

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze child neglect in Lois Lowry's *The Willoughbys*, with a focus on the forms of child neglect, the causes of neglect, and the impacts of child neglect. The study uses a qualitative method with a sociological approach to literature, employing quoted texts from the novel as data and analyzing them through narrative elements such as characters and characterization, setting, and conflict. The findings show that child neglect is portrayed through physical neglect and emotional neglect. These forms are reflected in the failure to provide children's basic needs, the lack of parental care, and the harm experienced by the children. The causes of neglect are shown through the attitudes and behaviors of the parents, while the impacts of child neglect are manifested in the children's physical, emotional, psychological, and behavioral development. In addition, the novel portrays child neglect through irony, dark humor, and exaggeration, which emphasize the inversion of classic children's literature patterns. Overall, *The Willoughbys* presents child neglect as part of family dynamics and narrative construction in an unconventional way.

Keywords: child neglect, physical neglect, emotional neglect, abandonment, causes, *The Willoughbys*