

Sociological Research Methods

Everyone has occasional feelings of sadness, anxiety or feeling depressed. These feelings can sometimes come from situations such as the loss of a loved one, pain or rejection. For most people, these feelings are transitory and pass within a few days. However, for others, these feelings can be extreme and take over their very lives. Sadly, many of these people feel that suicide is the only way out. Unfortunately, each year thousands of teens die by their very own hands. Research shows that, "While the overall rate of suicide among youth ages 10-19 dropped by 5-3 percent between 2004 and 2005, both the 2004 and 2005 rates were still significantly greater than expected" (Currie, 2008).

Teen pregnancy is on the rise and "it may be an indicator of an emerging public health crisis" (Unknown, 2008). According to the article, teen suicide spike was no fluke; a spike in teen suicides in the U.S. sparks major concerns for many. Between the years of 2004 and 2005, teen suicide rates have increased drastically and have become a concern to all parents. Although there are several theories, the numbers continue to increase and the uncertainty as to the root of the cause is of major concern (2008).

Suicide; Research from P. Miotto and co-authors reveals new findings on suicide

This research, which targeted adolescents, was conducted in an attempt to find links between social desirability and suicide ideation. Miotto provided questionnaires to "a mixed male-female sample of 950 school-aged adolescents" (Miotto, 2008). The research method used by Miotto is known as the survey method and in this case, it was used to find personality traits in suicidal teens.

Results indicated, "On the whole 30.6% of females and 23.9% of males reported suicidal ideation of some degree, with 5% in both genders reporting suicide ideation of a high degree" (Miotto, 2008). Additionally, research concluded that some personality traits such as defensiveness, denial and self-deception could be considered as safeguards against suicide and psychiatric disorders.

In reviewing the information, the methodological orientation that best reflects the method used in this article is interpretive sociology. Although the researcher used surveys to gather quantitative data, he used interpretive sociology to develop a qualitative account of the adolescents' perceptions of their surroundings and themselves.

Donya Currie (2008, November). *Teen suicides fall, but rate still high*. *The Nation's Health*, 38(9), 14. Retrieved November 21, 2008, from Research Library database. (Document ID: 1596607121).

Nationwide Children's Hospital; Study: *Teen suicide spike was no fluke*. (2008, September). *Drug Week*, 110. Retrieved November 21, 2008, from Research Library database. (Document ID: 1551495121).

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