

CCHR's "Psychiatric Drugs Create Violence & Suicide" report—A Wakeup Call on Mass Violence

The comprehensive report reveals that both antipsychotics and antidepressants have been linked to violence in a percentage of those people taking these drugs.

CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, UNITED STATES, September 4, 2018 /EINPresswire.com/ -- The mental health watchdog, [Citizens Commission on Human Rights](#) (CCHR), says the latest Florida shooting by David Katz, on the heels of the Stoneman Douglas High School shooting in February, are examples of tragedies that were long in the making. CCHR points to failed psychiatric treatment and programs that may have exacerbated both killers' mental decline noting that at least one psychiatrist affiliated with Katz surrendered his license to practice in 2009 over immoral conduct with a female patient.



The headquarters for CCHR Florida are located in downtown Clearwater

This begs the question of how many more tragedies and lost lives will it take before governments recognize that in addition to any other actions taken the increasing number of reports of psychiatric drug and treatment histories of those committing such crimes must be taken into account.

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Two people were killed and 12 more wounded before suspected gunman David Katz (24), from Baltimore, Maryland, took his own life at an e-sports tournament in Jacksonville, Florida. According to divorce records and a CNN report, it is now known that Katz underwent psychiatric “treatment” from at least as early as aged 12 and that he was prescribed a number of psychiatric drugs, including antipsychotics and [antidepressants](#). Additionally a 2006 letter from the father's attorney reveals that Katz

had seen “a succession of psychiatrists.”[1]

A media report also divulged that Katz's parents fought over using drugs, including Abilify and Prozac, to treat their son. The father said his son was placed on two antidepressants, which he said at the time “pose significant and unknown risks to the children.” Another report said Katz been prescribed the antidepressant Lexapro.[2][3]

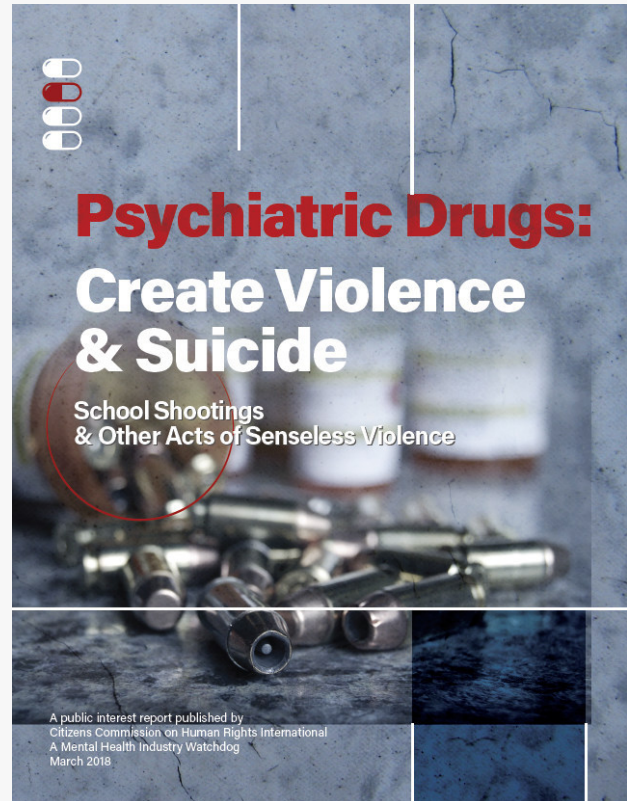
An autopsy is being performed on Katz and CCHR says regardless of whether or not drugs are found in his system, his case—along with Nikolas Cruz—are indicative of the failure of psychiatric “treatment,” especially where drugs and/or psychological behavior modification may have been involved.

CCHR’s comprehensive report, [Psychiatric Drugs Create Violence & Suicide: Putting the Community at Risk](#), shows that since the introduction of antipsychotics in 1955 and the newer Selective Serotonin Reuptake Inhibitors (SSRI) antidepressants, like Prozac, in 1987, both groups of drugs have been linked to violent effects in a percentage of those taking them.[4]

Cited in the report is Harvard Medical school psychiatrist Joseph Glenmullen who said: “The irritability and impulsivity” from antidepressants, for example, “can make people suicidal or homicidal.” Also cited is Patrick D. Hahn, an affiliate professor of Biology at Loyola University in Maryland who confirms: “The link between antidepressants and violence, including suicide and homicide, is well established.”[5][6]

However, even once off psychiatric drugs, there are ongoing drug-induced problems including withdrawal effects, especially from benzodiazepines, that can last weeks and sometimes months or years. Benzodiazepine withdrawal includes increased anxiety, perceptual distortions, depersonalization, paranoid thoughts, rage, aggression and irritability to name but a few. Post-withdrawal symptoms from antidepressants also “may last several months to years” and include disturbed mood, excessive emotional reactions, frequent mood changes and irritability, according to a 2012 article in *Psychotherapy and Psychosomatics*. [7][8]

At least 27 international drug regulatory agency warnings have been issued on psychiatric drugs being linked to mania, psychosis violence, homicidal ideation, aggression and



Psychiatric Drugs Create Violence & Suicide: Putting the Community at Risk



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hostility.[9]

The FDA's Adverse Event Reporting System has at least 1,530 cases of homicide/homicidal ideation reported to it as linked to psychiatric drugs. The FDA admits that only 1-10 percent of drug side effects are reported to its MedWatch program. Taking a moderate five percent, then, the potential number of reported incidents could be as high as 30,620. A percentage of those could be driven to commit violent crimes.

"State and federal governments need to at least investigate the mounting evidence that psychiatric treatment and its failure has had something to do with a large percentage of the acts of senseless violence we are witnessing today," stated Diane Stein, President of the CCHR Florida chapter.

CCHR recommends that individuals concerned with the link between violence and drugs send a copy of its report, *Psychiatric Drugs Create Violence & Suicide: Putting the Community at Risk* to their legislative representative calling for an investigation.

About CCHR: Initially established by the Church of Scientology and renowned psychiatrist Dr. Thomas Szasz in 1969, CCHR's mission is to eradicate abuses committed under the guise of mental health and enact patient and consumer protections. L. Ron Hubbard, founder of Scientology, first brought psychiatric imprisonment to wide public notice: "Thousands and thousands are seized without process of law, every week, over the 'free world' tortured, castrated, killed. All in the name of 'mental health,'" he wrote in March 1969. For more information visit, www.cchrflorida.org

Sources:

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Diane Stein

Citizens Commission on Human Rights (CCHR) of Florida
7278715715
email us here

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