

Slide 1

Postvention for the "Unsuccessful Suicide"

- Relief and anger at the same time
- Failure: "I can't even do this right!"
- Focus on the act. Evoke:
 - The story
 - Interpretation of incompleteness
 - Reflection on near death experience
- Typically triggers a family crisis

IN BETWEEN TIMES

STORY

JUST GOOD PASTORING
PRUSYER

BE READY FOR FAMILY
INTERVENTION OF FAMILY
COUNSELING WITH CO
WORKERS. "HOW DO WE ACT?"

Slide 2

Suicide Postvention

- Historical societal response: *Degradation*
 - Suicide as crime
 - Suicide as sin
 - Suicide as insanity

AFTER THE FACT

MORAL AND CIVIC OUTRAGE...
DESERATION OF THE BODY...
FORFEITURE OF ESTATE

THOU SHALT NOT KILL (EX)
PAUL: BODY AS TEMPLE AND
SHALL NOT BE DESTROYED.

S NOT EVEN ABLE TO
ATONE FOR SINS....

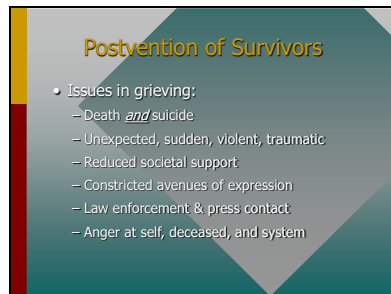
SURVIVORS TREATED
LIKE ACCESSORIES TO
MURDER... SUBSTITUTIONARY
ATONEMENT.

NO RELIGIOUS RITUAL OR
CARE. CRUDE ATTEMPT AT
TEACHING AND DETERENT.

ILLNESS, AT LEAST OFFERED
MEANINGFUL RITUAL, BUT
STILL DENIED FREE AND
HONEST ACCESS TO THE
RELIGIOUSLY BASED GRIEVING
PROCESS

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT..
ASSISTED S... SELF
DETERMINING ACT

Slide 3



Postvention of Survivors

- Issues in grieving:
 - Death *and* suicide
 - Unexpected, sudden, violent, traumatic
 - Reduced societal support
 - Constricted avenues of expression
 - Law enforcement & press contact
 - Anger at self, deceased, and system

WHAT DO YOU DO WHEN THE
ONE YOU LOVE KILLS THE ONE
YOU LOVE?

TWO PARTIES TO A SUICIDE; THE
DEAD GUY AND THE ONE[S]
LEFT BEHIND... THE ONES LEFT
BEHIND BEAR THE BRUNT OF
THE SUFFERING AND PAIN.

FRIGHTENED... SERMONS
“THERE BUT FOR THE GRACE OF
GOD...

“PRIVATE CEREMONY” LATENT
OBIT NO WAKE “HIS
TROUBLES WERE HIS TROUBLES

CRIME SCENE (MURDER)
INSURANCE FIELD REPS... IF IT
BLEEDS, IT LEADS (CISM)

YOU KILLED MY SON (MARTY) --
- WE KILLED HIM (SMITH)

Slide 4

Postvention of Survivors

- **Guilt and shame**
 - for not preventing the suicide
 - for feeling angry
 - for feeling relieved
- Guilt and self-blame turns grieving from a healing process to a self-destructive one.

EVERYBODY FEELS RESPONSIBLE

I WANT TO STRANGLE HIM!!!!!!!

HE WAS IN SO MUCH PAIN, I AM HAPPY FOR HIM

WHAT DO PEOPLE THINK OF US

Slide 5

Postvention of Survivors

- Common defensives against grief process
 - Postponing
 - Displacing
 - Other relationships
 - reattachment < >
 - Self destruction
 - World rescue
 - Minimizing
 - Somatizing

ASHES STILL AROUND

UNHAPPY AND ADJATATED WITH WORK, FAMILY...

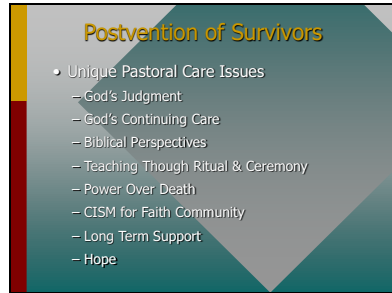
NEW LOVE INTEREST---
OVER/UNDER ATTACHMENT---
UNCONSCIOUS ATTRACH TO SUICIDAL PARTNER... PROVED TO EVERYONE I AM LOVABLE...

INC SEEMINGLY INOC LIFESTYLE

HE'S WITH GOD NOW

CONVERT FEELINGS INTO PHYSICAL SYMTOMS

Slide 6



PROPHETIC VOICE

ATTEND TO S'S STORY
CORRECT AND AMMEND WHEN
NECESSARY--- A GOD WHO
UNDERSTAND BAD
JUDGEMENTS

BE @ FH... BE ACTIVE ABOUT
PLANNING FURNERAL

ALL ELSE FAILS, "FORGIVE
THEM FATHER FOR THEY KNOW
NOT WHAT THEY DO"

NUTURALIZE THE COMMUNITY

UNVIELING