

## But Your Son Wanted to Die – Mine Didn't



I cringed as once again I heard this remark, repeated so often since Warren took his life 3 ½ years ago. Even now, when I thought I had steeled myself to the harsh meaning of the words they still left me hurt and demolished. Is it all that simple? Could anyone “Feeling good” just choose to die like that... if they knew the pain and suffering that then engulfs their surviving family.

How can I explain why he died when I do not really know myself? How can I make anyone understand his emotional pain, increasingly obvious to us, so skillfully masked from others? Our son was so handsome, intelligent and sensitive, it is still incredible that he shot himself one morning shortly after returning from hospital “cured” of his terrible depression. Our beautiful first-born baby grew into a perfect son, but somewhere, somehow, our masterpiece had a flaw as cruel and as tenacious as any disease that strikes any young person.

So, until research proves otherwise, we have to go along with the words of Professor Erwin Ringle that “SUICIDE CANNOT REALLY BE CHOSEN – since an intense and overwhelming inner compulsion renders any free choice null and void.”

Our loss is as great as any other parent. WE grieve just as deeply. Remember this and do not judge, we beg. We, and all the Survivors of Suicide suffer too much already from a horrendous tragedy that can, and does, happen to anyone.

OUR KIDS LOVE US ---  
AND WE LOVED THEM!

By Maureen Hargreaves, TCF Melbourne Australia  
Reprinted from TCF Northshore/Boston Newsletter, 11/95

## Always Remember

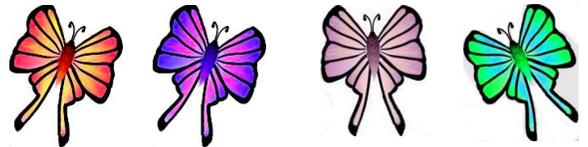


Always remember that if you could have prevented your child's death, you would have. There are a lot of reasons you weren't able to do so.

- You may have too frightened to know what to do.
- You may not have known the difference between normal growing-up behavior and serious depression.
- You may have been labeled “over-protective” if you did share your fears.
- You hoped it would pass, get better, work itself out.

- You wanted to give your child every benefit of the doubt and to trust your child.
- You didn't want to be an alarmist when maybe nothing was really wrong.
- You may have actually tried to get help and were ignored or turned away.
- You may have done everything possible and it still happened.

From “Suicide of a Child:  
Joy and Marvin Johnson, Adine Wroblewski  
Reprinted from TCF Northshore/Boston October 1993 Newsletter



## Survivors of Suicide

<http://survivorsofsuicide.com/>

The Survivors of Suicide web site is an independently owned and operated web site and is in no way associated with any specific group, organization or religious affiliation.

The purpose of the Survivors Of Suicide web site is to help those who have lost a loved one to suicide resolve their grief and pain in their own personal way.

The grief that survivors of suicide experience is unique. The questions often left behind are at times unbearable. It is my hope that this site will offer information that will help answer some of those questions, as well as provide a safe place for survivors and friends of survivors to share their struggle and pain and offer comfort and understanding to others who have experienced a similar loss.

## SiblingSurvivors.com

<http://siblingsurvivors.com/>

The comprehensive guide for sibling survivors of suicide.

## Yellow Ribbon Suicide Prevention Program

[www.yellowribbon.org](http://www.yellowribbon.org)

Yellow Ribbon is dedicated to preventing youth suicide and attempts by Making Suicide Prevention Accessible to Everyone and Removing Barriers to get help.