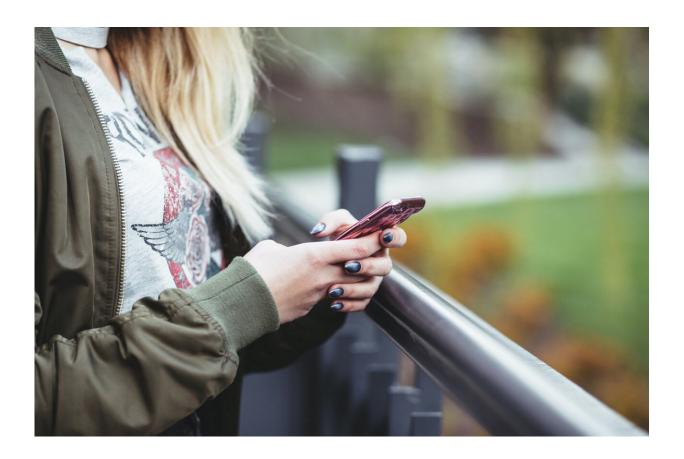


## Research review about suicide communication on digital platforms

July 29 2022



Credit: Unsplash/CC0 Public Domain

The Swedish Media Council (Statens medieråd) in collaboration with NASP has produced a research review about suicide, internet-based communication about suicide and how suicidal individuals can be



## identified online.

In response to the government mandate, led by the Public Health Agency of Sweden and the National Board of Health and Welfare, to provide documentation for a future national strategy in the area of mental health and suicide prevention the Swedish Media Council, together with NASP, has produced Suicide communication on digital platforms: A research review (authored by: Michael Westerlund and Hanna Nilsson). The purpose of the research review is to describe and exemplify different types of suicide-related content and communication on digital platforms, with an emphasis on young people's Internet use.

Four questions are dealt with in the research review:

- What risks/possibilities are associated with suicide related internet use?
- How to identify warning signals on the internet?
- Are there any ongoing or implemented activities within the area and how can they be developed?
- Are there areas or people (target groups who are particularly vulnerable) that should be prioritized in a future national strategy in the area of mental health and <u>suicide prevention</u>, and how should these people be approached?

The internet has been highlighted as the most central platform for suicide communication, often both from a perspective of its potential to strengthen and create new opportunities for suicide preventive activities but also that communication poses a potential threat by, for example, triggering, normalizing, trivializing, and encouraging suicidal acts. Since the mid-1990s, fears have been discussed linked to internet-based communication and <u>suicide</u>, especially with a focus on young people.

More information: Suicide communication on digital platforms: A



research review: news.ki.se/media/133811/download

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