

Introduction

Suicide is a perplexing phenomenon that calls to mind the very nature of human existence. It reminds people of their vulnerability, their transient human dwelling place and most of their entire search for meaning in life. In every day life, the word “suicide” is used to refer to self-chosen behavior that is intended to bring about one’s own death in short term ^(1,2,3).

Suicide is a major public health problem in all countries. It impacts all societies, communities, families and people. Over the whole world, at least 1000 person commit suicide each day. Suicide is the act of killing one self voluntary. It derived from the Latin word “sui” which means “self” and “caeder” “to kill” ^(4,5,6).

In United State of America (USA) there are approximately 12.5 suicidal deaths per each 100.000, which constitute 300.000 person deaths by suicide per year. This makes suicide the tenth leading cause of death. While in the Middle East countries like Jordan, the annual suicide rate was 2.5 per each 100.000 deaths, in Egypt suicide recorded rate were below 10 per 100.000 ^(7,8). Further more, the risk of suicide among patient in a general hospital was three times higher than that was found in the general population. A mental disorder was detected in 88% of suicidal occurrences in general hospital ^(6,7,8).

Suicide is the most violent self-destructive behavior. It is defined as a fatal act that is self- inflicted, consciously intended and is carried out with the knowledge that death is irreversible. Attempted suicide is considered to be a form of violent self-destructive that some members are adopting at increasing and alarming rate. It is usually indicates failure of the coping mechanisms adopted by the person, so attempted suicide is the suicidal act that had failed or was incomplete but the person was rescued ^(9,10).

Forms of suicidal attempt include those behaviors that can occur in two forms. The first one is directed self destructive behavior, which involve activities that are intended to cause death or self harm if uninterrupted. The

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person has an awareness of the desired outcome such as wrist slashing, buying a gun and taking overdose of medication. The second form is indirect self destructive behavior which refers to activities that are potentially detrimental to a person's physical, psychological, social and spiritual well-being. These behaviors may result in death but without person's awareness. Such as "anorexia nervosa, bulimia nervosa, use of alcohol or other drug abuse in addition to engagement in dangerous activities and behavior"^(11,12,13).

Nurses were found that they interpreted motives for suicidal attempt behaviors as wanting to die had more a favorable attitude toward suicidal patient, but found to have difficulties in accepting and understanding suicide attempters, especially in the absence of psychiatric illness nursing staff and psychiatric team member who usually interpret suicidal attempt as manipulative, as opposed the patients themselves who always mentioned interpersonal reason to attempting suicide ^(14,15,16).

Once nurses work in emergency, psychiatric and medical–surgical wards their role should include immediate emotional support the patient. In a questionnaire survey about nurses caring for suicidal attempt patient in England and Wales at Manchester general hospital done by **Sidley 2002** ⁽²⁰⁾, showed the importance for general nurses to be sources of psychological support with Para suicidal patient, only 14% found it rewarding to work with these patient, 64 percent found it uncomfortable, more alarmingly, almost 20 percent suggested that working with suicidal attempt patient should be refused. This indicated that the current services for suicidal attempt patient was inadequate and ineffective ^(17, 18,19, 20).

Suicidal behavior commonly elicits mostly negative emotional reaction among nursing staff members. So it is important to help nurses to be aware of these emotional reaction and attitude, and attention must be paid to those nurse who take the role of care givers to suicidal attempt patient. Focusing on nurses' emotional reaction might facilitate treatment planning by providing them with useful information about suicidal attempt patients, their problems and how to prevent recurrence of suicidal attempted acts ^(20,21,22).