

This paper aims to provide insight into the risk factors contributing to suicidal ideation and behavior among adolescents. First, the author overviews the extant academic literature on the subject. She highlights the persistently high incidence of suicide among young people in the Czech Republic and briefly defines the stages of adolescence as well as the particular forms and methods of suicidal behavior. Subsequently, the author discusses in detail individual aspects of demographics, clinical data, familial environments and interpersonal relationships that the academic literature associates with an increased risk of suicidality among adolescents. Concluding the overview, the author sets the topic of suicide into the context of a children's crisis helpline. The author goes on to present an empirical analysis of reports documenting suicidal calls made to a children's crisis helpline. She uses both qualitative and quantitative methods to identify particular life circumstances that may contribute to the development of suicidal ideation and/or behavior, paying attention to distinct aspects of suicidality and to gender differences. As part of her analysis, the author critically evaluates the benefits and pitfalls associated with the use of data obtained from an anonymous crisis helpline.