Professor David Gunnell

A population health perspective on recent influences on suicide: the global financial crisis, the Internet and new methods of suicide.

About the lecture:
Two important influences on trends in national suicide rates are periods of economic recession and changes in access to, and use of, high-lethality methods of suicide. Focusing on recent research carried out by researchers from Bristol UK, this talk will describe a) the impact of the recent economic recession on suicide in the UK and worldwide and b) the rise in use of new methods of suicide by gassing in East Asia and England and the possible role of media reporting and the Internet in propagating use of these methods.

David Gunnell is Professor of Epidemiology at the University of Bristol (UK) School of Social and Community Medicine. He is a National Institute of Health Research (NIHR) Senior Investigator, a Member of the National Suicide Prevention Advisory Group for England and contributed to WHO’s 2014 Preventing Suicide Report. He was awarded the 2015 American Foundation for Suicide Prevention’s Research Award and the 2015 International Association for Suicide Prevention’s Stengel Research Award.

His research is focused on two main areas: (1) national and international strategies for preventing suicide and improving mental health; (2) early life influences on adult health, particularly mental illness. He also leads an NIHR-funded programme of research in support of the National Suicide Prevention Strategy for England, research carried out in partnership with service users and research colleagues from the Universities of Oxford, Manchester and Glasgow.

Date: Wednesday 12th August | Time: 4pm | Venue: Black Dog Institute

RSVP enquiries@cresp.edu.au by Friday August 7th

Please also join us afterwards for some light refreshments.

Please note: This presentation is targeted at health professionals and researchers working in the area of suicide prevention and mental health and is not relevant for the general community.

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