

Edwin S Shneidman On Suicide Suicidology Online

Edwin S Shneidman On Suicide Suicidology Online Understanding Suicide Through the Lens of Edwin S Shneidman A Suicidology Deep Dive Edwin Shneidman a pioneering figure in suicidology revolutionized our understanding of suicide moving it beyond simplistic explanations of mental illness He argued that suicide is a complex multifaceted act driven by a unique blend of psychological social and situational factors This blog post delves into Shneidmans key contributions exploring his concepts and their practical application in understanding and preventing suicide Well explore his work accessible online bridging the gap between academic research and practical understanding Shneidmans Core Concepts Beyond the Why Shneidman challenged the prevailing notion that suicide is simply a symptom of mental illness Instead he emphasized the psychological autopsy a method of retrospectively investigating the circumstances surrounding a suicide to understand the individuals unique perspective He identified several crucial concepts The Interpersonal Theory of Suicide This theory emphasizes the interplay of thwarted belongingness feeling alone and isolated perceived burdensomeness believing one is a burden to others and acquired capability for selfharm reducing fear of death and pain This framework provides a nuanced understanding of the motivations behind suicidal behavior Example Imagine an elderly person experiencing chronic pain acquired capability and feeling like a burden on their family perceived burdensomeness due to their declining health and increased care needs Isolation and lack of social support thwarted belongingness could push them towards suicidal ideation Psychache This is a central concept in Shneidmans work It describes the unbearable psychological pain experienced by individuals contemplating suicide This pain isnt always readily identifiable as clinical depression its a complex mix of emotional anguish despair hopelessness and frustration Visual Imagine a tight knot in your chest a constant pressure a relentless ache that permeates every aspect of your being Thats a crude representation of psychache a pervasive and debilitating form of pain

2 The Commonalities of Suicide Shneidman highlighted that despite the varied backgrounds and circumstances of those who die by suicide there are striking commonalities These include feelings of hopelessness helplessness and unbearable pain leading to a decision to end their suffering Accessing Shneidmans Work Online While much of Shneidmans work is found in academic journals and books several resources provide insights into his contributions University Libraries Many university libraries offer access to digital archives containing his publications Google Scholar A valuable tool for searching academic papers and finding relevant articles citing Shneidmans work Online bookstores Platforms like Amazon offer access to his books including Suicidology and Deaths Dark Angel Exploring Suicidal Behaviors How to Apply Shneidmans Insights Understanding Shneidmans work can help in preventing suicide

1 Emphasize active listening Instead of focusing on diagnosing prioritize genuinely understanding the individuals experience of psychache and their unique situation

2 Assess for the three interpersonal factors When interacting with someone at risk gently explore their feelings of belonging burdensomeness and capability for selfharm

3 Promote connectedness Foster a sense of belonging and social support by encouraging connection with loved ones support groups or professional help

4 Reduce burdensomeness Help individuals identify and address sources of perceived burdensomeness possibly by connecting them with resources that can alleviate their difficulties

5 Reduce access to lethal means Restricting access to firearms or other means of selfharm can significantly reduce the risk of suicide A Practical Example Working with a Suicidal Individual Imagine a young adult struggling with unemployment and relationship difficulties They express feelings of hopelessness and worthlessness Applying Shneidmans framework Psychache Their unbearable pain stems from a combination of joblessness loneliness and loss of selfesteem Thwarted Belongingness They feel isolated and disconnected from their support network

3 Perceived Burdensomeness They might believe they are a burden on their family due to their financial struggles Acquired Capability They may have experienced previous selfharm reducing their fear of death By addressing these factors focusing on building connections finding employment resources and facilitating professional mental health care we can help reduce their risk of suicide Summary of Key Points Edwin Shneidmans work revolutionized suicidology emphasizing the individuals unique perspective and experience The concept of psychache highlights the unbearable psychological pain driving suicidal behavior The interpersonal theory of suicide focuses on thwarted belongingness perceived burdensomeness and acquired capability Understanding these concepts allows for a more nuanced and effective approach to suicide prevention

5 FAQs about Edwin Shneidman and Suicidology

1 Q Is suicide always caused by mental illness A No Shneidman argued that suicide is a complex act resulting from various factors beyond simple mental illness Psychache situational stressors and interpersonal dynamics play crucial roles

2 Q How can I help someone considering suicide A Actively listen validate their feelings encourage professional help and connect them with support resources Focus on their experience of psychache and the interpersonal factors

3 Q What is a psychological autopsy A Its a retrospective investigation into the circumstances surrounding a suicide to understand the individuals perspective and contributing factors

4 Q Where can I find more information about Shneidmans work A University libraries Google Scholar and online bookstores are good starting points

5 Q Is there a single cause of suicide A No suicide is a multifaceted issue with multiple contributing factors Understanding the interplay of psychological social and situational elements is crucial This exploration of Edwin Shneidmans work offers a valuable framework for understanding and preventing suicide By understanding psychache and the interpersonal theory of suicide

4 we can approach suicidal behavior with greater empathy and effectiveness helping individuals navigate their immense pain and find pathways towards hope and recovery Remember seeking professional help is crucial when dealing with suicidal thoughts or behaviors You are not alone

The Suicidal Mind Suicide as Psychache Definition of Suicide Lives and Deaths Essays in Self-destruction Psychotherapy with Suicidal People Suicide and Self-damaging Behavior Suicide and Homicide-Suicide Among Police Autopsy of a Suicidal Mind Suicidal Behaviors Lives and Deaths Suicide Among Youth; a Review of the Literature, 1900-1967 The Psychology of Suicide Suicide The Cry for Help Thinking about Suicide Helping People Overcome Suicidal Thoughts, Urges and Behaviour The Harvard Medical School Guide to Suicide Assessment and Intervention American Journal of Psychotherapy Cognition and Suicide Edwin S. Shneidman Edwin S. Shneidman Edwin Shneidman Antoon A. Leenaars Edwin S. Shneidman Antoon A. Leenaars Denys DeCatanzaro Antoon Leenaars Edwin S. Shneidman H. L. P. Resnik Edwin S. Shneidman Richard H. Seiden Edwin S. Shneidman L. D. Hankoff Norman L. Farberow David Lester Lorraine Bell Douglas G. Jacobs Thomas E. Ellis

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presenting cases recounted in the patients own words that reveal the inner workings of the suicidal mind shneidman looks at suicide from a psychological perspective he offers a wealth of insights to help understand and to prevent suicide

a collection of previously published articles discussing the definition of suicide analyses of its occurrence and possible therapeutic responses

ing on philosophy psychology and systems theory this work presents a fresh new approach to understanding suicide presents fourteen common characteristics of suicide each of which is carefully described in both theoretical and clinical terms includes a section on the prevention of suicide and a detailed case study illustrating the cognitive aspects of suicide using the text of melville s great psychological novel moby dick

edwin s shneidman is recognized as the central figure in the field of suicidology his writings have taught countless psychologists and other health professionals about the complexity of suicide death and bereavement this collection of his writings spans the entirety of his career and offers a unique insight into the development of his thinking the material is broken down into five parts psychological assessment logic melville and murray suicide and death and each section includes an introduction by the editor lives and deaths is a vital resource for those in suicidology and related fields allowing the reader to sample a variety of selections from shneidman s work in one compact volume the book is ideal for classroom use by upper level undergraduates and graduate students in the history of suicidology or as a supplemental text in a general suicidology course it is also of interest to clinicians treating high risk patients as well as a more general audience including psychologists social workers crisis counselors and suicide prevention specialists

1 dead to the world the passions of herman melville 2 shakespear s suicides some historic dramatic and psychological reflection 3 death as a motive of philosophic thought 4 buddha and self destruction 5 values and value conflict in self destruction implications in the work of c w morris 6 can a philosophy make one phphilosophical 7 death in american society 8 practical sociological reasoning some features in the work of the los angeles suicide prevention center 9 suicide and loss in social interaction 10 the search for help no one to turn to 11 japanese adolescent suicide and social structure 12 suicide a public health problem 13 self destruction and sexual perversion 14 the components of personal despair 15 sigmund freud on suicide 16 self poisoning 17 crisis disaster and suicide theory and therapy 18 the psychology of fatal accident 19 suicide among police a study of 93 suicides among new york city policemen 1934 1940 20 multiple determinants of suicide 21 the suicidal life space attempts at a reconstruction from suicide notes 23 can a mouse commit suicide 24 sleep and self destruction a phenomenological study

almost a million people die by suicide every year who estimate the sheer numbers have made suicide prevention a major health target but effective prevention is not straightforward suicide is a complex event more complex than most of us imagine calling for an equally complex response psychotherapy with suicidal people provides a multi component approach with rich clinical data including many case histories to guide the reader based on decades of research from across the globe antoon a leenaars takes the reader into the mind of the suicidal person from the young to the elderly from the anonymous to the famous there is no better way to know and thus to treat a person a plethora of special features makes this volume an international classic and includes reflections of many suicidologists such as heraclitus plato sigmund freud emile durkheim and edwin shneidman a unique window on the clinical mind of the author empirically supported definition with applications across age gender historical time as well as culture the report of the international working group on ethical and legal issues in suicidology psychotherapy with suicidal people a person centred approach is essential reading for clinical psychologists psychiatrists and their trainees and all clinicians who work with suicidal people

suicide and self damaging behavior a sociobiological perspective reviews the status of suicide and other exceptions to the prevailing regularities of behavior this book discusses the apparent anomaly of self destructive behavior current incidence of suicide and self injury self destructiveness in other species and biological fitness and social ecology of suicide the pro suicidal gene expression and natural selection death concept breakdown of other life preserving factors with coping failure and selection processes and altruism are also elaborated this text likewise covers the chroni

the goal of this book is to fully explore what the author refers to as the near epidemic levels of suicide and homicide suicide among law enforcement officers and ultimately to offer recommendations and best practices with which to better address the problem the book begins by discussing suicide in some depth for one has to know suicide unequivocally to understand a suicidal or homicidal suicidal officer suicide and homicide suicide are complex multi determined events the result of an interplay of individual relational social cultural and environmental factors the complexity of causation necessitates a parallel complexity of knowledge there are at least two avenues to understanding the nomothetic general approach which deals with generalizations using empirical statistical and demographic methods or techniques and the idiographic specific approach which typically involves the intense study of individuals this book explores both attempting to be mindful of the needs of the office on the street the mental health provider the administrator the forensic specialist and the survivors of these needless tragedies the belief is that by amalgamating the concerns of a diverse audience we can meet the challenge of identifying at risk individuals and situations and saving lives

autopsy of a suicidal mind is a uniquely intensive psychological analysis of a suicidal mind in this poignant scientific study edwin s shneidman a founder of the field of suicidology assembles an extraordinary cast of eight renowned experts to analyze the suicidal materials including a ten page suicide note given to him by a distraught mother looking for insights into her son s tragic death the psychological autopsy centers on the interviews conducted by shneidman with arthur s mother father brother sister best friend ex wife girlfriend psychotherapist and attending physician to gain some understanding of this man s intense psychological pain and to examine what may have been done to save his tortured life shneidman approached the top suicide experts in the country to analyze the note and interviews morton silverman robert e litman jerome motto norman l farberow john t maltsberger ronald maris david rudd and avery d weisman each of the eight experts offers a unique perspective on arthur s tragic fate and the sum of their conclusions constitutes an extraordinary psychological autopsy this book is the first of its kind and a remarkable contribution to the study of suicide mental health professionals students of human nature and persons whose lives have been touched by this merciless topic will be mesmerized and enlightened by this unique volume an epistemological tour de force it will speak to anyone who is concerned with human self destruction

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this revised edition is designed for mental health practitioners all of whom must at one time or another deal with a crisis of suicide it argues that in practically every case suicide need not occur unnecessary

the book of suicidal behaviour has been truly interdisciplinary scholarly papers on suicide have appeared in anthropological biological criminal justice economic law literature medical nursing pharmacological philosophical psychiatric psychological religious social work sociological and thanatological journals as well as those devoted to specific topics such as drug addiction and gambling although this book do not explain suicide they may further our understanding of the behaviour by portraying it in all of its complexities by examining the behaviour from different perspectives people reading this book will be challenged to broaden their view and thereby devise new theories and research approaches for studying suicide the goal of this book therefore is to the reader to think about suicide in ways not considered before

helping people overcome suicidal thoughts urges and behaviour draws together practical and effective approaches to help individuals at risk of suicide the book provides a framework and outlines skills for anyone working with adults who present with suicidal thoughts or intent part 1 introduces a basic understanding of our knowledge about suicide and uk policy part 2 outlines the research into the treatment of suicidality and the general principles for working in the safest possible way part 3 outlines ten key psychological skills in the context of evidence based best practice the book also discusses the role of health and social care professionals in the prevention of suicide in the context of covid 19 the book will be a valuable addition to the resources of professionals including psychotherapists nurses social workers occupational therapists prison and probation officers drug and alcohol workers general practitioners and support staff in any health or social care context

the harvard medical school guide to suicide assessment and intervention is an essential reference that provides clinicians with information and strategies for appropriate responses to patients or clients who are at risk for suicide book jacket

although substantial resources have been expended on suicide research and prevention suicide science remains in its infancy this book brings together an impressive cast to bridge the gap between cognitive research and cognitive behavioral practice relating to suicide

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