**Topic: 2nd Child Syndrome**

Research

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| Source/Page | Information |
| [www.ehow.com/about\_7228536\_psychology-middle-child-syndrome.html](http://www.ehow.com/about_7228536_psychology-middle-child-syndrome.html) | Birth order is the term talking about a child’s place among his/her siblings. The child may be a first-born, middle child or youngest. The birth order of a child may highly influence the child’s personality and temperament. This applies to the second child who seem to be affected the most.  The second child can either be the middle child or the youngest. The second child usually has traits that are rather different than his/her other siblings. The 2nd child tends to receive less attention from his/her siblings. The second child usually will also have a completely different personality compared with the eldest, most probably an opposite one.  There are benefits to second children though for example since there is less pressure on them compared to the first child, they can find easier pleasure in relationships with their friendships and partners. They also often seek for peace in situations. Second children though must be pushed in order to reach their full potential. Not to mention they won’t need to live up to the high expectations that the firstborn do. |
| [www.ehow.com/about\_6672716\_behavior-second-child.html](http://www.ehow.com/about_6672716_behavior-second-child.html) | Website states that birth order affects a child’s intelligence, personality and future. First-borns are likely to end up with jobs regarding leadership while the younger siblings tend to be entertainers.  Age gap also influences the personality of the second child. If the age gap is five or more years, the second child may posses the first-born qualities because they will receive more individual attention than usual for the first-born should have grown a certain amount of maturity. That is if the gender of both children are the same. If the second child is a different gender with the first child, they might need to gain maturity faster than they would have if they had a old sibling of the same gender.  The second child might either be the middle child or the youngest child (this is for a family of 3 children, the birth order may alternate depending on how many children in the family).  As a middle child, sites state that they aren’t the strongest ones nor the ones who would get away with anything. They feel invisible and suffer from many struggles. “A study quoted on the Time website stated 43 percent of CEOs were first-borns, 33 percent were middle children, and 23 percent were the youngest.” Middle children might be a peace figure for their siblings. They would learn to negotiate and tend to avoid conflict.  As the youngest, they are likely to be less influenced by the first-born. They would make up for it with their social skills, their people skills and the ability to adapt. They will be better with people, affectionate, uncomplicated, absent minded. Also manipulative. They are more creative and they take more risks. Sometimes it gives them benefits, other times its the other way around.  However, birth order is just a factor for the children. It isn’t stereotyping each and every first-born, second child and youngest. Not all second child would have those characteristics. They are mere tendecies that have been seen based on research. |
| [www.parents.com/](http://www.parents.com/) | For the first born, it is always something new for the parents. A new adventure therefore they will take extrea precautions and give more attention than usual. They will be more strict and all resulting the first born to be a perfectionist and wanting to please their parents. It differs witht he coming of the second child. Parents won’t treat him/her with the same extreme care because the first trail was done. They have experience. Plus they need to give attention to the first born. This results the second child to receive less attention and won’t be a perfectionist. Instead they will be more of a people-pleaser because of the lack of attention.  Firstborns tend to be reliable, structured, conscientious, cautious, controlling, and achievers. They sometimes act like mini-adults. They are dilligent and want to be best at everything they do.Please elders.  Second children as middle child are people pleasersm rebellious, thrives on frienships, large social circle and peacemaker.  As the last born they are fun-loving, uncomplicated, manipulative, outgoing, attention seaker and self centered.  If the age gave is of at least 5 years difference, the second child will adapt to first born personality traits. For twins it is a special case because they act as one unit. They is no first born or second born eventhough they aren’t born at the same time. There won’t be any middle child traits there, it is either first born or baby.  If it is adoption, it all depends on the age where the child is adopted.  However everything can be treated. Psychologists believe that personality isn’t decided by birth order. Therapy can always improve.   * Make a connection with your behaviour and position int he family * Identify how you feel because of it * Deliberately change your behaviour |
| www.2knowmyself.com/birth\_order/Middle\_child\_personality\_traits | Site states that most middle children lacks self esteem. However there are definitely middle children with great confidence.Parenting style affects the personality, it isn’t only the birth order that affects. It is sort of a combination.  First-born have leadership quality skills because they are asked to take care of their siblings. Youngest are spoiled because of too much attention. Middle child/second personality traits are:   * Low self esteem * Shyness * Diplomats/Peacemakers * Jealous * Problem children (crave attention)   There is a way to cure, your personality is based on your childhood. However it is possible to undo or change those traits in your adulthood with the proper guidance. But if we trace back the steps, if the childhood was handled well, the child should have a well personality. |
| www.2knowmyself.com/birth\_order/middle\_child\_syndrome | The syndrome affects the middle child due to lack of attention, this results him/her to feel neglected or ignored.  Not all second children have the syndrome, there are two leading factors. One is the parenting style. Second is if the child himself/herself can cope with it and mature into a healthy adult.  Signs/symptoms: - Low self esteem  -Social withdrawal  - No sense of direction (of life)  - Need for approval  You can seek treatment and improve. Change your personality. Start by increasing self esteem. |
| www.2knowmyself.com/youngest\_child\_personality\_traits | Youngest children are highly competitive and overly ambitious since they seem to be the weakest in the family. They take huge risks due to their spirit and ambition. They also have creativity. Spoiled. If the parents were overprotective and pampering the child, child may have lack of confidence. The ambition that the youngest child have may end of to a positive or negative outcome. |
| [http://www.cignabehavioral.com](http://www.cignabehavioral.com/) | Middle child syndrome, when the second born in a family of three feels left out or neglected because the first-born has achieved lots of things and gets more privileges, while the youngest is pampered and would probably get away with anything. The second child will then be confused of their identity too in the family  The traits:   * Misbehave to get attention * Go with the flow * Work as little as possible * Try to be depend on themselves more rather then parents compare to siblings * Isolate themselves within the family * Be a peacemaker * More likely to take advice from friend than parent * Very creative |
| [http://www.cignabehavioral.com](http://www.cignabehavioral.com/) | **First-Born Children**   * Enjoy making other people happy * Perfectionists * Be highly motivated to achieve success * Take on a leadership role * Be responsible * Feel jealous or neglected when younger siblings arrive as a result of no longer being the center of attention   **Middle Children Traits**   * Be more rebellious than their siblings * Adapt easily to any situation * Play the role of mediator, and prefer compromise to conflict * Develop skills or talents not shared by siblings- for example, if an older sibling is a star athlete, a middle born child may focus on music for their talent * Be the most varied of all of the birth positions – for example, he or she may be friendly and outgoing, or shy and quiet   **Last Born Traits**   * Be outgoing * Have the ability to “charm” others * Feel inferior to siblings * Be considered spoiled, demanding, or impatient * Develop abilities that older siblings don’t have (see Middle-born children) * Remain “The Baby” of the family- by expecting others to do things for them, make decisions, and take responsibility   **Only Child traits**   * Be well-organized, or perfectionists * Be comfortable with responsibility * Not take criticism well * Be comfortable with being the center of attention * Be responsible   **Exceptions**   * Gender * Blended families * Adoption * Multiples (for example, twins or triplets) * How many children are in the family * Spacing of children (for example, whether 1 year or 9 years separate siblings) |
| Book - Kevin Leman |  |
| Book – Encyclopedia of Creativity | <http://www.sulloway.org/BirthOrder-Sulloway-1999a.pdf> |
| Report – Explaning the effect of birth.. |  |
| DVD - Insight | Basically a talkshow ish, a group of people of different birth orders were chosen and interviewed:  A women Jennifer Vance, family of 5, she was 4th, so somewhat in the middle. She sometimes wanted to be the only one, more attention and praise, yet sometimes wanted siblings too. Plus and minuses.  Michael Vance – was the second kid in a family of 5, he thinks that it helps you be more resilient with the situation. So you can bounce back and have a brighter future. It makes you accept to live as not the center of attention. |
| Interview: Gloria | Nama lengkap saya: Gloria Adhitya Danuwihardja.  Saya seorang Magister di bidang psikologi pendidikan.  Kasus 2 nd child syndrome sebenarnya bukan kasus baru di dunia psikologi. Namun banyak orang mulai memperhatikannya memang baru sekitar 10 tahun belakangan ini.  Sebenarnya, dari kasus2 yg pernah saya tangani, 2 nd child syndrome tdk selalu terjadi pada setiap anak yg dilahirkan sbg anak ke 2 dlm suatu keluarga. Dari kasus 2 yg saya tangani, syndrome ini banyak terjadi pd anak ke 2 yg memilikimjenis kelamin yg sama dg anak pertama dr keluarga tsb. Ex: kalau anak 1 nya wanita, anak ke 2 nya jg wanita, nah biasa anak ke dua nya ini bisa mengalami 2 nd child syndrome ( walaupun sebenarnya tidak harus selalu terjadi demikian/ syndrome ini bukan " harga mati" istilah saya) .  Kapan atau bagaimana  syndrome ini sampai bisa terjadi?  Biasanya, anak pertama dlm satu keluarga itu tdk terlalu dipersoalkan apa jenis kelaminnya ( kecuali keluarga2 yg masih sangat kolot atau tinggal di daerah). Shg, anak yg lahir sbg anak pertama biasanya cukup " hoki" krn dia adl anak yg sangat diharapkan atau dinanti2kan oleh seluruh keluarga besar. Kecuali ada kasus2 ttt spt hamil di luar nikah dsb. Itu tentunya mslh lain.  Tapi, tdk demikian " nasib" anak ke 2. Biasanya keluarga mengharapkan jenis kelamin ttt ( yg berbeda dg anak pertama). Shg, apabila trrnyata anak ke 2 ini lahir dg jenis kelamin yg sama dg anak 1, nah di sinilah letak mslhnya.  Kalau kelg tsb sdh memiliki mind set yg terbuka, dan mrk sgh percaya bahwa anak adl ciptaan dan titpan Tuhan dan " God is too wise to be mistaken" , tentunya walaupun anak ke2 ini lahir dg jenis kelamin yg tdk sesuai dg harapan kedua ortunya, ya ortunya tdk akan kecewa. Kan manusia boleh saja berharap, tapi kuasa ttp di tangan Penciptanya.  Tapi, masalah menjadi lain bila ortunya bukan org yg percaya spt itu, melainkan org yg masih punya mind set yg tertutup. Biasanya anak ke dua dg jenis kelamin yg sama dg kakaknya akan menjadi " anak yg kurang diharapkan kehadirannya".  Dan di sinilah sebenarnya asal mula persoalannya.  Karena kurang diharapkan, maka cenderung ortu akan membanding- bandingkan dg anak pertamanya. Nah, kalau anak pertamanya mmg lebih " unggul" dlm banyak hal ( lbh cantik/ ganteng, lbh pintar, lbh kalem, dsb), maka nasib anak ke 2 ini bisa menjadi kurang baik. Banyak juga ortu yg mungkin tdk sengaja mau " tidak menghargai" anak ke dua yg jenis kelaminnya sama dg kakaknya ini, tapi tanpa sadar melakukan hal tsb. Ex: krn toh  sama2 laki2, ya sdh baju2 tdk usah beli baru, pakai punya kakaknya saja, masih bagus kok. Sepatu juga pakai bekas kakak saja dsb. Shg, stlh anak ini bisa merasakan, bisa timbul perasaan: kok saya ini tdk pernah dpt sesuatu yg baru  n bukan bekas kakak saya ya?  Bgm bisa mengatasi hal ini? Menurut saya, yg palin ok adl kalau ortu mau memahami bahwa bukan kesalahan seorang anak bhw dia dilahirkan dg jenis kelamin tttt ( anak tdk pernah bisa memilih dia mau lahir dg jenis kelamin apa bukan?) . Dan yg ke dua adl bhw Tuhan tsk pernah salah. Mgkn kita berpikir kalau anak pertama perempuan, ya sebaiknya anak ke dua hrs laki2, spy bsknya anak laki2 ini bisa menolong kakaknya yg wanita. Ttp siapa sih yg sesungguhnya berani berkata bhw kelak pasti anak laki2 yg bisa menolong anak yg wanita? Bukankah banyak kasus juga bahwa di masa2 krisis moneter justru para wanita lebih " tahan banting" dan bisa mencari peluang2 usaha yg akhirnya justru menolong keluarga/ suaminya bangkit dr keterpurukan?  Saya rasa, hal inilah yg harus lbh sering diajarkan atau diseminarkan di sekolah2, dlm parenting seminar atau dlm talk show di TV shg banyak masyarakat yg mind set nya tdk kaku lagi akan hal ini. Tapi sbg anak2 yg kebetulan terlahir sbg anak ke 2 dan merasa diperlakukan tdk adil oleh ortu, saran saya, mari stop utk terus menangisi nasib n terus berusaha utk mencari " approval" dari ortu ataunorang lain. Meskipun ortu kalian tdk menghargai kalian dan bahkan mgkn menganggap kalian " bukan anak yg diharapkan" , tapi satu hal yg kalian harus ingat adl bhw Than sgt menghargai dan mengasihi kalian ( Yes 43:4). Dan sbg psikolog dan pemerhati anak muda, saya berani katakan: saya tdk tahu apa resepnutk seseorang bisa sukses, tapi say TAHU PASTI apa resep utk seseorang pasti gagal. Apa itu? Kalau org tsb terus berusaha menykakan hati setiap orang ( approval addict) . Ingatlah : We are not going to be a people pleaser, we are going to be God pleaser! |
| Maryam Kurniawati | I conducted a personal interview with her, one of the counselor/psychologists in our school. |

Evaluation

1. How the information suits to the project?

Does the information help me respond to the inquiry question?

Yes it does because this is the research about my topic which is second child syndrome.

Does the information belong to my topic?

Yes it definitely belong to my topic because the research itself is about birth order/second child syndrome.

Will the information help me to develop my personal project?

It definitely will help me develop my personal project because without this research I won’t have much.

Does the information connect clearly with the area of interaction or aspects of it?

Yes it clearly connects to health and social education because second child syndrome falls into that category.

1. Is the information source reliable? Where deos the information come from?

Yes it comes from valid websites, books, ebooks, movies, videos, and interviews. The websites are valid because they are from proper sites,same goes for the books and movies. Also for the interview of course, they are all experts whom I interviewed. One was interviewed in Indonesian but the content was superb.

1. Is the information accurate? Can the information be verified with another source?

It certainly, the information which I research are backed up by the other resources.

1. Is the information up to date? Is it current or old?

Yes there may be one source that is slightly not current, however the rest are all valid.

1. Is the information objective/not biased?

It is not biased because the information I got was conducted by qualified people.

1. What information do I still need?

I will need to find information on my client which are parents. Eventhough I have some information on that, I need to interview and conduct surveys to make sure I know how to raise their awareness.

1. What new questions does my research bring?

-With the information I got, how can it be used to raise parent’s awareness?

-How will I get information from different resources (different to what I have now)?

Application of Information

How is this information useful throughout the project to achieve the goal for:

1. Specifications of the product/outcomes: This information will help the product because since the product is a website, the information I just got will swarm the site,
2. The techniques chosen in different stages:
   1. Design: -
   2. Plan: -
   3. Create: It will definitely help me with the creating process because what I create will be full of this information.
   4. Evaluate/Testing Method: -

Resources

Internet:

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Voo, Jocelyn. "Birth Order and Personality." *Parents Magazine*. AmericanBaby.com, Aug. 2006. Web. 07 June 2013. <http://www.parents.com/baby/development/social/birth-order-and-personality/>.

Multimedia (DVD, Videos) :

*Insight - Birth Order*. Prod. Erina Johnson. Perf. Jennie Brockie. SBS One, 2013. DVD.

Book:

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Leman, Kevin. *The New Birth Order Book: Why You Are the Way You Are*. Grand Rapids, MI: F.H. Revell, 2009. Print.

In *Encyclopedia of Creativity,* vol 1, edited by Mark A. Runco and Steven R. Pritzker, pp. 189-202. San Diego: Academic Press, 1999.

Interview:

Kurniawati, Maryam. Personal Interview. 27 August 2013.

Danuwihardja Adhitya, Gloria. Email Interview. 29 August 2013.

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<http://todaypdf.net/birth-order-matters-id9224840>

<http://www.wvu.edu/~exten/infores/pubs/fypubs/WL_237%20Birth%20Order%20Leader.pdf>

<http://www.ccedelaware.org/Libraries/HE_INFO/Birth_Order.sflb.ashx>