

Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation



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Connecting for Life

September 4, 2007

Dear Suicide Prevention Coalitions and Teen Screen Programs:

For the past several weeks there has been concern expressed about the song "Beautiful Girl" by Sean Kingston. The song has multiple references to a young man contemplating suicide. It repeats the lyrics, "You'll have me suicidal, suicidal, when you say it's over." The lyrics are troubling considering that over 30,000 Americans die by suicide each year.

The Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation (OSPF) encourages County Coalitions and Teen Screen Programs take this opportunity and educate the public and local radio stations, that suicide is a public health problem resulting in the deaths of 1,300 Ohioans yearly.

There are radio stations throughout the country that have either removed the song from their play list or replaced the song with a version that replaces "suicide" with "in denial."

Coalitions and Teen Screen Programs can be proactive in educating local communities as well as radio stations on the fact that suicide is preventable. OSPF has attached a press release for your convenience. You may want to add a specific County Coalition or Teen Screen paragraph to help bring the message closer to home. Thank you for helping prevent suicide, restore hope and connect for life.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Givens, Executive Director
Ohio Suicide Prevention Foundation