



JAMES LEVINE & ASSOCIATES, P.C.

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Suicidal Ideation and Attempts in School-Aged Children

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Time: 1 Day

Suggested Audience: Teachers, School Counseling Staff, Administrators, School Nurses

Instructor/Trainer: Arthur C. Friedman, Ph.D., LICSW
National expert on child sexual abuse and exploitation

Suicide in childhood and adolescence is a tragedy that affects every school system in the United States. We strive to understand how a child or teen would come to attempt suicide, but we are often left with more questions. What are the warning signs and identifiable symptoms of high risk youth? What can school personnel do in their different roles to screen, assess and refer the student to safety?

This training will look at the relationship between suicidal ideation and attempts with a focus on the behaviors associated with suicide that put youth at risk. A discussion of "risk factors", risk "mediators" and a profile of high risk youth will also be included. Several suicide screening and assessment tools will be presented, with case examples and vignettes.

Dr. Friedman has worked in the behavioral health and public health field for over 30 years with children, teens and their families. His doctoral dissertation, "Suicidal Ideation and Attempts at ages 15 and 18 in a Community Sample" provided the foundation for his direct clinical practice with grieving families affected by suicide. Dr. Friedman has extensive experience working as a Consultant to the Massachusetts Department of Health and serves as national expert on child welfare, child sexual exploitation and substance abuse.