

Adolescent Suicide:

Recognition, Causes and Interventions

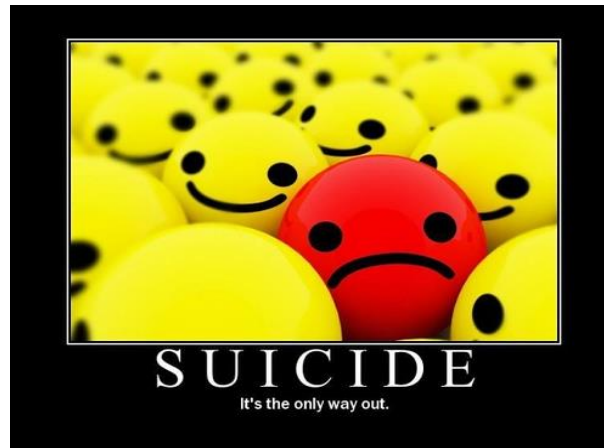
August 27, 2014

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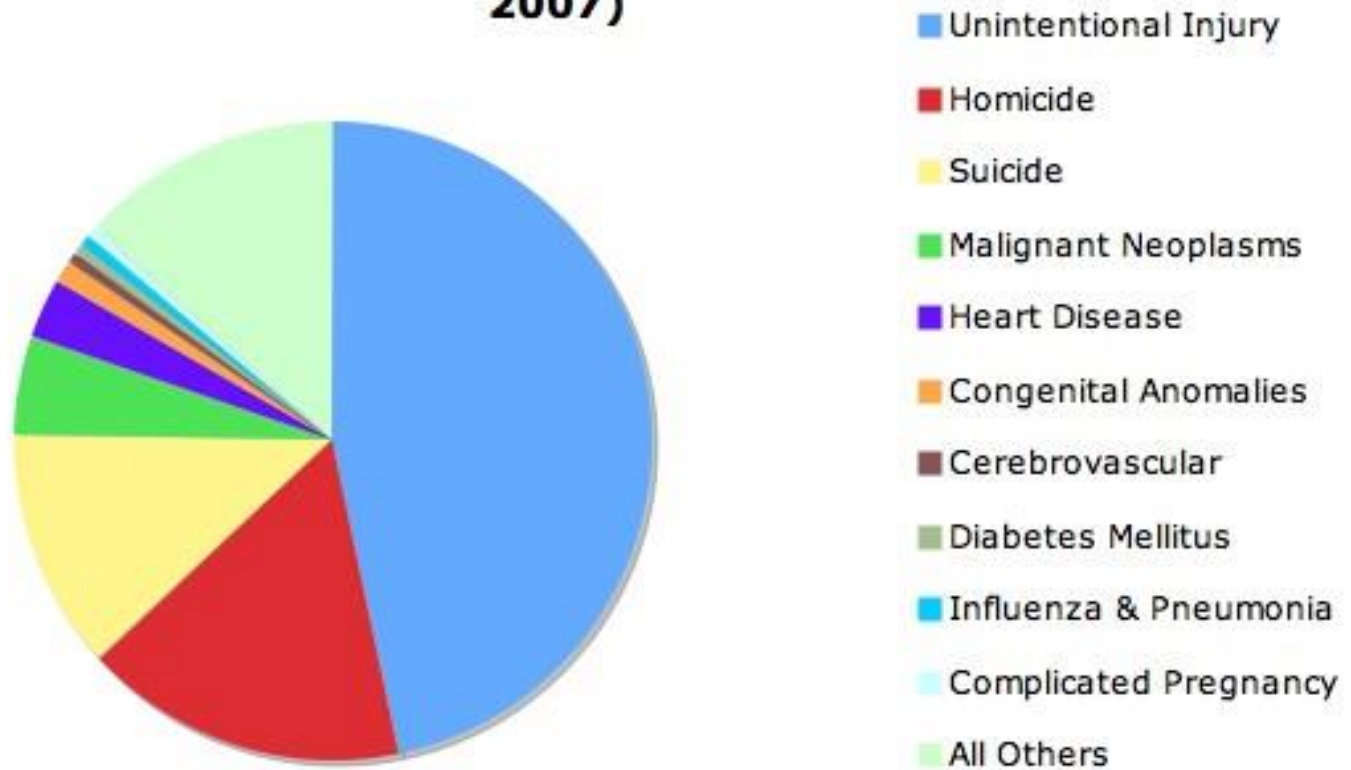


- **Statistics**
- **Definitions**
- **Recognition –Signs and Symptoms**
- **Causes**
- **Interventions**
- **Post-Interventions**

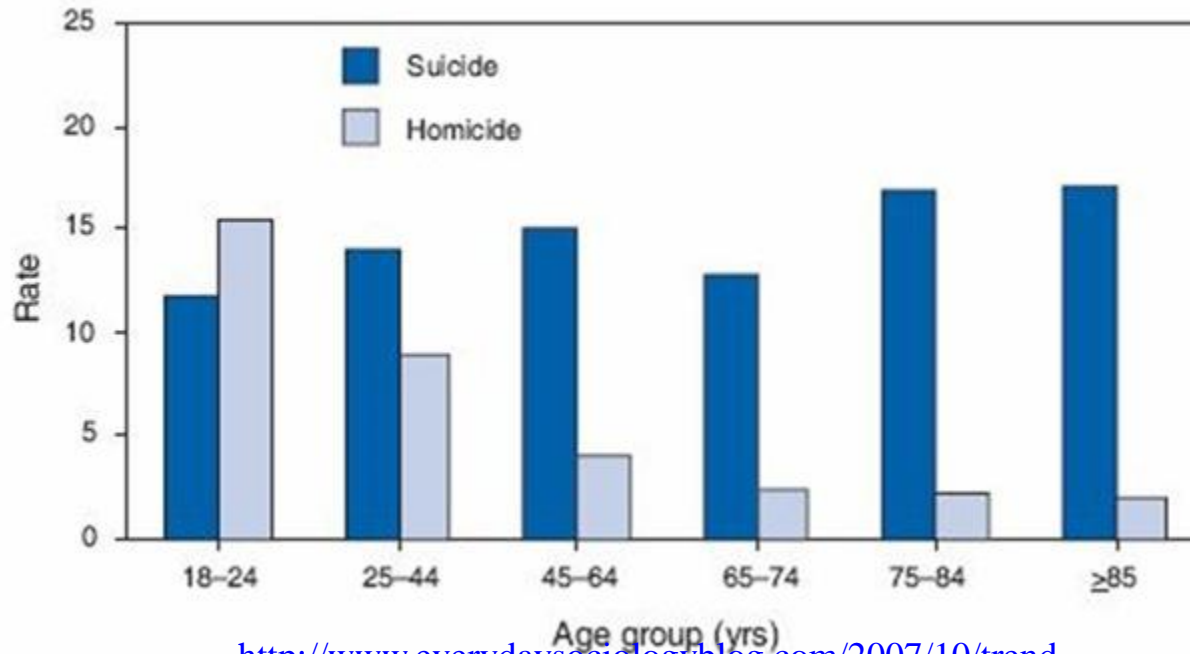
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Leading Causes of Death in the U.S. Ages 15-24 (1999-2007)



Adolescent Suicide: Recognition, Causes and Interventions



<http://www.everydaysociologyblog.com/2007/10/trend-spotting-.htm>

5/11/14

Adolescent Suicide:

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***Suicide* killing oneself**

A completed suicide

A suicide attempt

A suicide gesture

A suicide gamble

A suicide equivalent

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Recognition –Signs and Symptoms

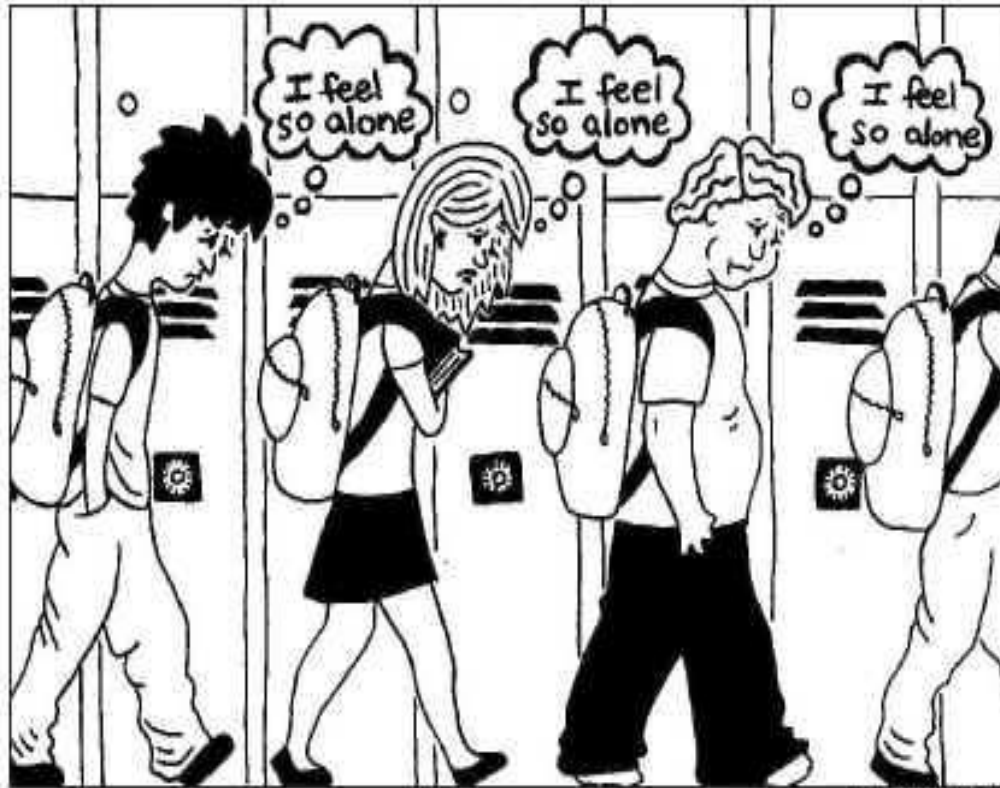


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- **Suicidal individuals have a number of characteristics, including the following:**
 - **A preoccupation with death**
 - **A sense of isolation and withdrawal**
 - **Few friends or family members**
 - **An emotional distance from others**
 - **Distraction and lack of humor - They often seem to be "in their own world" and lack a sense of humor (anhedonia)**
 - **Focus on the past - They dwell on past losses and defeats and anticipate no future; they voice the notion that others and the world would be better off without them**
 - **Haunted and dominated by hopelessness and helplessness**

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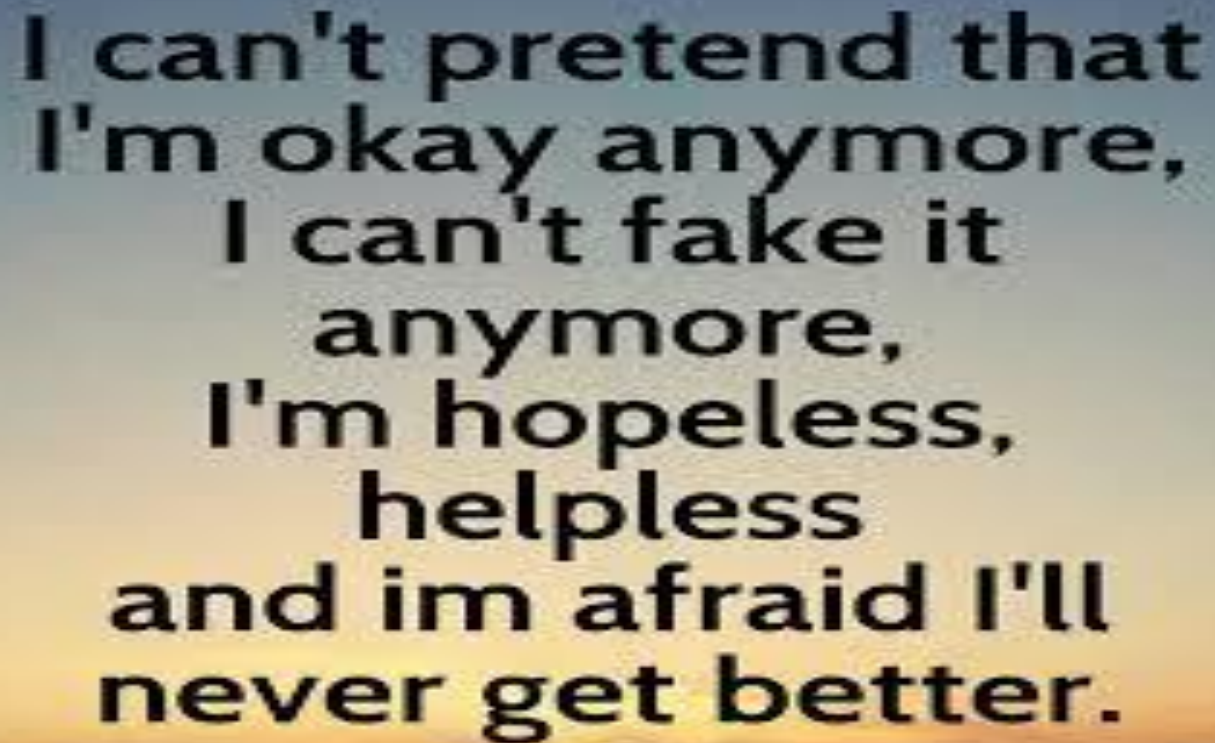


Kate Jordan / The Tattler

- <http://blogs.cornell.edu/into2040/2011/09/21/the-clustering-coefficient/> 7/27/2014

Adolescent Suicide:

H_x2 = Hopelessness and Helplessness

A quote about adolescent hopelessness and helplessness. The text is centered on a background that transitions from a dark blue sky at the top to a bright orange and yellow sunset or sunrise at the bottom. The text is in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

I can't pretend that
I'm okay anymore,
I can't fake it
anymore,
I'm hopeless,
helpless
and im afraid I'll
never get better.

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Numerous activities are associated with suicidal potential, including the following:

- Making a will
- Getting the house and affairs together
- Unexpectedly visiting friends and family members
- Purchasing a gun, hose, or rope
- Writing a suicide note
- Visiting a primary care physician - A significant number of people see their primary care physician within 3 weeks before they commit suicide

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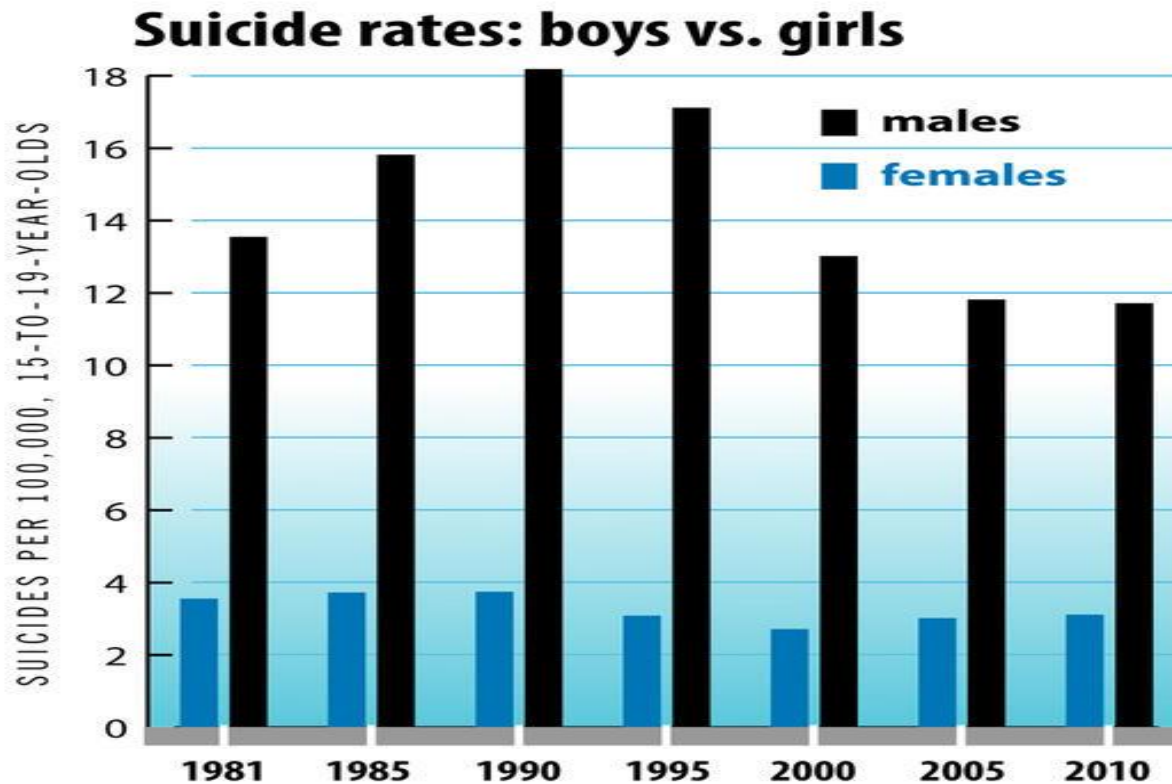
Recognition, Causes and Interventions

Correlations, Relationships and Causes

- Sex
- Drugs and Alcohol
- Culture/Nation/Religion
- Location Rural/Urban
- Mental Illness/Depression
- Loss of Perspectives
- Bullying
- Media/Contagion
- Family History
- Season
- Anomie
- Medical/Biologic
- Ambivalence
- Criminal-justice system
- Doctor visit

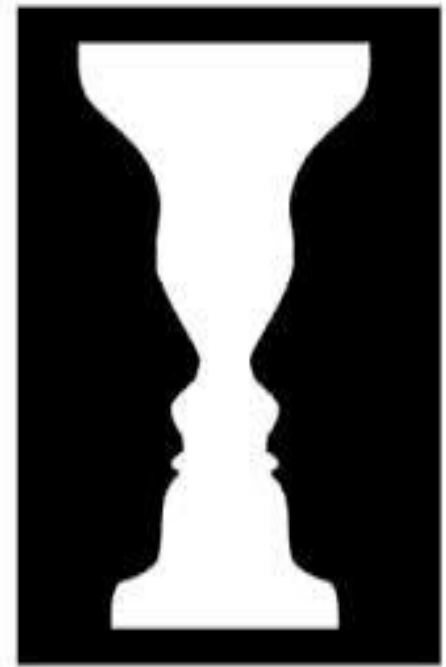
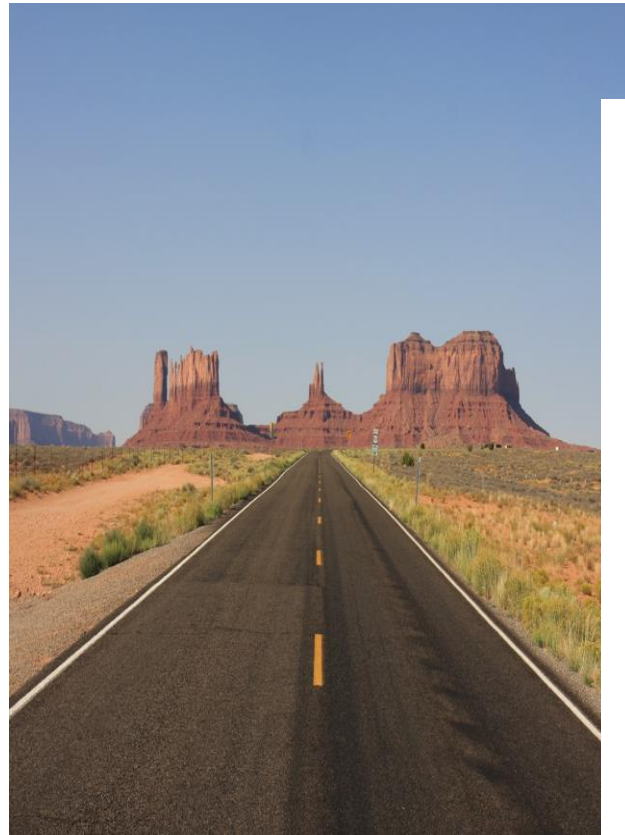
Adolescent Suicide:

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SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Adolescent Suicide: Loss of Perspective



Adolescent Suicide: Bullying



Adolescent Suicide:

Ambivalence (n) :

The state of having simultaneous, sometimes conflicting feelings towards something – like feeling happy and sad at the same time.



Adolescent Suicide:



Adolescent Suicide:

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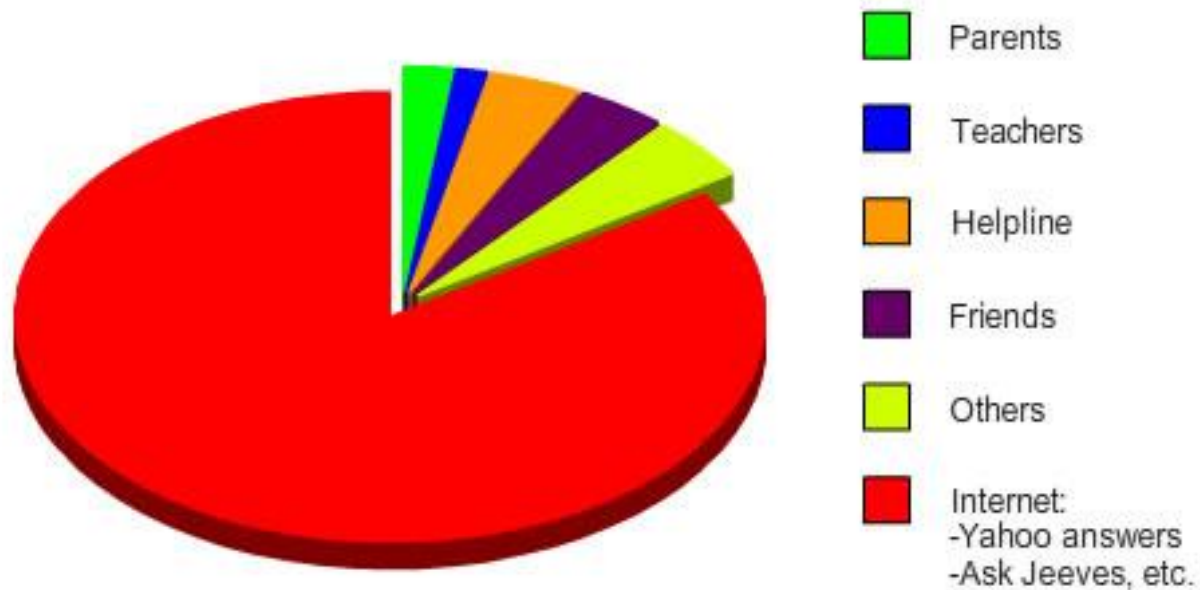
Interventions

- **A. Immediacy**
- **B. Be with the adolescent at all times-do not leave the person alone**
- **C. Multiple simultaneous methods – the danger of assumptions**
- **D. Search of the person**
- **E. Definite, defined follow-up**
- **F. Involvement of significant others**
- **G. Homicide**

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Who young people turn to for help these days



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Post-vention

- **A. Meet with family**
- **B. Listen**
- **C. Express your concerns**

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Suicide represents a permanent solution to a temporary problem.

Suicide can be prevented.

YOU CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE



Ask

Listen with your third ear and gut

Act