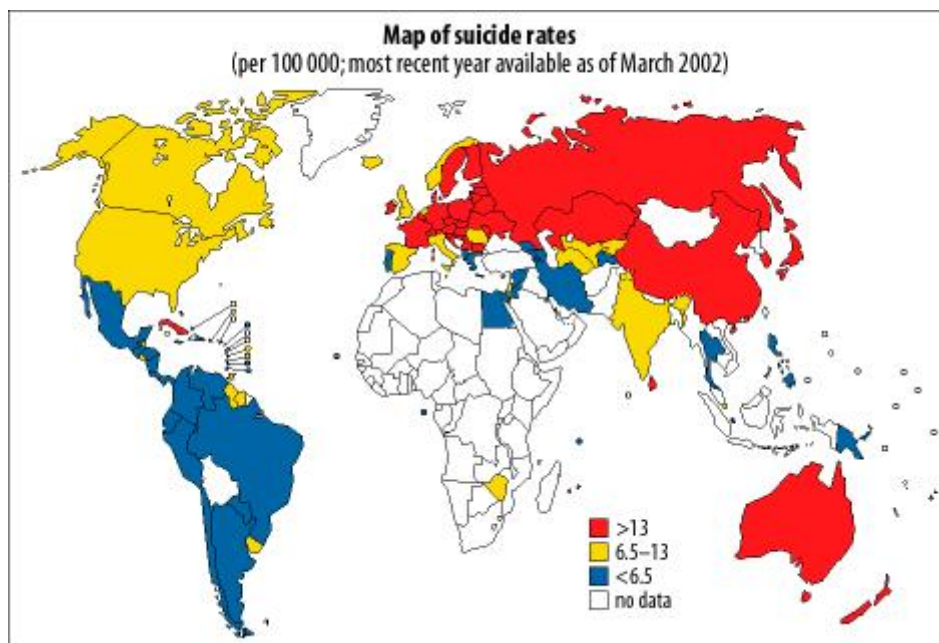


Suicide prevention (SUPRE)

The problem

- In the year 2000, approximately one million people died by suicide: a "global" mortality rate of 16 per 100,000, or one death every 40 seconds.
- In the last 45 years, suicide rates have increased by 60% worldwide. Suicide is now among the three leading causes of death among those aged 15-44 years (both sexes); these figures do not include suicide attempts, which are up to 20 times more frequent than completed suicide.
- Suicide is estimated to represent 1.8% of the total global burden of disease worldwide in 1998, and 2.4% in countries with market and former socialist economies in 2020.
- Although traditionally suicide rates have been highest among the elderly male, rates among young people have been increasing to such an extent that they are now the group at highest risk in developed and developing countries, as well as in the third of countries.
- Mental disorders (particularly depression and substance abuse) are associated with more than 90% of all cases of suicide; however, suicide seems to result from a combination of many complex sociocultural factors, and is more likely to occur particularly during periods of socioeconomic, family and individual crisis situations (e.g. loss of a loved one, employment, honour).



(http://www.who.int/mental_health/prevention/suicide/suicideprevent/en/)