Public Abstract

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Title:Measuring Perceived Self-Efficacy of Teachers' Comprehensive Response to Youth Suicide

Every year approximately 4,500 youth aged 10 to 24 die by suicide (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 2008). Arguably, the best place to intervene with the largest number of students is within the school system. With a large number of intervention efforts targeting schools, it is important to understand how confident teachers are to comprehensively respond to youth suicide. This study further developed the Self-Efficacy of Suicide Procedures (SEOSP) and evaluated its psychometric properties. Additionally, the study examined the relationship among teachers' exposure to youth suicide, amount of youth suicide professional development, and the scores on the SEOSP. The study found that the SEOSP had many strong psychometric properties, and a weak relationship among teachers' exposure to youth suicide, their amount of professional development, and their scores on the SEOSP. The study advances youth suicide prevention research by providing a solid measure to use within youth suicide prevention research and by schools to evaluate the impact of training on their teachers' self-efficacy to comprehensively respond to youth suicide.