

still don't think they look tremendously alike, but it somehow seems possible they are a "family." I guess the fact is that working together and trying to appear as a family on the show has brought everyone closer, and that, in a sense, makes a much better family group than all the sets of identical twins and triplets or matching mother-daughter combinations ever could!

But all the cast members have lives outside their television roles, and it is this side of them I have had some chance to see and you haven't. I don't have any great and dark secrets to give away about any of the Partridges. I'm just going to tell you how I have seen them act when they aren't playing their Partridge roles.

#### SUZANNE IS KIND

Starting with the youngest, **Suzanne**. To be honest, I don't know **Suzanne** that well—only as much as any adult stranger might be friends with a little girl still interested in toys, animals,

way. In other words, he likes to experiment, testing what he should do to become a better actor. I like **Jeremy** because he really wants to learn and he has the power to go on learning as he grows older. After all, he is still very young.

Next in line is **Danny**. He and his family have often invited **Susan** and me to their house for supper or parties, and every time we accept, we become more like part of the **Bonaduce** family. I haven't any brothers, and so to have **Danny** become like a brother to me is a wonderful feeling. And like a sister, I can say that **Danny** is sometimes noisy and wild but he is also a typical kid, and that is how kids act.

I think there is another side to **Danny** that will come out more in a few years—**Danny** is very sensitive to other peoples' feelings and is always aware of their reactions to him. In my opinion, this quality is the very big advantage an actor ought to have, and



**SUZANNE AND JEREMY LISTEN** intently as the director tells them exactly how he wants them to act in this scene. Both are very professional and take instruction well. **Jeremy** is very serious about becoming a writer someday.

playing on the swing set, riding a bike, and so forth. I have been busy with writing, reading, and other dull (to a little girl, I suppose) activities, and so most of my talking with **Suzanne** has been about everyday things. But I can see that **Suzanne** is and will be a kind and generous girl. She is also very funny, playing tricks and making jokes. In fact, I've never seen her upset at anything, never crying, never complaining. **Suzanne** would be, if I were younger and she a little older, a good friend to have.

**Jeremy** is a very intelligent boy, interested in reading, in nature, and, naturally, in his progress on the drums. I suppose my memories of him will be his huge blue eyes and his constant energy; he is always asking questions about his acting and always wondering if he couldn't play his part in another

**Danny** has it. He will be a very good actor, better than he is now, and that means **Danny** will be very, very good.

#### KIND AND HONEST PEOPLE

As for the adults on the **Partridge Family** show—I know that both **Shirley Jones** and **Dave Madden** are very kind and honest people. Whenever I have spoken with either of them, they have been considerate enough to carry on a real conversation and not simply give back the stock answers other stars might have been content with. **Shirley** is, I know, very much taken up with her role in the show, but most often she can be found talking about her three sons and her husband, about current events, and about her own working and singing. She is a beautiful woman, not only physically but also

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