

WORLD SUICIDE PREVENTION DAY

10 SEPTEMBER 2025

Start a conversation

What should we say?

Language forms and reflects opinions and perceptions. Words can carry or generate stigmatization and misperceptions. When we talk about suicide, it is important that we use sensitive wording. Phrasing that implies guilt, failure, or victimization can be replaced with better alternatives:

'Committed suicide'

'commit suicide'

↪ 'died by suicide'

'took their own life'

'suicide death'

'Unsuccessful suicide'

'failed suicide'

↪ 'attempt to take their own life'

'Suicide victim'

↪ 'those who died by suicide'

'Being suicidal'

↪ 'having suicidal thoughts or feelings'



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