



**Oregon State University
The Daily Barometer**

Suicide Prevention Day spreads awareness

05/31/2006

This article, like most other suicide articles, is only looking at these "mental illnesses" as only being caused by what psychiatry says causes them from the Diagnostics and Stastical Manual, a very narrow minded and completely wrong diagnoses' platform from which to diagnose. First of all, the DSM isn't based on medical fact but by what a certain few psychiatrists "think" is a mental illness and give it a label. This is currently being exposed and was featured in the USA Today a couple weeks ago. These psychiatrists also have financial ties to the pharmaceuticals. Make up a disease, give it a name, invent a drug for it, and stigmatize and maim the population from their horrible and sometimes deadly side effects. As I have a unique business, I get a chance to meet lots of people on a daily basis and I have met hundreds of drug addicts addicted to Paxil, Ritalin, Prozac, effexor and have met family's of suicide victims and all were on a psychiatric drug and this is what Teenscreen is all about. It is about the drugs pure and simple. Is is about profits, huge profits and huge research grants given to the psych departments to use human beings as guinea pigs for the new drugs. Look at your local paper and you will find small ads placed looking for people 18-50 years of age willing to take new experimental drugs for depression mostly. Depression amongst teens is on the decline according to many sources, one being the CDC, so why so much attention all of a sudden on deoression and Teenscreen? Look at Eli Lilly's profits, Pfizer, and the rest. They are sky rocketing but on the good side, they have been arrested somewhat by the new FDA warnings of suicidal risks. The FDA had to put the warnings on these drugs as there are too many reports of heart attacks and suicide BECAUSE of the drugs. In Florida a few months ago, Tony Dungy lost his son to suicide and I mean the family no disrespect, but his son was under psychiatric care and on a psych drug at the time of his suicide. Real medical reasons can exist for depression and can be treated by a medical doctor. A proper diet can change and elevate one's mood as well as exercise, real exercise. The only thing TeenScreen is going to accomplish is a higher suicide rate in your area. These people are backed by the drug companies. Go to www.psychsearch.net for some research on your own and find the truth instead of the lies of TeenScreen. It's your choice. Either be a blind man or woman and follow the sheep herder or "look" and "think for yourself"!

Tom Beattie
business owner
Florida

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I am disappointed to learn that May 24th is being used to promote suicide screening. While it sounds like a noble cause, it's real promoters are the pharmaceutical companies which stand to add to their mega millions, and the psychiatric industry which will likewise line their pockets. Both of these groups use junk science and made-up personality labels, neither of which have

any basis in fact.

For me, May 24th will always be the anniversary of the amputation of my son's right leg, this year is the first anniversary and of course it's depressing. Life can be depressing, but "mental health" screening is not the answer. True help is everywhere, in the forms of nutrition (vitamin and mineral imbalances and other problems), allergy screening, competent medical doctors who are able to test for and discover real reasons for the symptoms of the supposed "mental illnesses" (like hormone imbalances and undiagnosed medical conditions), chiropractors, accupunturists, art, sports, clubs, staying away from TV and video/computer games, friends, and of course, family.

Suicide is a tragedy, don't let it be compounded by psychiatry and drugs.

Mary Hilton
Mother
Yamhill County, OR

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With all due respect to Senator Smith for the loss of his son Garrett, I object to the senator promoting a book and events that advises parents to employ the very same solutions that resulted in his son's death.

Garrett Smith was already under psychiatric treatment and taking an antidepressant when he committed suicide. Just a small amount of study on the Internet or FDA website about the side-effects of antidepressants reveals that they cause suicidal thoughts, suicidality and violence. Newspaper accounts of teen suicides, shooting sprees in schools and multiple murder/suicides committed by good kids in schools usually reveals the youth was already getting psychiatric treatment and on an antidepressant. Eight of the last thirteen major school shootings in America were committed by children under the influence of psychiatric drugs. This includes Columbine and Red Lake, Minnesota.

It has been widely reported that Senator Smith's son didn't commit suicide until he got on antidepressants. Although Garrett was near the age of 22 he had reportedly dealt with mental health issues since the age of 10. That is 12 years of living with whatever thoughts and feelings he had to live with and then finally ending his life after being put on antidepressants. There was all that time for the great miracles of psychiatry to work on this child.

The Smith family was failed by psychiatry and the suicide inducing-drugs it doles out to our youth. Due to the many stories like Garrett Smith's, the FDA has now put a Black Box warning on antidepressants to warn of the dangers of suicidal thoughts, suicide and violence they cause.

As for TeenScreen, the private mental health screening program that refuses to publicly reveal where it gets its funding from, it is nothing more than a program supported by the pharmaceutical companies to diagnose more kids with mental illness and get them put on the same profitable psychiatric drugs that led Garrett Smith to commit suicide. It in fact is not a voluntary program at all but is often administered as mandatory in schools and without signed parental consent. It is currently under suit in Indiana for these practices. Read more about TeenScreen at <http://www.psychsearch.net/teenscreen-media.html>

One has to wonder why there is such a push in schools to screen students for signs of suicide when teen suicide has been on the decline for the last twenty years according to statistics

available on the CDC website. Knowing drug companies are behind the creation of this false epidemic, gives you the answer.

Ernest Ryan
Engineer
Temperance, MI

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Every life is precious, every suicide a tragedy. But the whole story has not been told. A recent survey of child psychiatrists showed that 9 out of 10 children who seek "treatment" will be prescribed drugs, some of the same drugs the FDA is now saying can cause suicidality, drugs that Garrett Lee Smith was on when he committed suicide. Violent crimes, murders and suicides have been committed by people on these drugs. A recent study in Florida showed that over 53% of youth suicides in that state were carried out by children who were either on these drugs or in psychiatric treatment. Programs like TeenScreen funnel children into "treatment". The question to ask: "Is the 'treatment' for depression and suicide prevention, the cause for more suicides?" Go here and decide for yourself:

http://www.teenscreentruth.com/psychiatry_drugs_suicide.html

Betty House

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I can hardly think I am so angry! I am sure these people who run Teen Screen believe they are acting in good interests - but they are merely dupes for the drug companies. You know, Hitler also thought he was doing good. Do you think for one minute he didn't? He too was a dupe of the psyches and their drugs.

Sit back for a minute and listen to your own hearts. Since WHEN was EVERY child a suicide risk???? Sure, by all means have places for worried teens to go to, some shoulder to cry on... but to PUT the ideas in their heads that they MIGHT BE unbalanced, might be suicidal - hell that's enough to make anyone jump over the line! How would YOU feel if someone told you that you're likely to kill yourself? Bit like fortune telling isn't it? They tell your future and then you obligingly go and do it!

And do you know which Profession has the highest rate of suicide???? Do I REALLY need to tell you! Psychiatrists of course. They're around the twist!

For Heaven's sake! THINK FOR YOURSELVES.

Iseult Healy
Mother
Ireland

Prevention Day spreads awareness

05/31/2006

Teenscreen has been proven to be nothing but a front for the pharmaceutical industry wanting to put more kids on expensive psychotropic medication, drugs that at long last have been

recognised by the FDA as causing death, suicidality and violence. There is no suicide epidemic only a sick marketing ploy by a billion dollar for-profit industry.

Dominique Beck
Computer Analyst and Mother of four
Clearwater, FL

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I am disgusted and appalled that the University would lend its support to a program as controversial and biased as TeenScreen.

The suicide 'epidemic' they spout on about? Nationally, suicides have DROPPED for fourteen years straight.

The 'voluntary' screening program? They fail to mention the 'opt-out' permission slips sent home to parents - sign it, or we ASSUME you approve of the testing. Where are parent's rights in that equation?

Finally, the program itself. The federal government itself found in 2004 that there was NO evidence that suicide screening programs were effective in either detecting or preventing suicide.

The one thing the TeenScreen program IS good at? Fattening the pockets of its true sponsors - Eli Lilly and other pharmaceutical companies. That's right, even though TeenScreen removed any evidence of this off their web site last year, one of their biggest financial backers is Eli Lilly - makers of Prozac, the drug the FDA links with - wait for it - increased violence and suicidal tendencies!

Don't be fooled, people. This is nothing more than a thinly-veiled attempt to make money off other people's sorrow.

Erik Gross
Business Consultant
Portland

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TeenScreen is not a good solution for suicide prevention. It is solely there to diagnose "mental illness" and get more children on psychotropic drugs. I know that the first thing that will come out of a TeenScreen representative's mouth is that they do not diagnose anything. This is complete and utter fallacy. They will say to the child or parent that they have "x" mental condition based on the answers from a survey and they should seek further "mental health care" with "y" psychologist or psychiatrist. It is wrong on so many levels. It defines whether someone is trouble based on a survey for crying out loud, then it gives psychiatric care as the solution. What about better alternatives like diet, after-school programs, physical health check-ups, etc.? They are not regarded because psychiatrists and pharmaceuticals make no money that way.

Laure Strom

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My heart goes out to those who have lost someone due to suicide. This subject gets very touchy when we enter into the true human feelings we have and tie them into the subject matter. One runs a risk of being thought as "uncaring".

But I have to take issue on two things from this article. One is that TeenScreen is helpful to prevent suicides. That is false and I can't believe someone of influence would suggest it. The FACT is that it has not deterred anyone from completing that action if they have decided to nor has it prevented anyone from contemplating about it.

Two, I am for preventing the horrible effect of such depression that can become suicides and suicidal attempts. Unfortunately, those who would have you believe they are the owners of this subject of the mind are the one's creating the frankenstein epidemic. Sure psychiatry says it has evidence of the biological cause and many drugs to help. But evidence suggest that their methods are causing suicides to increase. I have seen better results of treatments for depression from medical doctors, nutritionist, allergist and sometimes a combination of these same. I have also seen a change of environment help someone in this mind set. So for me, an RN who has watched this conversation across the country by way of media continue to point to "mental health professionals" as the only source of help for these people, I cringe and know that my fellow Americans are being duped, lead down a rose lined path, and that this subject will continue to be discussed until we start to intervene with proven medical methods of finding true sources of depression and suicidal thoughts.

Ken Thomas, RN
Registered Nurse
Florida

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Dear Barometer;

While I applaud the efforts of OSU to do something about preventing suicide among their students, Teenscreen is not the answer. This organization is a fraud and only serves to line the pockets of psychiatrists. This program has virtually no successes, so why pay for it?

I would rather see the money spent on educating students about how an improper diet, a lack of goals, and general out-ethics can adversely affect mood. Teach them what they can do to control their lives, rather than letting life control them .

That makes more sense to me.

Lelia Culpepper
high school teacher
Houston, TX