Meanings
Messages
+ Myths

The Coverage and Treatment of Suicide in the Irish Print Media

John Cullen
'Media treatments tend to report suicide in a way that communicates a message that suicide is a result of personal (incidental) circumstances or clinical or medical reasons, rather than a product of anomie resulting from profound social change.'
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Executive Summary

The dramatic rise in suicide in Ireland over the last ten or so years has been most noticeable amongst young males. It has been pointed out that ‘the public discourse on suicide in Ireland has been mostly informed by medical and psychological explanations, which analyse the epidemiology of suicide in terms of risk factors, linking suicide alcohol and substance abuse, with mental illness such as depression, and with stress associated with transition to adulthood and role adaptation. Such an approach, while useful in understanding individual cases, has not contributed significantly to our understanding of why the overall pattern of death by suicide in Ireland changed over the final decades of the twentieth century.’

Commenting at the level of individual cases, Durkheim remarked that ‘if imitation plays a part in the development of suicide, therefore, suicides should vary with the importance that newspapers have in public opinion. Unfortunately this importance is quite hard to determine.’

This research project utilises an approach which mixes quantitative and qualitative methodologies with a view to developing a robust picture of how the Irish print media reports suicide.

The quantitative approach endeavours to:
• Capture newspaper articles on the subject of suicide
• Classify and catalogue these stories under a number of headings
• Analyse the data produced from this process.

The qualitative research approach involves the close reading of samples of the items collected with a view to understanding the social and cultural messages they impart.

The methodology developed was initially tested on items sourced from the Irish print media over the month of December 2002. Although the intention of this pilot test was to refine the methodology, the findings themselves were noteworthy and contributed to the development of a

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2 Emile Durkheim Suicide 1897 Translated by John A Spaulding and George Simpson, Ed. George Simpson (Routledge: Great Britain, 2000), 140.
'If imitation plays a part in the development of suicide, therefore, suicides should vary with the importance that newspapers have in public opinion. Unfortunately this importance is quite hard to determine.'

number of potential hypotheses and generated further research questions. The findings of the methodology pilot test are available from the author or through the National Office for Suicide Prevention.

Over the course of the twelve month project (June 2003 – May 2004), 1596 items were captured; an average of 133 items per month. Most items were captured during the month of November (216) and least in May (76).

Some of the overall findings of the present report are as follows.

- Most of the items sourced discussed suicide in terms that are primarily incidental or clinical rather than as a broader social issue that is worthy of analysis as a deeper sociological concern. The majority of items captured were news items.

- Suicide tended to be reported in relation to the topics of depression (210 items, 13.16%), bereavement (165 items, 10.34%) and analyses of suicide trends (138 items, 8.64%).

- Numerous incidences of failure to observe guidelines on reporting suicide were noticed. This was most noticeable with regard to the use of the term 'commit suicide': almost 18% of items analysed failed to observe this guideline by using the term (which is considered insensitive or inappropriate as it can be associated with sin or crime).

- Most items which could be defined as having a specific catalyst related to reports on actual incidences of suicide or attempted suicide.
• Organisations and institutions most mentioned with regard to suicide were the Gardaí, Samaritans and the Irish Association of Suicidology. The former National Suicide Review Group was the sixth most mentioned organisation.

• The social grouping most identified was 'Irish people'. This was followed by 'health professionals', 'people bereaved by suicide' and 'young men'.

• The language used in the majority of items analysed qualitatively evoked emotions that ranged from sadness to horror.

• The language used often communicated a message that suicide was beyond that which is normal, and, possibly, was ridiculous or shameful. However this was more likely to be the case in items which profiled support groups or suicide prevention projects.

• A clear message was communicated that suicide prevention needs to be considered a priority area for funding support and several articles report that suicide prevention received significantly smaller amounts of funding than road safety awareness, while road traffic accidents account for less fatalities in Ireland.

• In the original methodology test report it was remarked that only two writers returned to the topic of suicide more than once, which was taken as a possible indication of a lack of individual journalistic interest in the topic of suicide. Results from the overall project challenge this. Fifty four per cent of items carried an author by-line (862 items). Of these 152 authors (17% of articles with a by-line) returned to the topic of suicide more than once.

From the original pilot test period a set of hypotheses regarding the treatment of suicide in the press were developed. These hypotheses are discussed in the final part of the report and potential avenues of further research and investigation are outlined.
'Suicide is not just a medical or psychological problem of the individual. It is more than that - it is a problem of society.'
Section 1

1.1 Background and Introduction

The media have an important role to play in health education, including informing on the areas of suicide and suicide prevention. Research suggests that the manner of reporting a suicide in the media can lead to future suicides³. A number of organisations, including the Irish Association of Suicidology and Samaritans⁴, have produced documents for journalists which provide guidelines for reporting suicide. However, no study to date has been undertaken in an Irish context to investigate whether these guidelines are being adhered to. This report explores the methodologies appropriate to investigating the way in which suicide is reported in the Irish print media by:

- Reviewing similar projects in the international literature
- Reviewing appropriate methodologies for such research
- Developing a suicide-media classification / taxonomy scheme (see Appendix 1)
- Outlining a proposed research methodology
- Developing a data-capture tool
- Reporting on how outputs will be analysed and recorded
- Conducting a twelve-month news monitoring project and reporting on the results of the project.

It must be stated that this report does not assert that one set of research approaches is preferable to another or that sociological models are preferable to others. This research aims to make a specific contribution to understanding how suicide tends to be reported in the Irish media and recognises that suicide is a complex problem requiring multiple contributions from a range of disciplines and perspectives if the problem is to be addressed appropriately. Where mention is made of suicide being discussed in terms that are primarily incidental or clinical, the intention is not to be unnecessarily critical of medical models for addressing the issue of suicide, or to suggest that more preferable alternatives exist. The

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⁴ Irish Association of Suicidology and Samaritans, Media Guidelines on the Portrayal of Suicide in the Media, 2006.
intention is to provide an overview of the various understandings which exist on the topic, in an attempt to generate deeper understanding of this complex issue.

1.2 Literature Review

1.2.1 Suicide in Ireland

'Suicide in Ireland rose dramatically in the 1990s. The increase is especially marked amongst men in their twenties and there is some evidence to suggest that the rise has been greater in rural areas. The grim statistics are well known, and tragic stories of Irish suicides have become all too familiar. The public discourse on suicide in Ireland has been mostly informed by medical and psychological explanations, which analyse the epidemiology of suicide in terms of risk factors, linking suicide alcohol and substance abuse, with mental illness such as depression, and with stress associated with transition to adulthood and role adaptation. Such an approach, while useful in understanding individual cases, has not contributed significantly to our understanding of why the overall pattern of death by suicide in Ireland changed over the final decades of the twentieth century.'

'Suicide is not just a medical or psychological problem of the individual. It is more than that - it is a problem of society.'

The growth of the suicide rate in Ireland has generated a new set of research questions on the sociology of Irish suicide. One of the recommendations of the recent Suicide in Ireland - Everybody’s Problem

‘A sociological perspective enables us to see that private troubles are related to public issues’

A report was support for research into a range of issues in Irish society which contribute to suicide. The change in suicide patterns over such a brief time-frame has generated a call for new methods and ways of understanding the problem in the changing context of Irish life. 'A fuller explanation of the increase in the Irish suicide rate is possible if we situate suicides in a broader sociological framework that transcends the life-world of the individual. A sociological perspective enables us to see that private troubles are related to public issues; that the case history of a suicide victim is part of a broader, historical, social pathology. Sociology identifies the characteristic suicidogenic pathologies of modern society in general as egoism and anomie. These problems are exacerbated in Ireland in particular as they coincide and collide with vestigial traditional social forms.'

A fuller understanding of suicide in Ireland, therefore, can be obtained by taking a broader sociological approach and asserting the rapid pace of change in Irish society.

‘In the contemporary world, it would be difficult to find an example of such deep, intense and rapid transformation as has occurred in Ireland. In less than a half-century, Ireland experienced a metamorphosis which propelled it out of the pre-industrial condition. While failing to generate an industrial order, it has, as a kind of unintended consequence, managed to establish itself as a post-industrial enclave within global capitalism.'

Factors influencing these changes include

- The strong economic recovery experienced in Ireland ‘from the prolonged slump of the 1980s to the boom of the 1990s’

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8 Keohane and Chambers, 50.
10 Brian Nolan, P.J. O’Connell and C.T.Whelan Bust to Boom?: The Irish Experience of Growth and Inequality (Economic and Social Research Institute / Institute of Public Administration; Dublin, 2001) 340.
• Return emigration
• Growth of multiculturalism and
• Lessening influence of the Catholic Church.

In recent years many of the hegemonic institutional, professional and social forces which had previously exerted a strong influence on Irish society have been called into question as a result of revelations of abuses of power and corruption. Irish society has changed, and this rate of change accelerated over the last decade.

What is the evidence linking this societal change with the growth in suicide rates? It is possible to compare Irish suicide data with other emerging trends, for example: ‘…over the period of the economic boom, suicides have increased in line with GDP growth, driven mainly by the deaths of males (83% of suicide deaths in 2000 were male)… Why the suicide rate has risen so rapidly is a topic that requires further research.’ 11 If it is posited that the increase in the Irish suicide rate is linked to social and cultural change factors, a research need exists to get inside the ‘black box’ of what exactly these factors are, why they have developed and how they can be addressed.

Emile Durkheim provided one of the first, and most influential, models for studying suicide, which has become a model for the sociological study of illness and epidemiology. 12 Durkheim’s work, Suicide, demonstrates that suicide should not be viewed solely as an act of personal unhappiness as ‘social factors have a fundamental effect on suicidal behaviour.’ 13 When examining the impact of social factors on suicide propensities, Durkheim found that the likelihood of suicide decreases in individuals who are members of groups which are observed to be strongly integrated on grounds of religion, domesticity and politics 14: ‘The only quality satisfying this condition is that they are all strongly integrated social groups. So we reach the general conclusion: suicide varies inversely with the degree of integration of the social groups of which the individual forms a part.’ 15

12 Hilary Tovey and Perry Share A Sociology of Ireland (Gill and MacMillan: Dublin, 2000) 230.
14 Durkheim, 208.
15 Ibid, 209.
Although suicide is often triggered by incidents in an individual's personal life, Durkheim found that these are often incidental when compared to the society in which an individual must endeavour to locate themselves.\textsuperscript{16}

Irish society has undergone massive transformation over the last thirty or so years and is perceived as a late comer to modernisation.\textsuperscript{17} 'Change produces social disorganisation, with disruption of societal values and of the institutions and methods of social control. In the transition from a "traditional" to a "modern" society, the shared values that maintained order formerly are eroded but new values have not yet developed to replace them.'\textsuperscript{18}

‘In the transition from a "traditional" to a "modern" society, the shared values that maintained order formerly are eroded but new values have not yet developed to replace them.’

Current suicide rates in Ireland are highest amongst men born around the start of this period of social dislocation: recorded national suicide rates for the period 1996 - 2000 (inclusive), for example, were highest amongst males aged between 20 and 29.\textsuperscript{19} Commentators have offered solutions to this trend which often address the societal causal factors:

‘The problem of suicide has deep and lasting effects on communities and it is from communities that the solutions will have to come… What we need is to build communities that care, communities of compassion that will be a counter-culture to the competitive individualistic, harsh, brash, consumer-driven culture that is around us.’\textsuperscript{20}

\textsuperscript{16} Ibid, 215.
\textsuperscript{17} Tovey and Share, 41.
\textsuperscript{18} Ibid, 260.
\textsuperscript{19} National Suicide Review Group Annual Report 2002: Prevention Across the Regions p.28.
\textsuperscript{20} Stanislaus Kennedy ‘Suicide: wake-up call we simply cannot ignore’ The Irish Times (May 30, 2002) 14.
It is true that members of strongly integrated traditional societies have lower rates of egoistic and anomic suicide but engineering the re-integration of communities is an impossible task. The modernisation of society is irreversible. Keohane and Chambers have found evidence that the rise of anomic suicide is related to the economic boom and the crisis in the Catholic Church.\textsuperscript{21} Certain types of communities themselves have become problematic sites: ‘… the increase in the suicide and attempted suicide rates is most marked in country towns, places that are neither villages where the fabric of community remains relatively intact, nor cities where conditions of anomie have themselves become normalised. Contemporary Irish country towns are in-between places: neither rural nor urban, but hybrid, liminal and characterised by uncertainty and anomie.’\textsuperscript{22}

In summary, research has established that

- the suicide rate in Ireland is increasing (particularly amongst young males)
- the changing demographic of suicide in Ireland demands new forms of research to understand it in order that it might be addressed
- linkages between social change and changes in suicide rates have been established
- although the decision to attempt or complete suicide is based on the personal circumstances of an individual, a key determinant is how well the individual is integrated into their society
- social change problematises this relationship of the individual with their society, which can effect their ‘place’ in social structures.

Although some research has been undertaken on how the media reports suicide, it has proven difficult to identify research which does this in a purely Irish context.

\textbf{1.2.2 The Media}

Although this project seeks to identify and refine a methodology for understanding how suicide is reported in Irish newspapers it is important

\textsuperscript{21} ‘Understanding Irish Suicides’ 39.
\textsuperscript{22} Ibid, 41.
to examine media theory in general when developing a methodology such as this. Ives and Torrey report a lacuna in sociological research on the media for the following reasons:

- sociologists tend to be concerned with 'macro' sociological trends and issues, rather than practical aspects of everyday life
- the mass media tends to 'fall on the wrong side of the high culture/popular culture divide'
- the mass media’s emergence from the forces of technology and economics are largely neglected by sociology
- media analysis has become the territory of other cognate disciplines such as media, cultural and communications studies.  

There is a huge diversity of approaches to media theory. McQuail\(^\text{24}\) identified a number of media theories, which are summarised in Table 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Media Theory</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Social Scientific</td>
<td>'General statements about the nature, working and effects of mass communication, based on systematic and objective observation of media and other relevant factors.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Normative</td>
<td>'Concerned with examining or prescribing how media ought to operate if certain social values are to be observed or attained.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational</td>
<td>'Refers to the practical ideas assembled and applied by media practitioners in the conduct of their own media work.'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everyday</td>
<td>'… or common sense theory of media use, referring to the knowledge we all have from our own personal experience with media.'</td>
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Table 1: Media Theories (from McQuail, 2001)

\(^{23}\) A Sociology of Ireland, 363-364.
\(^{24}\) Tovey and Share, 363-364.
‘The development of the media in Ireland has been very much tied up with the emergence of the nation state and with the ‘identity’ of that nation.’  

Ives and Torrey report two distinct trends in the emergence of the media in Ireland. The first trend of media development in Ireland was the establishment of a media sector which had strong ideological elements as a core component. This resulted in a mass media which ‘focused on the creation of a particular view of national, religious and cultural identity.’  

This was challenged with the advent of television in Ireland when extra-cultural media programming in effect challenged the dominant media ideology. ‘Since the 1960s television has been seen as an over-arching symbol and carrier of modernity.’  

The Irish media then has produced two sets of ideological communications: one which focused on the creation of an Irish culture, and one which embraces modernised society.

This research project is specifically concerned with newspapers and the messages they convey. Newspapers did not become a true ‘mass medium’ until the 20th Century. Readership of newspapers in Ireland is quite strong and has a long history of establishment.

‘Ireland… has a flourishing newspaper culture. At the national level, readers have access to a broad range of views from Irish and imported newspapers. There is also a strong local newspaper industry; local newspapers are very much tied to locale with close coverage of affairs in specific parishes and neighbourhoods. Local newspaper publishers have been very assiduous in providing local coverage with ‘editorialising’ to reflect particular markets in different areas or suburbs.’

With such a range of different newspaper readership markets in Ireland it would be perhaps unwise to assert whether a single, or group of item sources, are more influential than others. The question of how newspapers influence through messages is important to this project, and one which Durkheim identified as being problematic.

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26 Ibid, 369.
27 Ibid., 367.
28 McQuail, 21.
29 Ives and Torrey, 373.
30 Ibid., 374.
31 Ibid., 375.
Moral contagion can be spread in only two ways: either the event which serves as a model is spread orally by what we call public report, or the newspapers disseminate it. Generally the latter are blamed; undoubtedly they do form a powerful diffusive instrument. If imitation plays a part in the development of suicide, therefore, suicides should vary with the importance that newspapers have in public opinion. Unfortunately this importance is quite hard to determine. Not the number of papers but rather that of their readers is the measure of the extent of their influence… Without wishing to attach more importance than it deserves to an argument that we cannot rest on established facts, we nevertheless believe it has enough probability to merit some attention.\textsuperscript{32}

Durkheim’s identification of a research need in the area of the influence of the printed media on suicide is one that has yet to be adequately answered. A large body of research in the area of social psychology has determined that the media is hugely influential in shaping behaviours (e.g. violent behaviour) and attitudes (e.g. sexism)\textsuperscript{33}, and the media can both negatively and positively influence its consumers. It would be wrong to report that the media can only negatively influence it’s consumers. In the case of HIV/AIDS for example, the media has proved a hugely useful tool in disseminating cause and prevention messages to at-risk groups.

‘the media is hugely influential in shaping behaviours (e.g. violent behaviour) and attitudes (e.g. sexism), and the media can both negatively and positively influence its consumers.’

The area of bias has received much attention from media researchers. Research conducted by the Glasgow University Media Group found that ‘journalists share certain “consensual assumptions” about the world which

\textsuperscript{32} Suicide, 140.

are rarely questioned. This is a very important concern when researching media treatments of social issues, as it delineates the fairness with which certain subjects are treated (or if they are treated at all). Herman and Chomsky provided a deeper critique of the mass media, stating that instead of being bias free it served ‘to mobilise support for the special interests that dominate the state and private activity and that their choices, emphases and omissions [italics added] can often be understood best, and sometimes with striking clarity and insight, by analysing them in such terms… That the media provide some facts about an issue, however, proves absolutely nothing about the adequacy or accuracy of that coverage. The mass media do, in fact, literally suppress a great deal…’

Devereux’s analysis of the content of social issues programming by RTÉ, the state broadcaster, highlights this area of omission with regards to the subject of poverty: ‘… RTÉ’s television coverage is of a reductive kind. The poor themselves remain voiceless and invisible across the range of programme types considered in this analysis. They are replaced by spokespersons and other angel figures who communicate with the television audience on their behalf.’ Devereux sees such treatments as ideological ‘because it facilitates the continued domination of the powerful over the powerless.’

Devereux’s research highlights that even when a social issue is treated in the media, the treatment can contribute to the marginalisation of a group, and this marginalisation contributes to lack of understanding about the causes of an issue. From a research point of view, it is just as important to analyse the areas which the media does not report on, as on the areas it does.

1.2.3 Suicide and the Media

Smyth et al take issue with some segments of the print media in how they represent suicide in Ireland:

‘While we are not proposing that Ireland’s media take over the role of parenting our youth, the ways in which programmes like Exploring

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37 Ibid.
Masculinities and suicide itself are represented and discussed have a considerable and significant influence on our collective understanding and appreciation of the suicide phenomenon...

The media generally has a responsibility to cultivate a more informed and empathetic culture. In this, they often fail, with headlines such as those above merely illustrating the easier and more sensationalist way in which to approach this topical issue.\(^{38}\)

Literature on suicide and the media can be divided into two distinct fields:

- The media’s treatment of the topic in terms of the nature of suicide and attempted suicide (for example, suicide as a topic which is bizarre or sensational)
- Analyses of how media treatments of suicide can impact and influence suicidal behaviour.

The former group includes focusing on the ethics of reporting suicide attempts, mainly from a media consumers point of view\(^{39}\)\(^{40}\)\(^{41}\), or on celebrity suicides.\(^{42}\) In these cases, suicides are seen as being extraordinary events and do not discuss the personal circumstances of the deceased or societal aspects of suicide. There is significant research (and disagreement) amongst researchers on the effects which media coverage of suicide has on rates of imitation amongst audiences.

The main focus of the latter group questions how and if the media can influence suicidal behaviour. The findings of these studies often find some linkages between media influence and suicide (‘...it seems likely that media portrayal of both fictional and real life suicides may in some circumstances lead to small increases in overall suicide rates and larger increases in method specific suicide rates.’\(^{43}\)) but there is a scarcity of

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\(^{38}\) Smyth, McLachlan and Clare, 123.


\(^{40}\) Greg Mitchell ‘Seattle scandal gets a jump start’ Editor & Publisher September 10, 2001, 29.

\(^{41}\) Anon. ‘Suicide Coverage’ The Quill June 1998 (vol 86 no 5) 5.


‘it seems likely that media portrayal of both fictional and real life suicides may in some circumstances lead to small increases in overall suicide rates and larger increases in method specific suicide rates.’

theoretical models which explain how the media can influence suicidal behaviours. As with coverage of the HIV/AIDS pandemic, studies have found that the media can have a positive influence in deterring suicidal or parasuicidal behaviours. 44 45 46

One of the key recent works which examines the extent and nature of media reporting of suicide and mental health and illness (as opposed to the influence of the media) is the Australian Media Monitoring Project which quantified and analysed all media coverage of suicide over a 12-month period. The study concluded that ‘the reporting of suicide, and mental health and illness, in Australia is extensive across all media types. The nature of the reporting of these subjects varies considerably, as does the quality. In general, good items outnumber poorer items, particularly in the case of mental health and illness. However, there are still opportunities for improving the way in which the media report and portray suicide and mental health and illness.’ 47 A number of bodies have prepared guidelines for the media in treating the topic of suicide and some have had a marked impact in deterring suicide attempts. 48 The BBC has developed guidelines for it’s producers and these recommend avoiding glamourisation, simplification and reporting on technical details of suicide methods. They also contain recommendations on appropriate language to be used when treating the subject in a news or dramatic context. 49

45 Anon. ‘Suicide fact or fiction’ Psychology Today November/December 2001 (vol 34, no 6) 14.
48 Etzersdorfer and Sonneck.
In an Irish context, Samaritans and the Irish Association of Suicidology released the first edition of Media Guidelines on Portrayal of Suicide (2000), and a revised document is due for publication in 2006. The edition of the this document published in 2006 contains recommendations on phraseology and guidelines on factual reporting. The methodology outlined below contains qualitative and quantitative devices for checking if these guidelines are being adhered to.

1.3 Overview of Research Methods

The two main research paradigms which exist are quantitative research (also known as positivist, objectivist, scientific, experimentalist, traditionalist research) and qualitative research (also known as phenomenological, subjectivist, humanistic or interpretivist research).

Quantitative research adapts the approach used in the natural sciences and seeks the causes and facts of phenomena. Quantitative research methods emphasise precision, objectivity and rigor. It assumes that social reality is externally observable.

Qualitative research, on the other hand, is concerned with understanding social reality from the perspective of groups or individuals who experience it in particular contexts. It is perhaps useful to simplify the central tendencies of each type of research as follows: quantitative research tends to use large samples, test hypotheses and use data that is precise. Qualitative research uses smaller samples, aims to be generative of theory and use data that is rich and subjective.

It is not unusual for social or media research to mix these and other methodologies (known as triangulation) in order to produce a clearer picture of the subject under investigation. This is the approach which was developed for this project’s methodology. The sections below outline the separate quantitative and qualitative research approaches which this project used.
The quantitative approach endeavours to:

- Capture newspaper articles on the subject of suicide
- Classify these stories under a number of headings
- Analyse the data produced from this process.

The qualitative research approach will attempt to closely read samples of the items collected with a view to understanding the social and cultural messages they impart.

Before beginning this exploration, it is important to comment on the research material being investigated. These materials are printed items in newspapers and periodicals (for a more in-depth description of types see 'item type' in the Quantitative Methodology section below). The material is essentially documentary. Documentary research is one that has an acknowledged caché in media research, and is growing in importance as an avenue of investigation in studies on social issues and suicide. 'With increases in information available through the means discussed…, documentary research will become more popular and relevant. It will, therefore, alongside other methods, yield ever more valuable insights into societies and the dynamics of social life.'  

Tovey and Share identify three separate approaches used to analyse media texts:

- The semiotic approach 'which attempts to interpret the media as a series of "signs" that may relate in various ways to an underlying "reality"
- Content analysis which ultimately involves categorising and counting various aspects of media messages
- Ideological research, e.g. 'how particular sets of signs, symbols and textual elements relate to broader issues of power in society; or on questions of genre - how does a particular TV show or magazine story fit in with the expectations that the audience has developed from previous exposure to similar media products.'

Section 2. The Quantitative Approach

2.1 The Quantitative Methodology

Collection
The main methods of collecting documentary items (hereafter referred to as items) from newspapers for a study on a particular social issue are:

- Collecting all newspapers over a selected time-frame, scanning all content and reporting on coverage
- Employing a news monitoring agency to scan for, cut and deliver all appropriate items.

The second method is less cumbersome, time consuming and expensive, but has some drawbacks. From a research perspective, the researcher cannot be entirely sure that all appropriate items have been isolated, and cannot place the item in the context of surrounding items (i.e. placement on page, distraction of articles and images in proximity).

For the purpose of developing and testing the research methodology below, outputs from a commissioned news monitoring agency solely were utilised. The data collection time-frame for the overall project was June 2003 to May 2004.

2.2 Classification / Taxonomy

Durkheim was concerned with the classification of suicide from a very early stage in his seminal work:

'A scientific investigation can thus be achieved only if it deals with comparable facts, and it is the more likely to succeed the more certainly it has combined all those that can be usefully compared. But these natural affinities of entities cannot be made clear safely by such superficial examination as produces ordinary terminology: and so that scholar cannot take as the subject of his research roughly assembled groups of facts corresponding to words of common usage. He himself must establish the groups he wishes to study in order to give them the homogeneity and the specific meaning necessary for them to be
susceptible of scientific treatment... Our first task then must be to determine the order of facts to be studied under the name of suicide...The essential thing is not to express with some precision what the average intelligence terms suicide, but to establish a category of objects permitting this classification, which are objectively established, that is, correspond to a definite aspect of things.'

Practically every area of theoretical and applied science have developed detailed classification schemes relevant to their field of investigation. Many organisations also develop their own schemes which are customised to meet their needs. It would be unwise to adapt a general classification scheme in order to execute a project such as this, with its distinct set of aims. Using a custom-built classification scheme will afford this project a taxonomical structure which is easily understood by those to whom the research might be of interest.

Durkheim’s thinking on the categories of suicide has provided the basis for the classification scheme below. The categories of suicide which he identified are summarised in Table 2.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Suicide</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Egoistic</td>
<td>Caused by excessive individualism (lack of integration with social forms such as religious groups, domesticity, political society, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altruistic</td>
<td>Caused by sense of duty to a group. Durkheim subdivided altruistic suicide into Obligatory suicide (where society expects it), Optional suicide (where the individual puts themselves before the needs of the group) and Acute or Mystical suicide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anomic</td>
<td>Results when the rules by which society operates become incoherent or unobserved, resulting in the isolation of the individual</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fatalistic 'It is the suicide deriving from excessive regulation, that of persons with futures pitilessly blocked and passions violently choked by oppressive discipline.'

Table 2: Durkheim's classification of suicide

Durkheim saw the four main categories of suicide as being oppositional. Egoistic suicide is the opposite of altruistic suicide: 'One is related to the crude morality which disregards everything relating solely to the individual: the other is closely associated with the refined ethics which sets human personality on so high a pedestal that it can no longer be subordinated to anything.' Durkheim also perceived anomic and fatalistic suicides to be opposites. Durkheim summarised his categories thus:

'Egoistic suicide results from man's no longer finding a basis for existence in life; altruistic suicide, because this basis for existence appears to man situated beyond life itself and [anomic suicide] results from man's activities lacking regulation and his consequent sufferings.'

These divisions were the central organising principle for the classification scheme. As will be described below further subdivisions to these headings were made on the grounds of aspect, grouping and setting during the refining of the research methodology in December 2002 and throughout the main research project (June 2003 to May 2004).

2.3 Quantitative Data

This methodology can easily be adapted to any software application that is used for collecting or analysing data such as spreadsheet software, databases or statistical analysis software such as Minitab or SPSS. The tool has been tested using Microsoft Access because of its widespread usage. The headings below describe the data fields used in each record.
2.3.1 Monthly Frequencies

The month in which each item was published.

2.3.2 Item Types

This indicates the type of media document which the item corresponds to.

2.3.3 Sources

The title of the newspaper from which the item was obtained.

2.3.4 Source Types

The ‘type’ of source (i.e., daily broadsheet newspaper, Sunday tabloid etc.).

2.3.5 Authors

The author of the item.

2.3.6 Word counts

The approximate word count for the item.

2.3.7 Attached Images

Photographic or graphic images related to the article are identified.
2.3.8 Catalysts

This field is used to indicate the context from which the item was generated. For example, it could be an academic study, a celebrity suicide or a policy response from government. For want of a better term, it is the inspiration for the piece.

2.3.9 Geographic Settings

Areas, region or other geographic settings are identified in this field. These groupings replicate entries in schema 3 below.

2.3.10 Groupings

Social groups or sections of society are identified in this field (e.g. young men).

2.3.11 Organisations and Institutions Identified

All institutions and organisations identified in the text of the items are included in fields 12 to 15, see Table 13 section 2.4.11.

2.3.12 Relevance Rating

This data field attempts to capture the depth of relevance of the item to the topic of suicide. A three point scale is used:

1 = Strong relevance
2 = Medium relevance
3 = Low relevance.
2.3.13 Classification Scheme

As mentioned above, the central organising principle of the classification scheme is Durkheim's taxonomy. The four levels of this classification are outlined in Table 3.

During the pilot study, items identified were analysed to ascertain if the main elements of their content adhere to the categories in schema level 1. They were then coded accordingly. One additional category has been added for the purpose of developing a taxonomy which was tested. 'Test' refers to all items which do not fall into the main categories. These were analysed at the end of the testing process to ascertain how they can best be incorporated into the final draft schema. At the pre-test taxonomy design stage it was felt that items treating topics such as attempted suicide and parasuicide might fall into this category. The original categories and their related coding are outlined in Table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Coding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Obligatory Altruistic Suicide</td>
<td>Alt (Ob)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optional Altruistic Suicide</td>
<td>Alt (Op)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acute or Mystical Altruistic Suicide</td>
<td>Alt (Ac)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egoistic Suicide</td>
<td>Ego</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anomic Suicide</td>
<td>Ano</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatalistic suicide</td>
<td>Fat</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Test</td>
<td>Tes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3: Classification Level 1 categories

The level 2 schema attempts to shed light on the level 1 schema by describing the main classification heading according to the aspect which is discussed. A list of potential aspects and their related coding is presented in Table 4.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Coding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Addiction</td>
<td>Add</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advice</td>
<td>Adv</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>Anx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted suicide</td>
<td>Ass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted suicide</td>
<td>Att</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awareness</td>
<td>Awa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullying</td>
<td>Bul</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Business</td>
<td>Bus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign</td>
<td>Cam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child abuse</td>
<td>Chi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Communities</td>
<td>Com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compensation</td>
<td>Cop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflict</td>
<td>Con</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselling</td>
<td>Cou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>Cri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>Dep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>Dis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Divorce</td>
<td>Div</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economics</td>
<td>Eco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Edu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Euthanasia</td>
<td>Eut</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>HIV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Isolation</td>
<td>Iso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal issues</td>
<td>Leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>Med</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health</td>
<td>Men</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental illness</td>
<td>Mel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder/Suicide</td>
<td>Mur</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parasuicide</td>
<td>Par</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse</td>
<td>Pha</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical health</td>
<td>Phh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>Pol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political act</td>
<td>Pla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>Pre</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 4: Classification Level 2 categories (Aspect Schema)

The level 3 schema attempts to shed light on the level 1 schema by describing the main classification heading according to social groups which were the main focus of discussion of the item. A list of the original potential aspects for testing and their related coding is presented in Table 5.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Co-habiting couples</td>
<td>Co</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counsellors</td>
<td>Cou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editors</td>
<td>Edi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families</td>
<td>Fam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Farmers</td>
<td>Far</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female Children</td>
<td>Fem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay / Lesbian / Bisexual people</td>
<td>GLB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health Professionals</td>
<td>Hea</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish people</td>
<td>Iri</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Journalists</td>
<td>Jou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal professionals</td>
<td>Leg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male children</td>
<td>Mal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle-aged adults</td>
<td>Mda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle-aged men</td>
<td>Mdm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle-aged women</td>
<td>Mdw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military</td>
<td>Mil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older men</td>
<td>Olm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older people</td>
<td>Olp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older women</td>
<td>Olw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with depression</td>
<td>Ped</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with mental disabilities</td>
<td>Pem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with mental illness</td>
<td>Pei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical abuse survivors</td>
<td>Phy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>Pce</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political groups</td>
<td>Pol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse survivors</td>
<td>Sas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single people</td>
<td>Sin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide professionals</td>
<td>Sup</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide survivors</td>
<td>Sus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support groups</td>
<td>Sug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terrorists</td>
<td>Ter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young adults</td>
<td>Yoa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young men</td>
<td>Yom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young women</td>
<td>Yow</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5: Classification Level 3 Categories (Groupings)
The level 4 schema attempts to shed light on the level 1 schema by describing the main classification headings according to the space (temporal or geographical) which is the main focus of discussion of the item. A list of potential aspects is presented in Table 6. No coding was proposed for this set of categories.

Although it may appear that these categories overlap at points, it is important to note that the most accurate category must be applied to each item analysed. If new aspects are identified they can easily be added to the relevant category list. This facilitates growth of the taxonomy as new areas of investigation arise. New categories were added during the methodology test, and throughout the twelve month data collection and analysis period.

On Thursday, May 30, 2002 an article by Sr. Stanislaus Kennedy appeared in the Opinion and Analysis section of the Irish Times. The piece (titled Suicide: wake-up call we simply cannot ignore) discussed the growth of the Irish suicide rate, particularly in relation to young males and called for a community based response to the problem. Under the taxonomy outlined, this item would be classified as Ano : com : yom : Ireland.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17th Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18th Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-1950</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1910s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1920s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1930s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1940s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990-present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19th Century</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000-2003</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autumn</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christmas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connaught</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe - Country</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland - rural</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland - rural towns</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ireland - urban</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leinster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Midlands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK and Ireland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6: Classification Level 4 Categories (Settings)
2.3.14 Guideline Adherence

As reported above, the Samaritans/IAS Media Guidelines on Portrayal of Suicide (2000) recommend avoiding phrases such as:

- A successful suicide attempt
- An unsuccessful suicide attempt
- Commit suicide
- Suicide victim
- Just a cry for help
- Suicide-prone person
- Stop the spread/epidemic of suicide.

‘With a view to testing this methodology, one inappropriate phrase was selected (‘Commit suicide’), and records for items which used this phrase were recorded’

The methodology has the potential to identify and quantify non-adherence to these guidelines. With a view to testing this methodology, one inappropriate phrase was selected (‘Commit suicide’), and records for items which used this phrase were recorded in a numerical data field: Guideline Check. A numerical field was used in order to identify the number of times each item used the phrase. During the twelve month data collection period all of these fields were observed for adherence.

2.3.15 Applicability for Qualitative Review

If the piece met the standards for a qualitative review, a check box was ticked. The constructs for qualitative analysis are identified in the section on qualitative review (below).
Devereux cites Sarankantakos’ concept of interpretivity as a distinguishing feature of qualitative analysis.

'In short, he meant that social reality only became societal through interpretation and that it was constructed through the assignment of meaning and was not given objectively. Sarankantakos’ notion of interpretivity, however, while it acknowledged the importance of the polysemic nature of texts, did not rule out the possibility of a researcher being able to identify the preferred meanings of a text. Thus the possibility of identifying dominant ideologies remained.'

The quantitative section of this methodology will attempt to capture items appropriate for qualitative review. The criteria for qualifying for qualitative review is that the document must communicate content which reports, opines or otherwise expresses social or cultural values. In short they must contain the ‘frames’ outlined in the qualitative section below.

2.4 Quantitative Findings:

2.4.1 Monthly Frequencies

Over the course of the twelve month project 1596 items were captured; an average of 133 items per month. Frequency of items captured by month are reported in Figure 1.

Figure 1: Items captured per month

Most items were captured during the month of November (216) and least in May (76). Titles of all items are included in Appendix 2.
2.4.2 Types of Items Captured

The types of items identified over the course of the project are reported in Table 7.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Type</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advice column</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arts item</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Book review</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical case study</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Editorial</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event promotion</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feature article</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Film review</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interview</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigative report</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical article</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>4.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing person information appeal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News article</td>
<td>919</td>
<td>57.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Obituary</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Opinion piece</td>
<td>75</td>
<td>4.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photograph caption</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public notice</td>
<td>226</td>
<td>14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quotation</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radio review</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review of year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stand-alone photograph</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplement</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Television review</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vox pop</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1596</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 7: Item Types

The vast majority of item types (57.6%) were news report items.
2.4.3 Sources

Sources were varied and widely distributed, but the newspapers which afforded the topic of suicide most coverage were the Irish Examiner (100 items) and the Irish Mirror (99 items). The top twenty sources for relevant items over the period of study are reported in Table 8, and a full list is included in Appendix 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irish Examiner</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Mirror</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>6.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Independent</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Times</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>4.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Star</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Echo (Cork)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evening Herald</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medicine Weekly</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>2.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Sun</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday Independent</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Medical News</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday World</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bray People</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roscommon Herald</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Limerick Leader</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donegal Democrat</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>City Tribune</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kildare Nationalist</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>News of the World</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tullamore Tribune</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 8: Sources Most Cited
2.4.4 Source Types

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source Type</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Daily or national broadsheet</td>
<td>289</td>
<td>18.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local or regional publication</td>
<td>759</td>
<td>47.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magazine</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical publication</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>7.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religious publication</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday national broadsheet</td>
<td>83</td>
<td>5.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday tabloid</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tabloid (Daily national)</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>16.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trade magazine</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1596</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 9: Source Types

Almost half of the items (47.6%) on suicide appeared in local or regional publications.

2.4.5 Author

In the original methodology test report it was remarked that only two writers returned to the topic of suicide more than once, which was taken as a possible indication of a lack of individual journalistic interest in the topic of suicide.

Results from the overall project challenge this. Fifty four percent of items carried an author by-line (n=862). Of these 152 returned to the topic of suicide more than once. The most items captured by a single author was 12 (an average of one per month).
2.4.6 Word Counts

The mean word count for items sourced over the twelve month period was 488.6 (over 70 words higher than reported in the methodology test). The minimum item word count was 15 and the maximum recorded was 13515.

2.4.7 Attached Images

Images were attached to 589 or 36.9% of items. The majority of these were photographs of journalists, interviewees or exteriors.

2.4.8 Catalysts

A full list of catalysts is presented in Appendix 4. Catalyst types are reported in Table 10.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>catalyst</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Court cases or legal hearings involving suicide</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>8.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising for suicide research and prevention</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health advice regarding suicide (non-alcohol related)</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>5.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health advice regarding suicide (regarding alcohol)</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>15.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public lecture / presentation</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public services dealing with suicide</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>11.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reports on actual incidences of suicide or attempted suicide</td>
<td>318</td>
<td>19.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research or statistical updates on suicide</td>
<td>273</td>
<td>17.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide bereavement projects or services</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>7.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1596</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 10: Catalysts for Items
Most items which could be defined as having a specific catalyst related to reports on actual incidents or attempted suicide.

### 2.4.9 Geographic Setting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Geographic Setting</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ireland General</td>
<td>588</td>
<td>36.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leinster</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>21.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Munster</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>10.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connaught</td>
<td>134</td>
<td>8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Northern Ireland</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>7.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ulster ROI</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>5.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>USA</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>1.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mid-East</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Zealand</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>1596</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 11: Geographic Settings

### 2.4.10 Groupings

The grouping most identified was 'Irish people', followed by 'health professionals', 'people bereaved by suicide' and 'Young men'. The top twenty groupings identified are reported in Table 12 below.
Table 12: Groupings most named

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Irish people</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>9.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health professionals</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>9.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide bereaved</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>8.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young men</td>
<td>108</td>
<td>6.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young adults</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>5.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People considering suicide</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>5.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with depression</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>5.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide professionals</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>4.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celebrities</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>4.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support groups</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>3.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>3.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Young women</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People with mental illness</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>2.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People accused of a crime or</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>people with criminal convictions</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political groups</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>2.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prisoners</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Families</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>1.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mothers</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>1.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse survivors</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sportspeople</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>1.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2.4.11 Organisations and Institutions Identified

Over the course of the project there were 3728 mentions of organisations and institutions. All of these are reported in Appendix 5 to this report. The top ten reported institutions are listed in Table 13 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gardaí</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>3.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samaritans</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irish Association of Suicidology</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>2.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.4.12 Relevance Ratings

In this category, 1043 items (65.4%) received a relevance rating of 1; 249 (15.6%) received a relevance rating of 2, and 304 (19%) received a relevance rating of 3.

2.4.13 Classification Schemes

Level One Classifications reported as follows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Classification</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Altruistic (obligatory)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altruistic (optional)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anomic</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>6.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clinical / Medical</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>32.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Egoistic</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fatalistic</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>2.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incidental</td>
<td>933</td>
<td>58.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1596</td>
<td>100.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 14: Level One Classification Results

The majority of classifications reported suicide as something which is 'triggered' by events in an individuals life.
Level Two Classifications reported as follows. Due to the large amount of results, only fields which reported more than 1% coverage are included in this table.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bereavement</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trends</td>
<td>138</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research</td>
<td>107</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prevention</td>
<td>89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Illness</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcohol / Drug abuse</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Attempted suicide</td>
<td>59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Methods</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sexual abuse / Rape</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Murder / Suicide</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parasuicide</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bullying</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial issues</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Media</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical health</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Counselling</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Legal issues</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assisted suicide</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental health</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private sector</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social issues</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sport</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 15: Level Two Classification Results
Suicide tended to be reported in relation to the topics of depression (210 items, 13.16%), bereavement (165 items, 10.34%) and analysis of suicide trends (138, 8.64%).

Level 3 and 4 classifications have been reported earlier in this section.

### 2.4.14 Guideline Adherence

Guideline adherence is reported in Table 16.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Guideline</th>
<th>Lack of adherence</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A successful suicide attempt</td>
<td>.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>An unsuccessful suicide attempt</td>
<td>.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commit suicide</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide victim</td>
<td>4.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Just a cry for help</td>
<td>.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suicide prone person</td>
<td>.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stop the spread / epidemic of suicide</td>
<td>2.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 16: Guideline Adherence

There is grounds for concern about the continued usage of the term 'commit suicide' which appeared at least once in 281 items. There is also high levels of usage of terms 'suicide victim' (69 items) and references to suicide as an 'epidemic' (38 items).

### 2.4.15 Appropriateness for Qualitative Review

Overall, 367 items (23%) were deemed appropriate for qualitative review.
Section 3. The Qualitative Approach

3.1 Qualitative Documentary Research

‘For some researchers a document represents a reflection of reality. It becomes a medium through which the researcher searches for a correspondence between its description and the events to which it refers. Yet if we can read off the accounts of a document, separate from the methods we employ to achieve this, are we not suggesting, once again, that there are social facts which exist independently of interpretation.’

There are a number of ways to approach documents from a research perspective. A quantitative analysis as outlined above can assist in capturing information about a set of documents, but a qualitative analysis can provide richer data on the actual cultural messages which a document can communicate. One example of how qualitative documentary research does this is by examining documents, not just in terms of what they communicate, but also in terms of what they leave out.

‘What people decide to record is itself informed by decisions which, in turn, related to the social, political and economic environments of which they are a part... Documents then may be interesting for what they leave out, as well as what they contain.’

‘Documents are now viewed as media through which social power is expressed. They are approached in terms of the cultural context in which they were written and may be viewed as "attempts at persuasion". Approaching a document in this way "tells us a great deal about the societies in which writers write and readers read".’

The collection of a set of media documents affords an opportunity for a cultural qualitative review. Ericson, Baraneck and Chan’s examination of news sources on criminality and justice interpreted ‘news as not only reflecting but also actively constructing our sense of the social reality to

51 May, 182.
52 Ibid., 183.
53 Ibid.
which it refers. This is supported by other writers such as Chomsky, Herman and Devereux who’s qualitative analyses have uncovered that media sources have as much to do with constructing social realities as they have in impartially reporting them.

3.2 Qualitative Documentary Research Approaches

May outlines a number of qualitative research approaches to documents. These are summarised in Table 17.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Approach</th>
<th>Question</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Authenticity</td>
<td>Is the data or opinion expressed based on established fact?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credibility</td>
<td>Is the data discussed free from distortion, error and evasion?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Representativeness</td>
<td>Is the document ‘typical’ of usual representations of a topic?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meaning</td>
<td>What is the document and what does it tell us?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 17: Approaches to Documents (from May, 2001)

McQuail defines ‘framing’ as:

‘A term with two meanings. One refers to the way in which news content is typically shaped and contextualised by journalists within some familiar frame of reference and according to some latent structure of meaning. A second, related, meaning concerns the effects of framing on the public. The audience is thought to adopt the frames of reference offered by journalists and see the world in a similar way. This process is referred to as agenda-setting.’

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55 May, 187.
56 McQuail, 495.
Framing is a very useful qualitative methodology for analysing the content of media items. Entman summarises the aspects of framing in the media as:

- Defining problems
- Diagnosing causes
- Making moral judgments
- Suggesting remedies\(^{57}\)

These headings are useful when examining how media communicates content to audiences and creates a social reality. Items identified in the quantitative review containing the above framing aspects were selected as candidates for qualitative review.

### 3.3 The Qualitative Method

When researching media messages about national management cultures, Communal and Senior developed a methodology which collected a number of newspaper items (specifically job advertisements), isolated items which were suitable for qualitative analysis and randomly selected items for analysis from these.\(^{58}\)

Communal and Senior selected 10 items from each set of 100 collected overall for qualitative analysis and treated them under a set of appropriate headings and constructs.

This project will adopt a similar methodology. Ten percent of the items identified as suitable for qualitative analysis will be randomly selected and treated under the headings below. These headings are suggested by the literature on media analysis from Denis Quail and Tim May.

**Tone and language used**
Is the language pained, sympathetic, pitying or moralising? The use of this

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\(^{57}\) Cited in McQuail, 343.

\(^{58}\) Communal, C. and Senior, B. “National culture and management: messages conveyed by British, French and German advertisements for managerial appointments” Leadership and Organization Development Journal, Vol.20 No. 4 (1999( 26-35.)
heading may indicate the presence of moral judgments in terms of the framing aspect discussed above.

Messages
This will incorporate the framing aspect of suggesting remedies. Solutions to the growth of suicide rates in Ireland will be presented.

Circumstances
This will incorporate the 'defining problems' framing aspect.

Diagnosing causes
A framing aspect discussed above, demonstrating what the author, or another authority feel are the roots of the problem of suicide in Ireland.

Myths
The Samaritans / IAS media guidelines provide another key area of interest for qualitative analysis. These guidelines urge that in reporting on suicide, the media should debunk the common myths about suicide. These myths are

- Those who talk about suicide are the least likely to attempt it
- If someone is going to kill themselves, there is nothing you can do about it
- Suicidal people are fully intent on dying
- If someone has a history of making 'cries for help' then they won’t really do it for real
- Talking about suicide encourages it
- Only mentally ill/clinically depressed people make serious attempts at suicide
- Suicide is painless
- A good pumping out in the Casualty Department will teach those who make silly gestures a good lesson they won’t forget
- Once a person is suicidal, they are suicidal forever
- Suicide can be a blessed relief not just for the individual, but for those that surround him or her.\(^{59}\)

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\(^{59}\) Irish Association of Suicidology and Samaritans.
One of the headings for qualitative review thus is to analyse if the body of documentation selected debunks or confirms myths about suicide. It must be pointed out, as stated earlier, that new guidelines are forthcoming and it is hoped that this work will inform their development.

**Authenticity / Credibility / Representativeness**
These areas will be treated together to discuss the validity of the information imparted.

**Attached Images**
The assessment of images (particularly photographs) has been long asserted as important in documentary research: ‘... although existing on the borderline between the 'aesthetic' and 'documentary' [photographs] may be records of events.’ Photographs in newspapers are important addendum to news pieces which, rather than adding to a story, enhance or strengthen the contours of the frame established. Attached images sourced by this research will be assessed in terms of how they contribute to the other framing elements.

### 3.4 Results:

‘Suicide. Even the word has a sinister ring to it. It sends a shiver down the spine. So many people are struggling to cope with the death by suicide of a loved one.’

#### 3.4.1 Tone and Language Used

- **Terminology**

The majority of the items considered for qualitative review emphasise the sadness of suicide as an issue, particularly in terms of the loss suffered by

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60 May, 179.
bereaved families. In some cases, the urge to express sadness and the upturn in suicide numbers amongst young men might possibly contribute to a contravention of suggested terminology. For example, one piece selected for qualitative review in November uses the phrase ‘the scourge of suicide’ which is similar in tone to the ‘epidemic of suicide’ which the IAS / Samaritans guidelines warn against.

One piece begins by firmly situating suicide in a realm that is patently ‘otherly’

‘Suicide. Even the word has a sinister ring to it. It sends a shiver down the spine. So many people are struggling to cope with the death by suicide of a loved one.’

An interesting anti-suicide research angle emerged in some of the items reviewed. One writer, commenting on suicide rates amongst twins, remarks in a local publication:

‘The research was carried out in Denmark and published in the British Medical Journal, so it must be true. It doesn’t say how much the research cost, but then it never does. When these boffins get their hands on a good research project money is no object. There are always individuals, learned societies, charitable trusts and other odds and sods willing to splash out money on something which is harmless but keeps scientists busy for a year or so. I am surprised more people aren’t into this research racket.’

One letter writer to a newspaper stated that research was not necessary to solve the growth in suicide trends in Ireland, but action was needed. There appears to be a perception that research on the causes of growth in suicide rates is unnecessary and that more adequate service provision is required.

• Judgments

Although most of the items secured projected a tone that emphasised sadness, strong moral judgments were evident in some of the items selected for qualitative review:
‘Suicide is an ostensibly cowardly act that frees the perpetrators of their burdens, while leaving their loved ones with a legacy of grief and guilt. By contrast, time is running out for mother-of-three [named woman], who is riddled with cancer. In her situation, I would probably spiral into a morass of self-pity. But she has chosen to get super-fit and take part in marathons. So far she has raised £312,000 for charity. Some might say she has a lot more to feel suicidal about than [named suicide] ever did, yet she has chosen a more positive path.’

One item selected for qualitative review adopted a value-based pitying tone in it’s opening statement:

‘Offering support to those desperate souls contemplating taking their own lives the Southern Health and Social Services Board has funded a two-day training course on suicide intervention’.

It is interesting that this tone, primarily projected through the phrase ‘desperate souls’ is affected by the journalist, particularly in the light that the training course on which the course is based is directed towards professionals working in the field.

Another item printed the photograph of a man who had killed himself following his arrest on suspicion of downloading child pornography:

‘This is the face of one of Ireland’s top bankers who hanged himself because he could not face the prospect of child porn charges.’

A letter to the Irish Medical Times attempted to re-dress this view:

‘… stigma and lack of information are far more common reactions to suicide than complacency… Frequency of discussion of suicide helps when it is responsible and promotes understanding rather than sensationalising or reports inappropriate detail on the issue. In addition, positive reporting can help break down stigma and increase understanding of suicide and other emotional health issues.’
Sensationalising

The majority of the items considered for qualitative review emphasise the sadness of suicide as an issue, particularly in terms of the loss suffered by bereaved families. However, in one ‘cluster’ of stories concerning the suicide of a fictional teenage girl in an Irish produced soap opera, there is evidence of language that is somewhat more sensational. The stories, usually carried in tabloid publications, preview the story-line which concerns a student who is raped by a fellow student and kills herself. The school’s authorities are blamed for driving the student to this course of action as a result of exam pressure and classroom discipline. Terms such as ‘shock’, ‘gritty’ and ‘rocked’ are used to describe the ‘horrendous event’. The story clusters run parallel to another cluster of items that recount the real story of a family bereaved following the suicide of their daughter in the aftermath of sexual abuse. The tone and language of the items in this cluster, particularly amongst items which interview the girl’s family, are expressive of anger and loss.

Terms such as ‘shock’, ‘gritty’ and ‘rocked’ are used to describe the ‘horrendous event’

As before, where items which tend to explore the topic of suicide, particularly through the perspective of those who have been bereaved by a suicide, the language and tone tends to emphasise sadness and a search for meaning, for example: ‘Anyone who has suffered through the suicide of a family member or friend is invited to a special public information meeting and open night to help share the load.’ Some types of news reportage, however, adopt a sensational tone which perhaps emphasises the otherness of suicide. An example of this is the headline in one of the items selected for qualitative review which reports on an attempted suicide by a prisoner: ‘Shock for Fergie: Killer aide in jail suicide attempt’.
• Criminality and Violence

Some items associated suicidal behaviour with mental illness (as is discussed in the items on ‘myths’ below). In two of the items selected for qualitative review in November, for example, a suicide and an attempted suicide were framed in strong terms which linked it with criminal insanity, violent behaviour and cowardice:

‘”Reserve Constable [name] was covered by the man’s blood directly onto his face. He had no idea whether the man’s blood was infected,” the citation said…. “This was a truly horrendous incident. Yet despite the horror, Constable [name] didn’t hesitate… What a credit to the Police Service he is. If ever one of our awards was thoroughly deserved, this one is,” he said.

‘ Detectives believe the 44-year-old crazed psychopath hanged himself after finding there was no escaping his sickening and bloody past… An inquest into [name]s death five days ago found that the notorious “House of horrors” slaying suspect calmly committed suicide after smoking a cannabis joint. The violent and depraved beast was found hanging from the rafters in a farmhouse shed in [named area]…’

‘A crazed father has drowned himself in a river, leaving his battered former lover for dead’

‘A MAN killed himself when he drove a car into a river - after thinking he had MURDERED his ex-girlfriend in a vicious attack.’

‘THREE bodies, one a MURDER victim, were recovered yesterday from a notorious suicide spot.’

• Bracketing

One entire short item (quoted in its entirety below), framed the issue of suicide in terms that were colloquial and subjective, despite reporting statistical data accurately.
'More Irish people commit suicide than are killed on our roads, shock figures reveal. Last year’s grim road toll was 342, down from 377 the previous year. But over 450 people took their own lives - that’s a shocking one for every 75 deaths nationwide. Many are lads aged 15 to 34, with male suicides doubling in 20 years. Still more try, but fail, to kill themselves - there was almost one attempted suicide every day last year in Kilkenny alone, although only 12 succeeded. Three-quarters took an overdose, while others tried drowning, hanging, poisoning or cutting themselves. The worrying rise is revealed in the 2003 annual report of the National Suicide Review Group. A 12-month nursing project has now been set up to improve A&E services provided to people who are there through self-harm.'

Another article bracketed a phrase connected with suicide prevention in the case of celebrity couple separating:

“Boozy football ace George Best will be put on “suicide watch” by worried pals as wife Alex jets off to star in ‘I’m a Celebrity’.”

Why the term suicide watch is bracketed in this way is not clear, but it could be interpreted as an overstatement or understatement in the context of the story. What is clear is that the phrase is made to stand out in the opening sentence.

This bracketing is also evident in one tabloid item which reported on fan mail being sent to an Irish celebrity from a suicidal fan, placed in the emboldened sub-headline, which read ‘spooky’ in the middle of the text of the item.

Another item stressed a concern surrounding media phraseology around items concerned with suicide:

‘The [columnist’s] attention was caught by the phrase “suicide tactic” during the course of a recent news broadcast on the TV.

What miffed the [columnist] most was that the word “tactic” suggested first, that suicide was a choice, when really those who have committed the act probably felt they had no other choice, and secondly
that the decision to commit suicide was done to hurt or effect someone else-as a tactic in some great (or not so great) plan.

The [columnist] is quite unhappy that such a phrase might be constructed, especially when around 10 people from the town every year use the river on our doorstep to end their lives.

‘Surely, it is about time society addresses the very human devastation of suicide rather than try to just write it away.’

Another UK item adopted a slightly cynical tone towards an admission of suicide ideation.

‘One of the women who claim they were sexually assaulted by Leicester City soccer stars is trying to flog the story of her attempted suicide. [Name], 36, had her stomach pumped after a pills overdose in Spain. She has already let herself be pictured in a Sunday paper for £30,000.’

In summary, suicide tends to generally be reported in terms that are sombre, serious and sad. There is evidence of ‘bracketing’ in relation to several items, which might possibly be construed as attempts to frame, or reflect, the reader’s emotional response to these items.

3.4.2 Messages

A message communicated by several writers is that suicide is an act undertaken by 'selfish' people.

Another strong trend emerging in the items sourced, and captured in some of the items selected for qualitative review, is the growing trend of suicide amongst older people. The grouping are largely referred to as ‘the elderly’ in the items sourced. A leading health professional with a strong
interest in suicide in Ireland is cited as reporting greater levels of predisposition to, and completion of suicide

‘Another item highlighted the imbalance between reportage quantities on suicide and fatal road traffic accidents.’

An interview with a health professional who herself has experienced depression, communicates a distinct message about remedying depression through drugs.

‘In the past 20 years [name] has become one of the top people in her field. Her father who was anti-medicine changed his mind after reading her book. He was diagnosed manic depressive and put on lithium. “He’s now a crusader! I think he wishes he’d done it ages ago. His life would have been very different.”’

One of the items selected for qualitative review challenged the position of a much publicised piece which advocated a turning away from social scientific research perspectives, to positivistic natural science. An extensive response to this was made by two academics in a letter to the Irish Times, which articulated the need for more sociological and cultural understandings of suicide.

Depression and alcohol abuse are repeatedly reported as being primary causes of suicide. For example two items which appeared in local newspapers suggested remedies by limiting these factors:

‘Indeed, some of the folklore which builds up around this linkage is, in strict medical terms, disinformation. An educator needs to inform a young person that, as a matter of medical information, alcohol is a depressant and not a stimulant - and so it can hasten a seriously deprived person on the path to suicide.’

‘For every 1% increase in alcohol consumption in any country, the suicide rate goes up by something from 1.5% to 1.9%. This is crucial to
understanding some of our present problems. We differ from the rest of Europe and America where the trend for youth suicide is on the way down. One particular American move had a quite stunning effect - appearing to cause a full 12% drop in suicides: this was the raising of the minimum legal age for the purchase of alcohol (from 18 to 21 years).

A TG4 documentary appears to have provided a catalyst for exposing the boundaries between the parallel medical and sociological narratives on the causes and remedies for approaching suicide. For example, one review lists arguments from proponents of both paradigms. One mental health professional is cited as stating ‘I believe that suicide is a societal problem and not solely a public health problem.’

‘The documentary also asks if the medical profession - which often addresses depression with drugs and “happy pills” to treat the symptoms rather than tackling the root causes - is also partly to blame.’

‘In the documentary experts express the view that the Celtic Tiger is responsible for putting too much pressure on young men to succeed.’

A speaker at a national sociology conference provided a means of perhaps aligning these paradigmatically divergent viewpoints: ‘Psychologically speaking, alcohol misuse and suicidal behaviour were the same. Both are aimed at changing consciousness of misery. Both change the consciousness of worrying, negative thoughts, negative feelings, anxiety and stress. Both can be considered to be stress management techniques.’

Some of the items implied that people who kill themselves are selfish. In one item selected for qualitative review in December, a formerly suicidal man speaking about his recovery states:

‘People say those who commit suicide are selfish. I do understand having come through what I have - they’re not selfish when they’re doing it. In that split second it’s not a selfish act, you’re just a blank. I don’t know if I wanted to kill myself. I just wanted to go to sleep. I wanted it to stop.’
A speaker at a national sociology conference provided a means of perhaps aligning these paradigmatically divergent viewpoints: “Psychologically speaking, alcohol misuse and suicidal behaviour were the same. Both are aimed at changing consciousness of misery.”

This was exacerbated in reports of a man convicted of multiple murder which connected the act of suicide with arrogance and evil. One editorial headline read ‘A selfish act of an evil man’. Another states:

‘Evil Harold Shipman played God to the end... killing himself to prove he had the power to take life one final time. The arrogant beast - who poisoned at least 262 patients with lethal overdoses of diamorphine - proved he would control his own destiny too. By hanging himself with bed sheets in the cell at Wakefield Prison where he was serving 15 life sentences, he has condemned hundreds of families to a lifetime of agony by taking his murderous secrets to the grave.’

The day following the publication of these remarks, another item was published in the same source, which reported on the suicide of a young man charged with a sexual offense. By comparison the tone of the piece was sedate, making one reference to his crime, and mentions his ‘heartbroken parents’.

This is interesting as the source in particular seems to choose how it represents suicide in terms of how it fits with the general frame of each story. The case of Dr. Harold Shipman was a well-known media item; prison sources would not release the name of the man in the latter story as a matter of policy. Because the victim in the latter story cannot be identified in connection with his crimes, the suicide becomes the story. The item ends with the words:
‘There were two suicides in Irish prisons last year. There are an average of 2,300 prisoners behind bars at any one time.’

It is difficult to imagine some of the angrier commentaries on the Shipman suicide ending with this reflective, general tone. Suicide as a subject seems to be a mutable construct which can be used variously according to the needs of the source.

One of the pieces selected for qualitative review was an interview with a suicide expert who identified social change as a significant factor in suicide trends, and who pointed out that actual remedies remain difficult to implement.

‘“What could be at the root of this is that changes in life and in social values tend to be felt more strongly in rural than in urban areas. Traditional social values of the type that tended in the past to keep communities together have been reduced by the increase in individual behaviour.

“Certainly, areas such as Kerry would have felt more strongly the weakening of these sort of traditional values by the encouragement of greater individualism during the 1980s and 1990s...”

To try to reduce the suicide rate in Kerry would be a “real challenge, ”…, although he suggested one possibility would be to see it as a social and not just a medical problem.’

There was some coverage over the month of October on the reaction of individuals and organisations to reported cuts in spending on suicide research and other projects. The topic of government funding for suicide research and prevention arose frequently throughout the body of the items.

3.4.3 Circumstances / Diagnosing Causes

A tendency to emphasise overly-simplistic cause-and-effect connections between suicide and other mental health conditions and behaviours was evident amongst the items selected for qualitative review.
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‘If left untreated, depression can lead to suicide.’

‘Without effective treatment, bipolar disorder may lead to suicide (usually in the depressive phase) making it one of the most serious and deadly psychiatric illnesses.’

‘Drink and not clinical depression is responsible for one in three suicides in this country.’

‘A teen student killed himself because his life was blighted by acne, an inquest heard yesterday.’

However, other items suggested that the connections were more complex:

‘Alcohol reduces inhibition and impairs judgments, as well as exacerbating depression and mental illness; and a good proportion of people who commit suicide have been drinking beforehand. This appears to be particularly the case in impulsive suicides. But these are complex issues and there are no simple answers.’

‘It’s a tricky region. Nobody in Ireland believes there’s anything in the brain that can explain suicide. They say it’s about what’s in the mind, it’s about conscience, it’s a moral issue to do with right or wrong... In decades past depressive feelings in young adulthood came and went. However, in the past 20 years almost all external inhibitory influences over suicide - the decrease of the Church’s influence, decriminalising suicide, increased alcohol use. We have put no counterbalance in place to assist in early detection or help for those in the early stages of a suicidal crisis.’
One piece in a Sunday publication carries the following information:

‘The report refers at length to the concept of anomie, which describes the unbalancing of social forces that affects individual action. Anomie implies an upsetting of the balance or normality in a previously accepted way of life. It is based on the notion that society usually exercises control over individual behaviour and desires through social rules and norms. When these rules and norms break down, individual behaviour or desire may not be controlled or regulated and the level of so-called deviant or unacceptable behaviour, including suicide, increases.’

Another piece in a daily national broadsheet publication referred to the growth in male suicide rates as possibly being exacerbated by a legal system prejudiced against separated fathers.

The qualitative review reported a range of defining causes. These included:

- aging
- bullying (three items suggested that one fifth [22% was also mentioned] of suicides are the result of bullying).
- addictions (‘Alcohol “makes it easier to commit suicide”’)
- learning difficulties
- neurological problems
- people with higher levels of impulsive behaviour
- traumatic loss in life
- alcohol or drug abuse
- depression
- accessing suicide websites
- lack of spirituality or religious faith
- changes in traditional lifestyles (particularly amongst members of the farming community)
- separation
- secularisation of Irish society
- punishment beatings
- teenage pregnancy

The belief of the Irish Association of Suicidology that ‘the problem of suicide must not be over “medicalized”’ (reported in a medical publication on September 3rd) was challenged in a piece by a writer commenting on the topic of suicide contagion. There were several reactions to this piece,
including one letter item which was selected for qualitative review, that challenged the medical science research perspective:

‘As survivors of the suicide of a loved one we were astonished and offended by [named writers] article… Not talking about suicide doesn’t make it go away. Suicides will always occur because some people simply will not accept help. To label all of them “mentally ill” or “troubled souls” doesn’t help. Of course suicide prevention is important but it will not be achieved through stigmatising. The causes for suicide are very complex, each case is different. Despite some “copy-cat” suicides it is not a “contagious disease”.

A commentary in a medical publication identifies ‘egoistic suicide’ as a contributing factor to the suicides of high-profile individuals. A local newspaper cites a public health doctor’s statements to a health board on anomie as a factor contributing to the rise in suicide figures:

‘Dr. [Name], responding to the members’ comments said that while it was difficult to pinpoint the reasons, suicide did seem to increase during times of profound change in society, such as, for example, when the role of men became less distinct, or when the prevalence of religion changed.’

3.4.4 Myths

Generally speaking, very few myths were perpetuated in the items sourced and selected for qualitative review.

However, while the following statement from the mental health activist quoted below was most certainly not intended to contribute to supporting the myth - Talking about suicide encourages it - the manner in which the statement was reported could be interpreted as such:

‘For those who want to make a suicide attempt, the attention surrounding the fact that the Boyne is a good river to take your life in, could encourage future attempts.’
Another statement by a tabloid journalist provides stronger support for the following myths:

- If someone is going to kill themselves, there is nothing you can do about it
- Suicidal people are fully intent on dying.

The journalist states that ‘Dr. Kelly was already pre-disposed to the final act of self-inflicted violence.’ This myth is also reflected in a quotation from the mother of the man who killed himself referred to above: ‘When you’re on the road to suicide there is no way of getting off it.’

Similarly, another statement by a tabloid journalist could be viewed as supporting the above myths:

The journalist states:

‘The simple fact is that, whatever their circumstances, some people have it within them to commit that final act, and others don’t. The Government and the media must look at the excesses of their behaviour and learn lessons, but there’s only one person ultimately responsible for Dr. Kelly’s suicide. And that’s the man himself.’

One of the myths around suicide identified by the Irish Association of Suicidology and the Samaritans is ‘Only mentally ill / clinically depressed people make serious attempts at suicide’.

Two items selected for qualitative review during November perpetuated this myth to varying degrees. The first states: ‘There are around 300,000 people suffering from this illness [depression] that, if left untreated, can lead to suicide.’ The second is a preview of an episode in an Irish television drama series which reports that a character will attempt suicide in a forthcoming episode. The preview makes no mention of mental illness until the very last sentence which creates a firm and definitive link between suicide and mental illness. The function of this sentence is to perpetuate an assumption or given that mental illness is part of the anatomy of suicide: ‘Viewers can watch Fiona creep to the edge of insanity in the fourth episode of The Clinic on RTE ONE tonight at 9.25pm.’
In one item which appeared in a local newspaper, however, this was firmly disputed:

‘Despite popular belief, depressed individuals account for less than a quarter of suicides in Ireland. The Samaritans also claim that only 13% of callers have expressed suicidal feelings.’

Another item selected for qualitative review in November perpetuates two related myths identified by the Irish Association of Suicidology and Samaritans:

- If someone is going to kill themselves, there is nothing you can do about it
- Suicidal people are fully intent on dying

The item quotes a government minister commenting on a particular case: ‘Preventing suicide when somebody was disposed towards it and whose mind may be unbalanced is very difficult.’

The first myth identified in the Samaritans / IAS guidelines is:
- Those who talk about suicide are least likely to attempt it

One senior figure in an Irish national organisation (not directly concerned with suicide) stated in an interview on the topic of suicide: the more people talked about suicide it would act as a deterrent’. However the myth was identified as such in an item on suicide in a national newspaper:

‘[Name] is quick to debunk the myth that people who talk about committing suicide don’t actually do it. She points out that 80% of people who take their own lives have given some kind of warning beforehand.’

### 3.4.5 Authenticity / Credibility / Representativeness

Most items correctly cite suicide rates, but one item selected for qualitative review stated that ‘almost 500 people’ took their own lives last year (referring to 2002). The actual official, provisional figure was 451.
Another item selected for qualitative review contained a syntax error which could lead to a misunderstanding of the facts:

‘A staggering 451 young Irish men took their own lives last year, 20% of these were aged between 15 and 24.’

Another writer reported that ‘Around 400 men commit suicide annually in the Republic’. The same writer, noting that most of these are young men comments ‘Marriage is able to reduce suicide and provides a better life for the coming generations.’

It seems that the figure of ‘452’ had taken root amongst journalists with regard to a figure for the total number of suicides in 2002. However, there were some examples of this number being misreported.

‘Speaking at a recent inquest in Naas, [name] said there were between 400 and 500 suicides each year among young men aged between 15 and 35.’

Another article quotes a counsellor as follows.

‘Articles following Nirvana singer Kurt Cobain’s suicide led to the copycat deaths of several young men and women, she claimed’.

This is an example of another assertion which appears to have ‘taken root’ with regard to the Cobain suicide. As two Irish psychologists pointed out in a letter to a national newspaper, suicide deaths in the immediate aftermath of Cobain’s death were lower than for the same period in the previous year.

Although Durkheim did uncover distinct correlations between social change and economic status, it is not yet proven that drops in economic growth correlate directly with growth in the suicide rate.

One spokesperson was cited as stating:

‘If we go into a recession, a big social change, it’s likely the suicide rate will rise. If the economy levels ease off it may decrease’. 
US research cited in a daily tabloid linked teenage sexual activity with suicide ideation, but the item points out that the research was commissioned by individuals with vested interests.

Another piece cites Danish research which said that ‘the biggest risk factor for suicide was mental illness.’ This re-enforces the medical/clinical view of suicide instead of viewing it as a growing social problem related to anomie states resulting from profound social change.

Another item demonstrates how an authentic statement of fact in relation to suicide in Ireland can be misrepresented. A spokesperson for the Irish Association of Suicidology states that ‘Those [older people] who are most at risk are older people who are isolated living in rural areas, are divorced or widowed, are physically or mentally ill or depressed.’ The headline for this article, however, reads: ‘Isolated elderly men most at risk of suicide.’ This appears to be a statement of who the major ‘at-risk’ group are. Statistically, younger men are most at risk of suicide in Ireland.

In a few cases the names of the National Suicide Review Group and the National Suicide Research Foundation were given incorrectly.

3.4.6 Attached Images

‘The trend of tabloid publications printing photographs of dehumanised subjects and broadsheet publications printing ‘suicide angels’ was observed.’

The trend of tabloid publications printing photographs of dehumanised subjects and broadsheet publications printing ‘suicide angels’ was observed. One item, presented ‘action shots’ of rescue crews recovering bodies from the bottom of a cliff. Another showed a picture of a male model screaming in pain in relation to a men’s health report. One
photograph of an aerial view of a forensic investigation was captioned: ‘Grim find… police at woodland death scene.’

In non-tabloid publications the images tend to be of volunteers or professionals working on bereavement or research projects. In a very few cases are photographs of people who have killed themselves used, but family members are often represented: for example, one item presented a close-up shot of a female’s pained face as she carried the coffin of a male relative who died by suicide.

Photographs selected for review in November 2003 support this. Two of the images selected are discussed here:

The first shows the upper body (but not the head or face) of a young woman who has numerous cuts on her arms as a result of self-inflicted injury. The young woman’s face, however, has itself been ‘cut’ out of the frame by the photo-editor but an insert of a woman covering her face is included. A photograph in another item is a large family photograph of a young mother who attempted suicide. All of the family’s faces are ‘blurred out’. Once again the effect of these photographs are to place attempted suicide and self-harm firmly in the realm of the ‘other’ in society.

One interesting contrast is that surrounding the fictional suicide of a rape victim and an actual genuine case during the same month. Photographs concerning the former case are stills from the television programme showing the attack on the woman and subsequent overdose. In the latter case, photographs are of the girl smiling with family pets and of her grieving family. It could be argued that the former instance creates a linear ‘cause-and-effect’ narrative.

Another item, concerned with self-harm amongst young females presented a series of photographs of female celebrities and models who had admitted to feelings about negative self-image in interviews. None of these images, however, was counter-balanced with a realistic portrayal of self-harm.
Numerous incidences of failure to observe guidelines on reporting suicide were noticed. This was most noticeable with regard to the term 'commit suicide' - almost 18% of items analysed failed to observe this guideline.
4. Discussion and Conclusions

The initial quantitative research test found that most of the items sourced discussed suicide in terms that are primarily incidental or clinical rather than as a broad social issue that is worthy of analysis as a deeper sociological problem. The findings of the full research project supported this finding. As has been stated before in this report, this does not mean that clinical or medical models are insufficient responses to matters associated with suicide. Nevertheless, allowing more discussion of sociological or cultural frameworks for understanding suicide could lead to greater understanding of the issue.

The majority of items captured were news items and suicide tended to be reported in relation to the topics of depression (210 items, 13.16%), bereavement (165 items, 10.34%) and analysis of suicide trends (138, 8.64%).

Numerous incidences of failure to observe guidelines on reporting suicide were noticed. This was most noticeable with regard to the term 'commit suicide' - almost 18% of items analysed failed to observe this guideline.

Most items which could be defined as having a specific catalyst related to reports on actual incidences of suicide or attempted suicide. Organisations and institutions most mentioned with regard to suicide were the Gardaí, the Samaritans and the Irish Association of Suicidology.

The social grouping most identified was 'Irish people'. This was followed by 'health professionals', 'people bereaved by suicide' and 'young men'.

The language used in the majority of items analysed qualitatively, evoked emotions that ranged from sadness to horror. The language often communicated a message that suicide was beyond that which is normal,
and possibly ridiculous or shameful. However there were distinct differences in language used in items which profiled support groups or suicide prevention projects. A clear message was communicated that suicide prevention needs to be considered a priority area for funding support and several articles report that suicide prevention received significantly smaller amounts of funding than road safety awareness. Suicide prevention needs to be considered a priority area for funding support and several articles report that suicide prevention received significantly smaller amounts of funding than road safety awareness, road traffic fatalities accounting for considerably less fatalities.

In the original methodology test report it was remarked that only two writers returned to the topic of suicide more than once, which was taken as a possible indication of a lack of individual journalistic interest in the topic of suicide. Results from the overall project challenge this. Fifty four percent of items (862 items) carried an author by-line. Of these 152 (18%) returned to the topic of suicide more than once.

Conclusions

In the original methodology test a set of hypothesis regarding the treatment received by the topic of suicide in the press were developed. These hypotheses are discussed below in relation to the completed 12-month data set

Hypotheses Proven ‘True’ by the Research

- One
  Media treatments tend to report suicide in a way that communicates a message that suicide is a result of personal (incidental) circumstances or clinical or medical reasons, rather than a product of anomie resulting from profound social change.

- Two
  Suicide tends to receive coverage in the context of 'live' media items.
• Three
Guidelines on the reporting of suicide tend be ignored in 18% of print media outputs.
(True in particular in relation to using the phrase ‘commit suicide’ – less so in relation to other guidelines).

• Four
Organisations identified most in relation to suicide tend to be voluntary groups, public service organisations and health boards.
(This was the general tendency).

• Five
Language used in items tends to present incidences of suicide as shocking and extraordinary. Language used in items profiling prevention projects and groups in the voluntary and community sector emphasise support and help.

Hypotheses Found to be ‘False’ by the Research

• Six
Young men are the social grouping identified most in relation to suicide.
(Although ‘young men’ are among the social groupings most identified, the group with most associations in the body of media items was ‘Irish people’).

• Seven
Guidelines tend to be ignored more in Sunday broadsheets and national tabloid newspapers.
(This was not found to be the case. Lack of adherence to the phrase ‘Commit suicide’ in particular was noticeable in all publication types).

• Eight
There is a noted lack of journalistic interest in the topic of suicide on an individual level.
(Not the case in the 12-month project period).
Nine

The main catalysts for items treating suicide tend to be conferences, research and voluntary/community sector prevention projects. (This was not found to be the case. The most prevalent catalyst were reports on actual incidences of suicide or attempted suicide).
5. Recommendations for Further Research

An extensive body of print items on suicide has been captured over the course of this project. The availability and classification of these items provide opportunities for media and suicide researchers to look deeper into these data and explore the issue at a more interpretive level.

The researcher who conducted this research became aware over the course of the project of his own perspectives on the topic which might in fact obscure opportunities to examine this at a deeper level.

Possible presenting opportunities arising from this project include:

- An examination of the data at the level of ideologies in media framing of a social problem.
- A focused critical analysis of the language used in reporting suicide items.
- An investigation into how visual images are used in the print media in connection with suicide.
- An examination of how the discourses created in the body of media items actually influence the understandings of individuals on the topic of suicide.
- An examination of how journalists conceptualise suicide in their work.
- An action-research project on how journalists can be influenced to adopt appropriate terminologies when treating suicide in their writing.
- The development of a framework for ongoing monitoring of press coverage of suicide and mental health issues.
Appendix 1

**Taxonomy / Classification Scheme**

This document contains the fully updated classification scheme for the Messages, Meanings and Myths: The coverage and treatment of suicide in the Irish print media project.

All updates have been incorporated over the course of the compilation of the monthly reports delivered as part of the project.

The Durkheim Schema is the central organising principal of all items received from the news monitoring process. It is based on Emile Durkheim’s conceptualisation of four central and oppositional categories of suicide.

Three supplementary Schemas are used in order to prove a greater degree of explanation as to the content of items. These address the aspect from which the topic of suicide is discussed, key groupings discussed in each item, and the temporal or geographical setting of the item.

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Physical health
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Postvention support
Prevention
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Protest
Public section
Religion/Spirituality
Research
Science
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Terrorism
Trends
Unemployment
Violence
Voluntary/Community sector
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Level 3: Group Schema

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Appendix 2

Item titles

Note: Some item titles appeared more than once as indicated in brackets

“Facing up to suicide” (3)
“For two or three years I drank and drank until I fell down”
“Please stop” appeal from heartbroken mother
“Smash” actor in suicide alert
“The bottle”: a scientific barometer of suicide (2)
“We don’t want any other family to suffer the way we have suffered for four years”
[Diary] (4)
[Photograph caption]
[Photograph caption] Funds for support group
[Series of articles on suicide] (2)
[Untitled Photograph]
[Untitled comment]
[Untitled events listing]
[Untitled photo caption] (5)
[Untitled Quote] (2)
[Untitled] (15)
£1.5 million project announced
1 in 3 Dublin women hit by depression
1,100 parasuicides in south-east
10% of schizophrenia sufferers ‘will commit suicide’
10,000: World Wide Worry
100 prisoners ‘tried to kill themselves’
13 million for Suicide Prevention and Research
14 year old’s suicide fact [sic]
14,000 cases of self-poisoning in four years
170 of those who attended A&E in Louth had self-inflicted injuries
200 Meath suicides in last five years
275 pubs forced to close for underage drinking violations
2fm star and writer tops bill for public seminar on suicide
4.5m allocated for suicide prevention
40% of male GP visits at behest of women
50 facts that make you want to change the world
55% of young know of peer suicide attempts
5m cliff plan to improve tourist safety
6:1 Male Female Suicide Ratio
8,500 were treated in A&Es for self-harm injuries
A better way to die?
A challenge that goes beyond statistics
A chance not to be wasted
A Cold Coward: A Selfish act of an evil man
A cry for help our country must heed
A greater awareness needed
'A light in the darkness of depression' Galway Candle Campaign
A lonely existence in a fast world
A lonely pint for the man who was once the toast of Tralee
A modest proposal
A mother's story
A Series of tutorials for postgraduate trainees and a continuing education exercise for medical specialists
A tragedy to touch us all
A tragic death
A wake-up call to the authorities
A whole new way of looking at depression and suicide, from cult figure Dorothy Rowe
A&E dealt with 14 kids who attempted suicide
A&E treats over 31,000 in Tralee
Abbey Inn hosts charity head, beard, moustache and leg shave
Abuse deal and cutbacks a double blow
Accused found hanging in cell
Achill Golf Club News
Achill Island Golf Club win the final of the All Ireland Golf Final in the Three TOS (sic) Championship
Achill par excellence
Acne Lad suicide
Action oriented strategy for suicide prevention
Actions speak louder than words in Athy
Addiction bill hits 4.3 billion
Adolescent suicidal behaviour and mental health service provision
Alarm at the number of suicides in the Midlands
Alarming trend of self harm by women
Alcohol a major factor in 60 per cent of inquests
'Alcohol a potentially legal psychoactive drug'
Alcohol 'a threat to wellbeing of nation'
Alcohol and suicide link strengthened
Alcohol counselling
Alcohol 'makes it easier to commit suicide'
Alert on suicides
Alert over health risk
Always just a phone call away
Am I a hypochondriac or ... am I clinically depressed?
Amy recalls night of terror (2)
An answer to male suicides
An intimate audience
An open night to share the load of suicide tragedies
Anger at suicide cash cut
Anti-abortion campaigners disrupt pro-choice meeting
Antidepressants to carry warning of suicide risk
Anti-drug group publish brochure
Anti-suicide adverts are welcomed
Appeal for missing man
Ards suicide rate one of highest in NI
Are exams failing our kids?
Are we happy?
ASIST suicide awareness training course
Assessment of suicide risk in different age group
Assisting those at risk of suicide (3)
Asylum topic winner for students
Athlone abuse case priest tracked to Brazil
Attempted suicide is a prison epidemic
Attempted suicide on a speed camera
Attempted suicide on the rise in urban areas
Attitudes to suicide is explored in new TG4 Documentary (2)
Autumn schedule of courses at Pastoral Centre in Letterkenny
Aware
Aware Candle Campaign
Aware candles to create ‘light in darkness of depression’
Aware Daisy Days
Aware Lecture
AWARE of depression
Aware Public Lecture to address link between suicide and depression (2)
Aware’s candle in the dark
Baby hoax mum out of danger
Ballinafinch film offers a better understanding of suicide issues
Ballymun baby hoax suspect recovering
‘Ban Bray Machines’
Banned driver back at wheel because mother was suicidal
Bans or beds
Barbs a Fair bunny boiler
Beachy Hell
Becoming a doctor
Being a man could be the death of you as Irish males die youngest in Europe
Being a man is bad for your health
Belvedere’s good shepherd bows out
Benefit Night
Bereaved
Bereaved by suicide (3)
‘Bereaved by suicide’ booklet reprint
Bereavement group meeting
Bereavement support (5)
Bereavement Support Service
Bereavement support volunteers receive certificates from Health Board
Bertie Backs War on Bullying
Bertie’s gaffe upsets suicide son’s mum
Best of Times
Best on suicide watch
Bid to cut bullying
Bid to stop spate of teenage suicides
Black dog circles the globe
Blind trust in doctors is unwise
Blurring the lines
Body of US actor who slated Tullamore Hospital recovered
Booklet for those affected by suicide
Booze is increasing youth suicide rate
Boy, 15, is found hanged in forest: Two teenagers commit suicide within matter of days
Boyle college hosts talk on depression by Aware
Boyle students given talk on depression by Aware
Boys' death prompt call for support
Boys Don't Cry
Brain damaged teen in custody 'wants to go home'
Brain-damaged child jailed due to lack of resources
Break the stigma of suicide
Britain fears plague attack
Broadcaster Magee plunders 50-year memory bank for sporting epiphanies (2)
Bullies made me fell suicidal...going to clubs all glammed up hid my pain
Bullies: Die or we kill your parents
Bully Torment
Bullying and suicide issues not on the agenda
Bullying at work fear
Bullying causes 20pc suicides
Bullying's long legacy
Bumper crowd compete on sun-drenched course
Buried Together: Shotgun couple laid to rest
Butchered: Botched birth mum tells of agony and heartbreak
By his own hand: a question for us all
Call box for cliffs of death
'Call could be life-and-death'
Call for army suicide probe
Call for hospital audit after suicide
Call to extend bereavement counselling service
Call to improve access to mental health services
Call to make suicide epidemic a political issue
Calls for medical forum
Campaign in Mid-West targets violence against women
Campaign is set to heighten awareness of suicide danger
Campaign on suicide triggers welcomed
Campaign to shed light on depression
Candle Campaign for Aware on 21st
Car 'Leap' Fatal
Care crisis
Carla Grief at 'suicide'
Carthy 'a classic suicide by cop'
Carthy provoked Gardai to shoot him, says psychologist
Carthy wanted suicide by copy, says FBI agent
Catalytic converters may reduce suicide
Cathy's grief for tragic Timmy
Causal association between cannabis and psychosis: examination of the evidence
Centre set up in NI following suicides
Certificates presented to suicide support volunteers (2)
Certificates presented to volunteers for Midland Suicide Bereavement Support Service (3)
Chanal called me his persecutor. I don't mind that. He proved his guilt by committing suicide
Chance to hear guru's message of hope
Changes ring in at Shandon Street
Changing the face of bipolar disorder
Changing values at root of suicide crisis
Charity Walk to Help Prevent Suicide
Charity warns of exam pressure affecting students
Charmaine pulls on running shoes for suicide bereavement group
Chatroom 'played a part' in man's suicide
Cheque presented to Suicide Research Foundation
'Child psychiatry services need urgent expansion'
Child suicide shock
Childline launches Boys Allowed
Children and SSRIs
Children as young as 10 attempting to commit suicide
Children as young as five at Lourdes parasuicide unit
Children of 12 attempting suicide, states report
Chinese woman's death was suicide
Choice: Male suicide
Christians must be open-minded on sexuality debate, says bishop
City and Council ahead of national average for self-harm
City girl's sale bid
'City rocked by a rape
Claremen on brink of suicide
Clinical Focus - Depression Diagnosis and treatment in the community
Colm's sad scene
Combined acute treatment for bipolar depression
Coming back from the brink
Coming soon
Common drugs used for most suicide attempts
Common drugs used in suicides
Common risk factors in suicide prevention
Company 'knew drug did not help depressed children'
Compensation 'leads to false abuse claims'
Complacent attitude of society to suicide?
Computer game bid to stop kids' suicide
Concern as suicide rate in West grows
Concerned about suicide? (2)
Concerned about suicide? Maybe you can help (2)
Connolly warns against drug abuse complacency
Conor's tragic death shocks community
Conquering stress will help save lives
Consequences R Real
Controversial new mental health plan to go before ERHA
Coolgreaney House: Working Together for Better Health
Coping with conflict seminar in Derry
'Coping with suicide'
Coping with suicide booklet launched
Coping with the terrible trauma
Cork facility for mentally ill stalled by lack of funding
Cork women want manifesto acted upon by candidates!
Coroner fears over high number of drownings in Drogheda
Coroner praises rescue workers
Corrie love rat roy’s suicide bid
Corrie’s Roy tries to end it all
Counselling in greater demand than ever: poll
Counselling service for abused men to reduce waiting list in 2004
Counselling service gets nationwide recognition
Course tackles suicide
Court bars band from holding onstage suicide
Court changes would better reflect actual suicide rates
Court told of suicide bid by girl, 13, after rape ordeal
Courtney on Suicide Watch
Cover-up in soldier suicide cases - claim
Coward: Irish priest slams evil Shipman after killer doc found hanging in his cell
Cowley clashes with Vintners over blood alcohol level
Crawford calls on Minister to fund Suicide Prevention Programmes
Crime probe halts inquest into suicide
Cult star Elliott, 34 in suicide [sic]
Cultivating suicide? Destruction of self in a changing Ireland (2)
Cut in suicide research funding ‘nothing short of criminal’
Dad finds son, 12, hanging on moor: Boy dies as he walked dog
Dad of 4 tries to murder his wife before hanging himself
Dad speaks out on missing son heartache
Dad’s plea for lost son
Dads who kill
Daisy days
Damages for man whose wife drove off Galway pier
Damilola trial girl is suicidal
Dana’s ding-dong debating duel
Dark Days of the Black Dog
Dark days of TV Clinic Star
Date set for Kelly suicide probe hearing
Day and night - not nine to five - for artist Andreas
Dead Modern
Dead teen’s mum vows to save other victims
Dead-end job idea cleans up
Dead-end street
Deadly net danger
Dear Mum, thanks for everything
Death by DIY gun
Death case duo sought
Death crash mum slams suicide slurs
Death of jockey was “loss to community”
Death of prisoner in cell
Death Row
Death wish 2003
Debt dad hospital hanging
‘Decades of hell’: 325,000 agreed
Decision to cut suicide research budget ‘nothing short of criminal’
Decline in religion may be a factor in increasing suicide rate
Deep anger at sudden closure of Addiction Unit in St. Brigid’s Hospital, Ballinasloe
Deepcut probe findings delayed
Defeating Depression (2)
Deliberate self-harm cases are increasing
Depressed young men are turning to alcohol
Depression
Depression - the facts
Depression & suicide is there a link?
Depression and suicide in doctors
Depression and suicide is there a link (sic)
Depression drug ruled unsafe for children
Depression in old age
Depression in the elderly in general practice
Depression is rising among women
Depression lecture to heighten awareness locally
Depression: An unpreventable epidemic?
Deputy repeats call for new suicide prevention programmes
Detecting depression in primary care
Detecting suicidal feelings
Detectives seek extradition of suicide ‘helper’
‘Did media want to see this man hung, drawn and quartered in Tullamore?’
Disgrace; Suicidal Falls Rd man is turned away from Mater three times; Suicide Shock; Hospital send man home three times
‘Dismantling’ of Monaghan Psychiatric Service Feared
Disposing of unused medicine properly
Docs warned on drug suicide risk
Doctor helped patient to die
Doctor highlights dangers of over-use of paracetamol
Doctor says suicide can attract hero status
‘Doctors failed our suicide son’: Justin took his life after being turned away from four health centres
Doctors favour assisted suicides
Doctors find suicide rate a cause for alarm
Dole link to suicide
Domestic violence - shock figures
Don Baker to attend Killarney suicide conference
Donegal suicide figures treble in twenty years (2)
Don’t let the Boyne claim another life
Don’t let them die
Don’t tease, please
Down… but not left-out
Downturn may lead to more suicides
DPP decides on Euthanasia Charge
Drink Driver Attempted suicide
Drink link to suicide
Drink not recognised as big factor in suicides
Drink price hike urged to stem suicides
Drink scourge prime cause of depression and suicide
Drink tax hike ‘could stem suicide rise’
Drink culture fermenting a social crisis, expert warns
Driven by Demons
Driven to distraction
Driven to pills suicide by KFC bullies
Driver dies from self-inflicted stab wound
Drowning suicides double
Drownings suicide link
Drug Concern
Drug Suicide Warning
Drugs main suicide tool
Drunk girl’s suicide bid
Dual diagnosis - the close relationship between alcoholism and depression
Dublin hospital to explore drink-depression link
DUMP campaign aims to reduce suicide and accidental poisoning
DUMP those pills
Dunganon population is on the increase
Dungarvan Fashion show to aid Aware
Eamonn offers a sympathetic ear to callers in need of support
Echo praised for rights coverage
Egan to seek Fine Gael Town Council nomination
Elaine Moore
Elderly men ‘most likely to commit suicide’
Election profiles
Elvis cousin dead
Employers face stress death charges
Encouraging responsible reporting of suicides
End of a long and lonely road
End torture of workers
Epidemic of suicide must be tackled
European Week against pain
Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Suicide (E/PAS) Two Years One
Ex is talking about suicide
Exam pals’ grief for suicide student
Ex-Brothers concerned at ‘false’ claims
Existential suffering and euthanasia
Exoo unaware of extradition
Expert rejects ‘suicide by cop’ theory
Experts to speak on suicide trauma
Experts want psychological services in schools to tackle suicide
Extradition for death rap cleric
Face of the porn boss
Facing the problem of suicide
Facing up to suicide (8)
Facing up to suicide in Ireland (2)
Fair City suicide shock
Fair City’s TV rapist gets public backlash
Faith could cut this tragic toll
Faith loss suicide link
Fall in religious practices linked to suicides
False facts
Families bereaved by suicide
Families to unite over river deaths
Family appeal for help after tragic suicide
Family issue appeal following tragic death of Mullingar teenager
Family of suicide man want inquiry
Family want to put tragic episode behind them (2)
Family’s grief
Farmers in suicide poll fears
Farmers say depression is rife - survey
Father appeals for sightings of missing son who left suicide note
Father of suicide victim says search for son a disgrace
Father speaks over missing son’s suicide
Father’s plea as inquest told of son’s tragic death
Festival time in the North
Fifty suicides puts West ahead of national average
Fight suicide - treat depression (3)
Fighting fit
File under ‘domestic’ is not the right response to murder
Film puts suicide into sharp focus
Final Question
Five Hundred People a Year Attempted Suicide in Midlands (2)
Flannery took his own life inquest told
Flu sufferers warned not to take too much paracetamol
Focus on Depression
Focus on Halitosis
Fol request on prisons would cost over 10,000
Former Christian Brother jailed for years of Letterfrack sex abuse
Former headmaster released from jail
Forum Diary
Free advice weekly from Psychic Sarah
Fresh start
Frightening Figures
From boom days to doomsday
From Despair to Hope: A Christian Perspective on the tragedy of suicide
Front-line staff should prepare for suicides to aid their coping
Full impact of parental alcoholism not recognised
Fund raising run for respite centre
Funding needed for suicide prevention policies
Fund-raising essential for suicide research
Funds raised for suicide research
Funeral of young Raphoe man
Funny Business
G.A.A. stars strike a blow for men’s health
GAA legend Paidi vows to quit drinking
Galtees trek for suicide
Galway mother featured in TG4 documentary on suicide
Galway video of golden sports moments hits shops for charity
Garda rescuers awarded medal
Gardai appeal for information on man’s identity

Gardai seek to extradite US preacher accused of suicide role

Gardai try to get US suicide activist

Gareth O’Callaghan to address Suicide Seminar

Gareth O’Callaghan is to be keynote speaker at major western session on suicide incidence

Gareth O’Callaghan to address seminar on suicide

Geraldine Chambers inquest hears of suicide pact

‘Geraldine was determined to commit suicide and I decided to do it too’

Girl hangs herself over bullies hell

Girl of 3 in Suicide Fall

Girls agreed suicide pact - inquest told (4)

Girls are triple overdose risk

Girl’s suicide heralds bad news for Principal Barry

Give your man an NCT

Global Injury Inquiry

Glossing over it all

Go to work on the bully boys

God bless son… I hope you find the peace you were searching for

Golf club signs up for charity tournament

Golf clubs rally around new charity

Golfers around Gorey asked to tee off for 3Ts competition

Golfers tee off for suicide project

Government cuts on suicide research ‘nothing short of criminal’

Government failures putting children at risk

Government lashed over suicide research funding

Government under attack on mental illness and suicide concerns

GP suicide prevention meeting

GPs could face action over anti-depressants

Graduate hanged himself following job rejection

Grief for exam students after suicide of pal

Grief-stricken son three himself off ferry

Grieving mum lashes Bertie for name gaffe

Grieving Mum’s fury at teen helpline snub

Grim Statistics reveal a mental health crisis

Group formed on men’s health

Group hoping to reduce risk factors and raise awareness (3)

Groups split over drink crackdown

GROW - keeping the revolution going

GROW vital to our community

Growing support for establishment of suicide support group

Gun Control reduces suicide numbers

Gun control would have an impact on the number of suicides - psychiatrist

Gun Controls

Happy new you?

Hard men in suicide link claim

Has Ireland sold it’s soul for riches

He couldn’t live with his guilt

He had heart disease

Head shave in aid of suicide awareness
Health board backs medical collection
Health Board Initiative on suicide and self-harm
Health Board Left Teen to Face Jail
Health board officials planning to prioritise suicide prevention following dramatic rise in Kerry deaths
Health board starts new training course
Health boards cut spend on recruitment ads
Health boards review care at Pilgrim House
Health in the City
Health seminar to mark women’s day
Health Timebomb
Heart disease remains the main killer in Cork
Heartbreak dad give compo to charity
Help combat suicide
Help for families’ suicide loss
Help the kids
Helping the suicidal
Helping those families bereaved by suicide
Helping to cope with trauma of suicide
Helping to defeat depression
‘Helpline for teens could have saved my sons life’
Helpline over body organs
Heroine rescued
Hidden Neglect
High death risk among young hospitalised diabetes patients
High house prices linked to suicide
High rate of suicide in Cork
High stress
High stress levels pose suicide risk
High suicide rate linked to alcohol, says professor
Higher male death rates in Cork and Kerry
Hike price of booze
Hillwalk funds drive to fight a national scourge
Hoax Kid Probe is not over
‘Hoax’ mum fights for life: Baby hoax suspect is found in a coma
Home drugs factor in suicide bids
Honesty is still the best policy, eh Jose?
Hooligans target lifesavers’ haven
Hopeful of funding
Hormones, hazy heads and even hazier memories
Hospital ward’s second suicide
Hotline after boys’ suicide
Hotline from the Top
House of horror man kills himself
How depression can lead to suicide
How drink is driving our teens to suicide
How much more tragedy can they take
How suicide leaves devastating effects (2)
Hundreds mourn shotgun couple
Hungover Ireland
Huntley is given 3 guards
Husband awarded 110,000 for triple tragedy
Husband awarded 110,000 over death of wife and children
Husband fails in murder-suicide bid
Husband wants me ‘put away’
I am the fall guy
I didn’t rape Leonda
‘I feel suicidal, please help me’
I felt he had let me down, this big strong man I adored
I gave my body an NCT
I have a happy marriage and a good job yet I think about suicide
I have lived my life & have nothing more to do
I have lived my life and have nothing more to do: suicide pact teen told friend
I know the pain he is suffering
I Love those Gal Golfers
‘I passed within feet of him every second day’
I saw the shotgun pointed at me. I ducked and then heard the shot
‘I spent 30 years working as a prostitute on the streets of Dublin’
‘I suppose I could have you snuffed out’
‘I was bullied for five years because I was fat and had a Kerry accent, I thought about killing myself’
‘I was torn apart and made to be someone I wasn’t’
‘I wish to God that he was with me now’
I would have slashed my wrists: How conditions in prison left farmer close to suicide and despairing of young inmates
I’ll driller kill myself
IAS aim to focus on suicide in older people
Illicit drug use linked with suicide increase
I’m a crime-scene cleaner
I’m really worried my adult daughter may be expressing suicidal tendencies
Impassioned plea to tackle suicide crisis
Important training course on suicide prevention
Improve care for depressed students - union
Infection Explosion
INLA is blamed for rise in Belfast suicides
Inmates in suicide bid
Inner emptiness driving adolescents to suicide
Innovative, patient-friendly services
Inquest hears girl was shot in the back
Inquest hears of vain attempt to save city drowning victim
Inquest into patient’s death adjourned
Inquest told Donegal girl died in suicide pact
Inquests reveal that eight males died by suicide
Inquiry into suicide of Kelly under way
Inside the heads of a generation living without constraints
Inside the mind of an alcoholic
Ireland has second highest suicide rate worldwide among young males
Ireland in the 1950s
Ireland ranks second in EU male suicide survey
Ireland sane is Ireland sober
Ireland sees faster drop in death rates
Irish Association Suicidology (sic) 8th Annual Conference on Suicide and Older People
Irish men ‘still have heads in the sand’ on health
Irish regulator to monitor situation
Irish soccer team launch daisy days 2003 (2)
Irish society chooses ‘style over substance’
Irish students more prone to suicide
Irish suicide shock
Irish Teens top boozing league
Irishm en die younger than continentals
Is fear an t-imreas ne an uaigneas
Is this what’s meant by an information economy?
Isolated elderly men most at risk of suicide
‘It’s been so hard on her’
It’s good to talk about how you are feeling
It’s no Kerry joke: accident death rate is the highest
It’s time minds and hearts were stirred on suicide
I’ve been a manic depressive since I was 16, but I don’t want to be a victim any more
Jail suicide: ‘Could have been avoided’
Jailed for ‘suicide’ M1 stunt
Jailed teen sues stated over alleged sexual abuse
Jealous Bestie’s ‘Suicide Watch’
Jesus Jimmy we did it
Jilted teen blasted ex then blew his head off
Jilted teen turned gun on himself after he shot ex-girlfriend
Jimmy Magee launches Greatest Sporting Memories Video
Jimmy Magee Video Winners
Jockey Dies
John Deasy
Judas and the Taking of Christ
Judge accuses the media of driving people to commit suicide
Judge agrees to be lenient to man with suicidal record
Judge praises teenager for efforts to give up heroin
Jury clears man of threatening to kill wife and son
KDYS aims to have youth worker in every village
Keeping your man in top shape
Kelly mum ‘suicide’
Kenny concerned at rising young male suicide rate
Kerry suicides add to workload of corners
Kerry women healthier than men - report
Kildare coroner warns number of suicide among young men is of huge concern
Killer doc Shipman found dead in prison
King of Pain
Lack of facilities endangers suicide profile children
Launch of new booklet
Leargas - Living on the edge
Learning how to treat suicidal behaviour
Learning to live with suicide
Lecture in Ballagh on link between depression and suicide
Lecture on suicide
Lecture to be held about depression
Lecture to explore problem of depression and suicide (2)
Left lover in suicide
Leixlip Town Council grant to suicide & bereavement
Leixlip town council hosts talk on suicide and bereavement
Less funding for higher mortality suicides than RTAs
Let’s not kid ourselves
Let’s talk about youth suicide
Letter to the editor
Letterkenny man hangs himself in London after job rejection
Life is for Living
‘Lifeline’ in Arklow
Lightening Depression
Lighting up the darkness
‘Limerick effect’ blamed for self-harm
Living like men
Living links in a new beginning
Living with suicide
Local company marks Magee’s 50 years in Sport
Local golf clubs tee off for Suicide Research Project
Local groups benefit from funding schemes
Local volunteers join the Midlands Suicide Bereavement Support Services
Locked up against our will: involuntarily put into a psychiatric hospital
London inquest into death of Letterkenny man
Longford’s ‘forgotten constituents’
Lost Derek Dead for 3 months
‘Lotto’ rapist ruined my life: Philomena’s story of courage after being abused by sick ‘uncle’
Low suicide with twins
Lower suicide risk for twins: study
Lundbeck mental health seminar
Macra na Feirme survey on attitudes and opinions of young farmers
Macra na Feirme Survey on Attitudes of Young Farmers
Major conference on suicide effects to be held
Major lecture on ‘Depression and Suicide’ in Armagh (3)
Major Regional Suicide Seminar
Major wanted sex in the car the day after I tried to kill myself
Majority of men say that their lot is ‘getting worse’
Making single mothers work might not be such a bad idea
Making that critical lifesaving difference
Male Health and machismo
Male risk of suicide
Male suicide
‘Male suicide not purely drink-led’
Male suicide rise linked to plight of lone fathers
Male suicide should be an issue in schools, says educationalist
Males account for 80% of suicides - CSO
Man accused of robbing woman
Man dies after bridge plunge (2)
Man found dead in Nenagh House
Man in fireball suicide horror
Man kills self after wife murder bid
Man shoots his wife then turns gun on himself
Man shot himself in city centre car park, inquest told
Man stole neighbour’s underwear
Man who shot himself was awaiting trial on sex offenses, coroner told
Man whose wife committed suicide gets 110,000
Managing alcohol problems in young people in primary care
Man’s body found after three months
Man’s suicide blamed on bank debts
Man’s suicide by Gardai bid
Manual to help men live longer
Margaret and Ellen rewarded for trojan work
Marie meets Padraig Harrington who asks - How is Leslie Walker?
Master of monologue missing in action
McDowell digs deeper into bunker
McGrath attacks Government for ‘failing’ mentally ill young
Meath men are seriously lazy - and it’s bad for their health
Medical devices to tackle prison deaths
Medication linked to suicide decrease
Medicine Man
Meeting on links between suicide and depression
Men accused of sexual crimes present new risk factor for suicide
Men stare into the heart of hopelessness
Men taking risks with their health
Men’s health awareness evening
Men’s Health in Ireland - They Die Younger Don’t They?
Men’s Health in Ireland is the worst in Europe
Men’s health issues
Men’s health seminar
Men’s Health Under Scrutiny at Seminar
Men’s Health: The Facts Laid Bare
Mental Health
Mental health care badly lacking
Mental health charities slam Sky One’s dire billboard boob
Mental health courts call as jail suicide bids rise
Mental Health Public Speaking
Mental health seminar hears wife’s story of life after husband’s suicide
Mental health service criticised in Dail
Mental Health Service ‘Deficit’
Mental Health… In Focus: The Samaritans
Mental Illness - The Neglected Quarter
Mental illness study results ‘frightening’
Mentally ill suicide fear
MHB Certificate Presentation
MHB Suicide Rate Higher
Midland Health Board support for families and individuals bereaved by suicide (2)
Midland suicide bereavement support network volunteers receive certificates (2)
Midland suicide bereavement support service
Midland support centre expands
Midlands group raises €7,200 for suicide awareness
Midleton Suicide Bereaved
Minister defends efforts to save suicide-prone Irish
Minister ignoring ‘epidemic’ of suicide
Minister Launches DUMP
Minister O’Malley launches DUMP campaign
Misconceptions about suicide
Missing in Ireland
Missing man may have been hanging for months
Modern Ireland: Young farmers have their say
Monaghan/Cavan Suicide Bereavement Support Group
Morally, intellectually and practically, punishment shootings are a busted flush
More die by suicide than in crashes
More drown by suicide than accident says water safety body
More funding essential to tackle suicide
More than 2,300 children poisoned by household drugs last year
Mortgage Minders
Most anti-depressants unsuitable for children due to suicide risk
Most suicidal adolescents are ill
Mother ‘driven to suicide’ by battle for murdered son
Mother launches helpline petition
Mother vows to keep teen helpline promise
Mothers’ agony at loss of sons
Mountjoy governor speaks out on bullying
Mountjoy’s new remote control
Mum plans Dail vigil
Mum unhappy with Martin letter
Mum’s pledge to help save suicidal teens
Murder accused had ‘attempted suicide’
Murder-suicide leaves five dead
‘My daughter died because of her rape ordeal’
My friend is blamed for her husband’s suicide
‘My Life of Hell’
My suicide son’s cries for help ‘were ignored’
My tears for Timmy
‘My wife died of a broken heart’
Nationalist Fury over treatment of soldier
Navy man on a mission
Nearly 600 non-fatal suicide attempts in MHB area in 2002
Neville slams Government response as ‘criminal’
New campaign aimed at helping young men facing a spiral of despair
New data shows Seroqual to be an effective treatment for mania in bipolar disorder
New fear for girls in self-harm warning
New Group to help ease burden of depression
New hospital for Thurles marked with meeting
New row over missing organs: Suicide victims’ brains removed
New scheme to aid GPs in early detection of psychosis
New suicide support group is set up for bereaved
New suicide task force set up
New support group for sufferers of depression
New training programme being assessed
New types of campaigns needed to combat suicide, says doctor
News for the Parishes
No funding allocated for early psychosis service
No psychiatric health service for troubled teens
No Stopping suicides at the Cliff
No such thing as a hopeless case - says nun who set up Galway centre for alcoholics (2)
‘No suspicion’ in Navan Death
North West lags behind in support for suicide cases
North-east in shock over river deaths
‘Not only did he rape her, as far as I am concerned he murdered her as well’
NSPCC call for counselling services in all schools
Numbened by grief: Heartbreak for family and friends of tragic bow who took his own life
Number of prison suicides increasing
Number of suicides rising steadily
Nurses learn about suicide
Nurses train to aid self-harm patients
Nurses train to aid suicidal patients
Nurses Train to cope with suicide
Nursing conference told alcohol and suicide linked
O’Gorman gives credit where it’s due
Once heroic navies abandoned by Ireland
One bright star in a vacuous world
‘One day on the bus home he started with new fat jokes, it hurt me but I just laughed along, then he
called me a slut’
One in 10 Irish pregnancies is terminated in an abortion clinic
One in five suicides linked to bullying at work
One in six Irish people have thought about suicide
One in six people contemplate suicide
One in ten Irish suicides is among the elderly
One in three Westmeath babies born out of wedlock
One suicide every 82 minutes in U.K. and Republic of Ireland
Ongoing attempts being made to reduce suicide
Online ‘pharmacy’ alert after suicide
Only fear and the pain for my family hold me back from suicide
Open letter plea
Open verdict in drowning inquest
Ordinary Man (2)
Our daughter should never have died
Our mental health is no laughing matter
Our relief Huntley lived to face trial: Parents glad as suicide bid fails
Our teen girls are hurting
Over 75% of health board staff stressed
Overdose suspected in death of man (28)
Overwhelmed: Teacher Jane killed herself after work pressure got to her
Ozzy son in suicide bid
Painkillers law ‘is lax’
Paracetamol rules ‘useless’ in preventing suicide
Paramilitary link to male suicide rise
Parasuicidal tendencies
Parasuicide Figures
Parasuicide in NEHB Decreases
Parasuicide victims more likely to be females
Parasuicide worry in Kerry
Parents’ fear after boy (8) threatens suicide (2)
Parents unhappy with redeployment of ADHD specialist
Parents urged to be alert to suicide signs
Party time is the hardest of times
Patient care probe after river suicide
‘People left suicidal by barrage of queries from revenue commissioners’
PGA aiming to aid fight with suicide
Phone Box planned for Moher Cliffs
Phone call from the edge of the Abyss
Pick of the week ahead
‘Pill led to suicide’
Pilot plan cutting suicide bids
Planning strategy on suicide prevention
Plans to get AWARE locally
PM’s TV quiz on Dr. Kelly suicide
PNA fury at suicide funding
Poignant films help raise awareness of suicide
Police link seized guns and weapons to suicides
Police Officer wins bravery award
Political youth wings look to get young people active
Poor at greater risk of suffering early death
Poor diet a factor in male deaths
Poor Prison Conditions Under Fire
Poor Use of Suicide Phrase
Postcards from the Edge
Prepared to end it all?: Debate on end of life care gathers momentum
Prescribing: Association between antidepressant prescribing and suicide in Australia
Pre-teen depress rise alarms doctors
Prevalence of psychiatric illness will increase as population ages
Priest’s suicide help for disturbed
Prison a ‘failure’
Prison cell phone scandal
Prison death rate highest in mountjoy
Prisoner (22) found hanging
Prison’s new bid to beat suicide
Probe as second suicide hits unit
Probe into Creeslough man’s death
Probe into suicide bid at hospital
Probe over prison cell hanging
Prof. Patricia Casey to address Aware 10th Anniversary Lecture
Professional ‘cutting edge’ or suicide link? (3)
Programme can reduce early suicide ideation
Programme focuses on suicide and the young
Programme will help identify potential suicide victims
Project encourages youth to develop social awareness
Projects face axe if extension not funded
Prozac 'linked' to librarian's suicide
Psychiatric nurses body defends escorts
Psychiatric nurses threaten to walk out
Psychiatric patient given bail to get further treatment
Psychiatric services at prison on point of collapsing
Psychiatric staff safety will not be at risk due to smoking ban
Psychiatrist says binge drinking linked to suicide
Psychiatrist to be investigated over woman's death
Psychological distress in families - Irish children behavioural problems
Public lecture in city to explore suicide, anxiety and depression
Public lecture on depression
Public lecture on depression and suicide link
Public lecture on 'Depression in the Community'
Public seminar in Roscommon on suicide
Public seminar on suicide
Public seminar will focus on preventing suicide
Public shame
Public Speaking Regional Final
Punch Drunks
Punishment beatings 'drive teens to suicide'
Put own lives on line to save others
Put suicide at top of election agenda
Putting your mind to climbing out of a black hole
Quick thinking by taxi driver and gardai averted suicide bid
Quotes of the week
Racism, alcoholism, and the treatment of non-EU doctors
Raising a rod to beat yourself with
Rape child kills herself: suicide note names sick sex beast
Raped at 10, took her own life at 13, the tragic short life of Leonora
Real support for farmers in crisis
Reasons to smile
Rescue from drowning was an 'extreme act of bravery'
Reducing alcohol consumption will cut suicide rates, says expert
Reel action in battle to cut suicides
Regional public seminar on suicide
'Rejection Suicide'
Reluctance in Irish men to seek help
Remembering Fiona
Report highlights need to target health promotion in men
Report on suicides of Irish prisoners awaited
Report slams child abuse investigation
Resources and Services
Results of Bailieborough suicide survey point to over-dependence on alcohol
Return of unused medicines urged
Revealed: the secrets of Diana’s last tapes
Revealing survey on attitudes and opinions of young Irish farmers
Revenue’s haul from tax defaulters exceeds 1bn
Ringing in the season’s pain
RIR ‘ignored’ sectarian harassment of Catholic
Rising rate of suicide for probe
‘Risk of suicide may be related to area of brain’
‘Risk to suicide victims parents’
Road map’ of brain function could yield new pill for suicide prevention (2)
Robbery accused in suicide attempt
Ronan rows in to support suicide bereavement group
Rooms for heroin users a first step
Roy’s Justice
Rubbing shoulders with Ronan
Rude Health - the Human Touch
Rural idyll gives way to the harsh realities
Sad Reading
Safety Group to target suicide by drowning
Saintfield film maker’s view of local suicide
Samaritan phone link plan for suicide cliffs
Samaritans appeal for new volunteers to run Newbridge branch
Samaritans’ half century
Samaritans may put phone at Cliffs of Moher
Samaritans promoted awareness in Tullamore
Samaritans providing emotional support
Samaritans seek new volunteers
Samaritans seeking more volunteers for Athlone service
Samaritans slam pressure on teens
Samaritans to sign on at Cliffs of Moher
Samaritan’s Vision
Samaritans: contacts increased by 53%
Scandal linked to suicides
Scandal of Suicide Toll
School bullies must be taught lesson
Schools can help tackle suicide
Schools suicides shocker
Science Spin
Sean’s death spurs on his family to help prevent others suffering suicide tragedy
Second ordeal for gun tragedy mum
Second suicide at city hospital
Seeking help when in trouble is a sign of strength (2)
Seeking serious study on suicidal Seroxat
SEHB honours cardiac emergency care committee
SEHB Regional Suicide Resource Office Annual Report 2002 Published
SEHB Release suicide report (3)
SEHB releases suicide prevention report
Self harm by teenage girls ‘tip of the iceberg’
Self harm study out
Self-harm fear
Self-harm pilot launched in South East region
Self-harm rate among teen girls worse than boys
Self-Harm: The plea for help written out in blood
Seminar to focus on problem of suicide and young people at risk
Sex abuse boy to be treated in Sweden
Sex abuser avoids prison after victim threatened suicide if he was jailed
Sex claims left Leslie suicidal
Sex rap prisoner found dead in cell
Shades of Gray
Shay Given lends support to Aware campaign
SHB highlight services for Depression Awareness Week
SHB wants plan to curb suicides
Shipman Played: He hangs himself after six-minute farewell call to his ever-loyal wife
Shock at death of 24-year-old A’leix man
Shock figures reveal 300 suicide attempts by prisoners in Irish jails in the last three years
Shock for Fergie: Killer aide in jail suicide attempt
Shock suicide figures
Shooting tragedy is recalled at inquest
Shooting tragedy of jilted teen and girl
Shop Stab Rap Man in Suicide Bid
Shoplifter attempted suicide
Shortage of adolescent psychiatric beds critical
Shot man ‘is critical’
Shot soldier ‘unlikely’ to have killed himself
Should big boys play the crying game
‘Show off’ drink driver jailed for 4 years
Shrink clobbers mass binge fests
Signs of a serious sickness (2)
Silent Hep C Hell for female addicts
Simple ways to beat the booze
Singer Baker to talk on suicide
Sinn Fein backs Sainsbury Report
Six people attempt suicide every week
Sligo’s Samaritans face changing and more demanding challenges
Small psychiatric teams rely more on drug therapy
Society failing its young people
Soham accused back in prison after suicide attempt
Soldier’s family press for probe
Solid Ground
Son asks his mother to kill him
‘Son said he’d no life without his kids’
Southern region has highest suicide rate
Spalding Gray
Spate of rapes paints ugly picture
Speakers lined up for seminar on depression
Specialist Training
Spectre of suicide must be addressed
Spiral of Despair
Spotlight on suicides
Star in suicide attempt
Stars pack ‘Punch’ at racing’s new HQ
State ‘ignoring suicide surge’
State ‘must focus school programme’ to tackle suicide
State seeks extradition of minister over death
Stigma surrounding self harm ‘needs to be lifted’
Strangers, history and suicide
Street Cred
Stress in the veterinary profession
Stricter laws on gun control ‘would lower suicide rate’
Student blues club helps fight depression
Student driven to suicide by acne
Students put their heads on the line for mental health
Study cites growing suicide rate in men
Study finds Irish men are heading for an early grave
Study shows 4% of men plan own death
suicide Shocker
Suffer not the little children
‘Suicidal’ cop left will pills - by PSNI
Suicidal elderly take longer to respond to treatment
Suicidal feelings and depression are not the preserve of adults
Suicidal heart of the Ardoyne
Suicidal midlands
Suicidal patients sent to A&Es
Suicidal prisoner sues jail bosses
Suicidal teenager in jail because he has nowhere to live
Suicide (5)
Suicide - Facing up to suicide - Suicide in Ireland
Suicide - is enough being done?
Suicide - taking paracetamol off the shelf
Suicide - the taboo subject
Suicide - time for new skills
Suicide & Depression Awareness Night
Suicide a priority for the Southern Health Board
Suicide Alert (2)
Suicide alert campaign targets teens
Suicide and depression (2)
Suicide and depression awareness night (2)
Suicide and modern society
Suicide and ‘paths’ to recovery
Suicide and self harm bids are highest in city
Suicide and self harm must move up the political agenda - Egan (2)
Suicide anguish has to be faced
Suicide anguish ‘ignored’
Suicide as unit short of nurses
Suicide attack on Jerusalem bus kills eight
Suicide Awareness Fundraising Event (2)
Suicide awareness hits the big screen
Suicide Bereaved - Midleton Local Association
Suicide bereaved work brings honour for two Carlow women
Suicide Bereavement (6)
Suicide bereavement groups extended
Suicide bereavement support (5)
Suicide bereavement support group
Suicide bereavement support group meeting (5)
Suicide blackspots targeted
Suicide boy was ‘killed’
Suicide by cop theory over police shooting
Suicide campaigns may be missing mark
Suicide club offers help for the bereaved
Suicide concerns in case of missing father of two
Suicide counsel for bus and loco drivers
Suicide Counsellors receive certs (2)
Suicide dad in murder bid
Suicide dad leaves his ex-lover for dead
Suicide DJ bids to aid victims
Suicide drama is full of life
Suicide Drowns
Suicide eclipses accidental drowning
Suicide fear for action whose depression arose after treatment at Tullamore hospital
Suicide fear for Sophia’s mother
Suicide fear for ‘staring’ Conrad
Suicide fears over Britney death video: ‘Copycats’ warning
Suicide Figures rise in West
Suicide figures up 30%
Suicide films
Suicide findings
Suicide girl (14) felt she had nothing to live for
Suicide girl: I’ve nothing to live for
Suicide Group
Suicide Group to meet in Newcastle
Suicide help centre burglary
Suicide helpline
Suicide hubby’s 999 phone call
Suicide ignorance is our biggest shame
Suicide in mass link
Suicide in old bath
Suicide intervention skills workshop held
Suicide intervention workshop (2)
Suicide ‘is a real concern among the elderly’
Suicide is Dane-Less
Suicide is major public health problem that is not isolated from society
Suicide is not always a tragedy, sometime it is a choice
Suicide is the main killer of under-25s
Suicide jump man is saved
Suicide knifing horror
‘Suicide line’ plan for Cliffs
Suicide Link
Suicide linked to soaring house prices
Suicide live at concert tonight
Suicide man’s mum calls for inquiry
Suicide must be tackled
Suicide must be tackled head on - say students
Suicide mystery of ‘baby hoaxer’
Suicide notes give little comfort and few answers to girl’s family
Suicide now more common than traffic accident fatalities
Suicide of 999 man
Suicide of bullied girl, 13
Suicide of rape girl
Suicide of rape girl (13) sparks plea for fast-track counselling
Suicide of schoolboy is blamed on bullying
Suicide of the bow who was bullied for being too clever
Suicide pair to face the courts
Suicide preacher Exoo faces murder charge
Suicide prevention a priority for SHB
Suicide prevention centre is vandalised
Suicide prevention measures needed: Distressed young men struggling to cope
Suicide prevention plan for mid-west
Suicide Programme
Suicide rate 2nd highest
Suicide rate and the need for answers
Suicide rate has doubled in 20 years (3)
Suicide rate in adolescents trebles in just one decade
Suicide rate in west is now over average... with men most at risk
Suicide rate should make us ask questions about society
Suicide rates (2)
Suicide rates are ‘tip of iceberg’
Suicide rates continue to be ‘alarmingly high’
Suicide rates continue to rise
Suicide rates in developing countries under-reported
Suicide rates in West ahead of national average
Suicide report: Clarification
Suicide research funds cut as deaths rise
Suicide resource officer’s post will be filled
Suicide response
Suicide risk for the jobless
Suicide risk linked to Carthy’s gun permit
Suicide risk lower
Suicide scandal
Suicide seminar (18)
Suicide seminar attracts over 350 people
Suicide seminar in Roscommon
Suicide shock (2)
‘Suicide’ son was so happy
Suicide statistics: Shameful neglect in costing lives
Suicide stress
Suicide Study
Suicide study to look at genetic link
Suicide support (3)
Suicide support group launched
Suicide Support Group resumes its meetings
Suicide support group to meet in Newcastle Centre
Suicide support group to meet in Ballynahinch
Suicide support group’s Ballynahinch meeting
Suicide support meeting (2)
Suicide support [sic] group meetings
Suicide survey results ‘frightening’
Suicide suspected in bodies find
Suicide talks (2)
Suicide teen’s mum rejects bungling bertie’s apology
Suicide threat from fan
Suicide victim’s mum releases heartbreaking farewell letter
Suicide warning
Suicide warning for Donegal and Derry
Suicide watch
Suicide watch in Temple Bar area
Suicide workshop
Suicide: denying the truth
Suicide: scandal of mental health funding
Suicide: the final decision is yours
Suicide: The Male’s last refuge
Suicide: the pain that is left behind
Suicide: Thoughts from one left behind (7)
Suicide: When hope runs out
Suicide: Why is it taking so many young lives today?
Suicides alert
Suicides among young increase
Suicides battle
Suicides cash row
Suicides Drown
Suicides epidemic ‘ignored’
Suicides feel love rather than despair
Suicides net pact
Suicides shocker
‘Suicides’ spark call for help signs at death cliffs
Suicides warning
Suicidology Conference (2)
Super-weed
Support for Families Bereaved by Suicide (4)
Support for those bereaved by suicide
Support group formed in response to Newbridge suicides
Support Meeting (22)
Supporting One Another’ to prevent suicide (3)
Surge in suicides
Survey finds 17pc of elderly feeling suicidal
Survey highlights need to tackle substance abuse in Ireland
Survivors, celebrities and stolen fur coats
Swimming to USA
System failures blamed for Huntley suicide bid
Tackling our depression toll
Taking Natural Drugs
Taking their lives in the troubled water of death
Talk it out
Talk on depression to help sufferers
Talk on suicide prevention
Talk on suicide to address key areas of concern in Kildare
Taoiseach’s name error devastates mother of suicide son
TB Deaths continue to climb - CSO
TD wants total ban on ‘lethal’ pain-killer sales
Teacher training on suicide urged
Tearful Leslie’s plea to his fans
Techno night in Ardcrony to aid depression
Teen death bids shock
Teen girl used bra in suicide attempt
Teen girls harm risk
Teen sent to care facility
Teen sex link to suicide - survey
Teen shot ex-lover as she sat in bed then killed himself
Teen started fire in a ‘cry for help’: Garda station blaze horror
Ten will drown this Christmas
Ten-year-old try suicide
Teresa in top form
Terrorism war lords blamed for outbreak of suicides in North
TG4 to screen lecturer’s documentary on suicide
Thanks to Fermoy from AWARE
That Final Step: Suicide Defined
The act of suicide (2)
The aftermath of suicide
The Anorexia Bulimia Puzzle
The bright side of depression
The children dying to get some help
The dark side of Kerry as Ireland’s suicide blackspot
The Darkest Moment
The difficulties around prescribing drugs and alternative medicine
The empathic doctor
The gamblers who get caught in the web
The hands of time go around in circles
The Irish Tenors give concert for suicide
The long goodbye
The Lost Generation
The man who is too nice for politics
The Minister has responsibilities too you know
The moods and manias of an often unquiet mind
The National Suicide Research Foundation
The Net Killers
The other side of suicide prevention (2)
The pain of those who cut
The question that is so rarely answered: Crumlin women’s bid to help deal with suicide
The scary trend of logging on to log off
The scourge of bullying: Bullying is a form of abuse that is sadly becoming more prevalent in today’s society
The silent killer
The Silent Killer; Depression: Families are left to battle on their own
The speed of life that brings tragedy
The unspoken death penalty
There are easier ways to find happiness than by multiplying our wants
There are people who can help with your depression (2)
‘There is always someone to talk to’ - the Samaritans
‘These deaths are ignored by the public at large’
Thugs damage local library; truck ploughs on to golf links
Thirteen weeks of torment
This little girl’s death should shame us all
This woman killed herself: But is a cult responsible for Joanne’s death?
Those who look to Boyne for Escape need more support
Three Heroes Prevent Suicide
Tied up to die in car
Time to weed out the joint approach
‘Tis the season of SADS
To the citizens of Mitteleurop, on the occasion of your arrival in Ireland
Top hurler’s sad suicide stuns village
Top Hyundai Exec in Suicide Jump
Top psychiatrist for Tullamore lecture
Top psychiatrist helps to mark ten years of AWARE
Tories urged to oust rogue councillor
Townshend pondered suicide over kid-porn
Tragedies highlight darkness of Christmas for some
Tragedy after suicide pact
Tragedy of Jockey Tim
Tragedy of the mother State forgot
Tragedy strikes in Carrigstown this week
Tragic Couple had planned to move into their dream new home
Tragic dad gives compo cash away
Tragic death of Knockatalon Man
Tragic girl, 14, in suicide pact
Tragic Jackie
Tragic Jim’s body is found
Tragic notes offer little solace to family (2)
Tragic Roscommon couple expected to visit Donegal
Tragic suicide of young father in search of help
Tragic teen dies in his cell after drug overdose
Tragic teens helpline snub
Tragic teens swore secret suicide pact
Tragic toll for men
Training to tackle high suicide rate
Trevor mum sues: France to pay for suspect’s suicide
Troubled 10-year-olds ‘resorting to suicide’
Troubled boy with no suitable place to be sent to US unit
Troubled teen placed in care after time in jail
Troubled teenagers at risk of suicide
Troubles in the head
Trust concern at case delay
Trust launches suicide alert campaign in cinemas
Tullamore aware asks public to support daisy days
Tullamore business assists Athlone Samaritans in new project (2)
Turning our boys into modern men
Turning the tide of suicide
Twins have lower risk of suicide, claims study
Two of my sons took their own lives in the same year
Two tragic deaths
UK expert warns Council on power lines
Ulster’s dope smoking kids
Unique therapy for patients with bipolar depression
Unpalatable truth about eating disorders
Up to 300 prisoners attempted suicide
Verdict on buses star
Victim lets off beast
Victims Unit offer seminars to clergy and faith workers
Violence ‘sparked 14 suicide bids’
‘Vitriolic attacks’ on psychiatry criticised
Voluntary service helps people to cope with suicide bereavement
Volunteers tell of increasing suicidal calls
Wake-up call
Warning on suicide among the elderly
Warrants out for pair in ‘assisted death’ case
Was Dr. Kelly a Dying Man?
Was it suicide bid?
Was Shipman’s suicide the final act of betrayal?
Waterford man gets life for murder of his wife
Waterford seminar on ‘facing up to suicide’
Wayne was so gentle… we’ll never know why he killed Cliona
We must debate suicide: Charlie McClaffery
‘We must get suicide helpline’
We must take steps to tackle suicide
We needed support but there was none
Weighing up the odds
We’ll never know why?
Well, I’ll go eat my DVD player
We’re at end of the line: Mum’s suicide phone plea
We’re living longer and heading for a baby boom
Westdoc services were refused after Garda call
Westmeath students chosen among nation’s young social innovators
What’s really shocking about this picture…
WHB vows to tackle suicide and road deaths head-on
When Children Die
When depression is denies
When depression is not obvious
‘When my brother committed suicide, my world was torn apart’
When one suicide leads to another
Where it all finishes...
Who knew about Brother Tobin?
‘Whose children are they anyway?’
Why are teens cutting themselves?
Why are we killing ourselves?
Why back problems can be a very lonely condition
Why being a bloke is bad for you
Why Bertie IS to blame for our men behaving badly
Why dads’ army is on the march
Why did my son commit suicide?
Why is it that we have such high levels of suicide here?
Why men die first..
Why special days are a nightmare for some
Why the prevention of suicide is ‘everybody’s business’
Widow calls on Blair to reflect
Wilbur wants to Kill Himself
Winging it (4)
Witness says ‘suicide by copy’ claim does not allow for mental illness
Woman claims garda sexually assaulted her after 999 call
Woman faked suicide attempt in prison cell, Ballinasloe court told
Woman queried over hoax calls is found comatose
Woman ‘sorry’ for hoax
Woman’s killer dies in suicide
Women more likely to attempt suicide - Irish study
Work Aims to improve cliff safety
Worked to death!
Workshop on the issues of suicide
Wrist slash duo will be deported
www.turning the tide of suicide.ie [sic]
Xmas blues: Thousands to call charity helpline
You can help
You hope until the end your loved one will still be alive... It’s such pain when you know they are dead
Young doctors more prone to depression
Young farmers concerned by depression and suicide
Young men face ‘frightening’ suicide risk - health experts
Young mens’ ‘resistance to professional help seeking’
Young people have more on their minds than we realised
Your health and You: Depression
Youth suicide (2)
Youths aims to prevent suicide
Youths lash out at ‘racist Ireland’
Meanings
Messages
+ Myths

The Coverage and Treatment of Suicide in the Irish Print Media

John Cullen