Analysis

Research Questions

1. What are the top reasons for suicide attempts and suicide?
2. Which generation has the highest rate of suicide and why?

* Top 3 years of suicide reasons
  + Social media and cyber bullying increased.
  + Few years after the market crashed in 2008/2009
  + Strong correlation between opioid usage and mood disorders amongst adolescent girls
  + Implementation of the cyber bullying act 2013-15
  + Increases in suicide amongst young men partially for the easier access to firearms within the United States
  + Job stability went down due to the crash, economic decline at the country level such as unemployment had a strong correlation to predict suicide.
* Lower 3 years
* Generational suicide rate
  + One of the reasons why generation z suicide rates are lower is because they have not been living as long as the other generations.
* Boomers versus Generation X and Generation G.I.
  + Boomers: 1946-1964
  + Generation X: 1965-1980
  + Generation G.I.: 1997-2012
  + The boomer generation age ranges between 70 and 80 years old to date; generation X are between the ages of 44 and 60 to the date.
  + Some of the reasons accounted for why the boomers have the highest suicide rate are due to feeling like a burden to their family which would lead to substance abuse (mainly pharmaceutical drugs), in addition to there are not many support groups for these two generations.
  + Lack more social interactions that can help them against loneliness that can exacerbate depression.
  + Many elderly have underlying health conditions making them more susceptible to suicide attempts.
* Overdose amongst cultures/races.
* Data can be puzzling and misinterpreted because it is hard to “prove” suicide. Sometimes can be documented as an accident or undetermined intent.
  + Common reason for suicide amongst all cultures include:
    - Access to drugs
  + Black Americans reasons that lead to degraded mental and physical health
    - Pervasive racism
    - Substantial stress
    - Fewer opportunities for advancement
    - Increased threats to well-being
    - Limited education
    - Limited employment
    - Limited income
    - Because Black Americans are more likely to identify as Christians, they are more likely to believe suicide precludes reaching heaven.
  + Caucasian Americans have 1/3 the suicide rate of all other cultures.
    - Highest amongst middle-aged white Americans without a college degree
    - Higher suicide rates in rural America
      * According to the CDC- two times more likely that rates in larger metropolitan counties.
  + Hispanic Americans
    - Low suicide rate who also tend to be poorer and face discrimination
      * Close social and family networks- can build and maintain resilience and moral objection.
    - Culturally, they can lose some of the protection that the Latino community provides by committing suicide.
* Male Suicide reasons vs Female
  + Men value independence and decisiveness, and they regard acknowledging a need for help as weakness and avoid it.
  + Women value interdependence, and they consult friends and readily accept help.
  + Women consider decisions in a relationship context, taking many things into consideration, and they feel freer to change their minds.
  + Factors that protect women from suicide are opposite to vulnerability factors in men.
    - It is argued that women derive strength and protection from suicide by virtue of specific differences from men.
* Different suicide methodology between women and men
  + availability, accessibility, popularity, and social acceptability seem to be the major determinants in the choice of methods among males and females rather than violence associated and lethality of the method.
  + Men use more exact methods such as hanging and guns.
  + Link between owning a gun, men tend to own guns and women do not.
  + Women attempt suicide more and men complete suicide more.
  + One theory for women suicide method: “women’s suicidal missions are compromised by their vanity, namely their concerns about their post-mortem visage.”
  + Usage of Suicidal Intent Scale – a checklist to determine if someone is actually suicidal (women tend to score lower)
  + Another possible theory is that women attempt more as a “cry for help.”
  + Suicidal women don’t want to leave their mutilated bodies behind for their friends or loved ones to find, anticipating the trauma it will cause others.
* GDP capita relationship to suicide rates
  + A lower income rate is a predictor of a higher suicide rate.
  + Males who have lost their jobs in adulthood are those at higher risk of suicide and to whom financial support measures should be delivered in a timely manner.
  + Every 1% increase in global unemployment rates is associated with a 1% upsurge in male deaths by suicide.
  + Lower income and unemployment is strongly correlated with an increase in suicide
  + Strong correlation between increase in inflation and suicide rate

References

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