

Best practices for reporting on suicide



- **Take the opportunity** to educate the public about suicide
- **Avoid** language which sensationalizes, normalizes suicide, or presents it as a solution to problems
- **Avoid** prominent placement and undue repetition of stories about suicide
- **Avoid** explicit description of the method used in a completed or attempted suicide
- **Avoid** providing detailed information about the site of a completed or attempted suicide
- **Utilize** words in headlines carefully
- **Exercise** caution in using photographs or video footage
- **Take particular care** in reporting celebrity suicides
- **Show due consideration** for people bereaved by suicide
- **Provide** information about where to seek help
- **Recognize** that media professionals themselves may be affected by stories about suicide



Source: Preventing Suicide. A Resource for Media Professionals (WHO-IASP, 2008)



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