

Debunking the Myths Surrounding Suicide Assessments and Suicide Rates

While many people believe that suicide rates are highest during holidays this is a myth according to the CDC with December actually having the lowest rate.

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, December 11, 2019 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Each year an average of 44,965 people commit suicide in the United States making it the 10th leading cause of death for Americans. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), suicide deaths were more than double those due to homicides in 2015, which means that for every murder reported in the news, there were at least 2 other deaths that occurred due to suicide. [1] [2] [3]

The [Citizens Commission on Human Rights](#) (CCHR) of Florida, a non-profit watchdog that exposes human rights violations in the mental health industry, is holding an open house this month at their center located at 109 N. Fort Harrison Avenue in downtown Clearwater to raise awareness on the subject.

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Too often people rely on unproven suicide risk assessments as a catchall when dealing with a person experiencing a crisis and unfortunately the assessments just don't work according to some experts.”

Diane Stein, President CCHR Florida

While many people believe that suicide rates are highest during holidays or the winter months, this is a myth according to the CDC with December actually having the lowest rate. [4] This myth is perpetuated by media stories falsely linking holidays and suicides. [5]

Another myth is that risk assessments can help prevent suicides.

An article published under Mental Health in Scientific American in March of 2017, reported that new research of the past 40 years of suicide risk assessment research suggests that not only do these assessments not help but

may actually cause harm by increasing the risk of suicide. [6] [7]

According to the article, “there has been no improvement in the accuracy of [suicide risk assessments](#) over the past 40 years” and “no statistical way of identifying individuals with a high risk of suicide exists.”

Using these ineffective suicide risk assessments, individuals are labeled with depression or



Nearly two-thirds of the newspaper stories linking the holidays and suicide over the 2016-17 holiday season supported a false connection between the two, the Annenberg Public Policy Center has found.

suicidal ideation and then in many cases receive prescriptions for dangerous psychotropic drugs which come with known side effects that encourage the exact symptoms they are marketed to treat, suicide and suicidal ideation. One common [antidepressant](#), Celexa, is linked to a staggering 559 cases of documented suicide. [8]

In response, CCHR Florida launched a campaign to educate individuals on the connection between the use of antidepressants, the reliance on suicide risk assessments and death by suicide. As part of this campaign CCHR is hosting an open house where visitors will be able to obtain information on how suicide risk assessments may increase the risk of suicide and psychiatric drug side effects.

“With 1 in 6 Americans currently taking psychotropic drugs it is vital for people to know the truth about suicide risk assessments and psychiatric drug side effects,” said Diane Stein, president of the Florida chapter of CCHR. [7]

For more information on the open house or the truth about psychiatric drugs please call 727-442-8820.

About CCHR: Initially established by the Church of Scientology and renowned psychiatrist Dr. Thomas Szasz in 1969, CCHR’s mission is to eradicate abuses committed under the guise of mental health and enact patient and consumer protections. L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology, first brought psychiatric imprisonment to wide public notice: “Thousands and thousands are seized without process of law, every week, over the ‘free world’ tortured, castrated, killed. All in the name of ‘mental health,’” he wrote in March 1969. For more information visit www.cchrflorida.org

Sources:

- [1] <https://save.org/about-suicide/suicide-facts/>
- [2] <https://afsp.org/about-suicide/suicide-statistics/>
- [3] <https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/statistics/suicide.shtml>
- [4] <https://www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/suicide/holiday.html>



The Citizens Commission on Human Rights is a non-profit mental health watchdog dedicated to the eradication of abuses committed under the guise of mental health.



The headquarters for CCHR Florida are located in downtown Clearwater.

[5] <https://www.annenbergpublicpolicycenter.org/suicide-rate-is-lower-during-holidays-but-holiday-suicide-myth-persists/>

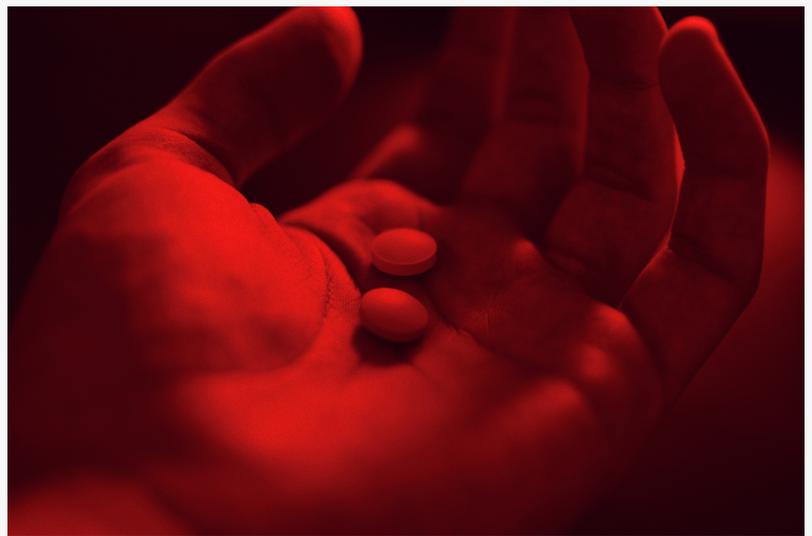
[6] <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/suicide-risk-assessment-doesnt-work/>

[7] <http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0156322>

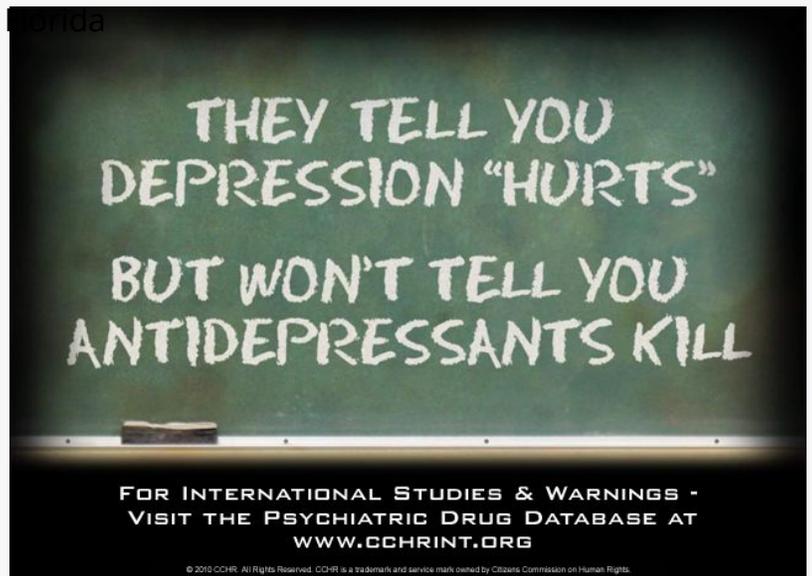
[8] <https://www.cchrint.org/psychiatric-drugs/antidepressantsideeffects/celexasideeffects/>

[9] <https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/1-in-6-americans-takes-a-psychiatric-drug/>

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NBC News reported on April 22, 2018 that the Center for Disease Control (CDC) findings show that suicides in the U.S. are at the highest level in “almost three decades”.



100 million people worldwide take psychotropic drugs, convinced they are correcting a physical or chemical imbalance in their body. In reality, they are taking substances so dangerous their side effects range from hallucinations to psychosis and suicide.

This press release can be viewed online at: <http://www.einpresswire.com>

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