role is of providing for the family as well as protecting it, while also being the family’s disciplinary role model. The woman’s role within the traditional nuclear family
consists of housework and motherhood. It is based on a heterosexual relationship generally involving romantic love.

In recent decades, this traditional form of the family has undergone major changes, with increasing rates of divorce leading to single-parent families, remarriages, resulting in extended families.

Margareth Mead listed some American nuclear family traditional values as follow:\(^{37}\)

1. *The old still prefer living with children.*

Despite the growing number of nuclear families in big cities, the tradition for several generations to live under one roof is far from being outdated in some rural areas, where most senior citizens still prefer living with their children and grandchildren.

In a recent survey among senior citizens some 96 percent of the respondents said they prefer to be under the care of their children, rather than going away to a senior citizen’s center. And their choice is always backed by their children, who closely observe traditional codes, in particular, the filial piety.

A big family in county leaves with four generations under the same roof. The great grandparents, both over 80, are immersed in happiness and enjoy good health, thanks to the love and care from their children and grandchildren.

2. *The younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life.*

\(^{37}\) Margareth Mead (2007), *loc. cit*
They take up all the household chores, from farming, cooking, cleaning to caring for the old couple in time of sickness. From time to time, they would take the old couple to sightseeing tours.

Latest statistics show that 65 percent of the senior citizens are in rural areas. Most of them live with their sons, daughters and in-laws. Big families therefore, have amounted to 152,000, and the number is still going up.

3. Enjoyable to share weal and woe of family.

People tend to be more attached to their family as they grow old, said an expert on the aging issue. He said also that they wish to live with, or at least be close to, their children, and to help with domestic affairs as much as possible.

An old couple of a nuclear family said that life is enjoyable when you or we share the weal and woe of the family. It’s exciting when a grandchild goes to college or gets married.


Children raised in a family with the same parents during their growing years have a higher likelihood of having stability in their relationship and emotional bonding. Children that grow up in a single-parent household have higher chances of feeling a sense of loss regarding the absent parent, and miss out on the advantage of the emotional support and dual insights that both a father and a mother can provide.


With both the father and the mother, children get a better sense of what is acceptable and unacceptable, as far as behavior is concerned, especially when both
the parents look after their nurturing. When both parents agree on the kind of behavior that they want from the children, it adds authority, and thus can be instilled in a better way.

6. A Sense of Consistency.

When children grow up in a nuclear family, they get a sense of consistency, especially when it also includes closeness with other members of the family like grandparents, aunts and uncles, and cousins. This enables them to feel as if they are a part of a wider whole, particularly during traditional get-togethers. This provides a strong foundation to their roots, and can be a guiding principle all their lives.

7. Learning Skills.

In a nuclear family, children usually get far more extensive training in life skills. For instance, mothers usually teach their children relationship skills, like emotional response skills and how to have smooth relations with others, while fathers, in general, teach their children handiwork skills and sports skills, like fixing things around the house or hitting a baseball, as well as how to deal with the world outside.


With two parents sharing the responsibility of raising the children, enables one parent to take time to pursue other interests or get a rest while the other parent plays or works with the children. Children that are raised in a traditional nuclear family also tend to take on some of the sharing of the responsibilities, such as older
siblings taking care of younger siblings. In a nuclear family, such roles are usually performed by expectation and example, rather than formal instruction.

9. **Physical and Emotional Support.**

Nuclear families usually have more physical and emotional resources with which they can reinforce the whole. Through observing their parents and by following the examples set by them, children learn how to help in the building of the family.
CHAPTER III
RESEARCH FINDINGS

A. Description of Malcolm in the Middle Drama

*Malcolm in the Middle* is one of teen American comedy drama that presented during 2000 created by Linwood Boomer for the Fox Network, which consists of 7 seasons and 151 episodes. It is a seven-time Emmy-Winning, one-time Grammy Winning and seven-time Golden Globe-nominated American sitcom created by Linwood Boomer for the Fox Network. The series was dominant broadcast on January 9, 2000, and ended its six and a half year run on May 14, 2006, hind hand seven seasons. It now can be viewed on FX Network (United States) in syndication.38

“*Malcolm in the Middle*”, presents us the family life of Malcolm. The show starred Frankie Muniz as Malcolm, the third born of four, later cast, children in the family, parented by Lois (Jane Kaczmarek) and Hal (Bryan Cranston). The oldest child, Francis (Christopher Masterson), was shipped off to Military School, leaving his three little brothers behind; Reese (Justin Berfield), Malcolm and Dewey (Erik Per Sullivan) living at home. Malcolm being the second oldest of the three (hence the easement of the show). The show early seasons centered on Malcolm and the rigors of being an adolescent genius, and his eccentric, although early normal life. This is to show that Malcolm takes an important role in his family. Later seasons additionally

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38http://vido.google.com/videosearch?hl=id&q=Malcolm+in+the+middle&um=1&ie=UTF-8&ei=v3aeSdD-B4KqsAODz4jZCQ&sa=X&oi=video_result_group&resnum=4&ct=title#
began to explore the supplemental members of the family and their friends in more depth.

B. American Nuclear Family Traditional Values Presented in “Malcolm in the Middle” Drama

In this part, the writer would like to analyze the traditional values of American Nuclear Family based on the concept of Margareth Mead and the drama scripts that is presented per episode. The American nuclear family traditional values mentioned in the chapter two would be described based on the evidence available in episode of MIM. Here are some evidences and explanations taken episode including its original airdates and production;

1. The younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life.

   It is told in the first that one of the characters Reese, the Malcolm’s brother, Reese is the second oldest of the children, and is also the least intelligent and most destructive, although at some times, he shows even more intelligence than Malcolm when devising fiendish, partly as is a bully at school. He bullies the “Krelboynes” in Malcolm’s class, as well as his younger brothers, especially Dewey. Due to this, Reese is seen working out a lot to give himself a muscular build.

   During his ten years, Reese ran off to join the US military under a faked name and forged age for being that he was underage at time, without telling his
family where he had gone. He was successful in completing Basic Training and was praised as one of the most brilliant soldiers in his platoon after he learned to “turn his brain off” and surrender his will to his superiors. After being sent to Iraq in combat conditions, Reese struggles to stay alive. When his mother, Lois, catches wind of what Reese has done, she tracks him down in Iraq and personally brings home without objection from the military since Reese was underage.

It has been hinted that Reese may also be a genius, like Dewey and Malcolm. At the end of his senior year of high school, he is seen studying all day and night multiple times. He says that the tests are a bunch of true-false questions. When his results on the final exams come back, it is found out that he had done so bad that he couldn’t make it up in summer school so he would have to repeat the year and thus, not move out or need to get a job.

Not wanting to loose the change of becoming more genius like his brother, Malcolm tries to find a college even it becomes a nightmare for his mother, Lois. However, it is nothing but due to the family’s glory, like the evidence below:

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Malcolm Visits College”</td>
<td>March 28, 2004</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>101</td>
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*Malcolm looks forward to visiting college, but it becomes a nightmare when Lois comes along and they meet the dorm head, Leland. Dewey steals items around the house to drive Hal nuts and to build a piano. Reese pretends to be a drug dealer to go out with the school’s narc. Francis and Otto take care of a day care, with disastrous results.*
Malcolm has a fellow called Herkable. Just the same with other students who are willing to study and improve the skill, he finally forces Malcolm to enter the Academic Octathlon.

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Academic Octathlon&quot;</td>
<td>April 13, 2003</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>79</td>
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Herkabe forces Malcolm to join the academic octathlon team. When Herkabe decides for them to cheat, Malcolm chooses to make everyone pay.

The next evidence shows us the effort of young girl after coming from Europe and improves her skills there. Self-improvement for the family progress and life is really a proper thing that they usually do in order to support their old parents.

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Cynthia’s Back”</td>
<td>February 17, 2002</td>
<td>314</td>
<td>55</td>
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Cynthia returns from Europe and Malcolm discovers that she has a more 'developed' figure.

The other evidence that shows the effort of younger children to improve their ability and capability in almost everything is what Dewey (Malcom’s brother) does during his childhood like the evidence below;

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<tr>
<td>“Dewey’s Special Class”</td>
<td>May 2, 2004</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>103</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Dewey, after deliberately failing rather than excel on an I.Q. test and be in a similar class as Malcolm, is sent to a special class due to Malcolm's advice.

From the description above, it is proved that Dewey has the top intelligent. The fact that when Malcolm has complete Dewey’s test, which accidentally gets Dewey thrown into the “Special “ class, which is full of kids considered lost
causes. Students in this class are known as the “Buseys”. Dewey has since organized the class to want to be all they can be, and is teaching them standard lessons. He has been trying to show that they are just as capable as others, and has organized them to do things such as performing an opera he wrote based on his family.

Unlike Malcom, his parents intend for Dewey to be rich and happy later in life. Lois even once told Malcolm that “Dewey is a flier, he will just drift and float through life and things will turn out for him, but you and I Malcolm are burrowers, we are at our best when our heads are down and we’re grinding through a mountain of drudgery.” He spends much effort making sure his brother Jamie does not feel neglected like he did.

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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Graduation”</td>
<td>May 14, 2006</td>
<td>722</td>
<td>151</td>
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In the series finale, Malcolm struggles with his speech as Valedictorian of his graduating class. Reese attempts to become a high school janitor permanently. Francis finds a 9-5 job he actually enjoys. Hal has problems with Malcolm’s Harvard tuition. The family says goodbye, as Malcolm leaves for college. 3 months later Lois becomes pregnant again.

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<th>Title</th>
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<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“High School Play”</td>
<td>December 10, 2000</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>25</td>
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Malcolm gets a role in a high school play and becomes obsessed with gossip. Caroline Miller gives birth in the school parking lot when the Krelboynes' model rocket launch goes awry.
2. The old still prefer living with children.

Sharing kinds of feeling within the nuclear family is something has been vested in everyone of its member. This strong habit grows until they come to their olds. That’s why the grand father or grand mother still wants to live together with their grand children. This is because they think the life is enjoyable when they can share the weal and woe of the family. This is what an old couple said. They are also excited when their grandchild gone to college or get married. They often visit their family in order to, eat least, and see their grandchild.

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“The Grandparents”</td>
<td>February 11, 2001</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


3. Enjoyable to share weal and woe of family.

Sad and joy always come to the human life and American nuclear family is accustomed with sharing both of feelings to their family, because it can make life exciting. Weal and woe are as ingredients during human’s life and when they can share these feelings, the life is really valuable and honored. Malcolm has proved it with his act of becoming baby sits when his family has to live in a trailer in the yard for the house is being fumigated, like the evidence below;
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Malcolm Baby Sits”</td>
<td>February 13, 2000</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

After the family has to live in a trailer in their yard when their house is being fumigated. Malcolm becomes a babysitter for a rich family, once he finds out that they were spying on him with hidden cameras. He then pretends he is going to kill the family fish and admits that he found the camera. He gives the money back and leaves with disgust.

The life does not merely consist of sorrow, the lights of fun and joy must come some day and it is the great event and a forgotten memorial item when the family gathered with all its members and share this feeling in a special place. The picnic, for the example, can be purposed to escape all the annoying things in the daily activity or jobs in the office. American nuclear family presents it with the evidence below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Company Picnic (1)”</td>
<td>February 3, 2002</td>
<td>311</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The family attends Hal's family picnic. Hal tries to avoid his new boss because of his bleak history of first impressions and Malcolm sees an old crush.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Company Picnic (2)”</td>
<td>February 3, 2002</td>
<td>312</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The conclusion to the first part of the episode. Reese & his scavenger hunt partner wreak havoc, Hal confronts his boss and Malcolm gets himself into a very awkward position.
It is told in the first that the family is the place where they can share the feeling of sad and fun. It is interesting of being together in every condition with the family. There is no place to submit all kinds of feeling as care as family. Now here the Malcolm’s family is excited with the birthday of Hal, the good father of his four children. Francis as the oldest son comes to this party with his wife to celebrate this great moment, as stated below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Hal’s Birthday”</td>
<td>March 3, 2002</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A birthday surprise - Francis comes home on Hal's birthday with his new wife - Piama (Emy Coligado).*


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Mini Bike”</td>
<td>April 29, 2001</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Craig drives the family insane while living with them. The boys buy and repair a mini bike, which Reese promptly crashes.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Carnival”</td>
<td>May 6, 2001</td>
<td>223</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Reese, Malcolm and Dewey plot to hitchhike with Stevie to the county fair.*
5. **Behavioral Stability.**

Lois, the mother of five children, presents behavioral stability. Even she is described as a hard-nosed, manipulative and slightly crazy mother and something of an embarrassment to her five kids, she does her best due to her children’s future, especially her effort to keep her kids of misbehavior by joining a women’s book;

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Book Club”</td>
<td>November 18, 2001</td>
<td>303</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Lois attempts to escape the boys' nightly misbehavior by joining a women's book club, but she soon realizes that the night is merely an excuse for the women to socialize--and to plot against a PTA mom who seems to handle her children and all other motherly duties with ease. Meanwhile, Hal struggles to keep the boys in order and away from the illegal fireworks hidden in the backyard.*

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Stock Car Races”</td>
<td>April 2, 2000</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Hal takes the boys to see stock-car races on a school day. Meanwhile, Lois searches for her paycheck (which Hal took) and, with the help of Malcolm's Krelboyne class teacher, finds enough evidence to ground the boys for life and Francis sneaks a snake into the academy.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Old Mrs. Old”</td>
<td>January 7, 2001</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Malcolm must help an old woman (Florence Stanley) in the neighborhood with whatever she wants of him, and he ends up driving her car. Francis' boyhood friend Ritchie is sent to the same military academy.*
6. A Sense of Consistency.

A sense of consistency has been run in Malcolm’s family, like his brother, Reese. Despite Reese’s outwardly unintelligent facade, he discovered a gift for cooking in his late teen years. He is gifted at gourmet cooking and finds a lot of enjoyment in it; the only effective way his parents can find to punish him is banning him from the kitchen. He finds success in a meatpacking job, but is fired after setting all the cows free to impress a girl.

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<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
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<th>Episode</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Reese Cooks”</td>
<td>March 4, 2001</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reese is taken to a cooking class as punishment, and quickly finds that he excels at it.

From the evidence above, it appear that even a punishment can be so valuable that it gives a very good experience to master the cooking quickly.

That was not all, especially when Reese in his late teen years, gets married to an attractive immigrant girl who requires the marriage to stay in the U.S. Reese truly cares for her, and she claims to care about him. However, the marriage falls apart when Reese and Lois discover her sleeping with another man inside the couple’s garage apartment. Added to the fact that Reese miserably failed the immigration test to keep his wife in the country (he mistakenly wrote that she has a tail), the character is never heard from again and presumably deported.
Then, the next consistency proved as follow:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
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<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Kitty’s Back”</td>
<td>December 12, 2004</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Kitty (Merrin Dungey) returns after having done everything imaginable and wants to return to her family to Lois's dismay.*

This evidence serves us the good sample of consistency. After being succeeded and having done everything that she has been dreaming of, Kitty returns to her family. This is as the fact that nuclear family teaches the best things for its members.

As well as Kitty, Reese comes with an example of not forgetting his brother, Malcolm. When he graduates from high school, he moves in with Craig Feldspar and finally finds success, as a junior in his former high school. According to his phone call with Malcolm in the season finale, he tells Malcolm that when the principal found the peepholes in the bathroom, the head janitor was fired, and his job was given to Reese.

7. **Learning Skills.**

The next tradition presented in MIM is learning skills. Learning skills here is not restricted to special things at certain places, but it is more than that. The abilities and capabilities may be provided at any places, even in the time when groups of family or class enjoy the leisure time. It is not the leisure that merely as the main destination of a group, but it could be more than a having fun. It is a presentation of skills that they have to show to others, like the episode below:
This can be understood, because many episodes revolve around Malcolm’s attempts to reconcile his genius-level 165 IQ with his desire to lead what he would consider a normal social life. However, Malcolm remains a social outcast in school. In middle school, Malcolm uncomfortably socializes with his fellow Krelboynes, but when the group moves on to high school, they no longer have, classes together and stop interacting. Malcolm and Reese, particularly toward the end of the series, have no discernible group of friends. At this point, the only people Malcolm interacts with socially on a regular basis are his family, his genius best friend Stevie Kenarban, and a handful of short-term girlfriends.

Dewey, the youngest brother in Malcolm Family, presents the other evidence of learning skill. Dewey begins to exhibit a high degree of intelligence, seen mainly in his talent pf playing the piano. Dewey is about to follow his brother into the gifted class, only to have Malcolm help him stay in normal classes. In such early childhood, he was able to play a piano.

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<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Malcolm Visits College”</td>
<td>March 28,2004</td>
<td>516</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Malcolm looks forward to visiting college, but it becomes a nightmare when Lois comes along and they meet the dorm head, Leland. Dewey steals items around the house to drive Hal nuts and to build a piano. Reese pretends to be a drug dealer to go out with the school's narc.*

The life within the family will be more exciting, when each of its members becomes responsible of other members. It is as if a great unity between them that it seems inseparable between one member to the others as well as a great building that one element strengthens the others.

In Malcolm’s family feeling of responsibility has been proved. Especially when the boys get a letter from Francis’s Academy saying that he drove the tractor into a pool. Being worried about Francis doomed life and in order to save him, the family members put all the family’s treasure in a chart and cover it in paint. Moreover, they still worried about him. Here is the evidence;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
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<th>Episode</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Sunday”</td>
<td>May 14, 2000</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>15</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

_The boys stay home on a school day when Lois is so sick she thinks it is Sunday. Hal considers buying a Porsche. The boys get a letter from Francis’ academy-saying he drove a tractor into a pool, which they inadvertently let Lois find. In order to save Francis from a doomed life, they put all of the family’s treasured keepsakes in a cart, cover it in paint, and roll it off the roof just as Hal is driven home in a Porsche he threw up in. suffice to say, after ruining the keepsakes and sports car, they have little worries about Francis’ fate._
9. **Physical and Emotional Support.**

Physical and emotional support run together in order to live better to face all kinds of life problem. American people like to join the sport to keep healthy. Sometimes they may go to some places to do some exercise, as stated below;

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production</th>
<th>Episode</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>“Bowling”</td>
<td>April 1, 2001</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Sliding Doors-style interwoven stories follow a trip to the bowling alley with Lois or Hal. Won an Emmy._
CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

A. Conclusions

“Malcolm in the Middle” is such an example of drama using American Nuclear Family Traditional values issues as a theme. Moreover, drama as the work of art of course represents the idea of the scriptwriter whether it is his personal experience, his family life condition, his imagination or even maybe his physiological condition.

This drama was studied by using the descriptive qualitative method. It means that the comprehension of the message of this drama involves the understanding of social and traditional values background of the time this drama was created, because as a product from social world that always changes, drama as a literary work is a meaningful dynamics unity, as a reflection of the important values and events in his period.

This study has proved that the drama entitled “Malcolm in the Middle” represents the nuclear family traditional values in America at the time it was created such as; the old still prefer living with children, the younger generations have made every effort to improve the quality of the old couple’s life, enjoyable to share weal and woe of family, a stable environment, behavioral stability, a sense of consistency, learning skills, sharing responsibility, and physical and emotional support as well as it symbolized the nuclear family traditional values in America at that time.
Sure, there are similarities between the drama and the socio-traditional background behind the drama. Consciously or not, Linwood Boomer had tried to deliver the message and describe the American nuclear family traditional values in a brief way through this drama.

B. Suggestions

To analyze a drama or a literary work, researcher has to use the right approach or theory in analyzing the drama and literary work itself. “Malcolm in the Middle” is an interesting subject to be studied and analyzed. This study has proved that the drama “Malcolm in the Middle” by Linwood Boomer has represented the American nuclear family traditional values.

However, the writer would like to suggest to the readers and students who are interested in studying this field to study and explore more about the socio-traditional background related to the drama to understand it. Through this study, the writer also wants everybody to know that every drama indeed has messages. Finally, the writer hopes that this study will be able to enrich the literary studies in the English Letters Department, Letters and Humanities Faculty, State Islamic University “Syarif Hidayatullah” Jakarta.
BIBLIOGRAPHY


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Writer</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Production #</th>
<th>Episode #</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Pilot&quot;</td>
<td>January 9, 2000</td>
<td>Linwood Boomer</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm is transferred into the accelerated learning class, and must deal with a bully named Spath.</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Red Dress&quot;</td>
<td>January 16, 2000</td>
<td>Alan J. Higgins</td>
<td>Arlene Sanford</td>
<td>102</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On the night of her wedding anniversary, Lois finds her red dress burned and in the toilet. She immediately blames Reese, Dewey, and Malcolm and tortures them into confessing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Home Alone 4&quot;</td>
<td>January 23, 2000</td>
<td>Michael Glauberman</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>While Hal and Lois are away for the weekend, Francis is left to babysit the boys, but when Francis invites his hoodlum friends over, they trash the house. Now the four have to clean the house before Hal and Lois come back.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Shame&quot;</td>
<td>February 6, 2000</td>
<td>David Richardson</td>
<td>Nick Marck</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm beats up an annoying bully. But when he finds out that the annoying kid was 7, he feels very guilty and joins a charity race to make up for it. Meanwhile, Hal cuts down a tree and ends up angering a neighbor.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Malcolm Babysits&quot;</td>
<td>February 13, 2000</td>
<td>Maggie Bandur and Pang-Li Landrum</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm's family moves into a trailer while their house is being fumigated, and Malcolm gets a taste of the good life while house-sitting for a couple. Meanwhile, Francis finds the corpse of a janitor named Lester in the basement of the military school and teams up with his friends to give the forgotten custodian a proper burial.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Sleepover&quot;</td>
<td>February 20, 2000</td>
<td>Dan Kopelman</td>
<td>Ken Kwapis</td>
<td>106</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Malcolm stays overnight at Stevie's house and talks him into sneaking out to an all-night arcade after having to put up with Stevie's parents strict monitoring. Meanwhile, Reese has to give Dewey a bath in order to stay up and watch a scary movie.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Air Date</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Writer</th>
<th>Episode</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Francis Escapes&quot;</td>
<td>February 27, 2000</td>
<td>Linwood Boomer</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Krelboyne Picnic&quot;</td>
<td>March 12, 2000</td>
<td>Michael Glouberman</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Lois vs. Evil&quot;</td>
<td>March 19, 2000</td>
<td>Jack Amiel</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Stock Car Races&quot;</td>
<td>April 2, 2000</td>
<td>Dick Richardson</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Funeral&quot;</td>
<td>April 9, 2000</td>
<td>Maggie Bandur</td>
<td>Arlene Sanford</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Cheerleader&quot;</td>
<td>April 16, 2000</td>
<td>Dan Kopelman</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>112</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Francis goes AWOL from military school for his crush, who turns out to be sleazy and abusive.

Malcolm's class demonstrates their abilities at a picnic. Malcolm tries to get out of going because it's on the same day Francis comes home.

Lois gets fired after Dewey steals a $150 bottle of cognac from the store, leaving the family struggling to make ends meet. Meanwhile, Francis is honor-guard at a beauty pageant.

Hal takes the boys to see stock-car races on a school day. Meanwhile, Lois searches for her paycheck (which Hal took) and, with the help of Malcolm's Krelboyne class teacher, finds enough evidence to ground the boys for life and Francis sneaks a snake into the academy.

Malcolm tries to avoid going to Lois' aunt's funeral so that he can go to a concert, but the funeral plans are cancelled when Lois puts herself on strike and spends the rest of the day relaxing in a bubble bath.
Reese joins the cheerleading squad to impress a girl he's interested in.

"Rollerskates"  April 30, 2000  Alan J. Higgins  Ken Kwapis  113  13

Hal teaches Malcolm how to rollerskate, but Malcolm becomes so frustrated, he calls his father an obscene name. Meanwhile, Lois hurts her back (after screaming so loud at Reese for tracking mud in the house) and Francis fakes a back injury in order to get out of a camping excursion.

"The Bots and the Bees"  May 7, 2000  Alan J. Higgins  Chris Koch  114  14

With Lois visiting Francis at military school, Hal helps the Krelboynes make a robot.

"Smunday"  May 14, 2000  Michael Glouberman  Jeffrey Melman  115  15

With Lois out of commission due to the flu, the boys take advantage of the situation by doing whatever they want. Meanwhile, Hal considers buying a Porsche.

"Water Park"  May 21, 2000  Maggie Bandur  Ken Kwapis  116  16

The family goes to a water park where Reese and Malcolm finally get their revenge on Lois. Meanwhile, Dewey stays home with an elderly babysitter (Bea Arthur), but when the babysitter dies, Dewey runs away and has an adventure of his own.


"Traffic Jam"  November 5, 2000  Dan Kopelman  Todd Holland  201  17

After being banned from the Water Park, the family gets stuck in a traffic jam. Meanwhile, Francis bets fellow cadets that he can eat 100 candy Quacks and Dewey tries to find his way
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Air Date</th>
<th>Writer</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Episode</th>
<th>Season</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Halloween Approximately&quot;</td>
<td>November 8, 2000</td>
<td>Dan Kopelman</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>202</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When Francis comes home for Halloween, he and the boys build a rooftop slingshot to use on trick-or-treaters. Meanwhile, Hal and Lois combat a joyrider.</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Lois' Birthday&quot;</td>
<td>November 12, 2000</td>
<td>Alex Reid</td>
<td>Ken Kwapis</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reese, Malcolm, and Dewey blow the money used to buy Lois a birthday present on candy, sending the angry wife and mother to a fun center, where she takes out all her aggressions of being underappreciated in the batting cage.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Dinner Out&quot;</td>
<td>November 15, 2000</td>
<td>Michael Glouberman</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melmen</td>
<td>204</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The family goes to dinner with the Kenarbans.</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Casino&quot;</td>
<td>November 19, 2000</td>
<td>Gary Murphy</td>
<td>Tod Holland</td>
<td>205</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>When the family vacations at a casino, Hal, Malcolm, and Reese wander into an Army artillery range after being kicked out for counting cards at a blackjack game. Meanwhile, Lois and Dewey win a day at the spa.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Convention&quot;</td>
<td>November 22, 2000</td>
<td>Bob Stevens</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>206</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hal and Lois wreak havoc out of town, while the boys struggle to behave themselves for a sexy babysitter (Melody Perkins).</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Robbery&quot;</td>
<td>November 26, 2000</td>
<td>Alan J. Higgins</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>207</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Lois and Craig get caught in a robbery at the Lucky Aide, where Craig finally admits his
feelings for Lois. Meanwhile, Hal and the boys bring home an armoire--and end up battling against the dozens of bats that live within the armoire.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Episode</th>
<th>Airdate</th>
<th>Writer</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Therapy&quot;</td>
<td>November 29, 2000</td>
<td>Ian Busch</td>
<td>Ken Kwapis</td>
<td>208</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;High School Play&quot;</td>
<td>December 10, 2000</td>
<td>Maggie Bandur</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;The Bully&quot;</td>
<td>December 17, 2000</td>
<td>Alex Reid</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Old Mrs. Old&quot;</td>
<td>January 7, 2001</td>
<td>Alan J. Higgins</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Krelboyne Girl&quot;</td>
<td>January 14, 2001</td>
<td>Bob Stevens</td>
<td>Arlene Sanford</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;New Neighbors&quot;</td>
<td>January 21, 2001</td>
<td>Maggie Bandur</td>
<td>Ken Kwapis</td>
<td>213</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Malcolm ditches Medieval week with the Krelboynes by faking a breakdown and spending time with the school psychologist until Reese gets wind of it and copies his tactics. Dewey excels at **table skittles**. Lois attempts to clean out a packed closet. Francis takes over the academy laundry room.

Malcolm gets a role in a high school play and becomes obsessed with **gossip**. Caroline Miller gives birth in the school parking lot when the Krelboynes' model rocket launch goes awry.

After being beaten by a girl in a wrestling match, Reese relinquishes his bullying image, which is bad news for Malcolm. Francis tries to avoid his birthday in the academy because his cadets will shave his hair off on his birthday.

Malcolm must help an old woman (**Florence Stanley**) in the neighborhood with whatever she wants of him, and he ends up driving her car. Francis' boyhood friend Ritchie is sent to the same military academy.

Malcolm meets the new girl Cynthia (**Tania Raymonde**), who starts to have a crush on him.

Annoying neighbors move next door. Hal bonds with the father, while the other members get
off to the wrong start.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Episode</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Writer</th>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Rating</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Hal Quits&quot;</td>
<td>February 4, 2001</td>
<td>Michael Glouberman</td>
<td>Ken Kwapis</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hal goes through a mid-life crisis and quits his job. Francis is forced to work at the Lucky Aide during Spring Break.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;The Grandparents&quot;</td>
<td>February 11, 2001</td>
<td>Gary Murphy</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>215</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lois' parents (Robert Loggia and Cloris Leachman) visit. Meanwhile, Hal buys a new refrigerator.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Traffic Ticket&quot;</td>
<td>February 18, 2001</td>
<td>Larry Strawther</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lois is given a ticket that she's sure she doesn't deserve, even though videotape evidence shows she's wrong.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Surgery&quot;</td>
<td>February 25, 2001</td>
<td>Maggie Bandur</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm is sent to the hospital for the wrong reasons and the rest of the family become obsessed with playing March and Conquer. Meanwhile, Francis and his cadets go on a hunger strike after Commandant Spangler takes away their television.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Reese Cooks&quot;</td>
<td>March 4, 2001</td>
<td>Dan Kopelman</td>
<td>Jeffrey Melman</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reese is taken to a cooking class as punishment, and quickly finds that he excels at it. He excels at it so much that he taints a woman's quiche during a cooking contest.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Tutoring Reese&quot;</td>
<td>March 11, 2001</td>
<td>Ian Busch</td>
<td>Ken Kwapis</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lois makes Malcolm tutor Reese to get Reese's grades up. Malcolm helps Reese study and eventually cheat, but the teacher sabotages Reese's efforts. Francis lives on his own to avoid roofing the house.</td>
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</table>
In this *Sliding Doors*-style story, the viewer simultaneously sees what happens when the boys go bowling with Hal and what happens when they go bowling with Lois. Meanwhile, Dewey stays at home after getting in trouble for killing the neighbor's parakeet.

**NOTE:** This episode won an Emmy.

Malcolm and Reese battle for Francis' tickets to a wrestling event. Dewey cares for Craig's cat, which runs away. Lois accidentally burns down Craig's apartment, and Craig moves in with the family.

Craig drives the family insane while living with them. The boys buy and repair a mini bike, which Reese promptly crashes.

Reese, Malcolm and Dewey plot to hitchhike with Stevie to the county fair.

Hal and Dewey leave a couch on the railroad tracks, and the town ends up being evacuated after a train containing toxic waste derails. The resulting evacuation results in several instances happening, including Dewey exploiting everyone's sympathy, and Lois trying to maintain a grounding for Malcolm for coming home two hours late prior to the accident. In the end, Malcolm manages to stay inside the evacuation centre, while the rest of the family is forced to stay outside for their actions.

While Hal worries over the possibility of Lois being pregnant again, the two look back at the memories of their children's births, from Francis being born while Hal and Lois get married to Dewey's birth after Hal gets a new job.

**edit** Season 3: 2001-2002

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Writer(s)</th>
<th>Director</th>
<th>Production #</th>
<th>Episode #</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Houseboat&quot; (1)</td>
<td>November 11, 2001</td>
<td>Bob Steven</td>
<td>Todd Holland</td>
<td>301</td>
<td>42</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Emancipation&quot; (2)</td>
<td>November 14, 2001</td>
<td>Alan J. Higgs</td>
<td>James Simons</td>
<td>302</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Malcolm's family and the Kenarbans spend vacation together on a houseboat.
Francis gets emancipated, while Malcolm deals with a new teacher (Chris Eigeman).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&quot;Book Club&quot;</th>
<th>November 18, 2001</th>
<th>Alex Reid</th>
<th>Todd Holland</th>
<th>303</th>
<th>44</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Lois attempts to escape the boys' nightly misbehavior by joining a women's book club, but she soon realizes that the night is merely an excuse for the women to socialize--and to plot against a PTA mom who seems to handle her children and all other motherly duties with ease. Meanwhile, Hal struggles to keep the boys in order and away from the illegal fireworks hidden in the backyard.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>&quot;Malcolm's Girlfriend&quot;</th>
<th>November 28, 2001</th>
<th>Ian Busch</th>
<th>Ken Kwapis</th>
<th>304</th>
<th>45</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

After getting a girlfriend, Malcolm begins to neglect his family and friends. Meanwhile, Dewey gets a new friend, and uses his friend's wealth for his own needs.
When Lois forces the boys into community service to build character, they choose to work at a church charity. After a series of events, they go from trading their own stuff to stealing the merchandise and creating a black market. Francis finally reaches his destination in Alaska.

When news hits that Hal may have a serious illness, Lois becomes meaner than usual. Meanwhile, Francis has a showdown with combative Lavernia in Alaska.

Lois issues an ultimatum - the boys behave or Christmas is canceled. Francis must spend Christmas with Grandma Ida.

Hal gets competitive with Abe in poker; Lois gets carried away with her dance lessons; Francis is trapped in an Alaskan blizzard.

Reese gets a job at a fast-food joint; the newest Krelboyne rivals Malcolm's intellect; Hal and Lois try to sabotage Dewey's attempts to get a new dog.

At Lucky Aide, secret shoppers make their performance reviews. Lois finds out that she performs poorly in appearances and is forced to dress up her appearance. Hal is re-energized after beating the boys at basketball; a rat infestation gives Francis a new job.

The family attends Hal's family picnic. Hal tries to avoid his new boss because of his bleak history of first impressions and Malcolm sees an old crush.

Guest Appearances include:

- Terry Bradshaw
- Tom Green
- Howie Long
- Stephen Root
- Christina Ricci
- Susan Sarandon
- Patrick Warburton
- Heidi Klum
"Company Picnic (2)"  February 3, 2002  Alan J. Higgins  Todd Holland  312  53

The conclusion to the first part of the episode. Reese & his scavenger hunt partner wreak havoc, Hal confronts his boss and Malcolm gets himself into a very awkward position.

Guest Appearances include (along with guests from Company Picnic (1):

- Magic Johnson
- Bradley Whitford

"Reese Drives"  February 10, 2002  Michael Glouberman  Jeffrey Melman  313  54

Reese gets a learner's permit and promptly commandeers a driving-school vehicle.

"Cynthia's Back "  February 17, 2002  Maggie Bandur  Ken Kwais  314  55

Cynthia returns from Europe and Malcolm discovers that she has a more 'developed' figure.

"Hal's Birthday"  March 3, 2002  Alex Reid  Levie Issacks  315  56

A birthday surprise - Francis comes home on Hal's birthday with his new wife - Piama (Emy Coligado).

"Hal Coaches"  March 10, 2002  Ian Busch  Jeffrey Melman  316  57

Hal decides to coach Dewey's soccer team and turns the team into a team of monsters.

"Dewey's Dog"  April 7, 2002  Michael Glouberman  Bob Stevens  317  58

Dewey finds a dog and uses him to his advantage - to gain the upper hand over Malcolm and Reese making them wear dresses and makeup. On their anniversary, Hal and Lois try to make the best of it, with nothing that could ruin it except the flu.

"Poker #2"  April 21, 2002  Bill Hooper  Jeffrey Melman  318  59

Hal & Abe, along with their friends, play extremely well in poker; Malcolm, Stevie, and Reese are forced to spend the night with 2 popular girls (Dana Davis and Lindsey Haun); Reese plays matchmaker as he tells the girls that Stevie has a terminal illness; Malcolm discovers one of the girls has an automatic handgun, and tries to hide it from her, with unintentional results.

"Clip Show"  April 28, 2002  Michael Borkow  Jaime Babbit  319  60

The boys recall their antics [by way of cold openers] with a psychiatrist (Andy Richter).

"Juty Duty"  May 1, 2002  Pang-Ni Landrum  Ken Kwapis  320  61

Lois goes to jury duty. Malcolm & Reese see Kitty naked over the weekend and can't help bragging about it while they, along with Dewey and Stevie, spend the day exploring a sewer. Hal and Abe think that the case Lois is on is the Reyes case, and spend the day proving their own theories on who's the guilty party. Francis and the other guys are trapped in an ice fishing shed with a bear outside.

"Cliques"  May 5, 2002  Michael Borkow  Jeffrey Melman  321  62

The Krelboynes are forced to join the general school population.

"Monkey"  May 12, 2002  Dan Kopelma  Ken Kwapis  322  63

After knocking out a burglar, Reese turns to law enforcement. A capuchin monkey gives Craig a tough time back at home. Francis is fired because there are no more trees to cut down.


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<tr>
<td>&quot;Zoo&quot;</td>
<td>November 3, 2002</td>
<td>401</td>
<td>64</td>
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</table>

Malcolm is depressed, and the family goes to the zoo. Reese battles a goat, while Malcolm & Dewey end up in a tiger pit. Francis meets Otto & Gretchen and takes a job at their dude ranch. Lois’ ex-boyfriend (Tim DeKay) puts a tarantula on Hal.

| "Humiliation" | November 10, 2002 | 402 | 65 |

Malcolm is depressed, and the family goes to the zoo. Reese battles a goat, while Malcolm & Dewey end up in a tiger pit. Francis meets Otto & Gretchen and takes a job at their dude ranch. Lois’ ex-boyfriend (Tim DeKay) puts a tarantula on Hal.
Malcolm's first day of high school gets off to a bad start being embarrassed by his mom in front of the entire school, but Cynthia manages to save his new reputation.

"Family Reunion"  November 17, 2002  403  66

The family goes to Hal's family reunion, where his family makes Lois miserable. Christopher Lloyd guest stars as Hal's father.

"Stupid Girl"  November 24, 2002  404  67

Malcolm pretends to be stupid so he can win over a cute girl who really is stupid. Meanwhile, Hal rents a roller compactor.

"Forwards Backwards"  December 1, 2002  405  68

Malcolm argues with Reese days before his birthday. Through flashbacks, the viewer can see where, when, and why Malcolm and Reese are arguing. Meanwhile, Francis and Otto encounter an evil cow.

"Forbidden Girlfriend"  December 15, 2002  406  69

While Malcolm begins dating a girl named Nikki (Reagan Dale Neis) whose father hates him, Dewey discovers he's an 'evil twin' and Francis mediates a dispute between Otto and his cowboy neighbors.

"Malcolm Holds His Tongue"  January 5, 2003  407  70

Malcolm decides to keep his opinions to himself. Meanwhile, Reese goes on a date with his girlfriend...and Craig and Hal tries race-walking.

"Boys at Ranch"  January 12, 2003  408  71

The boys & Hal visit the ranch. Francis shocks the boys by being mature, while Otto & Hal get drunk and stranded in the desert.

"Grandma Sues"  February 2, 2003  409  72

After slipping on a leaf, Ida sues Malcolm's family. Meanwhile, Lois discovers that she is pregnant.

"If Boys Were Girls"  February 9, 2003  410  73

In this "what-if" story, Lois imagines her life if her four rowdy sons were daughters--and discovers that it's not an improvement.
Reese ends up in prison for a day. Lois drives Malcolm with her and tells him everything about sex. Dewey causes a feud in Hal's six-man band. Francis accidentally blows up Otto's favorite cow.

A combination of Malcolm's disgust as the house around them is falling apart, and Hal's fear-induced, "zero tolerance" attempts at maintaining peace and order in the family, results in Malcolm being kicked out of the house.

Hal gets a second job at "U-Buy It". Meanwhile, a girl from Malcolm's school named Jessica (Hayden Panettiere from Heroes) babysits Malcolm, Reese, and Dewey.

NOTE: This marks Bryan Cranston's Malcolm directorial debut.

Hal meets up with a friend (Joel Murray), who turns out to be the same type of guy he was when they last met.

Lois comes back home. After her visit with Susan, who blabbed about how Lois was hopeless, Lois thinks that she should cut Reese some slack and lets him be in charge of the family garage sale. Meanwhile, Hal finds his old transmitter, and continues his pirate radio station he did back in college under the pseudonym Kid Charlemagne.

Herkabe forces Malcolm to join the academic octathlon team. When Herkabe decides for them to cheat, Malcolm chooses to make everyone pay.

In this second clip show, Hal and Lois are penning their will, and think back to all the trouble their sons put them through.

Lois & Hal are out of the house and Reese decides to throw a party. All is fine, until a gang of hoodlums turn the party into a meth operation.

While at the park, Malcolm meets a depressed, middle-aged man (played by Jason Alexander from Seinfeld) who may be Malcolm's future self.

The boys & Hal go to a bridal shower. Ida makes an unwelcome visit, and right near the end of the episode, Lois goes into labor.

Hal keeps having delusional dreams at the hospital while Lois is in labor. Meanwhile, the boys take parenting classes to become better brothers to their next sibling.

A church-run day care center accepts Lois' wailing newborn but in return Reese and Dewey must attend Bible-study classes.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Vegas&quot;</td>
<td>November 2, 2003</td>
<td>501</td>
<td>86</td>
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</table>
Francis neglects his work. The family travels to Las Vegas. Reese and Dewey show an obese rabbit at a competition. Hal has a prophetic dream of winning at a slot machine. Lois goes backstage with her favorite singer (David Cassidy).

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Watching the Baby&quot;</td>
<td>November 9, 2003</td>
<td>502</td>
<td>87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hot, popular girls want to be seen with Reese, Malcolm and Stevie as revenge on their boyfriends. One of them &quot;wants&quot; to kiss Reese. However, they have to stay home to take care of Jamie. Dewey, stuck at home with Jamie, tells him an elaborate story in which their parents are secretly wealthy, and have a hidden &quot;secret good house&quot; in their closet. Hal wants to buy diapers for Jamie but can't pay for them, so he has to work for Craig at the Lucky Aide. He and the other employees end up starting a revolution to overthrow Craig.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Goodbye Kitty&quot;</td>
<td>November 16, 2003</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stevie finds out his Mother Kitty has divorced his dad. Lois' high school diary falls into Reese's backpack; Reese reads it and becomes infatuated with the original owner. Dewey wishes to regress into wanting to be a baby again.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Thanksgiving&quot;</td>
<td>November 23, 2003</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reese displays monomania and culinary genius while making Thanksgiving dinner. Francis and Piama get into a fight and nearly divorce until Lois steps in. Malcolm goes out to a party, where he spends half the time trying to figure out if a girl (Alessandra Toreson) is flirting with him. They get drunk and almost have sex, Malcolm runs home and tells Francis that he is a coward, until Francis gives him some good advice.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Malcolm Films Reese&quot;</td>
<td>November 30, 2003</td>
<td>505</td>
<td>90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm films Reese for a school psychology assignment, he later finds out that his teacher had planned it to turn his classmates against him. Dewey works as a street performer behind Lois and Hal's back, but he might be left off the hook when they are in some financial difficulties.</td>
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<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Malcolm's Job&quot;</td>
<td>December 7, 2003</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reese and Malcolm get jobs. Malcolm catches Lois smoking at work. Hal takes a class to spend more time with Jamie. Dewey wants brothering from Francis.</td>
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<th>Episode</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Christmas Trees&quot;</td>
<td>December 14, 2003</td>
<td>507</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hal, Reese, Malcolm, and Dewey go into business selling Christmas trees. Craig is bitten by a squirrel. Otto's family visits the ranch.</td>
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<th>Episode</th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Block Party&quot;</td>
<td>January 4, 2004</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The family come back early from their yearly vacation to find that their neighbors have been holding an annual block party to celebrate their absence.</td>
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</table>
Malcolm is a part of the school newsletter team. When a student appears with a brilliant story, Malcolm decides to publish it despite the graphic and adult nature it displays, leaving Principal Block (Kurtwood Smith) to cancel all extracurricular activities rather than "turning their high school into an adult bookstore".

**"Dirty Magazine"**

January 11, 2004

509

94

Hal buys a hot tub. Malcolm gets his learner's permit while Reese steals Dewey's new friend Noah. Gretchen's former fiance who is also Otto's best friend comes to the ranch.

**"Hot Tub"**

January 25, 2004

510

95

Ida plans to drug a Chinese man (James Hong) into marrying her and take all of his money. Malcolm gets his tongue pierced, while Dewey pretends that Reese is non-existent (making Reese worried) after Reese smashes Dewey's model ship.

**"Ida's Boyfriend"**

February 8, 2004

511

96

Malcolm unwillingly joins the Lucky Aide softball team.

**"Softball"**

February 15, 2004

512

97

Lois's sister (Laurie Metcalf) visits and Lois learns she needs a new kidney.

**"Lois's Sister"**

February 22, 2004

513

98

Lois boycotts Luigi's (the family's favorite restaurant), while Malcolm dates an intellectual family's daughter (Sara Paxton), and gets involved with the family in the process.

**"Malcolm Dates a Family"**

March 14, 2004

514

99

Reese moves out after the parents get upset over something we might never know (although it was big and it involved cats and evacuation).

**"Reese's Apartment"**

March 21, 2004

515

100

Malcolm looks forward to visiting college, but it becomes a nightmare when Lois comes along and they meet the dorm head, Leland. Dewey steals items around the house to drive Hal nuts and to build a piano. Reese pretends to be a drug dealer to go out with the school's narc. Francis and Otto take care of a day care, with disastrous results.

**"Malcolm Visits College"**

March 28, 2004

516

101

**"Polly in the Middle"**

April 25, 2004

517

102
Polly the babysitter (Julie Hagerty) is caught in a love triangle between Abe & Craig after Lois and Hal unknowingly set them up on dates.

"Dewey's Special Class"  
May 2, 2004  
518  
103

Dewey, after deliberately failing rather than excel on an IQ test and be in a similar class as Malcolm, is sent to a special class due to Malcolm's advice.

"Experiment"  
May 2, 2004  
519  
104

Stevie & Malcolm try to figure out how Reese managed to separate two bases. Dewey sells chocolate bars by fibbing.

"Victor's Other Family"  
May 9, 2004  
520  
105

Lois, Reese, and Malcolm go to Canada to meet Victor's secret family. Dewey dreads Hal running with him since bad things always happen before such events between the two. Betty White guest stars as Victor's other wife.

"Reese Joins the Army (1)"  
May 16, 2004  
521  
106

Reese runs away. Hal's company goes under à la Enron.

"Reese Joins the Army (2)"  
May 23, 2004  
522  
107

The company uses Hal as a scapegoat, while Reese becomes a top-class soldier and makes his way with his squad into Afghanistan.

[edit] Season 6: 2004-2005

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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Original Airdate</th>
<th>Production #</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Reese Comes Home&quot; (3)</td>
<td>November 7, 2004</td>
<td>601</td>
<td>108</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Reese ditches the army in Afghanistan.

"Buseys Run Away"  
November 14, 2004  
602  
109

After learning that Dewey will be leaving their class, the Buseys run away and hide in masses and force Dewey to assist them in pursuit. Unemployed Hal becomes the leader of a group of dimwitted body builders.

"Standee"  
November 21, 2004  
603  
110
Hal dumps a cat habitat with the garbage and inadvertently picks a fight with the local garbagemen. Meanwhile, Lois holds a grudge on Malcolm for not helping her stand up against a racist supermarket cardboard cutout.

"Pearl Harbor"
December 5, 2004
604
111

Hal goes into war with his neighbor for the Decor crown. Hal strikes with Pearl Harbor day, but the neighbor fights back, so Hal tries to ruin it. Jessica insinuates herself into Malcolm's household and convinces Malcolm and Reese that the other's gay.

"Kitty's Back"
December 12, 2004
605
112

Kitty (Merrin Dungey) returns after having done everything imaginable and wants to return to her family to Lois's dismay.

"Hal's Christmas Gift"
December 19, 2004
606
113

The family's broke and the boys are dispirited but Hal is determined to come through with a surprise.

"Hal Sleepwalks"
January 16, 2005
607
114

Hal, after remembering previous anniversary blunders while trying to make the 20th a good one, starts to sleepwalk, and Reese takes advantage. Malcolm takes up playing the guitar. He performs a tune for his family, which Dewey figures out it's sung to the tune of the Meow Mix jingle.

"Lois Battles Jamie"
January 23, 2005
608
115

Jamie battles Lois with devilish wiles that weaken her will to make the child behave. The other boys discover a diving board and Reese goes crazy trying to think of the perfect thing to do with it.

"Malcolm's Car"
January 30, 2005
609
116

Malcolm has his ups and downs with a used Plymouth Barracuda.

"Billboard"
February 13, 2005
610
117

A questionable billboard is put up. Malcolm, Reese and Dewey try to vandalize it, but after being caught by Lois, Malcolm turns it into a women's rights protest to keep them out of trouble.

"Dewey's Opera"
February 20, 2005
611
118

After being moved to tears by watching an opera, Dewey tries to make one of his own based on the life of his family (in his fantasy his family members start to sing when fighting).
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<td>&quot;Living Will&quot;</td>
<td>March 6, 2005</td>
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<td>&quot;Tiki Lounge&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Ida loses a Leg&quot;</td>
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<td>&quot;Chad's Sleepover&quot;</td>
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<td>Title</td>
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<td>&quot;Buseys Take a Hostage&quot;</td>
<td>May 8, 2005</td>
<td>621</td>
<td>128</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Buseys, without Dewey, hold their teacher hostage.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Mrs. Tri-County&quot;</td>
<td>May 15, 2005</td>
<td>622</td>
<td>129</td>
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<tr>
<td>The boys place Lois in the Mrs. Tri-County Beauty Pageant.</td>
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**Season 7: 2005-2006**

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<tr>
<td>&quot;Burning Man&quot;</td>
<td>September 30, 2005</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>130</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malcolm and Reese's attempt to hitch their way to the annual <em>Burning Man</em> festival turns into a family vacation when Hal and Lois get in on it. Meanwhile, Dewey does all the chores.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Health Insurance&quot;</td>
<td>October 7, 2005</td>
<td>702</td>
<td>131</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hal finds out that the family has been without health insurance for six months and tries to safeguard the house until Monday (when the insurance is put back into effect). Meanwhile, Lois tries to fish out a snitch at the Lucky Aide.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Reese vs Stevie&quot;</td>
<td>October 21, 2005</td>
<td>703</td>
<td>132</td>
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<tr>
<td>An angry Reese threatens Stevie, who dreads a retaliation; Dewey gets hooked on cigarettes thanks to ex-smoker Hal's many stashes around the house.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Halloween&quot;</td>
<td>October 28, 2005</td>
<td>704</td>
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<tr>
<td>When Malcolm learns that the house was once the site of a brutal murder, Hal begins suffering from insomnia. Meanwhile, Reese and Dewey take baby Jamie trick-or-treating, and Lois, once again, gets held up at the Lucky Aide trying to stop a shoplifter.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Jessica Stays Over&quot;</td>
<td>November 4, 2005</td>
<td>705</td>
<td>134</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica moves in on a temporary basis and teaches Malcolm how to manipulate others. Meanwhile, Hal fights back against a bee, and Reese attempts to mail himself to China.</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Secret Girlfriend&quot;</td>
<td>November 11, 2005</td>
<td>706</td>
<td>135</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malcolm's in love with a hot and secretly brainy teen named Vicki (<em>Sarah Wright</em>) who fears ruining her image by seeing him...</td>
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publicly. Reese is kicked out of the house for refusing to get a job.

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<td>&quot;Army Buddy&quot;</td>
<td>December 2, 2005</td>
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<td>&quot;Malcolm Defends Reese&quot;</td>
<td>December 16, 2005</td>
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<td>&quot;Malcolm's Money&quot;</td>
<td>January 6, 2006</td>
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<td>&quot;Bride of Ida (1)&quot;</td>
<td>January 13, 2006</td>
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<td>&quot;College Recruiters (2)&quot;</td>
<td>January 29, 2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Mono&quot;</td>
<td>February 12, 2006</td>
<td>713</td>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;Hal Grieves&quot;</td>
<td>February 19, 2006</td>
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A power outage disrupts Lois and Hal's anniversary and reveals Malcolm's trysts with young European women.

Reese's old army buddy, Abby (Larisa Oleynik) visits and she has feelings for Lois.

Malcolm and Reese end up in the same class since Reese failed the previous year. A happy Mr. Herkabe does everything he can to humiliate Reese until Malcolm loses his grip on the highest GPA in the school which Herkabe wants to keep.

Malcolm begins to fuss about his high school yearbook photo. Malcolm receives a $10,000 education reward and when Hal and Lois find out, they want to spend it on themselves.

Dewey, Lois and Hal go out of town to a piano competition; and without Lois around, Grandma Ida makes Reese get married to Ida's helper, Raduca (Rheagan Wallace), but only if he defeats Malcolm in three challenges. When Lois, Dewey and Hal return, they find out that Reese has run with Raduca to Las Vegas to get hitched, much to Ida's dismay.

A broke Francis gets talked into getting a real job by Dewey. Back home, Hal takes over the college recruiters, which Malcolm refuses to meet with, and treats each one as a suitor. However, Hal's plans are ruined when Malcolm chooses to go to Harvard. Reese and Raduca's marriage ends when Lois and Reese catch Raduca cheating with her other lover, Bela.

Lois discovers she has mono after a visit to the doctor. She then ends up giving it to Malcolm after her maternal instincts begin. As a result, both Lois and Malcolm are forced to spend two weeks together in the same room. Hal, meanwhile, is invited to all of his neighbors' parties after they know Lois will not be attending any of them. Dewey makes Jamie his slave.

Hal gets a devastating phone call that his father has died, but because he never knew his father well he doesn't shed a tear. In an attempt to overcompensate with his kids, Hal takes the boys shopping, lets them miss school and offers to buy Malcolm a new car until Lois steps in. Hal's buddy Abe thinks that a phone call from a cast member of Star Trek: The Original Series will
cheer him up.

"A.A." March 5, 2006 715 144

Lois and Hal visit Francis to help him celebrate one year of sobriety, but when they attend his A.A. meeting they find out that Lois was the one who drove him to drink. Meanwhile, Dewey finds the spare key to Hal's car, but when Malcolm and Reese refuse to drive him to the arcade, it takes them more than 12 steps to find it.

"Lois Strikes Back" March 19, 2006 716 145

When four popular high school girls play an evil prank on Reese by pretending he has a secret admirer and then dropping a pig off at his front door, Lois comes to his rescue. She plots her revenge on the four unsuspecting girls and wreaks havoc on their adolescent lives. Meanwhile, Hal realizes Lois is at a dangerous emotional place so he decides to get some distance and stumbles upon the idea for making his own pitching machine out of stuff in the garage.

"Hal's Dentist" March 26, 2006 717 146

Hal's friend Trey tells him to come to his dental office when he loses a tooth during a poker game, but their friendship goes into jeopardy when Hal's faced with a $2,000 bill and causes a fight between them. Reese, meanwhile, teaches Lois how to ride a bike, while Malcolm and Dewey find sleeping as their new favorite pastime after finding a new mattress.

"Bomb Shelter" April 2, 2006 718 147

Malcolm joins a local dance class to impress a girl, but when she loses her footing, he realizes that to win the competition he'll need a partner who can step it up. Dick, a rival student in the class who takes dancing a bit too seriously, challenges Malcolm to a dance-off. Meanwhile, Reese and Dewey discover an underground bachelor pad/bomb shelter in the backyard and lock Hal in it.

"Stevie in the Hospital" April 9, 2006 719 148

When Stevie goes to the hospital, Malcolm tries making up every excuse he can think of to not go because he can't face the truth about his illness. Meanwhile, back home, Hal gets highly competitive about his new remote control boat, Lois thinks she's going insane, and Reese gets a job.

"Cattle Court" April 16, 2006 720 149

Reese meets a cute vegetarian named Carrie (Tara Lipinski) when he goes back to work at the meat plant. He goes along with her politics talk at first, but she catches him with a pork chop. So, to get Carrie back, he sets free all the cows at the meat plant. Malcolm, meanwhile, tries to fool Lois in order to attend a rock concert.

"Morp" April 23, 2006 721 150

For the senior prom, Reese gets paid to take Janine, a studious girl in class, but only after she gives him a makeover and sends him to finishing school. Malcolm aligns himself with the unpopular kids to form an anti-prom they call "Morp". Dewey discovers there aren't any childhood pictures of him, so he concocts an elaborate scavenger hunt to punish Hal and Lois.
In the series finale, Malcolm struggles with his valedictorian speech, Hal finds out that the family may not have enough to send Malcolm to college, Francis finds the 9 to 5 job of his dreams, Reese tries to be a permanent janitor, and Lois is pregnant again.