

Thursday, 31 March 2016

[Communications and Knowledge Management](#)

TEN THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN REPORTING SUICIDE

1. Leave out technical details about the method of suicide, such as describing the type of firearm used or the number and type of pills taken, and mention never suggest that a method is quick, easy, painless or worth it to be done.
2. Language matters. Avoid dramatic headlines and terms such as 'suicide epidemic' or 'suicide pact'.
3. Include references to support groups and professional help. People can feel help is only a mile away. A difference: [Suicide Helpline 0800 768766](#)
4. Treat suicidal people with particular caution and when discussing suicides or attempts that prevent or prevent a suicide.
5. Avoid all events or social media pictures or video taken from including content from suicide cases.
6. Young people are especially vulnerable to negative media coverage. Do not give undue prominence to photographs of a young person who has died and avoid repeated use of images such as children.
7. To not to give a story undue prominence, for example with front cover splash.
8. Don't focus on the suicide method of suicide and its impact on those left behind. Remember that people bereaved by suicide are often vulnerable and are more likely to seek help than the rest of the general population.
9. Speculation about the 'trigger' for a suicide, even if presented by a close family member, should be avoided.
10. Use specialist media contacts. Check with Samaritans, IAS or the relevant national mental health agency to make sure you have the most recent data and are complying with the law.

Contact Samaritans' press office for advice on reporting:
+44 (0)20 8384 8300
or email press@samaritans.org
press@samaritans.org
www.samaritans.org/mediaguidelines



A guidance poster for newsrooms which includes ten things to remember when reporting suicide. The poster is taken from Samaritans and Irish Association of Suicidology's Media Guidelines for Reporting Suicide.

Details

- Format
- A3 poster
- Target group
- Journalists, editors, sub-editors

Downloads

Attachment	Size
PHA A3 Poster Ten Things to Remember March 2016_1.pdf	246.39 KB

Tags

- [reporting on suicide](#)
- [Samaritans](#)
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