

suicide

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Suicide among PWS

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Suicide among PWS

Suicide is known to cause increased cases of mortality rates across the globe with world statistics showing that a person commits suicide or attempts suicide after every 40 seconds anywhere on the globe. This is increased among people who have mental problems and thus mental health increases the chances of suicide. Schizophrenia is a disorder that is known to cause mental problems to people and thus increases the risk of suicide. Schizophrenia is a disorder where an individual has an abnormal interpretation of reality and thus results in wrong information of reality. Schizophrenia makes the individual have abnormal behavior and tends to be radical. This results in multiple conditions like delusions, hallucinations, and thinking disorders that affect the daily functioning of the human mind. The causes of this disorder are unknown and researches have been conducted to determine the specific condition that causes schizophrenia. It is believed that it is caused by a combination of genetic, environmental, and social factors that an individual is exposed to. Also, people with schizophrenia disorders have a higher risk of suicide, and thus measure should be taken to reducing the rising number of suicide cases of people with schizophrenia.

The problem has increased threats of suicide and endangered much life but its contribution to death has been given little attention. People have experienced severe schizophrenia that has affected their lives and families. Suicide includes suicide ideation, suicide plans, and committing suicide. People who experience schizophrenia experience suicidal ideation and plan during the early stages of the disorders and thus suicidal cases are more among people with schizophrenia during the first few weeks after the onset of the disorder. A study conducted in Ethiopia to determine the predictors of the suicide of people with schizophrenia showed the cases of suicide are more during the first two years after the onset of the disorder. This reduces

as time increases but the cases are still high in the first ten years. It is astonishing to know that little has been done to reduce the risk of schizophrenia and reduce the suicidal cases that arise from it. Researches that have been on different occasion and regions reveal similar results of schizophrenia. Although they have similar results, they developed varied risk factors that increase suicidal acts in people with schizophrenia.

Research by Ventriglio and his colleagues (2016) showed that schizophrenia increases suicidal thoughts at an early age of the disorder. They examined people experiencing schizophrenia in their adolescence and observed that most of those teenagers who attempt suicide experienced schizophrenia. The risk was high with people who were in the early stages of the disorder. They claimed that people experienced "ultra high risk" (UHR) that affects the reasoning and thinking of the individual and thus self-harm behaviors are common at this stage of the disorder. The research showed a 42.9% risk prevalence of suicidal ideation. There is change over the years with the risk increasing by 1.1% every year.

Another risk factor that was addressed by this report was the duration and individual stayed before he or she was diagnosed with psychosis. People who experience delayed diagnosis and come from communities that experience delayed diagnosis are likely to experience a high rate of suicidal ideation than those who have an early diagnosis of the same. Although schizophrenia is a lifelong disorder when detected early can be controlled and thus treated. As such, early detection of this disorder reduces the rate of suicidal ideation and suicidal behaviors. They looked at how gender is associated with suicidal behaviors but found no connection with the two although there are researches that claim that males are more prone to suicidal behaviors than women. Others contradict this and say women are more prone than men.

The living standard of people experiencing schizophrenia is also a risk factor that leads to suicidal behaviors. The study showed that only 20% of people who experienced suicidal behaviors or committed suicide had a comfortable life. Loneliness and fear of loose family members increase the risk of suicidal behaviors among these people. Another factor that they addressed was the education of people who concluded that the risk of suicidal behaviors increases with education level with those with a high level of education more like to have suicidal behaviors while those with little education have little risks to suicidal behaviors.

Another research was done by Ayalew and his colleagues (2021) on the risk factors of suicidal behaviors among people with schizophrenia. Their research was based on 300 individuals who had experienced the disorders in the Amanuel Mental Specialized Hospital (AMSH). They provided statistical data to support their claims and proved that people with schizophrenia are at risk of dying prematurely due to suicidal behaviors. Following their findings, they concluded that duration of illness, family history of suicide, substance abuse unemployment, and depression as the leading factors that are contributing to suicidal behaviors among people with schizophrenia. Those who experienced a longer period of exposure to schizophrenia have a high risk of suicidal behaviors than those with less period of exposure. Also, they found that those with a long history of suicide are likely to commit suicide and thus increase their chances of suicidal ideation. Unemployment has caused more stress to people and thus the unemployed are more likely to have suicidal behaviors than the employed. Also, in their research, they found that those with families have better management of the disorder than those without families. Families provide support for people with schizophrenia and thus can cope well with situations.

The two articles have given a concrete overview of the risk factors that may raise the cases of suicide among people with schizophrenia. The rate at which this disorder is causing suicidal behaviors is alarming. The researchers have only given an overview of the risk factors but failed to give ways of controlling these risk factors to minimize their effects on people with disorders. Providing the statistical data was important but how can these researches help improve the well-being of these people and ensure reduced suffering. In the two types of research, the period of exposure to schizophrenia increases the rate of suicidal behaviors and thus produced similar arguments. Also, reduced social support for these people increases their threats and thus actions should be taken to ensure social support.

All in all, schizophrenia affects the mental health of people and thus causing suicidal behaviors to people. Minimal attention has been given to this area of mental health and thus more focus should be given to address the risk factors that cause increased suicidal behaviors. With increased interventions, we will reduce the rate of suicidal cases in the world.

References

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