

National Suicide Prevention Leaders Tackle Ted Style Talks

“Voice of the Ravens” Football Announcer and Media Coach Gerry Sandusky Turns Clinicians into Connectors

PHOENIX, AZ, U.S., April 25, 2017 /EINPresswire.com/ -- Five national leaders will present Ted-style talks on [suicide prevention](#) subjects at the 50th anniversary conference for the [American Association of Suicidology](#) (AAS) held in Phoenix, AZ, on April 26 – 28th.

According to football announcer and Ted-talk trainer, Gerry Sandusky, these clinicians will not be sharing run-of-the-mill “beige” presentations.



“Just saying the word suicide demands the attention of an audience,” said AAS President Elect and [RI International](#) CEO and President David Covington. “This subject matter is of utmost importance and has a gravity to it, which is all the more reason we must deliver clear and concise messages, especially when speaking to an audience of 1,500 prevention experts.”

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Speakers (in order as pictured) include David Jobes, Ph.D., ABPP, Professor of Psychology and Associate Director of Clinical Training for The Catholic University of America, whose talk, Growing up in AAS, is about the development of a career suicidologist with experience spanning three decades in the field.

Suicide loss survivor-- and attempt survivor--Bart Andrews, PhD, licensed psychologist and Vice President of Clinical Practice for Behavioral Health Response, focuses on understanding life after loss in his talk, A World without Us.

John Draper, Ph.D., Chief Clinical Officer, Mental Health Association of NYC, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline and National Networks leader, speaks to the need for connecting people to their reasons for living, with his Should Meaning Mean More in Suicide Prevention Ted-style Talk.

Cheryl A. King, Ph.D., University of Michigan Professor and Mary A. Rackham Institute executive will deliver, The Challenge to Recognize Suicide Risk among Teenage Males.

Finally, Covington, MBA, LPC, talks about contagiousness in his talk, Spreading Fear: The Story of Ebola and What it Means for Suicide Prevention.

Covington, who has spoken in a dozen countries, connected a few years ago with Sandusky to polish his 15-minute presentations that he has since delivered across the U.S., U.K., Australia and Japan. When he became president elect for AAS, he asked Sandusky to help prepare his fellow presenters. "The genius of a Ted Style Talk is its length, 18 minutes or less. It gives the presenter enough time to craft his or her ideas in a compelling fashion without taxing the attention span of the audience. The time limitation puts increased pressure on the speaker to hone his or her message, but still gives enough room to fully explain complicated ideas and the connection between ideas and events," said Sandusky.

About AAS: Founded in 1968 by Edwin S. Shneidman, PhD, AAS promotes research, public awareness programs, public education and training for professionals and volunteers. The membership of AAS includes mental health and public health professionals, researchers, suicide prevention and crisis intervention centers, school districts, crisis center volunteers, survivors of suicide loss, attempt survivors, and a variety of lay persons who have an interest in suicide prevention. You can learn more about AAS at www.suicidology.org[suicidology.org].

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