This document is an information analysis paper based on a computer search of the Educational Resources Information Center (ERIC) database from 1966 to the present and on pertinent outside resources on the topic of suicide. The paper reviews, analyzes, and interprets the literature on suicide and points out the implications of the information for human services professionals. Part 1 of this paper presents a brief history of suicide theories, reviews selected literature on the subject, and describes some of the factors which researchers have linked to suicide. Part 2 focuses on various aspects of suicide unique to special populations, including the elderly, children, adolescents, women, and blacks. Part 3 describes counseling programs designed for prevention, intervention, and postvention, including individual and group counseling for suicide attempters and survivors, and school-based, community-based, and government programs. Advice to parents is offered. This paper concludes with a list of programs that creatively and effectively serve the needs of their local suicidal population. Printed with the paper are selections from the computer search, including complete bibliographic citations with abstracts of ERIC journal articles and documents. (ABL)
Suicide: Theory, Identification, and Counseling Strategies

Lori J. Peters
SUICIDE: THEORY, IDENTIFICATION, AND COUNSELING STRATEGIES

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Searchlight Plus: Relevant Resources
In High Interest Areas

AN INFORMATION ANALYSIS PAPER
Based on a computer search of the ERIC database
November 1966 through November 1985

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES INFORMATION CENTER
COUNSELING AND PERSONNEL SERVICES CLEARINGHOUSE
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INTRODUCTORY NOTE

A Searchlight Plus is an information analysis paper based on a computer search of the ERIC database from 1966 to the present and on pertinent outside resources. The paper reviews, analyzes and interprets the literature on a particular counseling topic and points out the implications of the information for human services professionals. The purpose of the Searchlight Plus is to alert readers to the wealth of information in the ERIC system and to create a product that helping professionals will find practical and useful in their own work.

Printed with the paper are selections from the computer search, including complete bibliographic citations with abstracts of ERIC journal articles and microfiche documents. Journal articles cited in the paper are identified by EJ numbers and may be read in full in the source journals. Microfiche documents are cited by ED numbers and may be read on site at more than 700 ERIC microfiche collections in the United States and abroad. Paper and microfiche reproductions are also available. Readers are invited to contact the ERIC Clearinghouse on Counseling and Personnel Services for details.
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Suicide is the tenth leading cause of death in the United States, with approximately 30,000 cases documented per year (ED 240 457). Perhaps even more sobering than these numbers is the fact that suicide ranks eighth as a killer of children, and is the third leading cause of death in the 15-24 age group. Suicide cuts across socioeconomic, racial, gender and age lines; it can seem to be startlingly sudden or the inevitable end to a tormented life.

Although research has delineated some factors common to groups of suicide victims, prediction has remained in large part a mystery. Some general sociological statements can be made—for example, highly industrialized and prosperous countries tend to have higher suicide rates than their less developed counterparts, and the rates are higher in societies which expect very restrained or very open emotional expression, and those which emphasize individual pride and shame (EJ 292 872). These factors, however, only scratch the surface of an explanation of suicide.

Part 1 of this paper presents a brief history of suicide theories, reviews selected literature on the subject, and describes some of the factors researchers have linked to suicide. Part 2 focuses on various aspects of suicide unique to specific populations, including: elderly people, children, adolescents, women, and blacks. Finally, Part 3 describes counseling programs designed for prevention, intervention and postvention, including individual and group counseling for suicide attempters and survivors, and school-based, community-based, and government programs.
Part 1. Suicide: History and Theories

Edwin S. Shneidman, the co-founder of the Suicide Prevention and Crisis Intervention Center at San Mateo, and founder of the American Association on Suicidology, traced the theory of suicide, starting with the word's etymology. The word "suicide" was first defined in 1651 by Walter Charleton, according to The Oxford Dictionary, as "vindicating oneself from ... inevitable Calamity," and it was not considered a crime (EJ 259 090). The Roman stoic Seneca wrote, "Living is good, but living well. The wise man, therefore, lives as well as he should, not as long as he can." Opinion has long been divided on the seriousness of suicide. The excessive martyrdom of early Christians persuaded church leaders to define suicide as a sin; by the 13th century, St. Thomas Aquinas emphasized that it was a mortal sin because it usurped God's power over humanity's life and death. It is from these beginnings that the stigma and taboo have taken root in regard to suicide.

During the 18th century, Jean-Jacques Rousseau transferred the locus of power to society, and, in keeping with the ideology of the Enlightenment, discussed suicide in the absence of sin. By the 20th century, Emile Durkheim, in Le Suicide, expostulated on society's impact upon the individual, furthering the sociological view of suicide. His view was that suicide resulted from society's strength or weakness of control over the individual. Three types of suicide were thus defined: altruistic (self-sacrifice), egoistic (absence of ties to the community), and anomic (severe breakdown of the relationship between the individual and society, creating alienation and confusion).

Sigmund Freud advanced the psychological view of suicide, theorizing that such self-destructive behavior derived from unconscious hostility toward an ambivalently-viewed love object turned inward against the self. One kills oneself in order to murder the image of the loved-hated father or mother. Freud recognized that suicide was an emotional powerhouse encompassing guilt, anxiety, dependency, helplessness and hopelessness as well as rage. From Freud's theories comes the traditional view of suicide as the manifestation of the desire to kill someone else.

Theoretical and research advances over the last 50 years have added to these sociological and psychological theories, sometimes modifying them drastically. Psychological theories assume that suicide attempters suffer from mental aberrations, while sociological theories make no such assumption, instead offering a group-oriented explanation.
Psychological theories, starting with Freud's psychoanalytic approach, expanded to include the behaviorist view, which identifies the cause of suicidal ideation as inadequate reinforcement. In the first case, the attempter is treated through psychotherapy, tricyclic antidepressants, and/or electroconvulsive shock therapy. In the second, treatment entails positive rewards and reinforcement (EJ 239 119).

A third psychological approach is the humanist-existential view, fostered by Viktor Frankl, which locates the cause of suicide in the loss of meaning and purpose in life. Treatment according to this view involves logotherapy, a future-oriented form of psychotherapy in which the therapist tries to help the client detect unconscious values that could give meaning to life. Meaning can be realized through creative endeavors, experiences and contact with the Good, the True, and the Beautiful (such as loving someone), and through one's attitude toward suffering. Frankl believed that an honorable kind of suffering may be the highest human achievement (Missinne & Wilcox, 1981).

The sociological view of suicide is bolstered by research demonstrating that it is impossible to link suicide unequivocally to mental illness (EJ 223 379). According to this view, suicide is best explained by institutional and sociological variables, and is rooted less in the individual than in the character of social institutions, patterns and networks. Such factors as urbanization, poverty, racism, sexism, corporate exploitation of individuals, and other environmental stressors are encompassed by this model. Television has even been indicated as a factor in suicide: Phillips (1982) revealed that in 1977, suicides, motor vehicle deaths and non-fatal accidents rose immediately following soap opera stories. Gil (ED 146 535), in a paper presented to the American Association on Suicidology, described life as an autonomous process of the unfolding of genetically determined potential. This life process relies on needs-satisfying exchanges between individuals and their physical/social environment. Social orders of human beings can obstruct or facilitate these exchanges. The obstruction of exchange, and thus of satisfaction of developmental needs, can be defined as violence; when socially constructed institutions are the block, "structural violence" is the result. Gil postulates that suicidal urges, thoughts, desires and acts seem to be one response of individuals who feel trapped by conditions which violate the unfolding of their life process and the development of their innate potential. His theory is similar to Viktor Frankl's view in that both acknowledge the need for meaning in our lives. Gil locates the cause of lack of meaning in hierarchical organizations which treat people as means to an end, rather
than as ends in themselves. To foster a healthier society, Gil advocates replacing the dominant cultural values of
competition, domination, exploitation, inequality, selfishness and other-negating individualism with cooperation,
liberty, self-direction, equality, and genuine individuality.

A more recently developed theory of suicide is the medical view, in which emotional and psychological
imbalances are thought to be chemically induced. Treatment then consists of hospitalization and chemical therapy
(EJ 239 119). Other theorists explain suicidal behavior as a logical, if not necessarily rational, way to solve insur-
mountainable dilemmas in one's life (ED 313 400). The counselor's responsibility in such a situation, as well as the legal
ramifications of what has been referred to as the "right to die," are currently the subject of intense private and public
controversy.

Predicting Suicide: Standardized Assessments, Behavioral Signs, and Cognitive Clues

While various instruments have been developed to predict suicide (EJ 305 114, EJ 274 079), the relationship of
hopelessness and depression to suicidal intent remains unclear. The assumption that depression alone motivates
suicide is unfounded, as four to eight million people per year are treated for depression (Blai, 1980), while the suicide
figures are much lower, at around 30,000 per year. Part of the controversy focuses on the relationship of hopelessness
as it affects suicidal intent in the presence of depression; that is, if depression is the constant, does hopelessness raise
the stakes, producing a higher risk of suicide? Bedrosian and Beck (1979) indicated that hopelessness seems to
account for most of the relationship between depression and suicidal intent, while Petrie and Chamberlain
(EJ 286 363) found that hopelessness was a key variable in predicting suicidal behavior and ideation.

In using instruments such as the Beck Hopelessness scale, it is important to take into account the fact that
people will give socially desirable answers to questions, which can distort test results. Whether this factor of "social
desirability" renders standardized scales inaccurate is debated among researchers (EJ 305 114, EJ 286 363; Linehan &
Nielson, 1983). In any case, the authors state that using only hopelessness and depression assessments, whether or not
adjusted for social desirability, to predict suicide risk produces dangerously high levels of "false cases," that is, people
who have been predicted to be non-suicidal but in fact are at risk.
In addition to standardized scales, suicide risk assessment can take the form of clues or signs for which counselors should be on the alert. Bedrosian and Beck (1979) indicate that counselors should listen for:

- Signs of hopelessness.
- Extent and duration of suicide ideation.
- Presence or absence of psychological deterrents to suicide.
- Motives for contemplating the attempt.
- Degree of preparation and communication of the idea to others.
- Client's attitude toward the contemplated attempt.
- Relative strengths of the wish to live and the wish to die.

The counselor needs to find out why the client wishes to die and what assumptions the client has made to conclude that life is not worth living. Therapy would then include presenting to clients interpretations of reality other than their own, helping them to identify their own compelling reasons for living, and exploring untried behavioral alternatives.

Erwin Ringel (1976) identifies the pre-suicidal syndrome as composed of the following:

- A feeling of constriction, in which the dynamics of personality develop in one direction only, and all others are stunted.
- Inhibition of aggression/autoaggression.
- Suicidal fantasies.

The starting point of this pattern has been described as a crisis in problem solving. As solutions remain elusive, tension, frustration and confusion increase. This failure to resolve problems results in feelings of helplessness and low self-esteem, causing tunnel vision which focuses on self-destructive hopelessness, until death is seen as the only way out (ED 256 986, ED 233 258).
Suicide can occur as a result of an inability to think rationally, a response to hallucinations or delusions, or a belief that spiritual ennoblement lies in suicide if the alternative is dishonor (EJ 239 119). Suicide can also be a logical path chosen to escape pain.

For the purposes of prediction, it is important to be aware that suicides do not always "look" like suicides. Den-Houter (EJ 239 119) reports that 14%-15% of all auto accident fatalities are suicides. Children who run out in traffic or jump off high places sometimes consciously mean to do harm to themselves. War can be the setting for an indirect method of suicide, in which soldiers try to kill others in order to be killed. Psychic surrender or numbness, as discussed by Harvard psychologist Robert Jay Lifton (1982), can be regarded as a symbolic suicide, in that one relinquishes control of his or her life to someone or something else, surrendering or unable to assume responsibility for one's actions (see also EJ 284 735).

High-risk Factors

While suicide is difficult to predict, some patterns have emerged. High-risk groups include schizophrenics and others with a history of mental illness, alcoholics and abusers of other drugs, homosexuals, and family members and friends of suicide victims. These people share a likelihood of social isolation and loss of relational support during times of crisis. Another influence in these groups is the "modeling effect," which produces behaviors similar to those observed in significant others (explaining why children attempt suicide when their parents are self-abusive with drugs or alcohol, for example). Other high-risk factors include early evidence of instability in personality or in employment, rejection by one or both parents, a crippling physical disability, a competitive or self-absorbed spouse, and disappointment in the use of one's potential (EJ 259 090).

These factors, separately or in combination, cause frustration, confusion, low self-esteem, helplessness and hopelessness, which lead to suicidal ideation and, if not counteracted by appropriate intervention, suicidal behavior.
Part 2. Suicide in Specific Populations

Describing suicide patterns on a universal level is fraught with pitfalls, as there are exceptions to every "rule" that is stated. A more useful approach may be to examine suicide rates and characteristics of selected populations, which in turn provide something of a composite picture. The populations that researchers have investigated in the U.S. include the elderly, children, adolescents, women, and blacks.

Elderly People

The highest suicide rate has traditionally been that of elderly white males (ED 244 173), although skyrocketing suicide rates among adolescents have since surpassed the elderly rate (EJ 292 863). Elderly people rarely make use of suicide prevention centers, perhaps because earlier generations viewed seeking help as a sign of weakness. Elderly black males do not commit suicide in comparable numbers to white males. The black male suicide rate peaks in early adulthood, while the white male rate climbs steadily from childhood to old age. Older people who commit suicide tend to live alone, to have lived in the same location for most or all of their lives, and to be experiencing prolonged physical illness.

Elderly women are at much lower risk of suicide than men, in both black and white populations. The overall suicide rate for the elderly has been reduced in recent years, because women, a low-risk population, comprise an increasing proportion of the elderly age group. Men, because their primary focus and source of ego satisfaction is their work, and because their family role has been that of provider, are devalued by society when they grow old and retire. When they are no longer considered contributing members of society, they lose the social approval they enjoyed during their working years. This phenomenon accounts for the climbing rate of suicide among men as they advance in age. Women, on the other hand, while they are devalued as women from birth, are socially validated for their youthful vitality and beauty and their childbearing role. When these begin to disappear in middle age, women commit suicide in increasing numbers. It is clear, however, that women who make it through middle age do not suffer the trauma elderly men experience when they are rather suddenly thrown onto society's "garbage heap," because for
women suicide rates peak in middle age, decreasing thereafter. It is also important to note that a large part of a woman's identity rests in her ties to the family, a role which never ends, while a man's role as provider can feel like it has come to an end when he stops working. The issue of gender socialization as it relates to suicide rates will be further discussed in Part 2.

Children

Suicide is not as rare among children as many assume. Two hundred suicides of children under age 13 were recorded in 1977, and this figure does not include the number of suicides reported as accidents, such as poisoning or traffic accidents. Methods vary: boys tend to use guns, while girls usually take pills or slash their wrists (EJ 252 077). The risk for girls is evenly distributed from ages 4 to 12, while the risk for boys is highest between ages 7 and 11, when interpersonal pressure and inner feelings of despair can peak (ED 212 384). Also during this time, social pressure increases for boys to assume masculine characteristics and to suppress their emotionality and femininity; on the other hand, girls are encouraged to express their feelings. Contrasting evidence of this influence is demonstrated in the countries of Sweden and Norway (EJ 252 027). The suicide rate for boys in Sweden is especially high; they are pressured to achieve in school, to be self-sufficient, and to repress emotion. In Norway, children are the emotional center of the family, and education is not dependent upon achievement. Parents encourage their children to voice their frustrations and fight back, resulting in a higher tolerance of frustration, a greater sense of self-worth, and a lower suicide rate.

Children who are denied affection and approval may have difficulty developing the ego strength to solve emotional problems, and may fail to learn to form personal friendships or develop coping mechanisms. Social approval, usually sought in school, is often dependent on achievement. When pressure for achievement mounts and a child is unable to discuss those frustrations with his or her parents, a suicide motive may be the result (EJ 252 027).

Other factors contributing to childhood suicide include the following: absence of bonding and attachment in the early parent-child relationship, a recent death in the family, marital disintegration among parents, abandonment, academic failure, rejection by one's peer group, alcoholism, family violence, acute sibling rivalry, a disturbed
relationship with either parent, poverty, and disruption in the development of self-concept (EJ 293 679, EJ 284 390, ED 212 384). Most of these factors are related to characteristics of family organization; for example, family inhibition of change, lack of defined generational boundaries, severe spouse conflict, projection of inappropriate parental feelings on children, and symbiotic parent-child interaction (EJ 292 876).

Depressive reactions often occur as a result of these kinds of disturbances. An identifiable syndrome of depression in children includes the following behavioral characteristics: persistent sadness, social withdrawal, helplessness, social failure, anxiety, sleep and eating disturbances, and the expression of suicidal ideas and threats (EJ 293 679). Children who are not encouraged to express their feelings act on them instead, exhibiting such masked depressive behaviors as aggression, hyperactivity, hypochondria, psychosomatic illness, and/or delinquency (EJ 293 679, EJ 252 027). A child's peers can be the best predictors of suicidal risk, if they are asked the right questions. Teachers can be alert for signs of reduced intellectual performance, repeated absence from school, especially for students with a low-income background, and external locus of control (ED 212 384).

Psychotherapy and family counseling are effective countermeasures to childhood suicide ideation, although in some cases the child needs to be placed in a foster home or hospital until the family's structure and functioning can be modified. In the event that a child has experienced a significant loss, the counselor should encourage the working through of grief, assist the child in understanding death, and provide him or her with a supportive, stable relationship. The improvement of self-esteem is crucial to the prevention of childhood suicide.

Adolescents

Adolescent suicide is a serious problem, as the rate of suicide among 15 to 24 year olds has tripled between 1957 and 1975 (ED 248 445). It is estimated that 5,000 to 6,000 teenagers kill themselves each year, and at least ten times that many attempt to do so. Because many suicide attempts go unreported or are reported as accidents, the estimated number may be as high as 500,000 per year. While females attempt suicide more often than males, at a rate of 4:1, males "succeed" more often than females, at the same rate (ED 253 819).
Suicide in adolescents can be briefly described as a result of increasing alienation from society combined with a decrease in coping skills and inadequate socialization of young people to adulthood. Adolescence is a time of life when ordinary levels of stress are heightened by physical, psychological, emotional, and social changes. Increased pressure to remain in school, weakened family bonds, and intolerance of frustration brought on by an affluent society that emphasizes immediate rewards add to these stresses. Gifted adolescents face unique frustrations, including gaps between their academic and social development, and fears of intellectual inefficiency (EJ 268 345). Lacking coping mechanisms, teens can turn to escapist measures such as drugs, which further distance them from reality, and later view suicide as the only way out.

Half of the teenage suicide attempters in a recent survey reported parental problems as their motivation for the attempt; many also listed problems with the opposite sex and school, and a fifth listed either the recent suicide of a family member, or the recent death of a friend or relative (EJ 292 750). Peer problems, childhood hyperactivity, poor self-concept and drug use are also factors (EJ 306 332, EJ 292 869, EJ 269 624). It is important to note, however, that teenage suicide is not an impulsive act. Rather, it is the result of a three-step process: (1) a previous history of problems is (2) compounded by problems associated with adolescence, and (3) a precipitating event, often a death or the end of a meaningful relationship, triggers the suicide (EJ 292 750).

Warning signs of teenagers at risk can be tied to depression (indicated by a loss of weight, change in sleep patterns, fatigue, and feelings of hopelessness and low self-esteem), or to behavior (violent mood changes, disruptive bursts of hostility, or extended fantasizing). The most glaring sign is a spoken wish to die, or a threat to commit suicide. Such statements should always be taken seriously.

Counselors can help suicidal teens by being non-judgmental, by asking direct questions such as, "Have you been thinking of killing yourself?" by communicating concern and support, or by making a referral to a health care professional or a supportive teacher after evaluating the seriousness of the risk. A contract may be arranged between the counselor and student in which the student agrees not to commit suicide while interacting with the counselor (EJ 294 596, EJ 292 750).
Preventive programs are most effective when they build adolescents' self-esteem and inspire a sense of inclusion in rather than alienation from society. Programs established in churches, libraries and after school can satisfy these needs. Mental health professionals can educate students, counselors, teachers, parents and others in regular contact with adolescents about suicide facts and myths, and appropriate responses to suicidal behavior. School counselors can establish support groups for teens, train peer counselors, staff drop-in centers, and alert school officials to the seriousness of the issue. A community effort can make a difference in the teenage suicide rate.

Women

Women attempt suicide at a much higher rate than men, (roughly 4:1), but actually kill themselves at a much lower rate (1:4) (ED 233 258). Women commit suicide for different reasons than do men: While severe interpersonal friction and family difficulties precipitate suicide in women, job loss and difficulties with the law are motivating factors for men (Johnson, 1979). The pattern of suicide along age lines is also different for women and men: While men commit suicide at a steadily advancing rate as they age, women peak in middle age (45-64), the rate falling thereafter (EJ 292 884). While male suicide rates correspond with the divorce rate, female suicide rates correspond with the marriage rate (ED 209 567). Although the female suicide-completion rate is lower than that of men, it has increased at a faster rate than the male rate (EJ 292 884). The explanation for these differences appears to be primarily sex role socialization and the structural inequality and devaluation of women.

Researchers have shown that men and women inhabit different social worlds (Millman & Kantor, 1975, cited in EJ 204 342). Women invest most of their identity in their relationships with other people, namely, their husbands and children, while men find the major source of ego identity to be their work. These differences may be illustrated by men's and women's relationships to five components: failure, commitment, rigidly, blame (or shame), and isolation (EJ 253 477).

Failure is more obvious for men, who have external criteria for judging themselves, such as gamescoreing systems or salaries. Women lack definite standards for success or failure (there are no losers in playing house, or in cleaning it), which means women are unsure when they have succeeded and can often feel inadequate, although they feel no overt sense of failure as men do.
Commitment. Women's varied responsibilities keep them committed to so many things that failure in one area may be compensated by success in another. While juggling these responsibilities can be frustrating, they leave women more options than men, who tend to invest themselves heavily in one field—their work. These two factors reveal the overwhelming sense of failure men feel when they do not succeed in their work.

Rigidity. On the other hand, this "narrowness" means men do not have to define their roles; they are a given. Women are now in the process of sorting out new roles, and for those who grew up with the traditional role as their ideal, the social changes can be extremely stressful—confusing new options, lowered status for the traditional homemaker, and conflicts in combining family and career.

Blame. Men tend to congratulate themselves for success and blame others for failure, while women blame themselves for failure and credit others with their successes (Clifton & Lee, 1976). Women are thus more dependent upon the reaction of others, which generally keeps their self-esteem lower than men's.

Isolation. Women have more psychologically supportive contacts than men do in their respective subcultures. It is more socially acceptable for women to ask for help and to express emotion, both of which can counteract isolation. This factor further explains the high rate of male suicide relative to women.

Another difference between men and women is autonomy. Because of disparities in labor distribution, pay differences, and legal rights, women have less structural autonomy than men. Lack of autonomy produces depression (Johnson, 1979), which, along with socialization to be passive and dependent, can be a lethal threat to women's lives.

This passivity helps explain the gap between male and female rates, both in attempting and in completing suicide. In a study by Clifton and Lee (1976), women scored lower on suicidal proneness, higher on self-destruction and lower on self-favorability and self-confidence than men. Women also reacted more passively to situations than did men. This passivity is consistent with low self-confidence, which may preclude direct action and prompt women to settle for a decrease in life's effectiveness and wait for external events to make the final decision. Women often do not have the ego strength it takes to act by taking their own lives. Traditional female socialization teaches passivity, dependence, learned helplessness, and other-directedness, which lead to a lack of individuation and to
submersion in a group (the family) where one feels trapped. Researcher Wilson (EJ 253 477) concludes that someone trained to be both dependent and passive might attempt suicide as an expression of anger against those perceived to be the cause of stress. Indeed, many female suicide attempters use their self-destructive behavior as a passive/aggressive way of bringing marital disharmony to a head (ED 159 568).

Disordered family backgrounds, unemployment, a history of suicide attempts, alcoholism, poor health, low social integration, psychological malfunctioning and family conflict are all contributing factors in suicide for women; many contribute to suicide for men as well. What is unique to women, however, is that their role in society as defined by their sex can set the stage for suicide. It is significant that Japan, in which women's place in the home and family is rigidly defined, had the highest female suicide rate in the world until 1960. In the words of one researcher, "Acceptance of the so-called female role can literally make a woman mentally ill" (Erlich, 1975, cited in EJ 147 781). It can also bring her to attempt suicide.

Men and women are psychologically damaged by their socialization—men, because they are taught not to express their feelings and that it is shameful to ask for help, and women, because they are taught to do nothing for themselves, to be passive and dependent on others for their self-esteem as well as for their livelihood. Current changes in social views of gender identity and socialization, although slow, will go a long way toward improving the psychological health of both groups.

Blacks

Black male suicide rates differ from those of whites in that they peak during youth, while white rates increase steadily with age (EJ 278 960, ED 156 766). The gap between the rates of black males and females is increasing in every region of the U.S. except the West, with rates for women lower than rates for men (ED 190 726). The rate for young black men, 18-25, is three times higher than that for young black women (ED 182 396). It is clear that social factors impinge on black suicide rates: A decrease in black solidarity caused by the stresses of overt racism, low-status occupations (which also contribute to suicide among whites) and low self-esteem resulting from socioeconomic barriers contribute to the high rate of young black male suicide. Black children also suffer from inadequate mental health care, which can contribute to suicide (Edelman, 1980).
Black suicide attempters tend to kill themselves for different reasons than do whites. The precipitating event for blacks is more likely to be the loss of a love partner, which takes place in the context of negative values toward blacks and pressures within the group. For whites, it is more likely to be long-standing poor social functioning in work and in interpersonal relationships, as well as long-term difficulty with daily problem solving (ED 159 570). Black women are also more likely to attempt or plan suicide around the loss or threatened loss of a love relationship than are white women. For both whites and blacks, family conflict may be the precipitating event, but for black women the clash would be a conflict in values or value orientation.

Low self-esteem results from living in a dominant culture that ignores or devalues one's own culture. Low self-esteem can lead to depression, hopelessness and eventually to suicide if no one or nothing intercedes. This pattern is reflected in other subcultures; in the period between 1975 and 1979, the Native Alaskan suicide rate, at 90.9/100,000, was more than seven times the national average (EJ 284 436), and among Native American adolescents, the rate has risen over 1000% in the past 20 years to become the second most frequent cause of death in the 10-20 age group (ED 245 847).

The black community has been organized in part around social gatherings such as the church, parent-teacher associations, and fraternal organizations. One means of decreasing the rate of young black suicide may be involvement in such organizations, which expose people to more community support systems (ED 190 726). Family counseling is also suggested, although the "family" can be a group of people associated for reasons other than blood relationship. The counseling would involve a two-fold effort fostering empowerment in the individual, and better communication and social skills in the group (ED 159 570). In this way, the self-esteem vitally a positive attitude toward life can be bolstered.
Part 3. Prevention, Intervention and Postvention

Prevention, intervention and postvention are the three steps in the counseling process for suicide attempters. Intervention and postvention are also useful for survivors of a suicidal loss. This section describes counseling therapies for the suicidal individual as well as for groups of suicide attempters and suicide survivors. It also discusses strategies parents can use to prevent the suicide of their children and programs schools can implement toward that end. Finally, a list of model community programs and centers is presented, along with brief descriptions of their services.

Individual Counseling

Counseling strategies vary according to the suicide attempter's motivation for making the attempt, as well as the theoretical orientation of the counselor. Beck (1974) favors a target approach of cognitive modification, whereby the problem of depression is broken down into specific, manageable parts, be they emotional, motivational, cognitive, behavioral, or physiological. The second step is to select specific parts to be worked on; often the behavioral components are chosen first, such as passivity or low self-esteem. The third step is to determine the types of therapeutic intervention appropriate for a specific client. It is important in this case to design programs to effect attitude change or the benefit will be only temporary. The counselor needs to break the vicious cycle of depression and create motivation in the client; the activity presented to the client must therefore have some specific rationale. Reality checking is often a part of this approach.

Another approach is designed for high-risk attempters. The counselor discusses the form(s) of self-injury familiar to the attempter and works through all of the possible deterrents to this behavior. The counselor then makes a written contract with the client in which the client agrees not to attempt or commit suicide while in therapy. The contract is renewed at least weekly in person, so that the counselor remains in close contact with the client. The contract also includes steps the client will make toward preventing his or her suicide, a resource list of people and agencies to whom the client can turn for support, and an ongoing list of the suicide prevention classes the client will attend. Both the client and counselor keep copies of the contract (ED 251 747).
Suicide attempters are not alone in their needs for therapeutic assistance; those who have lost a loved one to suicide, called "suicide survivors," are also in need of help. Suicide survivors feel responsible for their loss, have had no warning and thus no ability to plan for the death, and receive little support from others because suicidal deaths are societally stigmatized (ED 240 457). The guilt, hostility, rage, anger, loss, emptiness and the subsequent prolonged period of self-questioning need to be worked through.

Counseling professionals can help by:
- Recognizing survivors' needs for services.
- Spreading the word to other professionals.
- Becoming knowledgeable in suicidology and bereavement.
- Developing skill in techniques of self-help and support groups.
- Working in an interdisciplinary manner with coroners, police, nurses, physicians, social workers, psychologists and clergy.

Helping professionals can also be considered survivors, because they often feel a great sense of loss after an individual with whom they have worked commits suicide. Law enforcement personnel and even members of a large organization can also experience these feelings. Bernhardt and Praeger (ED 237 921) have written several short pieces on this topic, including one on training counselors to work with survivors. This document is highly recommended for counselors who want to educate themselves about the myths and facts surrounding suicide. The paper also contains guidelines for working with survivors written by survivors themselves.

Children who have lost a parent are a special sub-group of survivors. Hammond (EJ 229 802) suggests that counselors advise the surviving parent to tell children the truth about the death now, not later; to encourage children and the remaining parent to express their feelings to each other, and to take the children to the funeral, as their presence will facilitate the grieving process. It is also helpful for parents to create an atmosphere in which it is okay to talk about the dead parent, recalling funny stories and happy and unhappy incidents involving the dead parent. Children should also be able to tell others that their parent died, since talking about the experience is therapeutic. Teachers can help as well by taking time in class to discuss the parent's death, using a short book such as My Grandpa...
Died Today (Fassler, 1983) for elementary-age children, or Learning to Say Goodbye When a Parent Dies (LeShan, 1971) for junior-high level.

Group Counseling

For suicide attempters, Hippie (EJ 269 583) advises that there should be three facilitators per group, so that at least two can be at each session, because working with suicide attempters is so draining. The facilitators should be licensed counselors or therapists, and should be active, directive, confrontative yet accepting, and possessing a high tolerance for dependent behavior. The groups should meet preferably more than once a week, and clients should be selected on the basis of their lack of involvement with drugs and a minimum age of 18; as more women attempt suicide than men, there will probably be more women in the group. Limits to be set include: no secrets between group members; no behavioral acting-out; and a limit to confidentiality, as the counselors have a professional obligation to report those at serious risk of attempting suicide. An explanation of recordkeeping and the signing of a "stay-alive" contract are also elements of group process. The groups, which run from six weeks to six months or a year, depending on the individual needs of the clients, offer skills training in self-responsibility and self-management, focusing on one's good qualities, planning for the future, and reaching out to significant others for support. A significant problem sometimes arising in these groups is the loss of a member of the group to suicide; in these instances, the counselors should allow for grief and for "debriefing" (talking about the member). Groups such as these, which can be coordinated between city or county mental health systems and a sponsoring agency or project, can provide models of control and empathy (which gives a feeling of accomplishment to those members who have progressed in counseling); a place to be less intense than in a one-to-one setting; opportunities to learn from others about their own interpersonal processes; and a chance to seek counseling without fear of being labeled "crazy" (EJ 223 380).

Groups for suicide survivors are a growing phenomenon, thanks to the work of people such as Adina Wrobleski of Minneapolis-St. Paul. After losing her daughter to suicide, this woman undertook an in-depth study of suicide, and then began to facilitate grief groups for survivors (EJ 306 340). Police, medical examiners and funeral directors
publicized the group, and soon referrals were coming from the crisis intervention center, mental health professionals, clergy, social workers, community helplines, community agencies and hospitals. The group has also received extensive media coverage. Other groups have since sprung up in neighboring regions.

The predominant age range of people in the group is from mid-twenties to 50, although the extremes are 10 to 70. Survivors come to an average of six meetings over a period of three to six months; the meetings are held twice a month, from 7:30 to 9:30. Since the leaders of the groups donate their time, and meetings are held in locations for which no rental fee is charged, virtually no costs are associated with running the groups. The meetings start with introductions and then are unstructured, with individuals bringing up problems to be discussed. In this atmosphere, a spirit of helpfulness and intimacy is fostered, where the group members become a surrogate family or support group in place of friends and family members who are frightened and stigmatized by the suicide, or are repressing their feelings entirely. No euphemisms are used in talking about the deaths; some feel fortunate after hearing the details of a more grisly experience than their own; and often, relief laughter fills the room. Ms. Wrobleski has found that survivors mostly need to be reassured that what they are experiencing is normal. The advantage of working with a group of survivors is that people who have advanced past a particularly rough stage in the grief process can be models for those still facing an uphill battle. While survivors are permanently changed by their experience with suicide, these groups can help them work through the bewilderment, grief and denial they usually feel. Unfortunately, the people who come to the groups are those most likely to make it without them, since they are able to express their feelings and ask for help. Those who drop out are usually repressing their feelings, which blocks the grieving process.

Another group counseling experience for survivors is based on Frankl's humanist-existential theories (Missinne & Wilcox, 1981). In the humanist-existential view, people who attempt to kill themselves are dissatisfied with themselves, feel imprisoned in unhappy situations and are suffering from an "inner vacuum." This therapy works best in a group setting because others can share their problems and solutions. The counselor acts as a facilitator, helping clients to realize that:

- They are part of a universal order.
- Every person is unique, can find answers to his or her own problems, and must take responsibility for them.
- The conscience can never be wrong, it can only be blocked or frustrated.
Advice to Parents

A mother whose son committed suicide recently testified in a Congressional hearing on teenage suicide (ED 258 118). Her advice to parents is to listen and to observe one's child or children. Spending more time alone, exhibiting more anger than usual, or the recent loss of a friend can all be warning signals. If the child inquires about suicide, ask him or her directly, "Are you thinking of suicide?" This clue is perhaps the most important to tune into, since between 75% and 80% of all suicide victims talk about their plans beforehand (ED 258 118, ED 233 258).

An excellent resource for parents suffering from the loss of a child through any cause of death is Letting Go With Love: The Grieving Process (ED 256 986). Chapter ten deals exclusively with suicide survivors, and a list of sensitive suggestions on communicating appropriately with survivors is included in an appendix. The author identifies the stages in the grief process as follows: (1) shock and disbelief, lasting approximately two weeks; (2) confusion and relief, with more frequent thoughts about the dead person, lasting about two months. During this time the survivor should get rid of or put away physical reminders of the victim, and should be gentle with him or herself. (3) During the period of three months to a year after the event, the survivor will feel emotional confusion and turmoil, depression, and anger. (4) "Full" recovery can take one to two years, depending on the survivor's personality, events surrounding the death, the way he or she has dealt with grief in the past, and his or her relationship to the loved one.

Prevention in the Schools: Death Education Programs

Death education programs are becoming more and more accepted in the schools because they are so effective in eliminating erroneous assumptions children make about death, and because they stimulate dialogue between students that can prepare them for the loss of a loved one, or help them grieve for one already dead through suicide or some other cause. Informal discussions led by teachers on depression and self-destructive behavior can be significant (EJ 314 598), as are more formally structured programs. There is a need to educate young children about death, because it can seem unreal and incomprehensible to them until about the fourth grade. If the topic is not discussed at home, the child will be even less likely to conceive of death as permanent.
One particularly creative educational program developed by the Suicide Prevention Center (SPC) of Dayton, Ohio involves a puppet show (EJ 313 382). The show is comprised of short vignettes (2-3 minutes) followed by discussions (5-10 minutes), the program running a total of 45 minutes. Some time before the show, the SPC gives the classroom teacher a packet of material, including information on death, how to handle talking about death to children, exercises to implement in the classroom, answers to children's most frequently asked questions, and a resource list of books and audiovisual materials for children and adults on death. Staff members of the SPC then come into the classroom with puppets to present vignettes on the nature of life and death, or the teacher can choose to receive a puppet package, "Life and Death: Elementary School Puppet Show," which provides puppet scripts and other information regarding the "performance." The SPC performs all services without charge. Preference for the puppet shows goes to schools that have previously asked the SPC to provide an inservice presentation on suicide to their entire administrative and teaching staff. Run since 1981, the program has drawn no complaints. Its effectiveness has been measured in the enjoyment children experience from the presentation and in teachers' reports of children who had explained death to younger siblings not involved in the program. The SPC's belief is that children with a clearer understanding of the nature of death may be expected to view suicide as a less attractive behavior during a time of depression or agitation.

Inservice workshops for school personnel—teachers, counselors, school nurses, and others—can help children by providing them with an environment liberally sprinkled with resource people able to recognize the signs of suicidal depression and respond effectively to suicidal students.

Community Programs

Communities can sponsor a wide variety of programs to aid in the prevention of suicide in children, adolescents, and adults. Reference materials for those designing educational programs have been extensively documented (ED 219 658, ED 218 558, ED 206 967), as have training programs for telephone hotlines (ED 241 886, ED 176 147). One such training program involves a three-and-a-half-hour presentation made to small groups of paraprofessionals and professionals who might serve as hotline staffers (ED 241 886). Staffers are taught communication skills, crisis
intervention techniques and the nature of suicidal crisis. Since the suicidal gesture is an act of communication, telephone hotlines seem to be an effective deterrent.

Home visitation programs, staffed by social workers and counselors and funded through private agencies or community mental health centers, can be an effective therapeutic measure for adolescents. Home visitation programs offer these advantages (EJ 239 119):

- Intrafamilial communications can be analyzed.
- Adolescent clients are comfortable in their familiar settings.
- Parents don't have to make appointments and rush to be on time.
- In 80% of the cases seen at home, fathers are present, aiding the social worker in understanding family dynamics.
- The helping professional can more easily assess the client's neighborhood, school, and community facilities from the vantage point of the client's home.

Home visitation programs can also be useful for adult suicide attempters who are hesitant to attend counseling sessions because of fear, embarrassment of physical limitation such as lack of access to a car. One effective program is run through the Crisis Intervention Unit of the Department of Psychiatry in Toronto East General Hospital (Fitchette & Syer, 1977). Trained volunteers contact patients through the emergency department and maintain home visits until the crisis can be resolved, or until the individual can be cared for by an appropriate agency. The program is unique in that:

- Initial emergency intervention takes place face to face.
- Home visits are a follow-up to emergency resuscitation, not an actual intervention.
- Home visits are a series of befriending-counseling sessions, rather than a one-time-only meeting.
- The program focuses on reduction of suicidal distress, and referral is considered a secondary function.
- The program is staffed by trained senior volunteers accompanied only on the initial visit by a professional staff volunteer.

The goals of the program are to reduce suicidal risk, to foster the establishment of a befriending, problem-solving relationship with the client, and to reduce depression. Volunteers, who are trained for four weeks and perform
their work with ongoing supervision, have advantages over their professional colleagues in that their time with clients is not restricted to 50 minutes and they are freer to see the client outside of the home setting than a professional would be. The volunteer can also bring family members and friends into his or her meetings with the client if the volunteer believes it would be beneficial.

Conclusion

The following list of programs that creatively and effectively serve the needs of their local suicidal populations is provided as a conclusion. It is not a comprehensive list, but suggests some of the exemplary programs, currently being implemented or already established, that provide prevention, intervention and/or postvention services to suicide attempters and their loved ones.

I'm Special, run by the Charlotte Drug Education Center of Charlotte, North Carolina, teaches adolescents self-awareness, interpersonal skills, and awareness of resources available to meet their needs in constructive ways (EJ 301 001).

The Adolescent Suicidal Prevention Center of Fairfax County, Virginia. This comprehensive program, with an advisory committee composed of representatives from the school system, mental health centers, the medical association, the police department and the mental health association, implemented training for teachers in communication skills and suicide risk identification; coordinated programs for parents run by the PTA; and coordinated programs for students, run by the schools. In one year the number of suicides in their community fell from more than 20 to 5; the next year, there were only three. The advisory committee hopes to organize awareness sessions for school administrators as well as for parents and teachers (ED 258 118).

The Suicide and Crisis Center of Dallas, Texas. This center operates a crisis line; a speaker's bureau for schools, churches, and civic groups; an eight-session group for survivors, called Survivors of Suicide (SOS); and professional consultation and inservice training programs. It also coordinates the Suicide Attempters Program for individuals at
high risk, which involves training hospital personnel and outreach teams, as well as running a support group for attempters (ED 233 258).

**California Senate Bill No. 947.** This bill, if passed, would provide for the development of a statewide youth suicide program to be coordinated with school programs. Classroom instruction would be complemented by such community-based programs as positive peer group programs, a 24-hour hotline, programs to collect data on youth suicide attempts, intervention and postvention services, parent education and training programs, and teacher training programs (ED 258 118).

These programs cannot perform miracles, but they have demonstrated that they can make a marked difference in the lives of confused, unhappy and tormented people who vacillate between life and death.
Additional References


Clearinghouse Accession Number

ERIC Journal Article Number (EJ #)

Title of Article

Author of Article

Journal Title, Volume, Issue Number, Pages, Publication Date

Annotation of Article

Descriptors of Article (Words describing the article's contents)

Diagnostic Perspectives on the Family: Process, Structural and Historical Contextual Models. Levant, Ronald F. American Journal of Family Therapy, vii n2 p3-10 Sum Available from: UMI Language: English Document Type: GENERAL REPORT (140); CONFERENCE PAPER (150) Describes diagnostic perspectives for viewing dysfunctional families. Presents three general types of models (process, structural, and historical) and organized them along a continuum from most descriptive to most inferential. Presented at the 39th Annual Conference of the American Association for Marriag' and Family Therapy, October-November 1981, San Diego, CA. (WAS) Descriptors: Classification; Clinical Diagnosis; *Counseling Techniques; *Counseling Theories; *Family Counseling; *Family Problems; Family Relationship; Models

JOURNAL ARTICLES ARE AVAILABLE ONLY IN THE JOURNALS CITED. THE ARTICLES ARE NOT ON MICROFICHE.
EJ320797  CG527868
Religion and the Family.
Thomas, Darwin L., Ed.
Journal of Marriage and the Family, v47 n2 p369-458 May 1985
Includes seven articles on religion and the family by the
following authors: Darwin Thomas and Gwendolyn Henry, Arland
Thornton, William D'Antonio, Howard Bahr and Brad Chadwick,
Merlin Brinkerhoff and Marlene Mackie, Steven Stack, and
Patrick McNamara.
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE
(OTO); POSITION PAPER (120); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJNOV85
Examines religion's place in the social sciences, reciprocal
influences of family and religion, cohesion/polarization in
American Catholic families, religion in Middletown, USA,
gender and religion in Canadian and American students,
domestic/religious individualism and suicide, and the New
Christian Right's view of the family. (BH)
Descriptors: *Catholics; Change; *Family (Societal Unit);
*Religion; *Religious Factors; Sex; Social Sciences; *Student Attitudes; *Suicide
Identifiers: Canada; Middletown; *New Christian Right;
Reciprocal Interdependence

EJ319909  EC172881
Suicide Intervention Strategies for the Adolescent.
Shamoo, Tonia K.; Patros, Philip G.
Techniques, v1 n4 p297-303 Apr 1985 Journal Availability:
see, EC 172 870.
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); NON-CCLASSROOM MATERIAL
(055)
Journal Announcement: CIJCT85
Eight strategies that work on the affective, the cognitive,
and behavioral levels are presented for suicidal adolescents.
Approaches include contracts, active listening, and clarification
of the immediate crisis. (Author/CL)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Counseling Techniques; Emotional
Problems; *Intervention; Prevention; *Suicide

EJ318465  EC172671
Suicide among the Gifted.
McCants, Gayle F
G/C/T, n38, 17-29 May-Jun 1985
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); NON-CCLASSROOM MATERIAL
(055)
Journal Announcement: CIJSEP85
The article reviews incidence and reasons for suicide among
gifted students and considers whether gifted students are
dispersed to suicide. Clues to the suicide intention include
discussion about death and manifestations of depression. (CL)
Descriptors: Adolescents; Behavior Patterns; Depression
(Psychology); *Emotional Problems; *Gifted; *Prevention;
*Suicide

EJ314900  CG528005
Attitudes toward Life and Death in Suicidal, Normal, and
Chronically Ill Children: An Extended Replication.
Orbach, Israel; And Others
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJJUL85
Evaluated attitudes toward life and death held by suicidal,
chronically ill, and normal children (N=84) by obtaining
answers to questions about fairy tales representing attraction
or repulsion by life or death. Each group had a unique
response profile that differentiated it from the others. (BH)
Descriptors: *Childhood Attitudes; *Children; *Death;
*Diseases; Elementary Education; *Life Satisfaction; *Suicide

EJ314598  SP514727
Classroom Discussion of Suicide: An Intervention Tool for
the Teacher.
Johnson, Wanda Y.
Contemporary Education, v56 n2 p114-17 Win 1985
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143);
PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Journal Announcement: CIJJUL85
Teachers can play a significant role in adolescent suicide
prevention by encouraging classroom discussion on depression
and self-destructive behavior. Effectiveness of suicide
prevention programs are discussed. Myths and signs of
impending suicide are listed. (DF)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Coping; *Discussion (Teaching
Technique); Emotional Problems; Prevention; Secondary
Education; *Suicide; Teacher Role

EJ313417  CG527929
Factorial Structure of the Aftermath of Suicide Instrument.
Spence, N. D.; And Others
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v40 n6 p1426-30 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJJUN85
Administered the Aftermath of Suicide Instrument to 54
adults. Factor analysis of their responses identified five
factors, but only one of these was similar to any of the
(Cont. next page)
original factors. While the content of the Aftermath of Suicide Instrument remains valid, its factorial structure requires further clarification. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adults; Emotional Response; Factor Structure; Foreign Countries; *Social Attitudes; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Aftermath of Suicide Instrument; Australia

A Predictive Approach to Suicide Notes of Young and Old People from Freud's Formulations with Regard to Suicide.

Leenaars, Antoon A.; Balance, William D. G.
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v40 n6 p1362-64 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Judged the contents of 52 suicide notes based on Freud's formulations. Results indicated that 25 protocol sentences discriminated significantly as a set in favor of the notes of young people, which were more self-critical, harsh, perceiving oneself as having little worth, and treating oneself as an object. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Age Differences; Foreign Countries; Older Adults; *Suicide; Young Adults

Identifiers: Canada; Freud (Sigmund); *Suicide Notes


Holden, Ronald R.; Mendonca, James D.
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v40 n6 p1342-45 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)

Reviews research which suggests that the measurement of hopelessness has not been independent of social desirability. Suggests that the theoretical and clinical usefulness of assessing hopelessness depends on the use of theoretically explicit instruments to assess independently content and response styles with clinically relevant populations. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: Depression (Psychology); Foreign Countries; Literature Reviews; Measurement Techniques; *Suicide

Identifiers: Canada; *Hopelessness; *Social Desirability

Suicide: Issues of Prevention, Intervention, and Facilitation.

Nelson, Franklyn L.
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v40 n6 p1328-33 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070); POSITION PAPER (120)

Discusses the concept of suicide intervention which allows for the possibility of death facilitation as well as prevention. A proposed suicide intervention model is contrasted with the goals and methods of existing suicide prevention and crisis counseling services. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Intervention; Life Satisfaction; Models; *Prevention; Quality of Life; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Euthanasia; Right to Die

Preventing Child Suicide: The Elementary School Death Education Puppet Show.

Bernhardt, G. R.; Praeger, Susan G.
Journal of Counseling & Development, v63 n5 p286-89 Jan 1985
Available from: UMI
Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); GENERAL REPORT (140)

Looks at a program for death education at the elementary school level in the belief that children's mistaken conceptualizations about and around death can be a contributing cause of childhood suicide. Suggests the use of puppets as a strategy for the introduction of death education. (LLL)

Descriptors: *Death; Educational Strategies; Elementary Education; *Elementary School Students; Prevention; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Puppet Show

Interviewing College Students in Crisis.

Hersh, Jeffrey B.
Journal of Counseling & Development, v63 n5 p286-89 Jan 1985
Available from: UMI
Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); GENERAL REPORT (140)

Exposes the special considerations in working with the suicidal and assaultive student for use by college counseling professionals. Discusses the special cases of suicidal and homicidal/assaultive potential. (LLL)

Descriptors: *College Students; Counseling Services; Crisis Intervention; Ethics; Higher Education; Models; *Suicide; *Violence
EJ310980 UD511288
Non-fatal Suicidal and Life-threatening Behavior among 13- to 17-Year Old Adolescents Seeking Emergency Medical Care.
Deykin, Eva Y.; And Others
American Journal of Public Health, v75 n1 p90-92 Jan 1985
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CJRAPR85
In suicidal behavior emergency room admissions of adolescents at Brockton Hospital (Massachusetts), females predominated over males by almost two to one. Also, repeat episodes of self-inflicted injury were common among females. The type of the initial episode was a powerful predictor of a repeat occurrence. (Author/KH)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; Sex Differences; *Suicide

EJ311120 CG527578
The School Counselor's Role in the Communication of Suicidal Ideation by Adolescents.
Wellman, Mary M.
School Counselor, v32 n2 p104-09 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); GENERAL REPORT (140)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Presents a five stage model (Jacobs, 1980) of suicidal behavior in adolescents, with a discussion based on observation of three case studies. A second method of communicating suicidal notions through a two-step progression is described, and intervention issues are discussed. (JAC)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; Case Studies; *Counselor Role; High Risk Persons; Models; School Counseling; Secondary Education; *Suicide

EJ311112 CG527570
Household Crowding, Loneliness and Suicide Ideation.
Wenz, Friedrich V.
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Examined household crowding and loneliness and their effect on suicide ideation among a general sample of the population (N=247) in an urban area. Data indicated that the variables of household crowding and loneliness were significantly associated with the extent of suicide ideation. (LLL)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Crowding; Family Environment; Housing *Loneliness; *Suicide; Urban Environment

EJ311069 CG527627
A Longitudinal Analysis of the Linkage between Suicide, Unemployment, and Marital Dissolution.
Wasserstein, Ira M.
Journal of Marriage and the Family, v46 n4 p853-59 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PRACTICUM PAPER (043)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Examines the linkage of divorce and suicide from 1964 to 1977, controlling for variations in unemployment. Findings demonstrated that, even with controls, the divorce rate explains variations in the suicide rate, suggesting that the insihp system is being greatly altered, which increases the propensity toward suicide. (JAC)
Descriptors: Adults; *Divorce; Longitudinal Studies; *Suicide; *Unemployment

EJ311174 EA518503
The Process and the Technique of Managing School Wide Tragedy.
Wall, F. Edward; Viers, Lawrence A.
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Target Audience: Administrators; Practitioners
The suicide of a competent and popular teacher required rapid but careful response by administrators at a midwestern high school. This article explains how faculty members and students were informed and how crisis specialists were brought in to help respond to strong student reactions. (PGD)
Descriptors: *Crisis Intervention; Death; Group Counseling; High Schools; Student Reaction; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Teacher Death

EJ313001 SP514669
Active Suicide Intervention by a Campus Mental Health Service: Operation and Rationale.
Daseff, Stephen S.
Journal of American College Health, v33 n3 p118-22 Dec 1984
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Development of a college mental health service concerned with suicide intervention is described. Primary prevention programs emphasized ties with other agencies to facilitate referrals while secondary prevention programs encouraged psychotherapy and family involvement. (Author/DF)
Descriptors: College Students; Coping; *Crisis Intervention Emotional Disturbances; Higher Education; *Mental Health Programs; *Prevention; *Program Development; *Suicide

EJ311169 CG527622
Household Crowding and Loneliness Among Adolescents: A Test of the Linkage Between Suicide Ideation and Unemployment.
Deykin, Eva Y.; And Others
Journal of American College Health, v33 n3 p118-22 Dec 1984
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Examines the linkage of divorce and suicide from 1964 to 1977, controlling for variations in unemployment. Findings demonstrated that, even with controls, the divorce rate explains variations in the suicide rate, suggesting that the insihp system is being greatly altered, which increases the propensity toward suicide. (JAC)
Descriptors: Adults; *Divorce; Longitudinal Studies; *Suicide; *Unemployment

EJ311120 CG527578
The School Counselor's Role in the Communication of Suicidal Ideation by Adolescents.
Wellman, Mary M.
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Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Examined household crowding and loneliness and their effect on suicide ideation among a general sample of the population (N=247) in an urban area. Data indicated that the variables of household crowding and loneliness were significantly associated with the extent of suicide ideation. (LLL)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Crowding; Family Environment; Housing *Loneliness; *Suicide; Urban Environment

EJ311069 CG527627
A Longitudinal Analysis of the Linkage between Suicide, Unemployment, and Marital Dissolution.
Wasserstein, Ira M.
Journal of Marriage and the Family, v46 n4 p853-59 Nov 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PRACTICUM PAPER (043)
Journal Announcement: CJUMAY85
Examines the linkage of divorce and suicide from 1964 to 1977, controlling for variations in unemployment. Findings demonstrated that, even with controls, the divorce rate explains variations in the suicide rate, suggesting that the insihp system is being greatly altered, which increases the propensity toward suicide. (JAC)
Descriptors: Adults; *Divorce; Longitudinal Studies; *Suicide; *Unemployment
Rational Suicide and the Terminally Ill Cancer Patient.
Siegel, Karolynn; Tuckel, Peter
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v15 n3 p263-69 198 1985
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): REVIEW LITERATURE
(JAC)
Journal Announcement: CIIAPR85
Reviews research concerning the nature of the relationship between cancer and suicide and considers its implications on the rational suicide movement. Findings do not indicate a higher incidence of suicide among cancer patients, questioning the rational suicide position. (JAC)
Descriptors: *Cancer; *Literature Reviews; *Patients:
*Suicide
Identifiers: *Terminal Illness

Religiosity and United States Suicide Rates, 1972-1978.
Martin, William T.
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v40 n5 p1166-69 Sep 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
(JAC)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAR85
Related annual variations in United States suicide rates between 1972 and 1978 to annual variations in church attendance of representative subpopulations of the United States (N=1,500). Results supported the general hypothesis that religiosity deters suicide. (LLL)
Descriptors: Racial Differences; *Religious Factors; Sex Differences; *Suicide

The Suicide Survivors Grief Group.
Wroblewski, Adina
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v15 n2 p173-84 198 1985
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
(JAC)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB85
Describes the Suicide Survivors Grief Group and presents the structure, dynamics, and problems of survivors, as well as the unique problems of grief in suicide death. Concluded that as long as suicide death is tabooed and stigmatized, there will be a need for separate grief groups for suicide survivors. (JAC)
Descriptors: Emotional Problems; *Grief; Program
Descriptions; *Social Support Groups; Stress Variables; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Suicide Survivors Grief Group; *Survivors

Variables Related to Serious Suicidal Thoughts among College Students.
Wright, Loyd S.; And Others
NASPA Journal, v22 n1 p57-64 Sum 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
(JAC)
Surveyed 1,768 students to examine the incidence of suicidal thoughts. Results showed 5.7 percent of the males and 6.1 percent of the females had recently considered suicide, citing family problems, poor self-concept, drug abuse, delinquency, and personal failure. (JAC)
Descriptors: *College Students: Delinquency; Drug Abuse; Family Problems; Higher Education; *Predictor Variables: Self Concept; Sex Differences; Student Adjustment; Student Personal Services; *Suicide
review. Discusses the rationality and morality of suicide from several philosophical viewpoints including self-ownership, Kant's theories, and a libertarian perspective. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Ethics; *Moral Values; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Rationality

**EJ302549**  CG526720

**Adolescent Suicide: An Annotated Bibliography for Children and Counselors.**

Craver, Kathleen W.

School Counselor, v31 n5 p467-76 May 1984

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)

Journal Announcement: CIJNOV84

Target Audience: Counselors; Practitioners

Provides teenagers, counselors, parents, and other support personnel with a list of books, audiovisual materials and articles pertaining to adolescent suicide. Discusses suicide from a historical/philosophical perspective to step-by-step approaches to intervention and therapy. (LLL)

Descriptors: *Adolescents;* Annotated Bibliographies; *Counseling Techniques; Counselor Role; Elementary Secondary Education; Parent Role; *Prevention; *Suicide; Teacher Role

**EJ302493**  CG526664

**The Role of Drugs in Adolescent Suicide Attempts.**

Mckenry, Patrick C.; And Others

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n3 p166-75 Fall 1983

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJNOV84

Describes drug histories of 46 adolescent suicide attempters and their parents compared with a group of nonattempters and their parents on selected measures of drug use. Findings indicated that adolescent drug use is closely related to and perhaps symptomatic of suicidal behaviors and overall pathology. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents;* Drug Use; *Parents: Psychopathology; Secondary Education; *Suicide

**EJ302492**  CG526663

**Homicide Followed by Suicide: Los Angeles, 1970-1979.**

Allen, Nancy H.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n3 p155-65 Fall 1983

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJNOV84

Compared 104 homicides followed by suicide in Los Angeles during 1970-1979 to West's findings for England and Wales. 1954-1961. Variables discussed are age, ethnicity, sex distribution of offenders and victims, relationship between them, methods, alcohol content, suicide notes, depression, and physical illness. (JAC)

Descriptors: Cross Cultural Studies; *Suicide

Identifiers: California (Los Angeles); England; *Homicide; Wales

**EJ302491**  CG526662

**Suicide among Older People: Projections for the Future.**

Haas, Ann Pollinger; Hendin, Herbert

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n3 p147-54 Fall 1983

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJNOV84

Demonstrates the relationship between cohort size and longitudinal suicide rates, with reference to four particular cohorts. Combines this perspective with projected population increases among older age groups to estimate the scope of the problem of suicide among older people during the early decades of the next century. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: Cohort Analysis; Futures (of Society); *Older Adults; *Suicide

**EJ302190**  UD510850

**Suicide and the Contemporary Woman: Are Male and Female Suicide Rates Converging?**

Steffensmeier, Renee Hoffman

Sex Roles, v10 n7-8 p613-31 Apr 1984

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJCT84

Examination of White suicide rates, 1960-78, showed that: (1) suicide rates remain considerably higher for men than women; and (2) sex differences in suicide rates narrowed during the 1960s but held relatively stable during the 1970s. Explanation of these patterns involves a combination of sociohistorical and methodological factors. (CMG)

Descriptors: *Age Differences;* Feminism; *Sex Differences; *Social Change; *Suicide; *Whites

**EJ301814**  RC505625

**Suicide and Economic Development among the Inupiat Eskimo.**

Travis, Robert


Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJCT84

Reports on investigation of two culturally similar Inupiat (cont. next page)
Eskimo regions which had substantially different 1970 suicide rates. Notes that interaction of economic development and modern education was significantly associated with sharp rise in suicides in one region where depressed economic structure could not facilitate goal achievement fostered by modern education. (SB)

Descriptors: *Achievement Need; Alaska Natives; American Indians; Economic Change; *Economic Development; *Education; *Eskimos; *Influences; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Durkheim (Emile); Educational Effect

Suicide among Elementary School Children: A Serious Concern for Counselors.
Matter, Darryl E.; Matter, Roxana Marie
Elementary School Guidance and Counseling, v18 n4 p260-67 Apr 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: GENERAL REPORT (140)
Journal Announcement: CIUJCT84
Discusses the attempted and actual suicide behavior of elementary school children. Notes the incidence of childhood suicide, discusses causes, and considers implications for counselors. Suggests that counseling can help children and their families learn better coping, communication, and problem-solving skills. (JAC)
Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; Coping; *Counselor Role; Elementary Education; *Elementary School Students; Etiology; Prevention; *Suicide

Mission Possible: Adolescents Do Not Have to Self-Destruct.
Renfro, Jean
Educational Horizons, v62 n4 p41-43 Sum 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: POSITION PAPER (120)
Journal Announcement: CIUJCT84
Discusses teenage suicide and its connection with chemical dependency. Indicates that identifying those with problems is the first step and that teachers are in a unique position to do so. (JOW)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Drug Addiction; *Suicide; *Teacher Responsibility; *Teacher Role

Suicide and the MMPI: A Cross-Validation of Predictors.
Watson, Charles G.; And Others
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v40 n1 p115-19 Jan 1984
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIUSEP84
Compared a suicide-completion group to a psychiatric control sample on the 13 traditional MMPI scales, three experimental item pools, and eight profile patterns earlier described as indicative of suicidal tendencies (N=84). The results argue against the use of the MMPI at this time to predict suicide. (JAC)
Descriptors: Patients; *Predictive Validity; Psychiatry; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory

Women Chemists Mortality Study Finds High Suicide Rate.
Chemical and Engineering News, v62 n17 p16-17 Apr 23 1984
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); GENERAL REPORT (140); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Journal Announcement: CIUJUL84
A study of white women members (N=347) of the American Chemical Society who died between 1925 and 1979 finds five times the expected rate of suicide, a higher risk for some forms of cancer, and a lower rate of heart disease. These and other findings are discussed. (JN)
Descriptors: *Cancer; *Chemistry; Diseases; *Females; Higher Education; *Scientists; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Mortality Rates
Reports figures indicating a rise in teenage suicide in Canada. Shows how the problem is compounded by silence resulting from official and parent reactions and social taboo. Discusses some of the causes of teenage suicide and explains the role of the school and family in suicide intervention and prevention. (CMG)

Descriptors: Academic Failure; Adolescents; Alienation; Elementary Secondary Education; Foreign Countries; Intervention; Parent Responsibility; Parent Role; Prevention; School Role; Self Concept; Stress Variables; Student Behavior; Suicide
Identifiers: Canada

EJ294596 CG525576
Adolescent Suicide.
Ray, Lynda Y.; Johnson, Norbert
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: GENERAL REPORT (140)
Journal Announcement: CIJUN84
Explores the causes and symptoms of adolescent suicide including depression, loss of parent, alienation from family, and a mystical concept of death. Treatment procedures with unsuccessful suicide attempts and their parents are described and prevention strategies are discussed which involve teachers and counselors as well as parents. (JAC)
Descriptors: Adolescents; Counseling Techniques; Etiology; Prevention; Secondary Education; Suicide; Youth Problems

EJ292920 CG525568
Attraction and Repulsion by Life and Death in Suicidal and in Normal Children.
Orbach, Israel; And Others
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAY84
Evaluated the attitudes toward life and death held by 52 suicidal and 58 normal children, by means of quantitative responses to questions that followed fairy-tale stories. Results indicated that the suicidal children, in contrast to normal children, showed a high degree of repulsion by life and attraction to death. (ILL)
Descriptors: Childhood Attitudes; Children; Elementary Education; Emotional Disturbances; Individual Differences; Life Satisfaction; Projective Measures; Psychological Evaluation; Suicide

EJ292884 CG525553
Attributes of Suicide in Females.
Bourque, Linda B.; And Others
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAY84
Investigated long-term trends in suicides among females using data focusing on 837 White and Hispanic females. Female suicide rates in Sacramento County have increased gradually since 1925. Indicators tentatively describing an etiology include marital status, employment status and occupation, physical ill health, familial loss or disruption, and psychiatric symptoms. (JAC)
Descriptors: Anglo Americans; Attribution Theory; Etiology; Females; Hispanic Americans; Individual Differences; Suicide; Trend Analysis
Identifiers: California
**Cognition and Suicide: A Methodological Review.**

Affsa, Sharon

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n2 p95-107 Sum 1983

Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (OTO)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Reviews the literature related to studies measuring various cognitive properties in suicidal patients. Provides a structural framework with which to classify the studies and employs the categories of suicidal logic, cognitive style, social cognition, and cognitive control. The methodological issues are discussed. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Cognitive Style; Etiology; Literature Reviews; Logic; Research Methodology; Social Cognition; Suicide

**The National Incidence of Juvenile Suicide In Adult Jails and Juvenile Detention Centers.**

Flaherty, Michael G.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n2 p85-94 Sum 1983

Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Used a national probability sample to compare the suicide rate among adolescents in adult jails, juvenile detention facilities, and the general population. Results showed the rate for adolescents in adult jails was more than 3.5 times larger than in the general population, while suicides in juvenile facilities were lower. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Correctional Institutions; Delinquency; *Institutionalized Persons; Secondary Education; *Suicide

**Suicide: Bad Act or Good Intervention.**

Clements, Collen D.; And Others

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n1 p20-41 Spr 1983

Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: POSITIVE PAPER (120)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Develops a different perspective on the ethics of suicide, based on theoretical and clinical grounds. Suggests the need to shift from a search for an ethical statement about suicide (e.g., "rational suicide") to the ethical justification for intervention based on the needs and interests of an affirming therapeutic profession. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Counseling Objectives; *Counseling Theories; Ethics; *Intervention; Position Papers; *Suicide; Values

**On Precipitating Factors: Cancer as a Cause of Suicide.**

Marshall, James R.; And Others

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v13 n1 p15-27 Spr 1983

Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Used a case-control study to provide individual-based data from 5,009 suicides and 17,064 controls, describing the impact of being a cancer patient on the odds of suicide. Data indicated that cancer patients are 50 to 100 percent more likely than nonpatients to commit suicide. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Cancer; High Risk Persons; *Predictor Variables; Social Environment; Stress Variables; *Suicide
Reports of prior suicidal ideation. (JAC)

Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; Cohort Analysis; Individual Differences; *Mental Health Clinics; *Patients; *Suicide Identifiers: *Outpatient Care

EUJ292874 CGS25543

Changing Patterns in Methods of Suicide by Race and Sex.

McIntosh, John L.; Santos, John F.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n4 p221-33 Win 1982

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Examined annual official national statistics for specific methods of suicide by sex and race from 1923 to 1978. Shifts were found in suicide methods employed, most notably for women and Asian Americans. Generally, firearm use increased among nearly all ethnic/racial-sex groups while the use of poisons declined. (JAC)

Descriptors: American Indians; Asian Americans; Behavior Patterns; Blacks; *Cultural Influences; *Racial Differences; *Sex Differences; *Suicide; Trend Analysis; Whites

EUJ292873 CGS25542

Hospital Suicides: Lawsuits and Standards.

Litman, Robert E.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n4 p212-20 Win 1982

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: NON-CCLASSROOM MATERIAL (055)

Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Suggested that every hospital should have a suicide prevention committee which establishes written guidelines after surveying security areas and talking with staff and patients. Reasonable treatment requires that each patient be evaluated for suicide risk and that staff follow a treatment plan according to the hospital’s own policies. (JAC)

Descriptors: Case Studies; *Court Litigation; Guidelines; High Risk Persons; *Hospitals; *Legal Responsibility; *Medical Care Evaluation; *Psychiatric Services; Standards; *Suicide

EUJ292872 CGS25541

Some Social and Psychological Factors Related to Suicide in Primitive Societies: A Cross-Cultural Comparative Study.

Smith, David Horton; Hackathorn, Linda

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n4 p195-211 Win 1982

Available from: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Examined social and psychological factors related to suicide, using a sample of primitive societies from the Human Relations Area Files. Results showed suicide prevalence was high where the society is stable agriculturally. *It* expects either very restrained or very open emotional expression, and emphasizes individual pride and shame. (JAC)

Descriptors: Cross Cultural Studies; *Cultural Influences; *Developing Nations; *Economic Development; Predictor Variables; *Psychological Patterns; Social Psychology; *Suicide
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n3 p141-50 Fall 1982
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (1-3)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Compared 30 hospitalized suicidal adolescents, 34 hospitalized nonsuicidal adolescents, and 35 controls to examine factors in suicide attempts. Results showed suicidal youth had significantly more peer problems, a greater degree of hopelessness and felt that their families were the most maladjusted. They also experienced significantly more external locus of control. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Family Problems; *Family Relationship; Individual Differences; Locus of Control; *Peer Relationship; *Predictor Variables; Secondary Education; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Hopelessness

EJ292868 CG525537
The Preventive Effect of Strict Gun Control Laws on Suicide and Homicide.
Lester, David; Murrell, Mary E.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n3 p131-40 Fall 1982
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Examined state gun control laws and used a multidimensional scaling technique to study the relationship of strictness and death rates. Results showed states with stricter laws had lower suicide rates by firearms but higher rates by other means. No effect on homicide was found. (JAC)

Descriptors: Etiology; Laws; *Prevention; *Program Effectiveness; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Gun Control; *Homicide

EJ292867 CG525536
Suicide and the Standard of Care: Optimal vs. Acceptable.
Berman, Alan L.; Cohen-Sandler, Roni
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n2 p14-22 Sum 1982
This paper was presented as part of symposium: "The Hospital's Obligation to the Suicidal Patient," Annual meeting of the American Association of Suicidology. (14th, Albuquerque, NM, April 26, 1981)
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Discusses accepted standards of care for suicidal patients from the perspective of the law, malpractice insurance claims, the mental health professions, and the ideal. A review of decisions of professional liability provides guidelines for what the court considers to be adequate care, suggesting an acceptance of minimal standards. (JAC)

Descriptors: Accountability; *Behavior Standards; Court Litigation; Legal Responsibility; *Medical Care Evaluation; *Medical Malpractice; *Mental Health Clinics; *Suicide

EJ292866 CG525535
Genuine versus Simulated Suicide Notes: An Issue Revisited Through Discourse Analysis.
Edelman, Ann H.; Renshaw, Steven L.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n2 p103-13 Sum 1982
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAY84

Presents a method of discourse analysis applied to the discrimination of genuine from simulated suicide notes used in previous studies. Reported significant differences among language measures as well as the results of a multiple discriminant analysis using the discourse analysis. A language profile of the suicidal individual is given. (JAC)

Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; *Discourse Analysis; *Letters (Correspondence); Psychological Patterns; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Suicide Notes
Terminal Cancer and Suicide: The Health Care Professional's Dilemma.

Hansen, Leslie C.; McAleer, Charles A.
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v14 n3 p241-48 198 1984
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMA84
Examine factors influencing the evaluation of a patient contemplating suicide, in a study of 138 health care professionals. Results showed subjects' evaluations, acceptance, and behavior were affected by their belief that the patient had cancer and/or was dying, and by their own degree of death anxiety. (JAC)
Descriptors: Anxiety; Cancer; Counselor Client Relationship; Evaluation Criteria; Health Personnel; Physician Patient Relationship; Psychological Evaluation; Suicide
Identifiers: Terminal Illness

Suicide among Native Americans: Further Tribal Data and Considerations.

McIntosh, John L.
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v14 n3 p215-29 198 1984
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: CIJMA84
Discusses tribal differences in Native American suicidal behavior. Similarities among these studies are noted, including data sources, the concentration of suicide among the young, intratribal group heterogeneity with respect to suicide, suicide methods employed, and alcohol involvement. The implications of obtaining figures from official agencies are explored. (JAC)
Descriptors: American Indian Culture; American Indians; Behavior Patterns; Cultural Differences; Literature Reviews; Suicide; Tribes
Identifiers: Information Analysis

A Tale of Two Bridges: Comparative Suicide Incidence on the Golden Gate and San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridges.

Selden, Richard H.; Spence, Mary
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v14 n3 p201-09 198 1984
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMA84
Investigated differential suicide patterns on the Golden Gate and Oakland Bay bridges in San Francisco, using official records from 1937 to 1979. Although the bridges are very similar, there are substantially more suicides on the Golden Gate Bridge, suggesting the influence of psychological/symbolic factors. (JAC)
Descriptors: Predictor Variables; Suicide; Symbolism
Identifiers: Golden Gate Bridge CA; San Francisco Oakland

Bay Bridge CA

Are You Thinking of Killing Yourself?: Confronting Students' Suicidal Thoughts.

McBrien, Robert J.
School Counselor, v31 n1 p75-82 Sep 1983
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (055)
Journal Announcement: CIJMA84
Offers counseling strategies to help counselors identify and evaluate for seriousness of intent those students considering suicide. Discusses both verbal statements and situational clues which provide opportunities for counseling intervention. Suggests a counseling contract as a preventive approach. (JAC)
Descriptors: Adolescents; Counseling Techniques; Evaluation Criteria; Predictor Variables; Prevention; School Counselors; Secondary Education; Student Attitudes; Suicide

Recognition of Suicide Signs by Physicians in Different Areas of Specialization.

Burdick, Bruce M.; And Others
Journal of Medical Education, v58 n9 p716-21 Sep 1983
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Discusses the ability of certain groups of physicians to recognize suicide risk potential. Results showed that group differences in recognition were generally consistent with those seen in other studies. (MSE)
Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; High Risk Persons; Intervention; Medical Evaluation; Physician Patient Relationship; Physicians; Specialization; Suicide; Surveys

Hopelessness, Depression, and Suicidal Intent among Psychiatrically Disturbed Inpatient Children.

Kazdin, Alan E.; And Others
Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, v51 n4 p504-10 Aug 1983
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Discusses the influence of psychological/symbolic factors. (JAC)
Descriptors: Predictor Variables; Suicide; Symbolism
Identifiers: Golden Gate Bridge CA; San Francisco Oakland

Bay Bridge CA
EU286363  CG524859
Hopelessness and Social Desirability as Moderator Variables in Predicting Suicidal Behavior.
Petrie, Keith; Chamberlain, Kerry
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAN84
Examined the relationship between hopelessness and suicidal intent and whether the Beck Hopelessness Scale is confounded by social desirability, by interviewing attempted suicide patients (n=54). Results showed that hopelessness was the key variable in predicting suicidal behavior and ideation, and social desirability had no influence on hopelessness. (Author/WAS)
Descriptors: Adults; *Depression (Psychology); Foreign Countries; *Predictive Validity; *Suicide; Test Use; *Test Validity
Identifiers: *Hopelessness Scale; New Zealand: Social Desirability

EU286294  CG524790
Adolescent Suicide: A Family Crisis: A Model for Effective Intervention by Family Therapists.
Walker, Betty A.; Mehr, Marilyn
Adolescence, v18 n70 p285-92 Sum 1983
Available from: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: GENERAL REPORT (140)
Journal Announcement: CIJAN84
Presents a model of crisis intervention counseling which outlines a professionally appropriate and realistic structure for effectively treating adolescent suicidal patients and their families. Discusses primary goals of the initial, intervention, and termination sessions which help adolescents communicate their emotional conflicts to their parents. (JAC)
Descriptors: *Adolescents: *Counseling Objectives; *Counseling Techniques; *Crisis Intervention; Emotional Problems; *Family Counseling; Family Problems; *Family Relationship; Interpersonal Communication; Models; Secondary Education: *Suicide

EU284890  TM508263
The Role of the High School Professional in Identifying and Managing Adolescent Suicidal Behavior.
Grob, Mollie C.; And Others
Journal of Youth and Adolescence, v12 n2 p163-73 Apr 1983
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJNOV83
The experience of 80 high school professionals with adolescent suicidality was surveyed to document attitudes and information and to describe the perceived needs of the staff in dealing more effectively with this problem. (Author/PN)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Behavior Problems; *Depression (Psychology); *High Risk Persons; *Secondary School Teachers; Self Esteem; Social Isolation; *Suicide

EU284735  S0511454
Psychic Surrender: America's Creeping Paralysis.
Cain, Michael Scott
Humanist, v43 n5 p5-11,32 Sep-Oct 1983
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); POSITION PAPER (120)
Journal Announcement: CIJNOV83
Psychic surrender, a malady that's becoming progressively stronger in our culture, can be defined as the act of turning complete control of your life over to someone you perceive as stronger and more capable than you, e.g., God, trendy therapies, or gurus. What is needed is more self-responsibility. (RM)
Descriptors: *Alienation; *Apathy; Locus of Control; Loneliness; Religion; Responsibility; Self Concept; Self Control; Social Adjustment; Social Isolation; *Suicide Withdrawal (Psychology)
The objectives of this learning activity, which compares students' estimates for selected death rates with government census figures, are to orient college students to sociology's methods and content and to increase their comprehension of their first reading assignment on Durkheim's study of suicide.

Descriptors: *Census Figures; Higher Education; Introductory Courses; Learning Activities; Primary Sources; Sociology; Suicide
Identifiers: *Durkheim (Emile)
Exploration methodological limitations confronted by researchers who test theoretical statements using suicide data generated by public officials. Data pertaining to socioeconomic characteristics, religious preference, and factors influencing behavior are reported. The social worth of the victim may influence the recording of suicide data. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: Attribution Theory; Blacks; Individual Differences; Public Officials; Recordkeeping; Research Problems; Social Bias; Social Problems; Suicide Identifiers: Coroners; Public Records

Examined methodologicallimtations confronted by researchers who test theoretical statements using suicide data generated by public officials. Data pertaining to socioeconomic characteristics, religious preference, and factors influencing behavior are reported. The social worth of the victim may influence the recording of suicide data. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: Attribution Theory; Blacks; Individual Differences; Public Officials; Recordkeeping; Research Problems; Social Bias; Social Problems; Suicide Identifiers: Coroners; Public Records

Assessed whether a death education course attracted students with significantly different attitudes toward death. Results indicated that the death education class did attract persons with greater acceptance of suicide and death. The course tended to further decrease awareness and increase acceptance. Potentiality for committing suicide was not increased. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: Anxiety; Attitude Change; Attribution Theory College; Students; Emotional Response; Etiology; Higher Education; Outcomes of Education; Student Attitudes; Suicide

In a discussion of youthful suicide, the physical and emotional changes experienced by adolescents are evidenced as among the causes producing pain which may lead to suicide in some cases. Societal factors which may contribute to adolescent suicide are described. Suggestions for prevention. (Author/CL)

Descriptors: Adolescents; Emotional Disturbances; Prevention; Psychological Characteristics; Suicide

Reasons for Staying Alive When You Are Thinking of Killing Yourself: The Reasons for Living Inventory. Linehan, Marsha M.; And Others

Factors in Suicide: A Review of the Literature. Rosenthal, Nina Ribak

Affective Processes: Factor Analysis: Individual Differences; Predictive Validity; Suicide; Test Construction Identifiers: Reasons for Living Inventory

Examines suicide rates among Blacks and explores theories that attempt to explain this phenomenon. Suggests that increased incidence of suicide among young Blacks is due to decreased Black solidarity because of stresses from overt racism, and discusses intervention strategies for suicide prevention and therapy that emphasize strengthened social support. (Author/MUL)

Descriptors: Blacks; Intervention; Males; Psychiatric Services; Psychological Patterns; Social Support Groups; Suicide; Theories Identifiers: Commitment on Black Suicide

A sample of 132 junior high school students completed a (cont. next page)
biographical data sheet, short forms of the Beck Depression Inventory, a Sensation-Seeking Scale, the Family Environment Scale, a social support index, and a life stress inventory, to determine to what extent depression in young adolescents could be predicted. (Author/PN)

Descriptors: Adolescents; *Depression (Psychology); *Family Characteristics; Family Income; Multivariate Analysis; Personality Measures; *Predictor Variables; *Stress Variables *Suicide

Identifiers: Beck Depression Inventory; Family Environment Scale; Sensation Seeking Scale

EJ279238 CGL24187
A Conjoint Measurement Analysis of Clinical Predictions.
Garb, Howard N.
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CJUAUG83
Used conjoint measurement to describe how systems-oriented therapists predict the occurrence of suicide. Although the systems approach emphasizes the interaction between an individual and a system, all 10 clinicians were described by an additive model. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; *Clinical Diagnosis; Clinical Psychology; Depression (Psychology); *Prediction; Statistical Significance; *Suicide; *Systems Approach; *Therapists

Identifiers: *Canada; *Stigma

EJ275946 CGL23901
Correlates of Self-Reported and Clinically Assessed Depression in Outpatient Alcoholics.
Steer, Robert A.; And Others
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v39 n1 p144-49 Jan 1983
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080)
Journal Announcement: CIJJUN83
Assesses levels of depression presented by 76 male and 29 female alcoholics using Beck Depression Inventory and Hamilton Psychiatric Rating Scale for Depression. To estimate overall depression from the self-report and clinical instruments, Z scores for both measures were summed. Correlations were calculated between composite scores and alcoholics' background characteristics. (Author/PAS)

Descriptors: *Alcoholism; *Clinical Diagnosis; *Depression (Psychology); Females: Males; *Multiple Regression Analysis; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Beck Depression Inventory; *Hamilton Psychiatric Rating Scale for Depression

EJ275939 CGL23894
The Psychological Screening Inventory as a Predictor of Pre-disposition to Suicide among Patients at the Oregon State Hospital.
Taylor, Maurice C.
Western Journal of Black Studies, v6 n3 p124-30 Fall 1982
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); STATISTICAL MATERIAL (110); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJJUL83
Examines effects of labor force participation on Black and White suicide. Criticizes theories that focus on fatalism and erosion of the Black family and suggests that occupation, the same factor that accounts for White male suicide rates, contributes heavily to an explanation of Black male and female suicide rates. (Author/MUL)

Descriptors: *Blacks; *Employment Level; Females: Homemakers; Males: Occupations; *Sex Differences; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Occupational Status
categories, ranging from "no suicidal ideation" to "serious attempt." Results yielded a significant value for "discomfort," with lower discomfort scores related to higher suicide risks. (Author/PAS)

Descriptors: Alienation; Clinical Diagnosis; Depression (Psychology); Factor Analysis; Institutionalized Persons; *Predictor Variables; Sex Differences; Suicide; *Test Validity

Identifiers: *Psychological Screening Inventory

Using a Battery of Tests to Predict Suicide in a Long Term Hospital: A Clinical Analysis.

Smith, Kim

Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v13 n3 p261-75 198 1982

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Examined the Wechsler-Bellevue, Rorschach, TAT, and Word-Association tests of forty patients for clinical indications of their suicide potential. On the basis of a blind, psychoanalytically informed clinical interpretation of the protocols, the outcomes of these protocols were successfully predicted for 85 percent of the cases. (Author)

Descriptors: Personality Problems; *Predictive Measurement; Predictor Variables; Psychiatry; *Psychological Patterns; *Psychological Testing; *Suicide


Cosand, Beverly J.; And Others

Adolescence, v17 n68 p917-30 Win 1982

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Utilizing suicide data collected 1925-1979, analyzed suicides among persons aged 10-24 to determine sociodemographic and presuicide behaviors which discriminate between male and female suicides, suicides of different ages, or explain the increase in suicide rates. Compared adolescent suicide rates in Sacramento County with national findings. (Author)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Adults; *Age Differences; Cohort Analysis; *Cohort Analysis: Demography; Emotional Adjustment; Emotional Disturbances; *Psychological Patterns; *Sex Differences; Suicide

Identifiers: *California (Sacramento County)

Teenage Suicide: A Critical Issue.

NJEU Review, v56 n3 p4-16 Nov 1982

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)

Suicide and attempted suicide among teenagers has risen dramatically since 1960, especially among girls. Three theories of the causes of suicide (emotional crises, brain chemistry and nonexpression of grief) are discussed. Depression and other first stage warning signals, and the nature of second "age "cries for help," are considered. (CM)

Descriptors: Adolescents; Biochemistry; Depression (Psychology); *Emotional Problems; Females; Grief

Prevention Work With Students.

Morris, Joan, Ed.; Bedal, C. B., Ed.

School Guidance Worker, v38 n2 p1D-53 Nov-Dec 1982

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (OS5); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)

Contains nine articles focusing on prevention programs and school counseling. Topics addressed include educational alternatives for potential dropouts, childhood depression, suicide, and school vandalism. Describes programs facilitating adolescent development and for the prevention of delinquent behavior. Discusses the counselor's role in failure prevention and school attendance improvement. (RC)

Descriptors: Adolescents; Attendance Patterns; Counselor Role; Delinquency Prevention; *Depression (Psychology); *Dropout Prevention; Elementary Secondary Education; Foreign Countries; Peer Counseling; *Prevention; Program Descriptions; School Counseling; Suicide; *Vandalism

Identifiers: *Canada; *Incest
Studies concerned with suicidal behavior in children and adolescents are reviewed in terms of demographic and background characteristics, antecedents, methods and motivations, management, diagnosis, and prevention. (MP)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Children; *Incidence; *Prevention; *Suicide

Group Treatment of Suicidal Clients.
Hipple, John
Journal for Specialists in Group Work, v7 n4 p245-50 Nov 1982
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL
Journal Announcement: CIJFE83
Provides an overview of essential aspects of starting and maintaining a counseling group for suicidal individuals. Considers group purpose, member and therapist selection, therapeutic style, group size, length of treatment, areas of difficulty, and areas for discussion. (Author/MCF)

Descriptors: Confidentiality; Coping; Counselor Characteristics; Counselor Selection; Group Structure; Group Therapy; Skill Development; Suicide

Affect Configurations and Changes in Women Who Threaten Suicide following a Crisis.
Neuringer, Charles
Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology, v50 n2 p182-86 Apr 1982
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJFE83
Studied whether intense negative affect states linked to suicidal behavior exist. Gathered Personal Feeling Scales data from high, moderate, and low serious suicide-threatening women and from a disturbed but nonsuicidal group. Results indicated that a particular configuration of intensely negative affects exist for highly serious suicidal women. (Author)

Descriptors: *Affective Behavior; *Emotional Experience; *Emotional Problems; *Females; *Psychological Patterns; *Suicide
clues that may alert teachers to symptoms of student depression. Teachers should watch for students who have experienced a loss and who show sudden changes in behavior. Steps for helping them are suggested. (PP)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Depression (Psychology); *Helping; Relationship; *Prevention; Psychological Patterns; Secondary Education; *Student Behavior; *Suicide; *Teacher Response

EJ268345 EC150150
Striking Out: Suicide and the Gifted Adolescent.
Delisle, UJM
G/C/T, n24 p16-19 Sep-Oct 1982
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (055)
Journal Announcement: CIJJAN83

Teachers and parents of gifted adolescents should be aware of the precipitating factors of adolescent suicide, including gaps between their academic and social/emotional development, their fear of intellectual inefficiency, and extremes in developmental immaturity. Prevention may take the form of respect, awareness, tolerance, and participation in the adolescent's life. (CL)

Descriptors: Adjustment (to Environment); Adolescents; Emotional Adjustment; Emotional Development; Gifted; *Prevention; Suicide

EJ268093 CG523133
Factors Related to Suicidal Behavior among College Students and the Impact of Institutional Response.
Bernard, J. L.; Bernard, M. L.
Journal of College Student Personnel, v23 n5 p409-13 Sep 1982
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJJAN83

Examined factors related to suicidal behavior and relationships between institutional response to such behavior and the behavior itself. Students (N=838) responding to a questionnaire indicated they believed social and family problems account for three-fourths of suicide threats and attempts. Depression was most commonly viewed as related to suicide. (Author/RC)

Descriptors: Affective Behavior; *College Students; *College Students: *Higher Education; Institutional Role: Social Problems; *Student Attitudes; *Suicide; Withdrawal (Education)

EJ267996 CG523036
Effects of Personal and Situational Factors on Attitudes toward Suicide.
Droogas, Athena; And Others
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v13 n2 p127-44 1982
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): BIBLIOGRAPHY (131): EVALUATIVE REPORT (142)
Journal Announcement: CIJJAN83

Examined the literature dealing with the relation of occupation to suicide for four occupational categories: health care providers, managerial and professional persons, and military and paramilitary personnel. Presents evidence relating to group differences in suicidal behavior. Considers theories explaining variations in incidence of suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: Comparative Analysis; *Health Personnel; Literature Reviews; *Military Personnel; Occupational Clusters; *Professional Personnel; Program Evaluation; Research Problems; Suicide

EJ267997 CG523037
Normative Evaluations of Suicide and Death: A Cross-Generational Study.
Boldt, Menno
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v13 n2 p145-57 1982
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJJAN83

Investigated attitudes toward suicide and death across two intrafamilial generations to better understand possible causal factors underlying increasing suicide rates among the young. Findings indicate support for the hypothesis that the youthful generation holds more "accepting" attitudes toward suicide and death than does the parental generation. (Author)

Descriptors: Adolescents; Attitude Change; *Behavior Standards; *Death; Foreign Countries; *Moral Values; Parents; Secondary School Students; *Social Attitudes; Suicide Identifiers: Canada

EJ268042 CG523082
Suicide and Occupation: A Review.
Bedelian, Arthur G.

Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): BIBLIOGRAPHY (131):

Examined the literature dealing with the relation of occupation to suicide for three occupational categories: health care providers, managerial and professional persons, and military and paramilitary personnel. Presents evidence relating to group differences in suicidal behavior. Considers theories explaining variations in incidence of suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: Comparative Analysis; *Health Personnel; Literature Reviews; *Military Personnel; Occupational Clusters; *Professional Personnel; Program Evaluation; Research Problems; Suicide
physical characteristics: psychological characteristics:

*student attitudes; *suicide

identifiers: *moral judgment

EJ264389 EC142908

three myths? the over-representation of the gifted among dropouts, delinquents, and suicides.

Lajoie, Susanne P.; Shore, Bruce M.


Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

Journal Announcement: CIJOC82

From findings, it is concluded that: the proportion of gifted dropouts may be average, existing literature on delinquency suggests under-representation of the gifted, and suicide statistics and theories about the causes of suicide are accommodating to the idea of over-representation of the gifted. (SB)

Descriptors: *Delinquency; *Dropouts; *Gifted; *Incidence; Literature Reviews; *Suicide

EJ261186 CG522379

Attitudes toward Suicide: A Factor Analytic Approach.

Domino, George; And Others

Journal of Clinical Psychology, v38 n2 p257-62 Apr 1982

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJAG82

Presents a psychometric instrument, the Suicide Opinion Questionnaire (SOQ), which assesses community attitudes toward suicide. While further refinements of the SOQ are needed, results support its usefulness and also point out the complexities of attitudes toward suicide. Factors (N=15) accounted for 76.6% of the total variance. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: *Adults; *Attitude Measures; *Community Attitudes; *Cultural Context; Factor Analysis; Psychometrics; *Social Attitudes; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Suicide Opinion Questionnaire

EJ261174 CG522333

Suicide by Industry and Occupation: A Structural-change Approach.

Reinhart, George R.; Linden, Leonard L.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v12 n1 p34-45 Spr 1982

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJAG82

Examined data on suicide rates for males age 20 to 64 by occupation and industry for 1950. Results indicated variations in suicide are related to changes in the size of the group from which significant others are selected. Conclusions support a structural change approach to suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: Adults; Industry; *Interpersonal Relationship; Males; Occupational Clusters; *Social Change; *Social Structure; Socioeconomic Status; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Significant Others

EJ259209 CG522245

Youth Suicide.

Peck, Michael

Death Education, v6 n1 p29-47 Spr 1982

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

Journal Announcement: CIJUL82

Reviews and analyzes statistics and theories on causes of increasing youth suicides. Emphasizes the importance of identifying suicidal adolescents, accepting their feelings, and providing appropriate intervention. Illustrates categories of youth suicides--the loner, the depressed, the psychotic, the crisis suicide, and as a means to communicate. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Behavior Problems; Case Studies; Classification; Counseling Techniques; Emotions; Disturbances; Family; Relationship; *Intervention; Literature Reviews; Profiles; *Psychopathology; *Suicide; Trend Analysis; Young Adults; *Youth Problems

EJ258900 CG522126

Suicide Thoughts and Reflections (1960-1980).

Shneidman, Edwin S.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, vii n4 p193-359 Win 1981

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70); POSITION PAPER (120)

Journal Announcement: CIJUL82

Reviews 10 articles discussing various issues relating to suicide. Discusses difficulties in defining suicide and a psychological theory of suicide. Reports on suicide among the gifted and discusses cognitive processes and styles relating to suicide. Discusses the psychological autopsy, psychotherapy with suicidal patients, and care of the bereaved. (RC)

Descriptors: Behavior Theories; Case Studies; *Cognitive Processes; *Cognitive Style; *Death; Definitions; Gifted; History; Logical Thinking; *Psychological Characteristics; Psychotherapy; State of the Art Reviews; *Suicide
Examines several dimensions of adolescent suicide, including theories of suicide, methods of assessing lethality, and methods of counseling the suicidal person. (Author/CC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Counseling; Family Problems; *Parent Child Relationship; Racial Differences; Sex Differences; *Social Influences; *Social Integration; *Suicide

Do Suicide Survivors Report Near-Death Experiences?
Ring, Kenneth; Franklin, Stephen
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v12 n3 p191-208 1981
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAPR82
Interviewed persons (N=36) who had been close to death as a result of a suicide attempt to determine whether such persons report near-death experiences. Half related such experiences; these were more common for men. Found three patterns in suicide-related, near-death experiences. (Author/JAC)
Descriptors: Adults; Affective Behavior: Attitude Change: Case Studies; *Emotional Experience; Interviews; *Psychological Patterns: Sex Differences; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Near Death Research; *Transcendence

Attitudes toward Suicide among Mexican American and Anglo Youth.
Comino, George
Hispanic Journal of Behavioral Sciences, v3 n4 p385-95 Dec 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAPR82
There were statistically significant differences between answers of 76 Anglo and 76 Mexican American youth on 35 of 100 opinion questionnaire items. Items centered on religion, psychopathology, aggression-impulsivity, acceptability of suicide, the "cry for help" dimension, and emotional impact. (Author/FM)
Descriptors: *Anglo Americans; *Cultural Differences; High School Students; *Mexican Americans; Psychological Characteristics: Religious Factors: Rural Urban Differences: Secondary Education: Sex Differences; Socioeconomic Influences: *Student Attitudes; *Suicide: Youth

Adolescent Suicide: A Growing Problem for the School and Family.
Smith, Elsie
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): REVIEW LITERATURE (70); POSITION PAPER (12n)
Journal Announcement: CIJAPR82
Examines several dimensions of adolescent suicide, including
integration, focusing on divorce and suicide with data from the United States from 1933 to 1970. For the whole period, an increase in the divorce rate was associated with an increase in the suicide rate independent of trends in unemployment and birth. (Author/HLM)

Descriptors: *Birth Rate; *Divorce; *Marital Instability; *Suicide; Time Perspective; Trend Analysis; *Unemployment

EJ254453 TM506521
Depression and Suicidal Behavior among Delinquent Females. Gibss, Jawone Taylor
Journal of Youth and Adolescence, v10 n2 p159-67 Apr 1981
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAR82
The occurrence of depression and suicidal behavior in a group of delinquent females whose personality and offense patterns have been described previously is reported. Effects of personality pattern and ethnicity on depression and suicidal behavior of these delinquent females is discussed. (Author/OK)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Behavior Problems; *Delinquency; *Depression (Psychology); Ethnicity: *Females; *Personality Traits: Socioeconomic Status; *Suicide

EJ253563 CG521568
Loneliness in College Students: Some Theoretical, Empirical, and Therapeutic Considerations. Clamant, Louis; Windholz, George
Journal of College Student Personnel, v22 n6 p515-22 Nov 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAR82
Clinical, psychoanalytical, and existential hypotheses were reviewed and tested using college students as subjects. When a measure of loneliness was correlated with a number of personality scales, loneliness was positively related to depression, hopelessness, paranoia, alienation, external locus of control, aggression, and potential suicide, but was negatively related to assertion. (Author)

Descriptors: Aggression: College Students; *Depression (Psychology); *Existentialism; *Loneliness; Personality Assessment: *Personality Traits; *Suicide

EJ253478 CG521453
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v11 n3 p141-50 Fall 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAR82
Bereavement group therapy for parents who sought relief from the painful grief experienced after the suicide of their child. Results indicate parents who felt overwhelmed by feelings of shame, guilt, self-doubt, confusion, and isolation found some relief in the universality of their grief and felt accepted and understood. (Author)

(cont. next page)
Suicidal Behavior: Toward an Explanation of Differences in Female and Male Rates.

Wilson, Michele

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v11 n3 p131-40 Fall 1981

Available from: Print: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); GENERAL REPORT (140)

Journal Announcement: CIJMAR82

Discusses five components of a basic suicide syndrome. Examines gender differences in suicidal behavior through an analysis of male and female roles. Components include failure, commitment, rigidity, shame, and isolation. Considers the concept of autonomy in relation to sex differences in suicidal behavior. (RC)

Descriptors: Age Differences; Behavior Patterns; Comparative Analysis; *Coping; *Emotional Problems; Failure; Psychological Patterns; *Sex Differences; *Sex Role; Stress Variables; *Suicide

Assessment of Suicide Ideation and Parasuicide: Hopelessness and Social Desirability.

Linehan, Marsha M.; Nielsen, Stevan L.


Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJFEB82

Shoppers completed the Beck Hopelessness Scale, the Edwards Social Desirability Inventory, and a survey of past suicidal behavior. Results indicated hopelessness and social desirability were reliably related to reports of past suicidal behavior, to frequency of current suicidal ideation, and to subjects' predictions of future suicide potential. (Author)

Descriptors: Adults; *Behavior Patterns; Predictive Measurement; *Psychological Patterns; Response Style (Tests); *Suicide

Identifiers: *Hopelessness Scale; *Social Desirability

Suicide and Children.

Fish, William C.; Waldhart-Letzel, Edith

Death Education, v5 n3 p215-22 Fall 1981

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080)

Journal Announcement: CIJFEB82

Presents statistics on the extent of child and adolescent suicide. Symptoms and causes are suggested including ego weakness, child rearing attitudes and practices, and social influences. Considers the ethics of interfering with the attempt to commit suicide and makes recommendations for prevention. (RC)

Descriptors: Adolescents; *Child Rearing; Children; Coping; Depression (Psychology); Ethics; Etiology; Intervention; *Parent Attitudes; *Self Concept; *Social Influences: State of the Art Reviews; *Suicide

Suicidal Behavior among Native Americans: An Annotated Bibliography.

Peters, Ron


Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); BIBLIOGRAPHY (131); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJDEC81

This annotated bibliography on suicidal behavior of American Indians, Canada Natives, and Alaska Natives includes 65 citations to articles which include anthropological, medical, and psychological treatments. Available from: White Cloud Center, Gaines Hall UOHSC, 840 Southwest Gaines Road, Portland, OR 97201. (Author/CM)

Descriptors: *Alaska Natives; *American Indians; *Annotated Bibliographies; *Canada Natives; *Suicide; *Tribes
EU249604 CGS51008
Davis, Richard A.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v11 n2 p111-23 Spr 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143);
REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: CIJDEC81
Describes the relationship of male and female suicide patterns to growth in the female labor force during the 1950's and 1960's. Suggests working women represented a weakening of sex role norms. Proposes role conflict ensued resulting in increased female suicides and suicide potential. (Author/ JAC)
Descriptors: *Behavior Standards; Census Figures; *Emotional Disturbances; *Employed Women; Occupational Surveys; *Role Conflict; *Sex Role; *Suicide; Trend Analysis

EU249603 CGS52007
Adolescent Suicide Attempts: Some Significant Factors.
Tishler, Carl L.; And Others
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v11 n2 p86-92 Spr 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143);
Journal Announcement: CIJDEC81
Describes adolescents who attempted suicide. Adolescent suicide attempts presented are most significantly related to long-term family dysfunction. Some vegetative depressive symptoms are noted in a majority of patients. Implications are drawn for strengthening the mental health practitioner's role in detecting and preventing adolescent suicide. (Author)
Descriptors: *Adolescents: Coping; *Crisis Intervention: *Depression (Psychology); Developmental Stages; *Emotional Disturbances; Etiology; *Family Problems; Interpersonal Relationship; Parent Child Relationship; Psychopathology; *Suicide

EU246214 RC504239
Cross-Cultural Studies of Depression among American Indians and Alaska Natives.
Shore, James M.; Manson, Spero M.
White Cloud Journal of American Indian Alaska Native Mental Health, v2 n2 p5-12 1981
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143);
REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81
Describes the differences between Western and indigenous concepts of depression. Describes several culture-specific Indian depression syndromes. Notes the rising incidence of Native behavior. Describes several theories of depression etiology. Available from: White Cloud Center, Gaines Hall UHSC, 840 Southwest Gaines Road, Portland, Oregon 97201. (SB)
Descriptors: *American Indian Culture; American Indians; Cross Cultural Studies; *Cultural Influences; *Depression (Psychology); Grief; *Measurement Techniques; *Mental Disorders; *Suicide; Test Bias
Identifiers: Dependency (Personality)

EU245476 CGS520703
Suicide in the Later Years.
Jarvis, George K.; Boldt, Menno
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143);
Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81
Studied older male suicides as more often perceived by survivors as being physically ill, whereas older female suicides were more often seen as having a mental disorder. Older suicides typically use very lethal means and are less likely to have been involved with alcohol, drugs, or violence than younger suicides. (Author)
Descriptors: Age Differences; Comparative Analysis; Emotional Problems; Foreign Countries; Gerontology; *Health; *Life Style; *Older Adults; *Stress Variables; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Canada
Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81

Reflected as the author's experiences as a suicide prevention counselor at a Japanese university. Discusses the rising rate of adolescent suicide and its relationship to social change and family structure. Concludes that adolescent suicide is a silent indictment of current society in Japan. (Author)

Descriptors: Adolescents; Counseling Role; Crisis Intervention; Cultural Traits; Family Structure; Foreign Countries; Higher Education; Social Change; Stress Variables; Suicide; Youth Problems

Identifiers: Japan

EU245435 CG520068

Parental Suicide: An Organizing Event in the Development of Latency Age Children.

Pfeffer, Cynthia R.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v11 n1 p43-50 Spr 1981

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81

Proposes that children are especially vulnerable to parental suicide who have not resolved earlier developmental issues of separation-individuation. Five children were studied intensively. Results indicate parental suicide influences children's ego development and character formation. This trauma is heightened when mourning difficulties for the surviving parent interfere with open discussion. (Author)

Descriptors: Case Studies; Child Development; Children; Emotional Adjustment; Emotional Development; Family Problems; Grief; Parent Child Relationship; Suicide

EU245634 CG520069

Suicide of Japanese Youth.

Igo, Mamoru

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v11 n1 p43-50 Spr 1981

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): REVIEW LITERATURE (40)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81

Discusses the uniquely intense stress in Japan due to the "Examination Hell" which contributes to a high rate of young suicide. The social structural factors are analyzed in terms of weak ego: emphasis on aggression; lack of social resources; and views of life, death, and suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: Academic Achievement; Adjustment (to Environment); Adolescents; Cultural Traits; Family Relationship; Foreign Countries; Personality Traits; Secondary Education; State of the Art Reviews; Stress Variables; Suicide; Test Anxiety; Youth Problems

Identifiers: Japan

EU245582 CG520444

Assessing Paraprofessional Competence with the Suicide Intervention Response Inventory.

Neimeyer, Robert A.; MacInnes, William D.


Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81

The Suicide Intervention Response Inventory demonstrated the ability to discriminate among respondents known to differ in suicide counseling skills and detected enhancement of such skills in volunteers over the course of crisis intervention training. It may be useful in screening and evaluating paraprofessionals who deal with potentially suicidal clients. (Author)

Descriptors: Competence; Counseling Effectiveness; Counselor Qualifications; Crisis Intervention; Paraprofessional Personnel; Personnel Evaluation; Screening Tests; Suicide; Test Validity; Training Objectives

Identifiers: Suicide Intervention Response Inventory

EU242058 CG520389

Bracketing and Stabilization: Interventative Steps in Counseling the Suicidal Client.

Spero, Moshe Halevi


Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); CLASSROOM MATERIAL (OSG); GENERAL REPORT (140)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81

Suggests that stress on the rapid establishment of "cognitive re-structuring" is inappropriate for many types of suicidal clients. Bracketing and stabilization are suggested as alternative means to increase client ability to grasp personal orientations and perspectives. Stress on the client's ability to control is important. (Author)

Descriptors: Adolescents; Cognitive Objectives; Coping; Counseling Techniques; Counselor Client Relationship; Crisis Intervention; Emotional Problems; Models; Stress Variables; Suicide

EU242057 CG520388

The Correlations of Attitudes toward Suicide with Death Anxiety, Religiousness, and Personal Closeness to Suicide.

Minear, Julianne D.; Brush, Lorelei R.


Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080): RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP81

A study of college students showed the more supportive students were about the right of people to commit suicide, the more anxious they felt about death, the less strongly they (cont. next page)
were committed to a religion, and the more seriously they had thought about committing suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: *Anxiety; College Students; Correlation; Higher Education; *Religious Factors; Social Problems; *Social Values; *Student Attitudes; *Suicide

EU242056 CGS02387
Suicide among Native Americans: A Compilation of Findings.
Mcintosh, John L.; Santos, John F.
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v11 n4 p303-16 198 1980
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)
Journal Announcement: CJIOUL81

Undue emphasis upon Indian tribes having high suicide rates has created the impression that all Indian groups have high rates. The wide variations that exist among the tribes are often ignored. Results of the available studies of suicide among the various Indian tribal groups are presented. (Author)

Descriptors: *American Indian Culture; *American Indians; *Cross Cultural Studies; Literature Reviews; Quality of Life; *Social Problems; *Stress Variables; *Suicide; Tribes

EU241955 CGS02286
Methods of Suicide and Implications for Suicide Prevention.
Boor, Myron
Journal of Clinical Psychology, v37 n1 p70-75 Jan 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: CJIOUL81

The increase in suicides by firearms in all sex-ethnic groups accompanied marked increases in the availability of firearms, which is a preferred, socioculturally accepted method of suicide. Studies suggest that suicides may be prevented by decreasing the availability of the most common methods of suicide to suicidal individuals. (Author)

Descriptors: *Crisis Intervention; Cross Cultural Studies; *Prevention; *Psychopathology; Racial Factors; Sex Differences; *Sociocultural Patterns; State of the Art Reviews; *Suicide

EU240008 CGS2125
Moody, Suicide and Survival: A Critical Appraisal.
Vicchio, Stephen
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)
Journal Announcement: CJIOUL81

The purpose of this paper is to: (1) define suicide; (2) explicate Raymond Moody's position on suicide and survival after death; (3) analyze logical connections between divine commands and moral judgments; and (4) offer constructive comments on suicide and suicide prevention. (Author/RH)

Descriptors: Christianity; Literature Reviews; *Moral Issues; *Philosophy; *Punishment; Religion; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Augustine (Saint); *Moody (Raymond)

EU239119 P510217
To Silence One's Self: A Brief Analysis of the Literature on Adolescent Suicide.
Denhouter, Kathryn V.
Child Welfare, v60 n1 p2-10 Jan 1981
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); POSITION PAPER (120)
Journal Announcement: CJIOUL81

This paper discusses and analyzes the etiology and treatment of suicidal adolescents from an ecological point of view that includes three major perspectives: biophysical, psychological and sociological. (Author/RH)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Demography; *Influences; *Intervention; Literature Reviews; *Suicide; Theories

EU238281 CGS19998
The Counselor's Role in Suicide Prevention.
Morgan, Lewis B.
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: CJIOUL81

Suicide, especially among young people, continues to be a leading cause of death in the United States. Counselors can prevent it by being alert to the warning signs and responding directly to the client in a caring, supportive manner. (JAC)

Descriptors: Adolescents; *Counseling Techniques; *Counselor Client Relationship; *Counselor Role; Emotional Problems; Females; Minority Groups; Quality of Life; State of the Art Reviews; Stress Variables; Suicide

EU238234 CGS19951
Mobilizing Schools for Suicide Prevention.
Ross, Charlotte P.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n4 p239-43 Win 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Journal Announcement: CJIOUL81

Consultation to school personnel following student suicides led to a program of prevention through training school personnel. The program increased the ability of resource persons available to adolescents-teachers, counselors and (cont. next page)
Trend Analysis: Violence: Youth

EJ238233 CGS19950
Suicide Risk Factors in Alcohol Abuse.
Motto, Jerome A.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n4 p230-38 Win 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: C1JAPR81
A current focus in evaluating suicide risk is the "clinical model" approach, which determines those factors associated with high risk for suicide. The sociological factors identified as estimators of suicide risk included impaired health, job instability, multiple unit residence, no change in living setting, and modest financial resources. (JAC)
Descriptors: *Alcoholism; Longitudinal Studies; Models; Patients: *Predictor Variables; *Risk; *Social Influences; *Stress Variables; *Suicide

EJ238232 CGS19949
Shifting Patterns of Deadly Violence.
Selden, Richard H.; Freitas, Raymond P.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n4 p195-209 Win 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: C1JAPR81
While it is true that the total suicide rates have varied little, this composite figure masks a dramatic shift in the risk of suicide by age. In recent years there has been a reduction of suicide at older ages reciprocated by an unprecedented increase of suicide and homicide at younger ages. (Author)
Descriptors: *Age Differences; *Aggression; *Behavior Patterns; Crime; Older Adults; Psychopathology; *Suicide; Trend Analysis; *Violence; Youth; Identifiers: *Firearms

EJ237948 U0508192
The Political Economy of Black Male Suicides.
Stewart, James B.
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: C1JAPR81
Presents a framework which merges economic and sociological insights for studying the increasing suicide rate among Black males. Preliminary empirical analysis of the model indicated that a purely economic model must incorporate extra-economic influences to increase its explanatory power. (MK)
Descriptors: *Blacks; Economic Factors; *Males; Social Influences: Socioeconomic Background; *Socioeconomic Influences; *Suicide

EJ237727 SP510187
Subintentional Suicide among Youth.
Smith, D. F.
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: C1JAPR81
Subintentional suicide is a classification that refers to ill-defined deaths and practices that lead toward death. Types of subintentional suicide among adolescents include drug abuse and risk taking when driving automobiles. (UN)
Descriptors: *Adolescents; Death; Depression (Psychology); *Drug Abuse; Emotional Problems; Psychopathology; *Suicide; *Traffic Accidents

EJ236711 EC130344
Depression and Suicide among Adolescents and Young Adults with Selective Handicapping Conditions.
Bryan, Doris P.; Herjanic, Barbara
Exceptional Education Quarterly: Special Issue on Special Education for Adolescents and Young Adults, v1 n2 p57-65 Aug 1980
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (085)
Journal Announcement: C1JAPR81
Factors considered include physical health, life satisfaction, and adolescent development and behavior in the handicapped. Some behaviors and symptoms to help practitioners recognize depression and suicide potential in the handicapped are presented along with several steps to take if depression is suspected. Also considered is suicide prevention. (OLS)
Descriptors: *Adjustment (to Environment); *Adolescents; Behavior Patterns; *Child Development; *Depression (Psychology); Emotional Problems; Physical Health; *Prevention; Quality of Life; *Suicide
Sex Differences in Criminal Homicide and Suicide in England and Wales and the United States.

Palmer, Stuart
Omega: Journal of Death and Dying, v11 n3 p255-70 198 1980
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAPR81

A suicide potential scale is constructed that fits the Guttman scale criteria. The mean suicide potential scores of various age groups support the cohort model with the exception of individuals 75 and older, where it appears that maturation factors play an important role in explaining suicidal behavior. (Author)

Descriptors: *Sex Differences; *Cohort Analysis; Gerontology; *Maturity (Individuals); Older Adults; Predictive Validity; Psychometrics; *Suicide Potential Scale

Indirect Self-Destructive Behavior in the Elderly Nursing Home Patient.

Nelson, Franklin L.; Farberow, Norman L.
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJAPR81

Indirect self-destructive behavior (ISDB) is associated with direct suicide potential, dissatisfaction with the treatment program and with life in general, confused reasoning and judgment, poor prognosis for discharge, the absence of rigid commitment, and significant losses in the patient's fe. ISDB is an alternative form of suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: *Behavior Problems; *Emotional Disturbances; Geriatrics; Gerontology; Morale; *Nursing Homes; *Older Adults; *Quality of Life; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Self Destructive Behavior

Suicide among Young Blacks: Trends and Perspectives.

Davis, Robert
Phylon, v41 n3 p223-29 Sep 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070); POSITION PAPER (120)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAR81

Reviews recent trends in suicide among young Blacks and discusses three inadequate causal theories (urban stress, status integration, and Black family deficit). Presents an alternative explanatory paradigm which focuses on weakened communal and family ties as a result of upward mobility. (MK)

Descriptors: *Black Youth; Family Influence; Influences: *Intergroup Relations; Psychological Patterns; Social Science Research; Sociology; *Suicide

Suicide among Young Blacks: Trends and Perspectives.

Greuling, Jacqueline W.; DeBlassie, Richard R.
Adolescence, v15 n59 p589-601 Fall 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); POSITION PAPER (120); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Journal Announcement: CIJMAR81

Investigates causal factors, prevention, management, and treatment of adolescent suicide. (Author/DB)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Behavior Problems; *Depression (Psychology); Emotional Problems; *Influences; *Intervention; Literature Reviews: *Prevention; Psychopathology; *Suicide
Student Suicides during a Twenty-Year Period at a State University Campus.
Kraft, David P.
Journal of the American College Health Association, v28 n5 p258-262 Apr 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB81
Student suicide on a large university campus is analyzed and implications for student health services are made. (J0)
Descriptors: *College Students; Higher Education; *Mental Health; Psychopathology; School Health Services; *Suicide

Suicide in the Young: Demographic Data of College-Age Students in a Rural State.
Heinrichs, E. H.
Journal of the American College Health Association, v28 n4 p236-37 Feb 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB81
Demographic data from death certificates of suicides of college-age persons in South Dakota are compared with those of students in the same age group. Only a few differences between students and nonstudents occur. (J0)
Descriptors: *College Students; Data Analysis; *Demography; Higher Education; *Rural Areas; *Suicide; *Young Adults

Suicide among American College and University Students from 1970-71 through 1975-76.
Schwartz, Allan J.
Journal of the American College Health Association, v28 n4 p206-210 Feb 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB81
Suicide rates of college and university populations are found to be lower than sex-matched comparison groups based on the 20 to 24-year-old population. (U MF)
Descriptors: *College Students; *Comparative Analysis; Data Analysis; Higher Education; Reliability; Sex Differences; *Statistical Analysis; *Suicide

Inaccuracy and Uncertainty in Estimates of College Student Suicide Rates.
Schwartz, Allan J.
Journal of the American College Health Association, v28 n4 p201-04 Feb 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); POSITION PAPER (120); EVALUATIVE REPORT (142)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB81
Inaccurate sample data and uncertain estimates are defined as obstacles to assessing the suicide rate among college students. A standardization of research and reporting services is recommended. (JMF)
Descriptors: *College Students; *Data; Higher Education; *Reliability; Research Problems; *Statistical Analysis; *Suicide

A Possible Classification of Suicidal Acts Based on Murray’s Need System.
Shneidman, Edwin S.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n3 p175-81 Fall 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070); GENERAL REPORT (140); BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB81
Argues that human acts are intended to satisfy human needs. A typology of suicidal acts parallels a classification of general human needs. This classification can be found in Murray’s “Explorations in Personality” (1938). Twenty-one suicide-need types are defined. (Author)
Descriptors: Book Reviews; *Classification: Models; *Need Gratification; *Psychological Needs; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Murray (Henry)

Acceptance of Conditional Suicide and Euthanasia among Adult Americans.
Johnson, David; And Others
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n3 p157-66 Fall 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJFEB81
Analysis indicates that religious intensity, sex, age, and education are important associational variables regarding attitudes toward suicide and euthanasia. Males are more accepting than females. Females are influenced by family life (cont. next page)
Suicide in Denmark: A Statistical Review for the Past 150 Years.

Paerregaard, Grethe
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n3 p150-56 Fall 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

The Choice of Weapons: A Study of Methods of Suicide by Sex, Race, and Region.

Taylor, Maurice C.; Wicks, Jerry W.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n3 p142-49 Fall 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080); REVIEW LITERATURE (070)

Attempted Suicide: An Ethological Perspective.

Goldney, Robert D.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n3 p31-41 Fall 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English

Recognition of Suicide Lethality Factors by Physicians, Mental Health Professionals, Ministers, and College Students.

Holmes, Cooper B.; Howard, Michael E.
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJDEC80
Results of this study revealed that physicians and psychiatrists were equal and significantly better in recognizing suicide than the other groups. They were followed by psychologists, social workers, ministers, and college students, in that order. (Author/BEF)
Descriptors: Counselor Characteristics; *Crisis Intervention; *Death; *Fear
Identifiers: *Counselor Characteristics; *Crisis Intervention; *Death; *Fear

EJ223380 C6518561
Palmer, Stuart; Humphrey, John A.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n2 p106-18 Sum 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO): RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJOCIT80
Presents an analysis of 90 cases of criminal homicide followed by suicide in North Carolina, 1972 to 1977. Homicidal victim-offender relationships were investigated in regard to age, sex, race and whether victim and offender were members of the same family, friends, acquaintances, or strangers. (Author)
Descriptors: Crime; *Individuals; Death; *Individual Characteristics; *Interpersonal Relationship; Personality Traits; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Homicide; *North Carolina

EJ223380 C6518561
Resistances Encountered in Starting a Group Therapy Program for Suicide Attempters in Varied Administrative Settings.
Hackel, Jacqueline; Asimos, Chrisula T.
Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior, v10 n2 p100-05 Sum 1980
Available from: Reprint: UMI
Language: English
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (OBO); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: CIJOCIT80
Reports areas of difficulty (including funding issues, management and personal bias issues, and theoretical issues) which emerged in the development of five treatment groups of depressed and suicidal patients. Groups reflected efforts between the city-county mental health system and funding agencies. Strategies for overcoming difficulties are discussed. (Author/CC)
Descriptors: *Administrative Organization; County Programs; *Depression (Psychology); Financial Problems; *Group Therapy; *Mental Health Programs; Patients; Problems; *Suicide; Urban Programs
The Role of Social Isolation in Suicide.

Trout, Deborah L.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n1 p10-20 Spr 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O80): BIBLIOGRAPHY (31)

ReportREVIEWS the literature which relates to the role of social isolation in suicide. Major areas reviewed include theories on suicide and social isolation, measures of social isolation, and empirical studies which concern the relationship of social isolation to suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: *Adjustment (to Environment); Death; Grief; Helping Relationship; Interpersonal Relationship; Patients; *Psychotherapy; *Suicide; *Therapists

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n1 p29-39 Spr 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O); REVIEW LITERATURE (070); GENERAL REPORT (140)

Suicide is a tragic and upsetting event which sometimes occurs when a person is in some form of therapy. This paper advocates a process after a patient commits suicide which allows for a thorough and orderly working through of the event by involved treatment personnel. (Author)

Descriptors: *Adjustment (to Environment); Death; Grief; Helping Relationship; Interpersonal Relationship; Patients; *Psychotherapy; *Suicide; *Therapists

When a Patient Commits Suicide.

Marshall, Karol A.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n1 p83-92 Feb 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O80): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

A Strategic Theory.

Baechler, Jean

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n2 p70-99 Sum 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

Analyzes this definition of suicide: a behavior that seeks to find a solution to an existential problem by making an attempt on the life of the subject. Theoretical implications and the relationship between suicide and mental illness are discussed. Reprint of first chapter of book entitled "Suicides." (CC)

Descriptors: Adults; *Behavior Theories; Death; Definitions for Suicide; *Mental Disorders; *Prevention; *Social Influences; *Suicide

Identifiers: *France

Institutional Responses to the Suicidal Student: Ethical and Legal Considerations.

Bernard, M. L.; Bernard, J. L.


Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O); RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP80

Reports results of a nationwide survey of university and college counseling services on policies for dealing with the student who threatens or attempts suicide. Considers whether certain policies are ethically in the best interests of the student and the possibility that some policies are in violation of federal law. (Author)

Descriptors: *College Role; College Students; *Guidance Centers: Higher Education: Legal Problems; *Legal Responsibility: National Surveys: School Responsibility: *Student Rights; *Suicide

Suicide and the City.

Lane, Roger

Society, v17 n2 p74-82 Jan-Feb 1980

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O): HISTORICAL MATERIAL (O8O): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

Journal Announcement: CIJSEP80

Views suicide as an historical indicator of social factors related to urbanization and urban life. Discusses historical and contemporary problems with data collection, especially in terms of race and sex of victims and underreporting among articulate groups. Suggests theoretical approaches to the study of suicide in contemporary society. (GC)

Descriptors: Immigrants; Racial Differences; Sex Differences; Social Indicators; *Social Influences; *Social Problems; *Socioeconomic Status; *Statistics; *Suicide; *Urban Problems

The Effects of Marital Dissolution on Suicide.

Stack, Steven

Journal of Marriage and the Family. v42 n1 p83-92 Feb 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

Reviews the literature which relates to the role of social isolation in suicide. Major areas reviewed include theories on suicide and social isolation, measures of social isolation, and empirical studies which concern the relationship of social isolation to suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: *Adjustment (to Environment); Death; Grief; Helping Relationship; Interpersonal Relationship; Patients; *Psychotherapy; *Suicide; *Therapists

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n1 p1-29-39 Spr 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O80); REVIEW LITERATURE (070); GENERAL REPORT (140)

Suicide is a tragic and upsetting event which sometimes occurs when a person is in some form of therapy. This paper advocates a process after a patient commits suicide which allows for a thorough and orderly working through of the event by involved treatment personnel. (Author)

Descriptors: *Adjustment (to Environment); Death; Grief; Helping Relationship; Interpersonal Relationship; Patients; *Psychotherapy; *Suicide; *Therapists

The Role of Social Isolation in Suicide.

Trout, Deborah L.

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n1 p1-20 Spr 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O); BIBLIOGRAPHY (31)

Reviews the literature which relates to the role of social isolation in suicide. Major areas reviewed include theories on suicide and social isolation, measures of social isolation, and empirical studies which concern the relationship of social isolation to suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: *Adjustment (to Environment); Death; Social Adjustment: *Social Isolation: Social Life; *Suicide

Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior. v10 n2 p70-99 Sum 1980

Available from: Reprint: UMI

Language: English

Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (O8O): REVIEW LITERATURE (O70)

Analyzes this definition of suicide: a behavior that seeks to find a solution to an existential problem by making an attempt on the life of the subject. Theoretical implications and the relationship between suicide and mental illness are discussed. Reprint of first chapter of book entitled "Suicides." (CC)
of suicide even after controls for the influence of the effects of age composition, race, the rate of interstate migration, and income. (Author/BEF)

Descriptors: Behavior Patterns: Death: *Divorce: *Psychopathology: Socioeconomic Influences: *Spouses: *Suicide
Commitment: A Variable in Women's Response to Marital Therapy.

Beach, Steven R. H.; Broderick, Joan E.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; New York
Journal Announcement: RIEJUN83

Past research suggests that commitment to one's marriage is a variable which should be a contributing factor to marital satisfaction and the process of marital therapy. To examine the predictive utility of commitment, the relationship between commitment to marriage at the onset of therapy and changes during therapy was examined for a sample of 42 couples. Results showed that, for women, pre-therapy commitment level was able to account for unique variances in marital satisfaction at intake and for changes in marital satisfaction occurring as a result of therapy. Communication ability was also predictive of marital satisfaction at intake. In addition, changes in communication ability from pre- to post-therapy were predictive of changes in marital satisfaction for women. Results for men were less significant. The findings demonstrate that commitment is an important variable in the prediction of marital satisfaction.

Descriptors: Adults; *Attitude Change; Communication Skills; Counseling Effectiveness; *Marriage Counseling; *Predictor Variables; Psychological Patterns; Sex Differences; *Spouses
Identifiers: *Commitment; *Marital Satisfaction
Teenage Suicide. Hearing before the Subcommittee on Juvenile Justice of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, Ninety-Eighth Congress, Second Session on Oversight on the Factors That May Lead to Teenage Suicide, and What May Be Done to Prevent That Tragedy (October 3, 1984).

Congress of the U.S. Washington, D.C. Senate Committee on the Judiciary.

1985 83p.: Portions of the document contain small print.

Report No.: Senate-Hrg-98-1262
EDRS Price - MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
Language: English

Geographic Source: U.S.; District of Columbia
Journal Announcement: RIENOV85
Government: Federal

Target Audience: Policymakers

This document contains transcripts of witness testimony and prepared statements from the Congressional hearing called to examine the problem of teenage suicide. Testimony is focused on the factors that may lead to teenage suicide, what might be done to prevent these deaths, what the federal government is doing in this area, and what actions the federal government might take to expand its activities. Witnesses include the parents of a teenage boy who committed suicide, and a mother and her teenage daughter who attempted to commit suicide. Students who have had or are facing life threatening problems are also discussed. Other witnesses include the criminal district attorney for Collin County, Texas, where 11 teenage suicides occurred in 2 years. The president of the American Association of Suicidology, and the coordinator for School Social Work Services in Fairfax County, Virginia who describes the Adolescent Suicidal Prevention Program in that county, also testified. Included in the appendix are a letter from Andrew C. Teter to the subcommittee; the article "Adolescent Suicide and the Classroom Teacher" (McKenry, Tishler, and Christman) from the Journal of School Health, March, 1980; the California Senate Bill No. 947-Schools: Youths: :Suicide Prevention School Program, and the appendix article "Suicide in Adolescence: Prevention and Treatment" by Norman L. Faberow in "The Adolescent Mood and Disturbance", Golombek and Garfinkel, International Universities Press, 1983. (NRB)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Communication Skills; *Counseling Techniques; *Suicide Prevention; *State Legislation; *Suicide

Identifiers: Congress 98th

An Interdisciplinary Supervised Student Program Focused on Depression and Suicide Awareness.

Friedrich, Margret C.; And Others


EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.

Language: English
Document Type: PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; New Jersey
Journal Announcement: RIENOV85

This paper describes the development of one high school peer counseling program created in response to a number of adolescent suicides and attempted suicides. The formation and activities of the interdisciplinary team (school social worker, school psychologist, school guidance counselor, health education teacher, and students) to develop and coordinate the program are discussed. The selection of students to be peer counselors is described and essential elements of the program are summarized, including the seven basic program goals. Evaluation procedures and results are briefly noted. Peer counseling materials and services provided by the program are listed and training emphases are described, including counseling techniques, communication skills, and specific techniques for recognizing signs of suicidal intent. A case vignette is included to illustrate the dynamics of the program. The appendix contains descriptions of myths about alcohol abuse, the myths and facts surrounding suicide, and peer counselor forms, questionnaires, and guidelines from the program. (NRB)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; Communication Skills; *Counseling Techniques; *Suicide Prevention; *Teenage Suicide; *Suicide Intervention; *Evaluation

Identifiers: Congress 98th


O'Connor, Nancy

1984 204p.
Report No.: ISBN-0-9613714-0-4 Available from: La Mariposa Press, P.O. Box 13221, Tucson, AZ 85732-1221 ($8.95 plus $1.00 for postage and handling).
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
Language: English

Journal Announcement: RIENOV85

This book deals with death and the grieving process. The first three chapters cover several universal aspects of grieving. Four stages of grief are described and various feelings of grief (denial, anger, guilt, depression, acceptance) are examined. The next five chapters detail specific losses: death of a spouse, parent, child, friends and siblings, and the death of infants before or soon after birth. Individual sections examine special problems connected with these specific losses. A chapter on death of the self is written for those who have a terminal illness or who are close to someone facing death. Another chapter deals with death by (cont. next page)
suicide and explores the unique circumstances facing the survivors. The final two chapters explain life patterns that may influence how individuals process grief. Different coping styles are described and ways of handling loss are presented. The appendix offers suggestions on communicating appropriately with survivors, and lists resources and organizations which offer support to grieving persons. (NRB)

Descriptors: *Coping; *Death; Emotional Response; Family (Sociological Unit); *Grief; Infant Mortality; Interpersonal Relationship; Parent Child Relationship; *Suicide; Widowed

Identifiers: *Bereavement

ED255116 HE018148
Student Suicide Reduction: Are the Colleges Helping?
Halie, Penelope J.; Levitt, Lynn
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; New York
Journal Announcement: RIEAUG85

Suicide prevention programs and reactions to student suicide or suicide attempts were studied at 21 Long Island, New York, colleges and universities. While none of the colleges had a student suicide on campus from September 1981 through June 1983, one third of these schools have experienced suicide attempts on campus. Although there was a wide variety of counseling services available, few of these services dealt directly and specifically with the issue of student suicide, and little specific training in dealing with student suicide attempts was provided. However, almost two-thirds of the colleges indicated that their counseling staffs had formally discussed suicide and attempted suicide with students. Variations in the number of counselors included: 25 percent of the colleges had no full-time counselors on staff, 29 percent had only one full-time counselor, 30 percent had from 6 to 15 full-time counselors, and 50 percent of the colleges used from 1 to 25 part-time or student counselors. Suggestions for prevention of student suicide include networking systems and changes in availability of counseling services dealing directly with student suicide. The College Counseling Services Questionnaire is appended and six references are listed. (SW)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Children; Comparative Analysis; *Correctional Institutions; Environmental Influences; National Surveys; Population Trends; Secondary Education; Social Environment; *Suicide; Youth Problems

ED253819 CG018022
Suicide among School Age Youth.
New York State Education Dept., Albany.
Dec 1984 41p.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070); NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (056)
Geographic Source: U.S.; New York
Journal Announcement: RIEJUL85

Target Audience: Practitioners

This pamphlet is designed to assist school personnel in dealing with youth suicide by providing information, and prevention, intervention, and postvention activities. The foreword briefly covers problems facing adolescents that may lead to suicide, and mentions the after effects on the family, school, and community. A message from New York Lieutenant...
Governor DeBella is included, in which he urges the formation of a federal commission to investigate causes and prevention of youth suicide. Estimates of the incidence of suicide are given, as well as specific reasons for the increase in suicides. Characteristics of the at-risk population are listed, and prevention, intervention, and postvention activities are briefly discussed. A quick reference guide and summary for identification and action includes a Risk Assessment Checklist, counseling guidelines, and a list of important facts and figures about suicide. Eleven references are included. Appendices include the names and addresses of Child and Youth services operated by New York State Psychiatric Centers, New York State Division for Youth Field Representatives, New York State Mental Hygiene Commissions and County Mental Health Directors, New York State Poison Control Centers, and New York City Suicide Prevention Hotline numbers. (BH)

**ED253783** CG017985

Adolescent Suicidal Thinking.

Schmidt, William R.; And Others


EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)

Geographic Source: U.S.; Texas

Journal Announcement: RIEJUL85

Target Audience: Researchers

Adolescent suicide is an important problem. Given ethical considerations, it is difficult to obtain data regarding the suicidal thinking of "normal" adolescents. To collect data concerning suicidal thinking without directly introducing the topic of suicide, 217 tenth through twelfth graders, divided equally according to sex, grade, and urban versus rural residence, recorded responses they felt a character in an adverse life event scenario might be thinking about doing. Next, they were asked if they had ever thought about or done any of their three projected responses. Results showed that 60 percent of the subjects projected suicide onto the character. Of those projecting suicide, 55 percent indicated they had personally thought about suicide. Of the 130 subjects who projected suicide, 7 reported engaging in suicidal behaviors, twice as many females as males projected suicide, suggesting that females were less reluctant to report suicidal thinking. Common circumstances associated with suicidal thinking were normal problems (i.e., depression), and family, or peer problems. Suicidal thoughts occurred most often in grades 7 through 9, with a drop in frequency thereafter. Racial
differences and modifications in scenarios designed to increase the subjects' identification with the characters in them might be considerations in future research. (Author/BH)

**ED252779** CG017948

Suicidal Risk among College Students.

Campana, Mary; And Others

1984 17p.: Paper presented at the 1984 Annual Convention of the Texas Psychological Association as part of the Sixth annual undergraduate Student Merit Research Competition.

EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)

Geographic Source: U.S.; Texas

Journal Announcement: RIEJUN85

Target Audience: Researchers

Although the suicide rate of young adults has increased dramatically, few empirical studies examine suicide in the normal population. To examine suicidal thinking and behavior in a college student sample, 43 female and 28 male college students responded to an adverse life event scenario and then filled out an extended questionnaire regarding suicidal thinking and behavior. Results showed that 39% of the subjects had seriously considered suicide, and 8 percent had made a suicide attempt. Females were significantly more likely to have thought about suicide during the previous year, but males were as likely as females to report using suicide as a threat or manipulation. Although past research indicates that suicide projectors have higher rates of suicidal thinking, the fact that 62% of this sample were projectors raises questions about the validity of the projective method. (Author/JAC)

Descriptors: *College Students; Higher Education; *Predictive Validity; *Projective Measures; Risk; Sex Differences; *Suicide Identifiers; Life Events

**ED252754** CG017922

Attitudes of Professional and Community Groups toward Male and Female Suicide.

DeRose, Nancy; Page, Stewart

Aug 1984 21p.: Portions of this study were presented at the Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association (92nd, Toronto, Ontario, Canada, August 24-28, 1984).

EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)

Geographic Source: Canada; Ontario

Journal Announcement: RIEJUN85

Target Audience: Researchers

(cont. next page)
In order to explore attitudes toward female and male suicidal behaviors, psychologists (N=38), social workers (N=45), registered nurses (N=44), and lay persons (N=41) were asked to complete the Suicide Opinion Questionnaire (Domino et al., 1982). Half of the questionnaires for each group referred to a female target person and half referred to a male. The results indicated that the psychologists and social workers were the most accepting of their attitudes, and generally most knowledgeable about suicide. The community group appeared to be the least accepting of suicidal behavior, and were least aware of high risk factors. Among the professional groups, clear differences emerged in the seriousness accorded certain suicidal behaviors, and in the perceived character and motivation of the suicidal person. Differences also emerged in the perceptions of male and female suicide. Suicide was viewed as a viable option for males as an escape from life's problems. The suicidal behavior of females was seen as less sincere, more manipulative, less serious, and in some sense less important than that of males. An ultimate goal would be to ensure that service providers from various disciplines do not function at cross-purposes, either among themselves or in conjunction with attitudes held by non-professionals in the community. (LLL)

Descriptors: *Community Attitudes: *Negative Attitudes: *Nurses: *Psychologists: *Sex Differences: *Social Workers: *Suicide

Identifiers: Suicide Opinion Questionnaire

ED251775 CG017875
Suicide Prevention Triangle.
Cutter, Fred
1983 129p.: Photographs may not reproduce clearly.
EDRS Price - MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
Language: English
Document Type: NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (055)
Geographic Source: U.S.; California
Journal Announcement: RIEMAY85
Target Audience: Counselors; Support Staff; Practitioners
This manual provides resource tools and strategies to enhance the suicide prevention capabilities of health professionals and the health care setting in which care is provided. In the first section, terms are defined and the suicide prevention triangle model is described. Applications of the model and good practices for suicide prevention in any health setting are discussed. A suicide outcome and flow chart for high risk people is presented and described, and stress variables and the suicide sequence are discussed. The second part of the book focuses on assessment Several assessment methods are presented and reviewed, e.g., the Future Orientation Scale, the Satisfaction Scale, the Significant Loss Check List, the Rorschach Signs of Suicidal Intent and Lethality, and criteria for hospitalization of a high risk person. The third section is devoted to intervention and includes a suicide prevention plan, information on suicide prevention classes, suggestions for conducting a psychological autopsy in which health professionals review their observation of and feelings about the client/patient, a summary of self-destructive thinking patterns, and model follow-up letters to be used after discharge from active treatment. The fourth section provides resources for suicide prevention including: check lists of computer access terms for knowledge bases on suicide, forensic issues, preferred methods and...
rituals of self-injury, manifestations of depression by age groups, and information to release to the press; a guide to continuing education audio-visual aids; and a listing of other references. Finally, a discussion on suicide in persons under 25 and in the elderly is presented. (JAC)

Descriptors: Crisis Intervention; *High Risk Persons; *Identification; *Mental Health Programs; Models; Older Adults; Predictor Variables; *Prevention; Psychological Evaluation; *Resource Materials; *Suicide: Young Adults

ED248445 CG017719
EDRS Price - MF01/PC05 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: LEGAL MATERIAL (090)
Geographic Source: U.S.; District of Columbia
Journal Announcement: RIEFB85

Suicide among American Indian adolescents has increased by almost 1000% over the past 20 years to become, as in Anglo society, the second most frequent cause of death in the 10 to 20 year old age group. The two major causes of adolescent suicide are acute stress and chronic depression. Environmental factors contributing to American Indian suicides include breakdown of tribal tradition, lack of effective role models, having alcoholic parents, coming from a broken home, too early marriage, failure to learn in school, unemployment, group contagion phenomenon, and anniversary reaction phenomenon (following the example of a parent or relative who has suicided). Where suicide rates remain low, particularly in the Southwest, tribes tend to be more traditional in their daily living, and opportunities for employment and education exist within the tribal community. Effective efforts to reduce the American Indian adolescent suicide rate require tribal sanction, involvement of tribal elders, and recognition of each tribe's particular traditional attitudes. Measures that have been successful include use of elders to stay with arrested adolescents, suicide prevention centers, high school programs for pregnant adolescents, *first offender programs, early intervention prevention programs, identifying at-risk adolescents, and at-risk adolescents trained as counselors. A list of resources and programs available to American Indian tribes is provided. (NEC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *American Indians: Cultural Influences: Depression (Psychology); *Environmental Influences: Helping Relationship; *Information Sources: Intervention; *Prevention: Resource Centers: Secondary Education: Stress Variables: Student Characteristics; *Suicide: Tribes; Youth:

ED244173 CG017445
Elderly Suicide Data Bases: Levels, Availability, Omissions. McIntosh, John L.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (055)
Geographic Source: U.S.; District of Columbia
Journal Announcement: RIECT84

Suicide among the elderly are available but the trends and levels often have been either ignored or misrepresented. Available data indicate that despite declines, suicide rates in the United States remain highest in old age. Impediments to understanding elderly suicide occur due to the following phenomenon, particularly among American Indian adolescents. Some Facts about Suicide among American Indian Adolescents. Some Facts about Suicide among American Indian Adolescents. Some Facts about Suicide among American Indian Adolescents.
omissions in available national data bases. Inadequacies of available, official, national and other data include the omission of: marital status and time in that status; race/ethnicity; socioeconomic status; occupation (e.g., retired); living conditions (e.g., with whom); mental, physical, and chronic conditions; and historical information (e.g., past attempts). This and other information about elderly suicides would be useful to test etiological theories and determine high risk subgroups for intervention. The unavailability of various population data also produces problems, e.g., annual population data necessary for rate calculations are only available in aggregate from above age 65. Data essential for a more precise comprehension are either not available or are difficult and/or expensive to secure. The quantity and quality of currently available data allow little more than a general impression of elderly suicide. Better, more detailed information is recommended to improve the understanding and prevention of suicide in old age.

Descriptors: Demography; Etiology; High Risk Persons; Individual Characteristics; *Information Needs; *Older Adults; Prevention; Research Needs; *Suicide

ED241886 CG400199
Suicide Intervention Training Program for Telephone Hot-Line Staffs.
Maiere, John Paul
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: CONFERENCE PAPER (150); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Indiana
Journal Announcement: RIEJUL84
Target Audience: Practitioners

A suicide intervention training program is described which was developed as a three and one half hour presentation to small groups of paraprofessionals or professionals who might serve as telephone hot-line staff members. Theoretical assumptions upon which the program is based are listed in the areas of communication-skills training models, crisis intervention, and suicidal crisis. It is pointed out that the program should not be presented as a complete or comprehensive introduction to suicide. The frame of reference used is that a suicidal gesture is an act of communication. Eight diagrams are included which are to be introduced at various points in the training program. Diagrams one and two present general information about crises, intervention, and different responses to messages. Diagrams three through seven present critical aspects of communication between the potential victim and the helper, important information about the support system of the potential victim, reference to lethality, and the enlistment of aid from others. Diagram eight is to be used during the concluding remarks segment of the Program. Two role playing situations are given: (1) each person is given an opportunity to play the caller and then the helper; and (2) one or more persons may role play extensive calls and the group is asked to estimate the lethality of the caller. (EM)

Descriptors: Communication Skills; *Crisis Intervention; Diagrams; *Helping Relationship; *Hotlines (Public); Institutes (Training Programs); Interpersonal Communication; *Prevention; Program Descriptions; Role Playing; Sequential Approach; *Suicide; *Training Methods; Workshops
Identifiers: PF Project
Suicide: Training Counselors To Work with the Survivors.


EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

Language: English

Document Type: CONFERENCE PAPER (150); NON-CLASSROOM MATERIAL (OS5)

Geographic Source: U.S.; Ohio

Journal Announcement: RIE01AY84

Target Audience: Counselors; Practitioners

Facts and resources about suicide and the effects on friends and relatives (survivors) of persons who have committed suicide are offered to help counselors learn how to work with the survivors. Estimates are presented of the annual number of suicides and survivors along with a discussion of the importance of providing services for survivors. To help counselors become knowledgeable about suicide, the facts regarding nine common myths about suicidal characteristics and behavior are given. A list of 20 guidelines for counselors that have been developed by survivors are offered. The guidelines are concrete examples of behaviors and attitudes that survivors have found useful and supportive. A bibliography is included which cites two references and 27 additional resources on suicide and survivors (DC).

Descriptors: *Counseling; Counseling Services; Counselor Training; *Emotional Adjustment; Emotional Problems; *Grief; Guidelines; Individual Characteristics; Resource Materials; *Significant Others; *Suicide

Identifiers: PF Project

Being There: Helping Students Deal with Crises.


Available from: Hogg Foundation Publications Division, Box 7998, University of Texas, Austin, TX 78712 (1-24 copies, $0.35 ea.; 25-49 copies, $0.34 ea; 50-99 copies, $0.32 ea; over 100, $0.30 ea.).

EDRS Price - MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.

Language: English

Document Type: PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)

Geographic Source: U.S.; Texas

Journal Announcement: RIE01AN84

This pamphlet, produced by the Suicide and Crisis Center (SCC) of Dallas, Texas, presents information about suicide and describes several SCC programs in six brief sections. The extent of the suicide problem is discussed, and indicators of suicidal intent are described: factors affecting suicidal people, such as emotional turmoil, constricted thinking, and stressful situations, are also presented. Problems facing institutions, professionals, and lay people who work to prevent suicide (lack of knowledge, lack of funding, fear, and social stigma) are explored. The development, structure, and programs of the SCC are briefly presented. The SCC's Suicide Attempters Program, which consists of three services--education for hospital emergency room personnel, outreach services to clients who are at immediate risk for a suicide attempt, and support groups for recent suicide attempters--is described. A final section briefly discusses the structure, efficiency, and continued need for crisis intervention programs. (WAS)

Descriptors: Behavior Problems; *Coping; Counseling Services; Counseling Techniques; *Crisis Intervention; Death; Emotional Disturbances; Grief; Hot Lines (Public); Life Satisfaction; Mental Health Programs; *Prevention; Program Descriptions; Social Support Groups; *Suicide

Projected Suicidal Ideation in Regard to Adverse Life Circumstances.

Bailey, Bruce E.; Hernandez, Alexis Nov 1982 20p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Texas Psychological Association (Dallas, TX, November 4-6, 1982).

EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.

Language: English

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)

Geographic Source: U.S.; Texas

Journal Announcement: RIE01EB83

(cont. next page)
Despite the importance of suicide as a leading cause of death in the United States, there is a lack of empirical research regarding causes and associated factors. In order to explore an indirect research methodology which might have applicability to understanding children's suicide risk, 286 college students (178 females, 108 males) responded to stories about characters of different ages, naming three things each character might be thinking of doing. Data analyses indicated that the methodology was effective in eliciting responses which reflected suicidal ideation. Subjects projected suicidal ideation onto the characters based on the characters' age. Teenagers were seen as more likely to commit suicide than members of other age groups. Sex of character had no significant effect upon responses. Males and females appeared to view adverse circumstances differently, with males more likely than females to propose effective coping responses. Qualitative assessment of the responses indicated that, although nearly 60% of the characters were seen as considering suicide, less than 1% were seen as considering counseling or therapy. Sample stories about three male characters are appended. (Author/AG)

Descriptors: Age Differences; Children; College Students; Comparative Analysis; Depression (Psychology); Emotional Disturbances: Higher Education; High Risk Persons; Research Methodology; Sex Differences; Suicide

ED227410 CG016542
Predicting Suicide: Issues, Methods and Constraints.
Lettierl, Dan J.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; District of Columbia
Journal Announcement: RIEAUG83

With the proliferation of suicide prevention centers in the United States, the task of rapidly and effectively assessing an individual caller's suicide potential has become an important research problem. However, the social science researcher is often confronted with an ethical problem when the results of his predictive equations can be used to label people. It may be necessary to switch from predicting negative features to those which are positive and insulating. Prediction instruments are best made for defined classes of persons. Longer lengths for the assessment instrument are not an advantage since research shows no relationship between predictive accuracy and amount of information available. Predictive instruments are relative to the person involved, the criterion behavior to be predicted, and the social system in which the person and behavior are found. While predictive instruments can distinguish between different kinds of risks, estimate future risks, and form a baseline against which the outcomes of treatments can be judged, the challenge of predicting suicidal behavior remains. (JAC)

Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; +Crisis Intervention; +Ethics; Evaluation Criteria; High Risk Persons; Individual Differences; +Predictive Validity; +Predictor Variables; Prevention; +Research Methodology; State of the Art Reviews; +Suicide

ED225096 CG016445
Powell, Clifford J.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: POSITION PAPER (120); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Colorado
Journal Announcement: RIEJUN83

This paper addresses some of the ethical and legal components of the issue of adolescence and the right to die. Developmental aspects on which psychologists may be uniquely qualified to comment are also addressed. The paper looks at ethical aspects of right to die decisions, the principle of autonomy, and the responsibility of caregivers. Legal aspects of such decisions are also considered, and several legal precedents are cited along with the issue of competence. Two case studies are examined in light of these issues. The paper concludes with some thoughts on the role of psychologists in such cases, e.g., counselor, assessor of competence level, and expert witness. (JAC)

Descriptors: +Adolescents; Case Studies; +Competence; Counselor Role; Decision Making; Depression (Psychology); +Ethics: Individual Power; +Legal Responsibility; +Personal Autonomy; Quality of Life; Secondary Education; Suicide; Youth Problems

Identifiers: +Right to Die

ED224551 PS012731
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: POSITION PAPER (120)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Virginia
Journal Announcement: RIEAY83

Government: State

The three major causes of injury and mortality among children in the state of Virginia are, in order of frequency, automobile-related accidents, poison ingestion, and suicide. With respect to injuries sustained in automobile accidents,
adults traveling with children by car must accept responsibility for the safety of child passengers. Acute poisonings, the most common pediatric medical emergency, account for about 10 percent of emergency room contacts and about 5 percent of hospital medical admissions. Nearly all poisonings are accidental and involve children less than 10 years of age. The true incidence of lead poisoning is difficult to assess, however. Presently, there is no statewide lead poison screening and prevention program in Virginia, and all local programs will terminate at the end of 1982. While a health department employee visits school systems and instructs officials in methods of dealing with asbestosis, funds for protecting children from asbestos poisoning are inadequate. With regard to the third leading cause of injury and death in children, conditions that precipitate suicidal acts in young people have become more intense, including such factors as broken relationships with parents and substance abuse. Some problems of adolescents may be solved through wide use of, and destigmatization of, community-based mental health service agencies. Citizen advocacy and involvement are needed to insure the implementation of community, regional, and statewide programs addressing these problems. (RH)

Descriptors: *Accident Prevention; *Adolescents; *Children; *Death; *Injuries; *Poisoning; *State Legislation; *Suicide; *Traffic Accidents

Identifiers: Virginia

ED219658 CG016081
Selected Resources on Suicide: Causes and Prevention.
Crase, Darrell [1981 14p.]
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Tennessee
Journal Announcement: RIEJAN83

This selected bibliography lists many of the contemporary resources on suicide and its varied dimensions representing the health sciences, social sciences, and medicine. The materials include books, periodical literature, dissertations, audiovisuals, journals, and a list of related professional organizations. In addition to a general discussion of suicide and its causes, prevention, and intervention, the special problems of adolescents are considered. This bibliography should be useful to school health professionals and those who work with and counsel young people and adults. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Adults; *Attribution Theory; *Counseling Techniques; *Crime Prevention; *Influences; *Literature Reviews; *Psychological Patterns; *Resource Materials; *Suicide; *Youth Problems

ED212942 CG015736
Components of Adolescent Depression in a Cross-Cultural Setting.
Fischer, Margaret
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Alaska
Journal Announcement: RIEJUL82

Alaska has the highest rate in the nation of depression, alcohol and drug abuse, and adolescent suicide. The prevention of depression and suicide is complex because of many impinging variables. Data from a sample of 40 adolescents referred to a residential treatment center in Alaska revealed that a rapid change in life style of the Alaskan natives created a loss of culture and community. A second cause affecting both native and non-native children was the disintegration of the family. The transient population and harsh climate were other major factors in depression. Suicide also had a deeply rooted place in Eskimo culture. Results indicated that natives comprised 99% and caucasians 45% of the referrals, despite the fact that only one in six Alaskans is a native. The findings suggest that therapy should focus on helping adolescents improve their coping strategies and increase their tolerance for discomfort and loss. (JAC)

Descriptors: *Adolescents; *Case Studies; *Cross Cultural Studies; *Depression (Psychology); *Emotional Disturbances; *Environmental Influences; *Ethology; *Family Relationship; *Personality Problems; *Psychotherapy; *Suicide; *Youth Problems

(cont. next page)
Disabling Emotion in Young Children with Particular Reference to Depression and Suicide: An Overview of Current Research. Unit for Child Studies Selected Papers Number 12. Phillips, Shelley New South Wales Univ., Kensington (Australia). School of Education. 1981 22p.; For other papers in this series, see ED 204 029-037 and PS 012 652-660. Available from: Unit for Child Studies, School of Education, University of New South Wales, P.O. Box 1, Kensington, NSW 2033, Australia ($2.00; payment should be made in Australian dollars). EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage. Language: English Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070) Geographic Source: Australia; New South Wales Journal Announcement: RIEUNB2 Target Audience: Practitioners A review of the literature and a survey of texts show a remarkable absence of concern and reference to depression and suicidal behavior in young children. The meaning of death, the depressive and suicidal consequences of the agony of aloneness, and the fear of parental hostility, rage and abandonment are elements of early and middle childhood living denied recognition by parents and professionals alike. Only a few researchers, mostly in recent years, have paid attention to these problems. This paper reviews this research with particular reference to findings related to depression and suicide in young children. First, childhood depression is discussed in terms of its symptoms and types, related factors (such as relationships with parents, caregivers, and peers), and treatment. Second, the nature of suicide in young children, factors which may underlie suicidal behavior in young children (such as family dynamics, rejection by the peer group, and school performance), the child's concept of death, and patterns of discovery and treatment are considered. (Author/MP) Descriptors: *Depression (Psychology); *Emotional Disturbances; *Infants; Literature Reviews; Parent Child Relationship; *Suicide; Therapy; *Young Children

ED209667 CGO15406 Adolescent Suicide in the United States. Kalil, Cynthia S. Jun 1981 44p. EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage. Language: English Document Type: BIBLIOGRAPHY (131) Geographic Source: U.S.; Indiana Journal Announcement: RIEFEBB2 This paper provides an annotated bibliography of various resources about adolescent suicide. The first section addresses facts and myths about adolescent suicide. Followed by a presentation of causal factors in the second section. The third section focuses on the educator's role in suicide prevention: suicidal warning signs, interactions with the suicidal adolescent, and the use of death education in suicide prevention are considered. The fourth section outlines forms of treatment for the suicidal adolescent and/or the survivors of a suicide victim. The legal treatment of suicide by colleges, universities, and state laws are cited in the last section. Recommendations based on the conclusions of these papers are also outlined. (RC) Descriptors: *Adolescents; Annotated Bibliographies; Death; Family Influence; *Intervention; Legal Responsibility; *Prevention; *Psychological Characteristics; Psychotherapy; *Social Influences; *Suicide

ED209567 CGO15520 Anomie, Women in the Labor Force and Suicide. Caine, Robert L. 25 Apr 1981 15p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Association of Suicidology (14th. Albuquerque, NM, April 24-26, 1981). Best copy available. EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage. Language: English Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150) Geographic Source: U.S.; Georgia Journal Announcement: RIEAPRB2 Previous studies by Newman, Whitemore, and Newman (NWN) reported that between the years 1959 and 1963 and the years 1962 and 1967, percentages of women in the labor force increased as well as suicide rates. The role of women in the labor force was indicative of anomie, which correlated with suicide. The relationship between working women and suicide has changed along with societal changes. A replication of these studies was attempted using data from 597 suicide cases occurring in the years 1967-1973. Specifically, the dependent variables from the NWN studies and two new variables, percent married and percent divorced, were examined. Results showed that race, housing, and income were significant predictors. Age, the weakest predictor in the NWN studies, was not a significant predictor of suicide rate. The variable, "women in the labor force," was not a significant predictor in the replication study. An analysis of the variables, percent married," and "percent divorced," using sex-specific suicide rates concluded that male suicide rates correlated positively with the divorce rate, while female suicide rates correlated positively with the marriage rate. The existing social and political situations of the three time periods may help to explain the findings. (NRB) Descriptors: Divorce; *Employed Women; *Females: Labor Force; *Marital Status: Predictor Variables; Role Perception; Sex Differences: Sex Role; *Social Change; *Social Influences; *Suicide Identifiers: *Anomie Theory
ED205852 CG015343
On the Relationship Between Suicide-Prevention and Suicide-Advocacy Groups.
Battin, Margaret Pabst
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Indiana
Journal Announcement: RIEJAN82
Numerous advocacy groups concerned with "death with dignity" have formed in response to medical advances which extend the process of dying. Natural death legislation and the Living Will are but two examples of suicide advocacy for the terminally ill. These groups are emerging world-wide and range from conservative insistence on passive refusal of treatment to radical suicide advocacy and the establishment of new voluntary euthanasia societies in several countries. Suicidologists and suicide-prevention workers need not regard these groups as inimical to suicide prevention; the two kinds of groups can make important contributions to each other's work. Data gathered by suicidologists and those with clinical experience in suicide prevention may be able to determine the point at which, in the normal stages of dying, the terminally ill person may be most likely to attempt or commit suicide. However, suicide advocacy suggests that sometimes such attempts should not be interfered with, since effective suicide prevention in these cases may mean forcing an individual to stay alive in intolerable circumstances. Both suicide prevention and suicide advocacy are basically humanitarian-oriented; this commitment to the interests of individual human beings provides the basis for accommodation between the two. (Author/NRB)
Descriptors: Crisis Intervention; Death; Emotional Adjustment; Group Dynamics; *Human Dignity; *Humanitarianism; Individual Needs; *Prevention; Social Action; *Sociocultural Patterns; State of the Art Reviews; *Suicide Identifiers: *Euthanasia; *Terminal Illness

ED205837 CG015328
Changing Patterns in Methods of Suicide by Race and Sex.
McIntosh, John L.; Santos, John F.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Indiana
Journal Announcement: RIEJAN82
Suicide rates vary greatly by sex and race, but the methods employed by these groups have not been studied closely and across time. Annual official national statistics for specific methods of suicide by sex and specific racial group were examined from 1923 to 1978. During this time period, shifts occurred in the proportions of suicides by method, most notably for women and Asian-American groups. Although women continued to kill themselves with solid and liquid poisons more often than men, in recent years firearms became a more frequent method. Among Japanese- and Chinese-Americans, the most common methods of suicide were hanging, strangulation, and suffocation. However, the proportions declined over time, while those for methods such as firearms increased. Firearms continued to be the method most often used in completed suicides by Caucasian, Black, and American Indian males. Results suggest that acculturation, changing societal roles, and problems with the compilation of official statistics may be possible factors affecting changes in method choice. (Author/NRB)
Descriptors: *Euthanasia; *Terminal Illness

ED204700 CG015324
The Aftermath of Childhood Suicide: Influences on the Perception of the Parent.
Calhoun, Lawrence G.; And Others
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Geographic Source: U.S.; North Carolina
Journal Announcement: RIEDEC81
Many factors affect the way in which others view the parents of a child who has committed suicide. Study of adult responses to newspaper accounts of a child's death revealed the parents were viewed more negatively when the child's death was due to suicide than when the child's death was a result of illness. In addition, the presence of environmental pressures which reduced potentially negative perceptions of parents whose child died from illness did not have a similar impact when the child's death was from suicide. Results suggest that parents whose child commits suicide are likely to encounter attitudes which are more negative in general; they may also find that factors which often mitigate negative judgments in other circumstances may not be applicable when the death is from suicide. (Author/JAC)
Descriptors: Adjustment (to Environment); Attribution Theory; Children; Attitudes; *Parent Child Relationship; *Public Opinion; *Responses; Social Bias; Social Cognition; *Stress Variables; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Terminal Illness

ED205822 CG015326
On the Relationship Between Suicide-Prevention and Suicide-Advocacy Groups.
Battin, Margaret Pabst
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: REVIEW LITERATURE (070); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Indiana
Journal Announcement: RIEJAN82
Numerous advocacy groups concerned with "death with dignity" have formed in response to medical advances which extend the process of dying. Natural death legislation and the Living Will are but two examples of suicide advocacy for the terminally ill. These groups are emerging world-wide and range from conservative insistence on passive refusal of treatment to radical suicide advocacy and the establishment of new voluntary euthanasia societies in several countries. Suicidologists and suicide-prevention workers need not regard these groups as inimical to suicide prevention; the two kinds of groups can make important contributions to each other's work. Data gathered by suicidologists and those with clinical experience in suicide prevention may be able to determine the point at which, in the normal stages of dying, the terminally ill person may be most likely to attempt or commit suicide. However, suicide advocacy suggests that sometimes such attempts should not be interfered with, since effective suicide prevention in these cases may mean forcing an individual to stay alive in intolerable circumstances. Both suicide prevention and suicide advocacy are basically humanitarian-oriented; this commitment to the interests of individual human beings provides the basis for accommodation between the two. (Author/NRB)
Descriptors: Crisis Intervention; Death; Emotional Adjustment; Group Dynamics; *Human Dignity; *Humanitarianism; Individual Needs; *Prevention; Social Action; *Sociocultural Patterns; State of the Art Reviews; *Suicide Identifiers: *Euthanasia; *Terminal Illness

ED205837 CG015328
Changing Patterns in Methods of Suicide by Race and Sex.
McIntosh, John L.; Santos, John F.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143); CONFERENCE PAPER (150)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Indiana
Journal Announcement: RIEJAN82
Suicide rates vary greatly by sex and race, but the methods employed by these groups have not been studied closely and across time. Annual official national statistics for specific methods of suicide by sex and specific racial group were examined from 1923 to 1978. During this time period, shifts occurred in the proportions of suicides by method, most notably for women and Asian-American groups. Although women continued to kill themselves with solid and liquid poisons more often than men, in recent years firearms became a more frequent method. Among Japanese- and Chinese-Americans, the most common methods of suicide were hanging, strangulation, and suffocation. However, the proportions declined over time, while those for methods such as firearms increased. Firearms continued to be the method most often used in completed suicides by Caucasian, Black, and American Indian males. Results suggest that acculturation, changing societal roles, and problems with the compilation of official statistics may be possible factors affecting changes in method choice. (Author/NRB)
Descriptors: *Euthanasia; *Terminal Illness
An Assessment of the National Incidence of Juvenile Suicide in Adult Jails, Lockups, and Juvenile Detention Centers.

Flaherty, Michael G.
Illinois Univ., Urbana.
For related documents, see CG 015 O61-O63.
Sponsoring Agency: Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquent Prevention (Dept. of Justice), Washington, D.C.
Grant No.: 78-US-AX-0046
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Geographic Source: U.S.: Illinois
Journal Announcement: RIEAUG81
Government: Federal

Very little of the professional literature on suicide deals with suicide in jails, and virtually no references to juvenile suicide in adult jails exist. To determine if the rate of juvenile suicide in adult jails might be higher than that in secure juvenile detention centers, suicide conduct was used as the indicator of the harmful effects of placing children in adult jails. The study included all juvenile detention facilities, sampling of jails with an average daily population (ADP) of fewer than 250 inmates, a full sample of those with an ADP of more than 250, and lockups. Questionnaires (N=913) were sent to the lockups in the sample. Data indicated that, during 1978, approximately 392,662 juveniles occupied adult jails and lockups. Results supported the hypothesis that the rate of suicide among juveniles held in adult jails and lockups was significantly higher than that among juveniles in juvenile detention centers and among children in the general population. However, the data did not indicate that the suicide rate among youth placed in juvenile detention facilities was greater than that of children in the general population. These results suggest that the policy of incarcerating children in adult jails may be contributing to the relatively high rate of suicide. (RC)

Descriptors: *Behavior Patterns; *Comparative Analysis; *Correctional Institutions; *Cross-Sectional Studies; *Delinquency; *Delinquent Behavior; *Incidence; *Prisoners; Questionnaires; *Suicide; *Youth Problems

Geographic Source: U.S.; Wisconsin
Journal Announcement: RIEDEC80
Changes in the direction and magnitude of adult black suicide rates in large metropolitan centers of the United States are examined in this paper. The data presented are primarily from Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas (SMSAs) with 100,000 or more black residents and indicate that (1) the gap between the suicide rates of black males and females has been widening in every region of the country except the West; (2) rates are rising most dramatically in the metropolitan Northeast, and declining most notably in SMSAs of the North Central United States; (3) rates continue to be highest among large industrial centers of the North and West; and (4) rates declined among metropolitan black females in every region of the country and among black males in the West and North Central regions, although they increased for males in the South and Northeast. Finally, it is argued that suicide is best explained by institutional and sociological variables, that is, that the problem of suicide is rooted less in individual behavior than in the character of social institutions, social patterns, and social networks.

Descriptors: *Adults; *Blacks; Metropolitan Areas; *Regional Characteristics; *Sex Differences; *Social Influences; *Sociocultural Patterns; *Suicide

Saying Good-by: An Example of Using a Good-by Technique and Concomitant Psychodrama in the Resolving of Family Grief.

Kaminski, Robert C.
[1979 27p.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: GENERAL REPORT (140)
Geographic Source: U.S.: New York
Journal Announcement: RIEAUG80

A structured technique for saying "good-by," or terminating a relationship, an important aspect of the therapeutic relationship, is presented. It consists of three distinct phases that are all dynamically interrelated, and can also be structured into separation caused by death. The technique is described in terms of three specific areas on which the patient is asked to elaborate: (1) what she/he has learned or remembers about the other person in the relationship; (2) a statement to the other person as to whether or not she/he will be missed, and (3) the actual saying of good-by to each other. This technique has been implemented within a family coping with the suicide death of a husband/father, and utilizes the modality of a psychodrama to complete the grief therapy. The text of the three-phase psychodrama (warm-up, action, and post discussion) is included.

Descriptors: *Case Studies; *Conflict Resolution; *Counseling Family (Sociological Unit); *Family Counseling; *Family Problems; *Grief; *Interpersonal Relationship; *Models; (cont. next page)
Realizing that the median age of Skilled Nursing Facility (SNF) patients is roughly 84, it appears logical that there is a significant suicide risk among Caucasian males residing in this environment. Pertinent questions were asked those people (nurses' aides and orderlies) who are the primary caregivers to this target population about the incidence of geriatric suicidal behaviors. The primary hypothesis is that these caregivers are not attuned to the "subintentional" suicide tendencies their patients could very well be exhibiting (as conventional methods of suicide are unlikely to be exhibited in this environment). The dependent variable is the feeling of helplessness that caregivers might exhibit if they are unable to intervene on behalf of the self-destructive patient because of inadequate knowledge of this suicidological typology. The SNF Staff Suicide Awareness Scale is designed to ask these questions and test these hypotheses. (Author/BMW)

Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; Environmental Influences; Gerontology; *Health Personnel; *Males; *Nurses Aides; Older Adults; *Psychological Patterns; Questionnaires; Risk; Suicide

Identifiers: *Suicide Awareness Scale

ED182396 UD020153
A Demographic Analysis of Suicide among Black Males.
Davis, Robert D.; Buchanan, John W.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC02 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Geographic Source: U.S.; North Carolina
Journal Announcement: RIEJUN80

Through statistical patterns associated with suicide suggest that blacks should be the least likely to commit suicide, black men between the ages of 15-25 do not conform to this pattern. The suicide rate for black males in this age group, which approximates and sometimes surpasses the rate for their white male cohorts, is more than three times higher than the rate for young adult black women. Analysis of death rates from suicide per 100,000 adult black population residing in approximately fifty metropolitan areas reveal that: (1) the gap between the suicide rates of males and females has been widening in every region of the country except the West; (2) rates have declined among metropolitan black females in each region of the country; among black males, rates have declined in the West, South and the Northeast. (Author/RLV)

Descriptors: Blacks; *Demography; *Differences; Geographic Distribution; Racial Differences; *Regional Characteristics; *Sex Differences; Suicide

Identifiers: *Suicide Awareness Scale
ED177417  CGO13845
Grief Counseling for Survivors of Sudden Death (SOSD).
Lea, Robert
Marin County, Cal. Office of the Coroner; Marin County Suicide Prevention Center, Cal.
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: CONFERENCE PAPER (150); PROJECT DESCRIPTION (141)
Geographic Source: U.S.; California
Journal Announcement: RINMAR80
Government: Local
This paper describes a program of free, short-term, individual bereavement counseling for survivors of sudden death in Marin County, California. Co-sponsors are Marin Suicide Prevention Center and Marin County Coroner's Office. Most clients are referred by third parties, and some are self-referred. Clients may not be in therapy, and the death may have occurred more than a year prior to the referral. All known primary survivors are contacted through outreach calls during which the program is offered. About one-third of those contacted accept. Of the 71 cases reported here, two-thirds involved violent deaths of which one-half were suicides. Counselors are volunteers working in pairs, who are trained and supervised by Marin Suicide Prevention Center. The program has been functioning for six years without funding, other than administrative support from sponsoring agencies. Observations indicate that the most willing to accept help are: (1) survivors of only traumatic deaths; (2) unsuccessful suicide attempters; (3) female survivors grieving the loss of males; and (4) survivors who lose a spouse, lover or child. (Author/CKJ)
Descriptors: Counseling Services; *Death; *Grief; *Mental Health Programs; *Outreach Programs; Parents; *Peer Counseling
Identifiers: *California (Marin County)

ED177403  CGO13830
Attempted Suicide: The M.N.P.I. Differentiation of Suicidal from Non-Suicidal Depressions.
Sendbuehler, J. M.; And Others
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: CONFERENCE PAPER (150); RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Geographic Source: Canada
Journal Announcement: RINMAR80
Distinctions between non-suicidal and suicidal depression were investigated. Epidemiological profiles of depressed patients (40 suicidal and 40 non-suicidal) were matched for sex and age. Independent raters diagnosed each subject according to five classifications of depression. The Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory (MMPI) scores for each subject were examined for any differences between the two groups. Results indicated that: (1) MMPI profiles appear to differentiate suicidal from non-suicidal depression; (2) psychiatric diagnoses are of little value in differentiating the types of depression; (3) suicidal patients are not confined to any single diagnostic group; and (4) admissions for male and female depression peak in the 20-39 year age group and then gradually decline. (Author/HLM)
Descriptors: Behavior Patterns; Classification: Comparative Analysis; *Depression (Psychology); *Individual Characteristics: Patients; *Personality Studies; *Profiles; *Psychological Patterns; Research Reports; *Suicide
Identifiers: *Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory
at separation points, and following up serious suicide attempts. (Author/LS)

Descriptors: Fantasy; Followup Studies; Mental Disorders; Motivation; *Patients; Program Descriptions; *Psychiatrists; *Psychotherapy; *Suicide; *Therapeutic Environment

ED176147 CG013748
Therapeutic Management of Chronic Callers To a Suicide Prevention Center.

Baronn Barry C.
1979 10p. Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Psychological Association (59th, San Diego, California, April 5-8, 1979); Best copy available
EDRS Price - MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: CONFERENCE PAPER (150); EVALUATIVE REPORT (142)

Geographic Source: U.S.; California
Journal Announcement: RIEFE880

A therapeutic technique for dealing with a chronic caller to a suicide prevention center was tested. The two objectives to such a technique were to reduce the frequency of calls made by chronic callers to the suicide prevention service, and to persuade callers to become more specific when discussing their problem. To accomplish these objectives, a specific counselor was assigned to each chronic caller, with a one hour time limit to each call, and the suicide prevention center called the chronic caller instead of waiting for the chronic caller to contact the service. Results of the seven-week treatment program indicated that prior to instituting the change, the mean number of calls made per week for treatment and control group were roughly equal. Upon completion of the program, the mean number of calls per week for treatment callers was significantly lower than those chronic callers who were not in the treatment group. This trend in the data was maintained during a nine-week follow-up condition. Self-report measures obtained from the counselors indicated that the chronic callers were becoming more concrete and specific when presenting their particular problem. Suggestions regarding the manner in which other community mental health centers might implement a similar program were discussed. (Author/PC)

Descriptors: *Community Information Services; *Community Services; *Counseling Effectiveness; *Crisis Intervention; Intervention; *Mental Health Programs; Program Evaluation; *Suicide

ED174771 UDD19631
Dimensions of Black Suicide: A Theoretical Model.

Davis, Robert; Short, James F., Jr.
1978 19p.; Marginal print quality
Report No.: IRP-RS-316
EDRS Price - MF01 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Geographic Source: U.S.; Wisconsin
Journal Announcement: RIEDEC79

This paper develops a theoretical model of suicide, based on the theory of "external restraints" proposed by previous researchers, A.F. Henry and J.F. Short, Jr., and applies the model to a study of black suicides in Orleans Parish, Louisiana. The focus of the study is on the complexity of relationships between dimensions of black suicide and the social, demographic, and economic characteristics of blacks in the United States. Some of the variables considered are sex, age, marital status, social status, and community integration. It is pointed out that the theory of "external restraints" is only weakly sustained by the analysis. It is concluded that more adequate testing of the theory must await further data, with careful attention to the subjective aspects of hypothesized structural relationships. (Author/EB)

Descriptors: *Blacks; Case Studies; Demography; Economic Factors; Marital Status; *Social Status; *Suicide; *Theories

Identifiers: *World Health Organization
Communication of Suicidal Ideation in a Walk-In Clinic.

Sakinofsky, Isaac


EDRS Price - MFO1/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Massachusetts
Journal Announcement: RIEFEB79

One hundred and fifteen patients coming to a psychiatry walk-in clinic were evaluated for suicidal ideation prior to their intake interview. Sixty percent of the patients had suicidal ideation. 20% to an extreme degree. Recognition of suicidal ideation, based on a content analysis of the clinical chart, was 27% for the entire group and 56% for the extreme group, and was not related to the intensity of symptoms nor to requests for control. (Author)

Descriptors: Behavior Problems; Depression (Psychology); *Emotional Adjustment; *Mental Health Clinics; *Psychiatric Services; *Psychological Patterns; Research Projects; *Suicide Identifiers: *Walk In Clinics

Similarities and Differences in Precipitating Events Between Black and Anglo Suicide Attempts.

Bush, James A.

Apr 1978 15p.

EDRS Price - MFO1/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Geographic Source: U.S.; California
Journal Announcement: RIEFEB79

The rapid rise in suicide among young blacks in America during the past decade is of increasing concern to mental health practitioners and suicidologists. While there are some similarities among suicide attempts by blacks and whites, the pattern is that black suicide attempters are distinctly more youthful. This exploratory study tests the hypothesis that the precipitating event for young blacks who consider, plan, and attempt suicide is more likely to be the loss or threatened loss of a love partner in the context of a negative value-orientation and intra-group pressures than among Anglo suicide attempters. Specific strategies are recommended that use a family perspective for assisting blacks who consider plan and attempt suicide. (Author)

Descriptors: *Age Differences; *Blacks: Family Relationship; *Interpersonal Relationship; *Mental Health: Psychotherapy; *Racial Differences; Research Projects; *Suicide: Values: Whites; *Youth Problems

Why Suicide Prevention Centers Don't Work.

Selkin, James

[1977 9p.; Best Copy Available]

EDRS Price - MFO1/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: English
Document Type: BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)
Geographic Source: U.S.; Colorado
Journal Announcement: RIEFEB79

This paper discusses the ineffectiveness of Suicide Prevention Centers in terms of the following: (1) diffusion vs. specific focus; (2) client centered orientation; (3) passive approach; and (4) failure to develop minority programs. Suggestions for improving prevention efforts are presented. (JLL)

Descriptors: Behavior Problems; Counseling Effectiveness; *Crisis Intervention; Literature Reviews; *Mental Health Programs; *Prevention; *Program Improvement; *Psychiatric Services; Psychopathology; *Suicide
Covert Sexism in the Study of Suicide.


Descriptors: Age Differences; Black Community; *Blacks; Black Youth; Comparative Analysis; *Differences; *Family Life; Literature Reviews; *Regional Characteristics; Sex Differences; *Social Relations; Statistical Analysis; Statistical Data; *Suicide; Theories; Trend Analysis; Whites

The sociological study of suicide has suffered from a lack of knowledge about women in society. Data regarding women's participation in the labor force and in marriage have been lacking, over looked, poorly analyzed statistically, and misunderstood. When data on women have not reflected suicide theory based on male rates, female suicide has been treated as if it were a deviant kind of suicide behavior. Suicide theory has been distorted by this general lack of knowledge, as can be shown by a review of major works in the sociology of suicide. However, now that a better understanding of women is available to theorists, including more sophisticated knowledge about the socialization of women and the status of women in the work force and in marriage, it is possible to gain new insights into the suicidal behavior of women. This should further theoretical understanding of all suicide behavior.


In the past decade, the suicide rate among young blacks has risen to the point where it is nearly as high as that of their white peers. There is, however, a striking contrast in age distribution in the suicide patterns of whites and blacks. Whereas white suicide increases in direct relation with advancing chronological age, suicide among black males reaches its peak in the 15-24 year old age group. Current statistics do not reflect a similar increase in suicides among black women. In this document these and other data relating to black suicide are discussed. The different regional distribution of high suicide rates among blacks and whites are described. Current explanations for rising suicide rates, as put forth in the sparse literature on the subject, are examined. An alternative explanation, pointing to the importance of strong family and communal ties as a buffer against black suicide, is proposed.


The findings of a national study of black suicide are reported in this paper. A suitable explanation is sought for the increasing suicide rate among young blacks. The possibility of a link between suicide and the weakening of black community and family ties is explored. Specifically, the isolating effects of both immigration and educational level are examined. These variables are viewed as limiting access to stable relations within the black community. In addition, an attempt is made to determine the relationship between black suicide and educational level as an indicator of social class status. Differences in suicide rates by age and sex are demonstrated in statistical tables. In States with the largest Black populations, both immigration and educational level are shown to be strongly related to black suicide. The relationship between black suicide and living alone, however, is weak. It is concluded that a link between a weakening of social relations (via alienation from traditional and familial ties) and black suicide is conceptually and empirically possible. (Author/GC)
The research question for this dissertation study was: Do behavioral outcomes identified in people who commit suicide exist in people who publicly exhibit proactive behavioral outcomes and have not attempted suicide? More specifically, do selective affective and physiological behavioral outcomes identified in people who kill themselves exist when they are observed in a sample of academic deans of baccalaureate schools of nursing? An experiment was used. All computer-generated tables are included. (MSE)

Numerous studies involving suicide attempters and those who commit suicide suggest that the suicidal individual perceives limited control over the environment, the occurrence of stressful life events and a diminished probability of future success. Results of the present study indicate a relationship between the frequency of suicidal thoughts among college students and depression, externally on a locus of control scale and a reduced generalized expectancy for future success. The relationship between frequency of suicidal thoughts and stressful life events is less apparent. Similar findings are evident for suicide attempters. Implications of the findings and suggested directions for future research are also discussed. (Author)

Descriptors: Behavior Problems; College Students; Expectation; Individual Psychology; Literature Reviews; Locus of Control; Personality; Psychological Studies; Psychopathology; Research Projects; Stress Variables; Suicide

Suicide Ideation and Suicide Experiences Among Social Area Populations: Evidence for the "Process" Hypothesis.

Wenz, F. V.

May 19-22, 1977: NC not available in hard copy, due to marginal legibility of original document

EDR501 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.

Language: ENGLISH

Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)

Journal Announcement: RIEAPR78

Target Audience: Practitioners

This essay interprets the dynamics of suicide based on a view of life as an autonomous process of the unfolding of genetically determined potential. The life process does not require external incentives; it depends, however, on needs-satisfying exchanges between individuals and their physical and social environment. Social orders of human groups can facilitate or obstruct these needed exchanges. Obstructions of these exchanges, and hence the satisfaction of developmental needs, is defined as violence. Such obstructions may result from acts of individuals or from socially structured conditions. The latter form of violence is defined as "structural violence." Suicide tends to occur when individuals feel completely blocked in the unfolding of their potential as a result of structural violence. Conditions in the United States and in other capitalist societies are analyzed and are found to involve much structural violence, reflected in a high incidence of suicide. It is suggested that primary prevention of suicide requires political action toward eliminating structural violence from the social order, rather than merely professional and technical measures. (Author)

Descriptors: Antisocial Behavior; Behavior Patterns; Capitalism; Death; Individual Development; Psychopathology; Social Indicators; Sociocultural Patterns; State of the Art Reviews; Suicide; Violence

Societal Roots of Violence and Suicide, Summary.

Gil, David G.

May 1977 7p.; Paper presented at the annual meeting of the American Association on Suicidology (May 20-22, 1977, Boston, Massachusetts)

EDR501 Plus Postage. PC Not Available from EDRS.

Document Type: BIBLIOGRAPHY (131)

Journal Announcement: RIEAPR78

One low economic status social area and one high economic status social area population were selected for intensive study in the manner suggested by Shevky and Bell. In order to determine the frequency of suicide ideation and suicide related experiences among these social area types, five interdependent questions were asked: (1) Have you ever wondered what it would be like not to exist? (2) Have you ever entertained the notion of suicide? (3) Have you ever contemplated suicide seriously as a solution to a problem? (4) At any time, have you ever actually attempted suicide? (5) At any time, have you ever actually attempted suicide? The term "suicide-related experience" refers to experiences wherein a person has actually thought of committing suicide. The major finding is that suicide ideation and experiences are very common in both social area populations, but more so in the low...
economic status social area. The frequency of thoughts and threats of suicide in the high economic status social area was surprising, given that the suicide and attempted suicide rate for this population was reported as low. The data also indicated that the suicidal ideations and experiences identified in the social area samples relate to completed suicide as part of a process. (Author)

Descriptors: Behavior Problems; Death; Developmental Psychology; *Experience; Psychological Studies; *Self Actualization; *Social Influences; *Socioeconomic Influences; *Suicide

Identifiers: *Ideation

Suicidal Fantasies and Positive/Negative Effects.
Fouts, Gregory: Norrie, Janice
April 1977 Th.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Western Psychological Association (Seattle, Wa., April 21-24, 1977)
EDRS Price - MFOI/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: ENGLISH
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: RIEFEB78

This study attempted to provide some initial normative data to help professionals and researchers to distinguish between playful and stimulating suicidal fantasies as opposed to serious and compulsive thoughts and behaviours characterized by negative affects. It is argued that the former is a natural consequence of cognitive development, the entry into formal operational thoughts, which results in the extension from reality into the world of possibility which begins during the period of adolescense. However, when the precipitating mood and consequent affects become negatively coloured, perhaps in part, due to misunderstanding the "normalness" of such thoughts as well as the absence of feedback from significant others, then pathology is likely indicated. When we can make this distinction and monitor such shifts, that is, from spontaneous curiosity and excitement to obsessive thoughts and depression, we shall have taken a large step toward in predicting suicidal attempts and remediating them. (Author)

Descriptors: *Affective Behavior; Anxiety; Curiosity; Depression (Psychology); Emotional Development; *Fantasy; Psychological Studies: Psychopathology; *Self Actualization; Self Evaluation; *Suicide; *Young Adults

Hope and Self-Destruction: The Ratio of External Threat to Feelings of Personal Competence on the Underlying Continuum of Self-Destructive Behavior.
Henderson, James T.
Apr 1976 22p.; Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the Southwestern Psychological Association (Albuquerque, New Mexico, April 29-May 1, 1976)

Grant No.: MH-12557
EDRS Price - MFOI/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: ENGLISH
Document Type: RESEARCH REPORT (143)
Journal Announcement: RIEFAN7

This study assesses that all suicidal and self-destructive behavior can be placed on a continuum from hopeful (H) to hopeless (S). The author attempts to show that there is an underlying continuum of hope corresponding to what we know about the statistics of suicidal behavior. He employs two operational hypotheses as tests of his ideas: (1) a group of college students who admit to significant amounts of suicidal thought will also be significantly higher in degree of hopelessness than will a comparison group of college students who do not claim to have much self-destructive thought; and (2) among a sample of formerly hospitalized patients, a higher degree of hopelessness will be found among serious attempters than among those who have only made suicidal gestures or threats. (YG)

Descriptors: *Behavior Patterns; *Delay of Gratification; *Emotional Adjustment; Locus of Control; *Personality Problems; *Psychopathology; Research Projects: Self Control; Self Esteem; *Suicide

Trends in Mental Health: Self-Destructive Behavior Among Younger Age Groups.
Frederick, Calvin J.
National Inst. on Drug Abuse (DHEW/PHS), Rockville, Md.
Report No.: DHEW-ADM-76-365
Available from: National Institute of Mental Health, 5600 Fishers Lane, Rockville, Maryland 20852 Publication No. (ADM) 76-365
EDRS Price - MFOI/PC01 Plus Postage.
Language: ENGLISH
Document Type: JOURNAL ARTICLE (080)
Journal Announcement: RIEJAN7A

The pamphlet discusses methods of recognizing and responding to behavior that can culminate in suicide, with emphasis on adolescents and young adults. Incidence and types of behavior--self-assaultive, self-destructive, and suicidal--are described, clues to aid in the identification of potential suicides are provided, and ten preventive steps are recommended. (IM)

Descriptors: Adolescents; *Behavior Problems; Counseling: Emotional Disturbances; *Identification; *Prevention; *Suicide; Young Adults