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**21st European Symposium on
Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour - ESSSB21**

Rethinking Suicide Research & Prevention

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All members of the Organizing Committee are from the Suicide Research Centre at Vilnius University. More details: <https://www.fsf.vu.lt/en/institute-of-psychology/centre-for-suicidology>

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PS16. Family and Community in Suicide Prevention

Support and Rejection Experiences Among Family and Friends in Relation to Suicidal Ideation: A Network Analysis Approach

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Although suicide theories acknowledge the role of social context, the links between specific community experiences and suicidality remain insufficiently examined. This study aimed to examine how community experiences identified as relevant by individuals with lived experience of a suicidal crisis are associated with suicidal ideation and related psychological constructs.

Methods. A sample of 1,412 Lithuanian adults (age $M = 42.75$, $SD = 13.72$, 68% female) was used. An online survey included items from the Availability/Rejection Experiences Scale, created following a qualitative study with individuals who had a recent lived experience of a suicidal crisis. Presence of suicidal ideation over the last month was determined using the first item of SIDAS. The Suicidal Behaviors Questionnaire–Revised, Interpersonal Needs Questionnaire, Entrapment Scale–Short Form, and Self-hate Scale were also used in the network analysis.

Results. Feeling inadequate in the family and having had experiences of bullying by friends showed the strongest direct edges with suicidal ideation. Support from friends and the wish to be seen by the family when experiencing difficulties demonstrated the highest expected influence on the network of individual scale items linked to presence of suicidal ideation. In the full network, family availability and thwarted belongingness had the largest bridge expected influence between community experiences and other variables. However, self-hate had the largest expected influence over the overall network.

Conclusions. The findings highlight the importance of specific interpersonal experiences in understanding suicidal ideation. Enhancing experiences of family members' availability for support may have potential to influence psychological processes related to suicidality. Self-hate likely represents a key clinical target through which change in both community experiences and psychological processes related to suicide may occur.

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