



**LONELINESS IN ADOLESCENTS RELATED TO
MARITAL STATUS OF BIOLOGICAL PARENTS**

THESIS

BINTORO SURYO HUTOMO

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**The Cooperation between Faculty of Psychology
Soegijapranata Catholic University Semarang and
Catholic University of Nijmegen, The Netherlands**

2002

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**A submission to Faculty of Psychology
Soegijapranata Catholic University Semarang
to obtain Bachelor degree in Psychology**

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**This thesis has been defended in front of Board of Examiners
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and approved as an accomplishment to become Bachelor of Psychology**

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(Drs. Pius Heru Priyanto, MSi)

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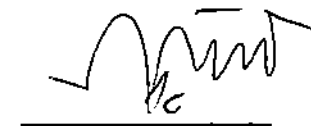
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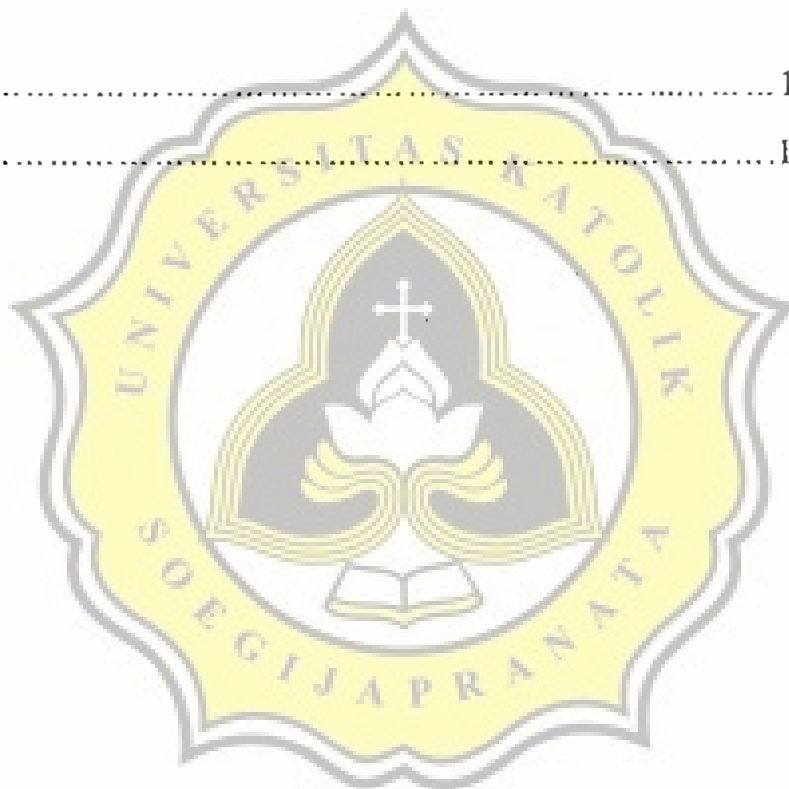
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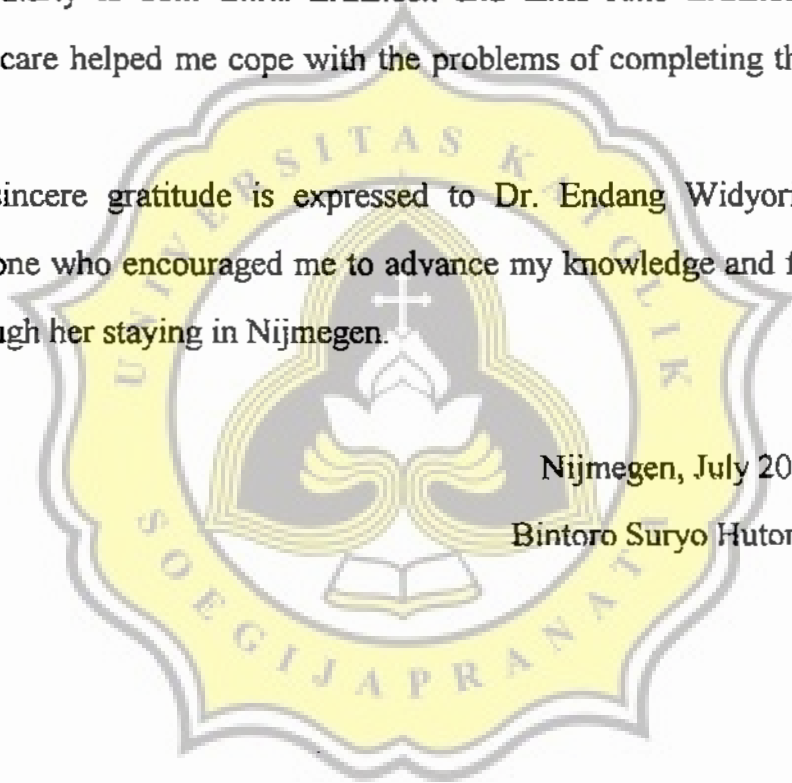
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INTRODUCTION

After finishing the entire subject of psychology in Soegijapranata Catholic University, and also reviewing the literature, both academic and nonacademic (e.g., popular media), it has become obvious to me that loneliness is an inherent part of the human condition. The reasons for the researcher to study loneliness are several. One of the simplest is that loneliness is interesting, because of my personal experience or just curiosity. A second reason for studying loneliness is that it is so widespread. Almost every human being has suffered from loneliness for at least a transient form (Lake, 1986). Another reason is loneliness is unpleasant and can even have life threatening consequences. It has been linked to alcoholism, suicide, depression, and physical illness.

Research on loneliness of adolescents in function of parent's marital status has become important due to the increase in the number of parents contesting custody in divorce cases and as the number of single custodial parent increases. I conducted this study to expand my understanding of how loneliness is impacted by parental divorce.

This thesis is organized in five sections. The first considers possible explanations for loneliness as a common experience, loneliness of adolescents in function of parental divorce, also theories and precipitating events of loneliness and divorce. The next session presents the measurement of adolescent's loneliness in Semarang, which includes data and methods, and the illustrations of The Semarang Adolescents Loneliness

Scale (SALS) questionnaire. The third section presents the psychometric analysis of SALS, which are inspection of item pool for non-discriminating items, structure of item pool, and statistical properties of SALS. The fourth section presents the results of research study. The last section reviews briefly what has earlier been said about loneliness, summarizes the findings and compares the results of my research obtained with other research available.

This thesis is primarily addressed to others in the social sciences who share with me an interest in loneliness as an area for study, but I hope will be useful also to individuals who now or in the future may be troubled by loneliness.

