



D50 A Decade of Student Deaths at Purdue University - Are There Similarities?

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Participants of this presentation will be briefed on the ten year statistical overview and information gained in this research of deaths among Purdue University college student that can be utilized in analyzing the cause and manner of deaths with the focus on adjusting or implementing preventative measures related to these deaths.

This presentation will impact the forensic community and/or humanity by providing the forensic community with information gained through this research which can be analyzed for potential implementation or improvement of services to college students in the area of suicide and homicide prevention. Being able to recognize and focus on the high risk students may also decrease suicide rate.

The ten year statistical overview and information gained in this research of deaths among Purdue University college students can be utilized in analyzing the cause and manner of deaths. The focus should be on adjusting or implementing preventative measures related to deaths among college students and improving or enhancing the college experience among co-eds. Review of the 121 death records, and law enforcement case reports revealed that a total number of 25 students committed suicide; three students were victims of homicide; 19 students died of natural causes; and 54 students died as a result of being involved in an automobile accident. The remaining 17 deaths were ruled either accidental or undetermined. In addition, the number of undergraduate student deaths was 91 and the graduate student deaths were 19, leaving 16 unknown of their collegiate status.

Homicide, Suicide, College Student