

# CCHR Releases New Report on Link Between Psychotropic Drugs and School Shootings

*The goal of this report is to help law enforcement and policy makers learn how psychotropic drugs are a hidden link to violence and suicide in the community.*

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, UNITED STATES, March 23, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The mental health watchdog group, [Citizens Commission on Human Rights](#) (CCHR) International is offering Law Enforcement Officers (LEOs) and school officials a free copy of its compelling new [report](#) about a common denominator found in many mass shootings: psychotropic drugs. The report, called **Psychiatric Drugs Create Violence & Suicide: [School Shootings](#) & Other Acts of Senseless Violence**, provides information on more than 30 studies that link antidepressants, antipsychotics, psychostimulants, mood stabilizers and sedative hypnotics to adverse effects that include hostility, mania, aggression, self-harm, suicide and homicidal thoughts.

The 64-page report details more than 60 examples of school and mass shootings, stabbings and senseless violent acts committed by those under the influence of psychotropic drugs or experiencing serious withdrawal from them.

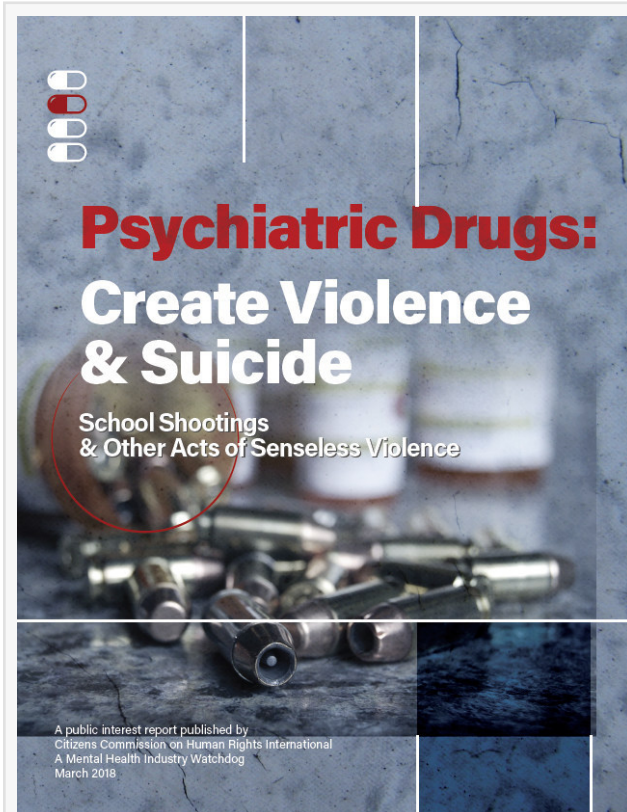
Jan Eastgate, President of CCHR International, said, "The goal of this report is to help law enforcement, educators and policy makers learn how psychotropic drugs are a hidden link to the prevalence of violence and suicide in the community. Facts, statistics, studies and expert opinion in the report show the medical concerns about the rise of senseless acts of violence coincident with the increase in psychotropic drug prescriptions and usage."

“

Psychiatric drugs create dependence, suicide and violence in a percent of individuals taking them. That is a documented fact."

*Jan Eastgate, President  
CCHR International*

taking an antidepressant. The jury determined that the drug was 80 percent responsible for the crime



CCHR campaign launched to educate law enforcement, policy makers and school officials about violence- and suicide-inducing drug risks

Some of the information the report covers:

- An Australian judge said an antidepressant was the "overwhelmingly probable" reason for turning a peaceful, law-abiding man into a brutal killer of his wife.[1]
- A Wyoming jury awarded \$8 million to the relatives of a man who, with no history of aggressive or suicidal behavior, went on a shooting rampage killing three family members after

and “can cause some people to become homicidal and/or suicidal.”[2]

- A Harvard Medical school psychiatrist says: “The irritability and impulsivity” from antidepressants “can make people suicidal or homicidal.”[3]

- An affiliate professor of Biology at Loyola University Maryland says: “The link between antidepressants and violence, including suicide and homicide, is well-established.”[4]

- A leading international psychopharmacology expert and professor of psychiatry reports: “Violence and other potentially criminal behavior caused by prescription drugs are medicine’s best-kept secret.”[5] He also believes that an estimated 90 percent of school shootings, over more than a decade, were linked to SSRI antidepressants.[6]

- 27 international drug agency warnings link psychiatric drugs to the adverse effects of violence, mania, psychosis or homicidal ideation; 49 warn of self-harm or suicide/suicidal ideation and 17 report addiction or withdrawal effects.[7]

- The Adverse Event Reporting System (AERS) of U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has at least 1,530 cases of homicide/homicidal ideation associated with psychiatric drugs.

- Researchers took the FDA ADR data and identified 25 psychotropic drugs that are disproportionately associated with violence.[8]

- A New York forensic psychologist says that most of the young murderers he has personally examined had been “in

‘treatment’ and were using prescribed stimulant/amphetamine type drugs before and during the killing events. These medications did not prevent but instead contributed to the violence....”[9]

Psychiatric Drug-Induced “Suicide by Cop”

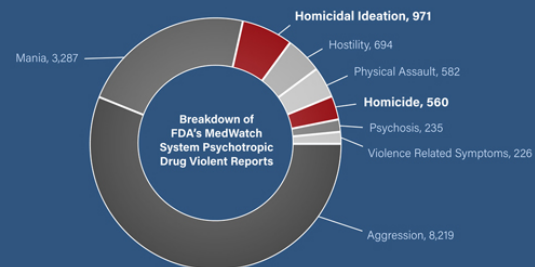
Ann Blake Tracy, Ph.D., head of the International Coalition for Drug Awareness, says there is a whole

### Reports to FDA's Medwatch System on Violent Adverse Effects Linked to Psychiatric Drugs

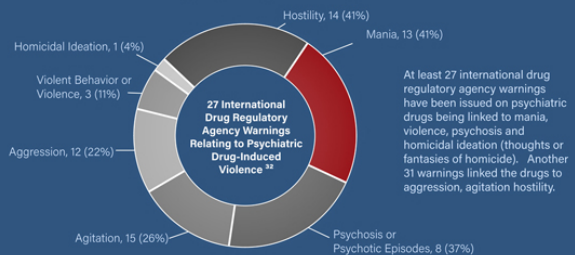
The FDA's Adverse Event Reporting System has at least 1,530 reports of homicide or homicidal ideation linked to psychiatric drugs. FDA admits that only 1% - 10% of drug side effects are reported to its MedWatch program. Taking a moderate 5%, the potential number of reported incidents could be as high as 30,360. A percent of those could be driven to commit violent crimes.

1,530 - Actual Number of Reports to FDA

30,360 - Potential Number Unreported to FDA



### International Drug Agency Warnings on Violence



Researchers took the FDA ADR data and identified 25 psychotropic drugs that are disproportionately associated with violence.

### 31 Prescription Drugs Linked to Violence, 79% were Psychiatric



Researchers took the FDA Adverse Event Reporting System data and of 484 prescription drugs identified, 31 were disproportionately associated with violence, of which 25 were psychotropic (psychiatric) drugs. Their findings, published in *Public Library of Science ONE*, included 11 antidepressants, six sedative/hypnotics and three drugs for treatment of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). The specific cases of violence included: homicide, physical assaults, physical abuse, homicidal ideation, and cases described as violence-related symptom.

### Psychotropic Drugs Associated with the Highest Rates of Violence Compared to Other Drugs

#### Antidepressants include:

Fluoxetine (Prozac)	10.9 times
Paroxetine (Paxil)	10.3 times
Fluvoxamine (Luvox)	8.4 times
Venlafaxine (Effexor)	8.3 times
Desvenlafaxine (Pristiq)	7.9 times
Sertraline (Zoloft)	6.7 times

#### Stimulants (for ADHD):

Amphetamines	9.6 times
Atomoxetine (Strattera)	9 times

#### Benzodiazepine:

Triazolam (Halcion)	8.7 times
---------------------	-----------

27 international drug agency warnings link psychiatric drugs to the adverse effects of violence, mania, psychosis or homicidal ideation

new vocabulary today as a result of widespread antidepressant use, with terms such as “road rage,” “murder/suicide,” “going postal” and “suicide by cop.”[10] For example, a suicidal veteran fired 11 shots during an encounter with police in Spokane, Washington, admitting during his trial that he had unloaded his gun (in the air) before walking out into the alley where he intended to provoke the police to shoot him as part of a “suicide by cop” plan. He’d been prescribed an antidepressant documented to cause suicidal thoughts.[11]

CCHR is clear that not every violent killer has been on or withdrawing from a psychotropic drug at the time of committing a crime, but in many cases such drugs emerge when learning of the killer’s background and believes that in any official response to an incident such as the Vegas concert shooting, Texas Church Shooter or Parkland Florida school shooting, LEOs, educators and legislators should not lose sight of the fact that there is a driving force behind someone picking up a gun, knife or even making a bomb to carry out violent and deadly acts. And there is sufficient evidence to investigate the role of prescribed mind-altering drugs in inducing altered states of mind in a percentage of people taking these drugs.

Some of the recommendations in the report include:

- Legislative hearings should be held to fully investigate the correlation between psychiatric treatment and violence and suicide.
- Toxicology testing for psychiatric drugs should be mandatory in cases where someone has committed a mass shooting or other serious violent crime, the information from which would become part of a national database that all branches and levels of law enforcement could access.

Eastgate summarizes: ““Psychiatric drugs create dependence, suicide and violence in a percent of individuals taking them. That is a documented fact. The disastrous consequences are felt by all. As so many lives are at stake, it is vital that each person who is in a position to take action avail themselves of this information to help protect our communities.”

Law Enforcement Officers and School Officials wishing a free printed copy of: Psychiatric Drugs Create Violence & Suicide: School Shootings & Other Acts of Senseless Violence can email [media@cchr.org](mailto:media@cchr.org) or contact Amber Rauscher at (323) 467-4242.

#### References:

[1] “Prozac class drug blamed for killing” [theguardian.com/uk/2001/may/26/sarahboseley](http://theguardian.com/uk/2001/may/26/sarahboseley).

[2] “SSRIs Called on Carpet Over Violence Claims” [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1564177](http://ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC1564177).

[3] “FDA Mulls Antidepressant Warnings,” [articles.dailypress.com/2004-03-21/news/0403210207\\_1\\_dr-joseph-glenmullen-corey-baadsgaard-school-shootings-and-murder-suicides](http://articles.dailypress.com/2004-03-21/news/0403210207_1_dr-joseph-glenmullen-corey-baadsgaard-school-shootings-and-murder-suicides).

[4] “Antidepressants: a deadly treatment?” [baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/bs-ed-antidepressants-violence-20150411-story.html](http://baltimoresun.com/news/opinion/bs-ed-antidepressants-violence-20150411-story.html).

[5] “What ‘60 Minutes’ Gets Wrong in Report on Mental Illness and Violence” [blogs.scientificamerican.com/cross-check/what-e2809c60-minutese2809d-gets-wrong-in-report-on-mental-illness-and-violence](http://blogs.scientificamerican.com/cross-check/what-e2809c60-minutese2809d-gets-wrong-in-report-on-mental-illness-and-violence).

[6] “Psych meds linked to 90% of school shootings” [wnd.com/2012/12/psych-meds-linked-to-90-of-](http://wnd.com/2012/12/psych-meds-linked-to-90-of-)

school-shootings/#i1JviHwg3g2T7KSt.99.

[7] [cchrint.org/school-shooters](http://cchrint.org/school-shooters).

[8] "Prescription Drugs Associated with Reports of Violence Towards Others"  
[plosone.org/article/info%3Adoi%2F10.1371%2Fjournal.pone.0015337](https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0015337).

[9] "Mass shooters received only limited treatment" [nationalpsychologist.com/2014/09/mass-shooters-received-only-limited-treatment/102638.html](http://nationalpsychologist.com/2014/09/mass-shooters-received-only-limited-treatment/102638.html).

[10] "Suicide & Death Can Lurk in Each SSRI Pill" [rense.com/general77/lurk.htm](http://rense.com/general77/lurk.htm).

[11] "Man seeking 'suicide by cop' found guilty of assault" [spokesman.com/stories/2016/feb/11/man-who-encouraged-spokane-police-to-shoot-him-fou/](http://spokesman.com/stories/2016/feb/11/man-who-encouraged-spokane-police-to-shoot-him-fou/); Jeff Humphrey  
"Army vet gets nine years for suicide by cop attempt" [kxly.com/news/local-news/spokane/army-vet-gets-nine-years-for-suicide-by-cop-attempt\\_20161121034442715/176407731](http://kxly.com/news/local-news/spokane/army-vet-gets-nine-years-for-suicide-by-cop-attempt_20161121034442715/176407731)

Amber Rauscher  
Citizens Commission on Human Rights International  
323-467-4242  
[email us here](#)

---

This press release can be viewed online at: <http://www.einpresswire.com>

Disclaimer: If you have any questions regarding information in this press release please contact the company listed in the press release. Please do not contact EIN Presswire. We will be unable to assist you with your inquiry. EIN Presswire disclaims any content contained in these releases.  
© 1995-2018 IPD Group, Inc. All Right Reserved.