Suicide Prevention *Language Guide*

Issue	Incorrect	Correct
Language that presents suicide as a **desirable outcome**.	Terms such as '**Successful Suicide**' or '**Unsuccessful Suicide**.'	Instead say, '**Took their own life**,' '**Ended their own life**,' or '**Died by suicide**.'
Phrases that associate suicide with **crime**, **sin**, or **wrongdoing**.	Phrases such like '**Commit suicide**,' or '**Committed suicide**.'	Again, instead use the phrases above such as '**Ended their own life**.'
Language that **glamorizes** a suicide **attempt**.	Using phrases like '**Failed suicide**' implies that a fatal attempt would be '**Successful**.'	Instead say, '**Made an attempt on their life**,' '**Suicide attempt**,' or '**Non-fatal attempt**.'
Phrases that **sensationalize** suicide.	Phrases such as '**Suicide epidemic**."	Use phrases such as '**Higher rates**,' '**Increasing Rates**,' or '**Concerning data**.'
Gratuitous use of the term 'Suicide' **out of context**.	Using terms such as '**Suicide mission**,' '**Political suicide**,' or in sports, '**Suicide pass**.'	**Refrain** from using the word 'Suicide' **out of context**.