

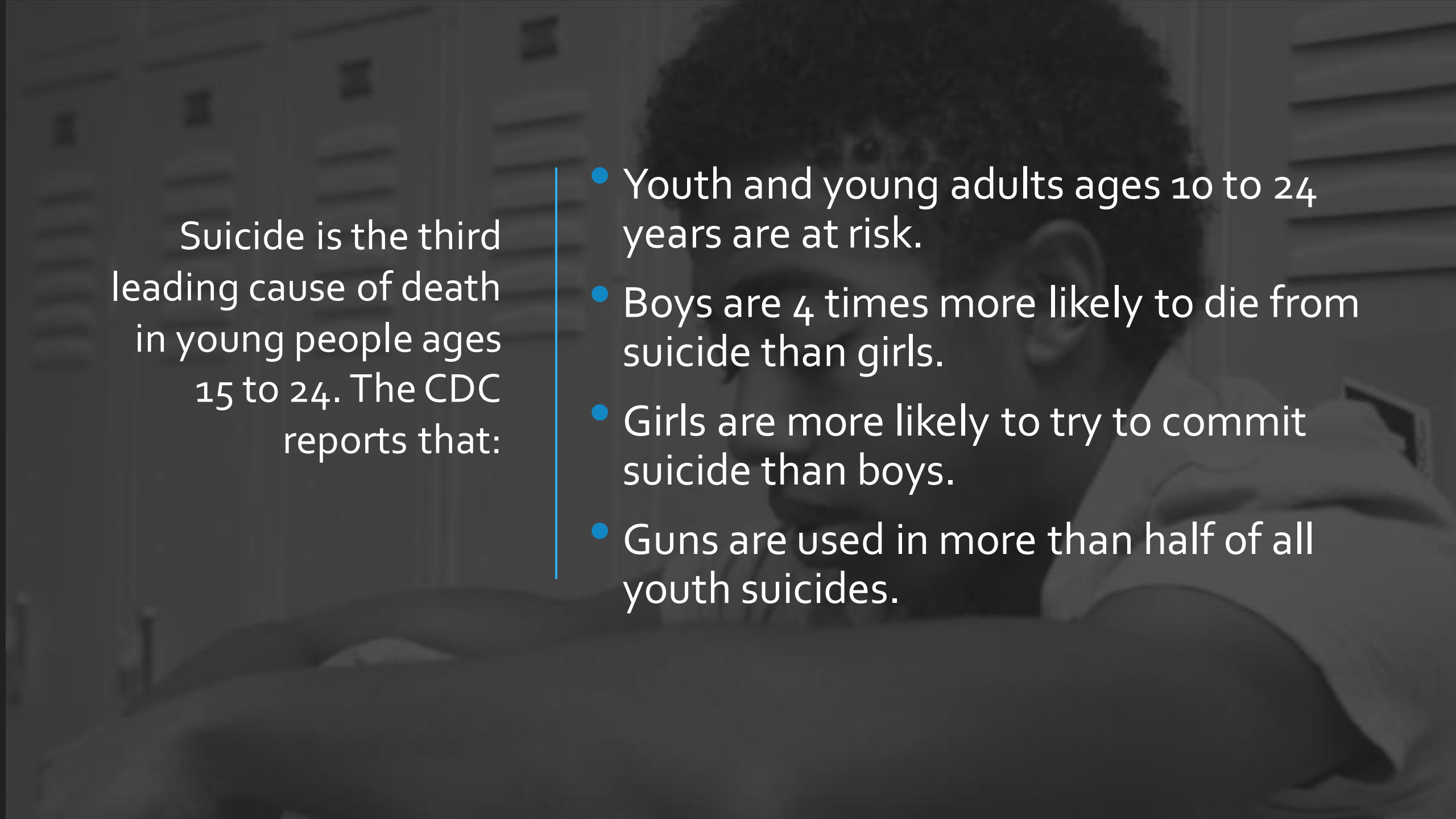
Youth Suicided





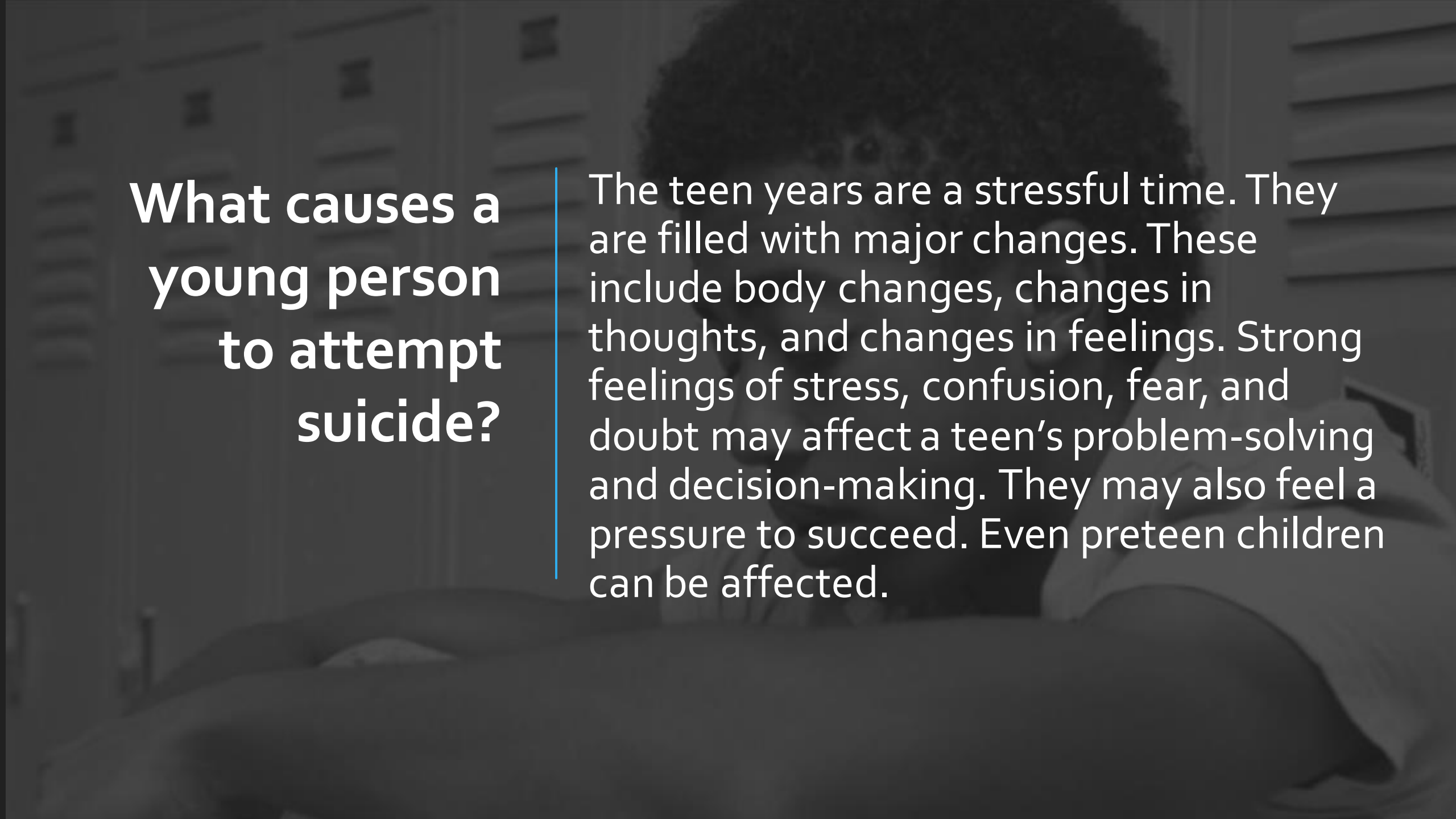
What is youth suicide?

Suicide is when a person causes their own death on purpose. Before trying to take their own life, a young person may have thoughts of wanting to die. This is called suicidal ideation. The young person may also have suicidal behavior. That's when a person is focused on doing things that cause their own death.



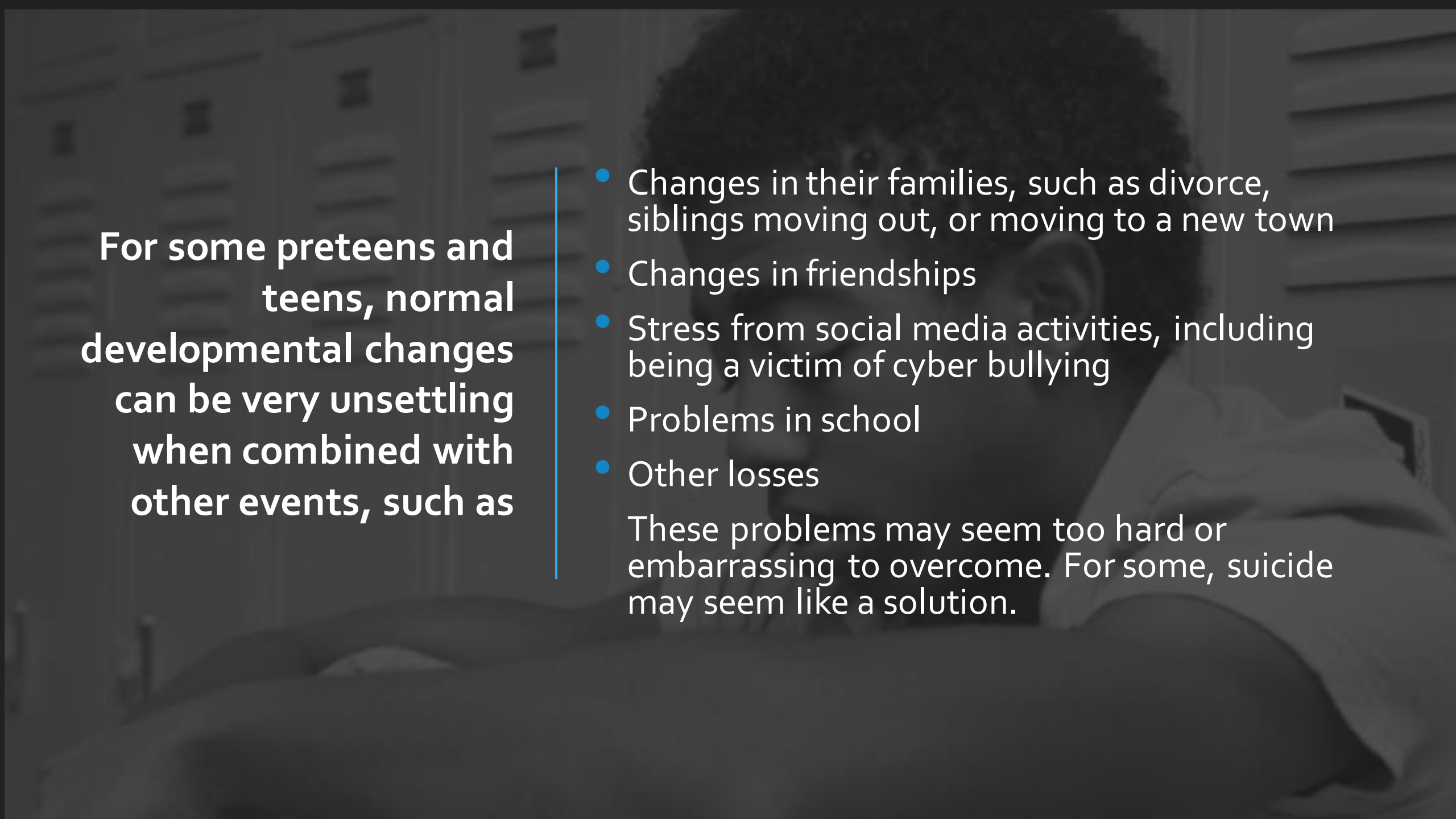
Suicide is the third leading cause of death in young people ages 15 to 24. The CDC reports that:

- Youth and young adults ages 10 to 24 years are at risk.
- Boys are 4 times more likely to die from suicide than girls.
- Girls are more likely to try to commit suicide than boys.
- Guns are used in more than half of all youth suicides.



What causes a young person to attempt suicide?

The teen years are a stressful time. They are filled with major changes. These include body changes, changes in thoughts, and changes in feelings. Strong feelings of stress, confusion, fear, and doubt may affect a teen's problem-solving and decision-making. They may also feel a pressure to succeed. Even preteen children can be affected.

A young person with curly hair is looking down at a smartphone in a school hallway. The background shows rows of lockers.

For some preteens and teens, normal developmental changes can be very unsettling when combined with other events, such as

- Changes in their families, such as divorce, siblings moving out, or moving to a new town
- Changes in friendships
- Stress from social media activities, including being a victim of cyber bullying
- Problems in school
- Other losses

These problems may seem too hard or embarrassing to overcome. For some, suicide may seem like a solution.