



1982
ANNUAL REPORT
BY
THE SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS
HONG KONG

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編輯：鄭利群

香港撒瑪利亞 防止自殺會 年 報

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BY
THE SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS H.K.



一九八三年六月印行

香港撒瑪利亞 防止自殺會簡介

精神：

發揚人類善美的本質，以愛心、耐性及同情，建立人際間互助、互勉、互愛的理想。

宗旨：

- (一) 基於人道立場，協助面臨各種困難，陷於沮喪與孤獨之人士，使能重建信念；並秉承此一宗旨，挑選會員。
- (二) 透過演說、講座、刊物，調查報告方式，促進及加強本會之精神。
- (三) 協助東南亞及鄰近地區建立與本會性質及目標相同之組織。

隸屬：

①國際防止自殺會會員；②香港社會服務聯會會員；③香港公益金會員。

會址：

九龍樂富邨十三座四十五號地下

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名譽會長

杜學魁先生

顧問

多郡安永會計師樓

林大偉律師行

賀文儀醫生

林達聰醫生

執行委員會 (一九八一年六月至一九八三年五月)

羅鏘鳴先生

主席

徐志英小姐

副主席、財政兼內聯絡幹事

楊世謙先生

秘書

李祺超先生

個案審查幹事

陳美卿小姐

公共關係幹事

侯傑泰先生

公共關係兼會員訓練幹事

莫志鴻先生

會員訓練兼康樂幹事

林桂蘭小姐

會員訓練兼康樂幹事

梅竹儀小姐

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林大偉律師樓 1,000.00

羅鏘鳴先生 180.00

蔡文佳先生 100.00

主席報告

（一）自殺死亡人數

根據生死註冊統計處資料，一九八二年自殺死亡事件，為四四八宗，比對八一年的五二零宗，下降百分之十三點八五；與八零年的六八四宗比較，下降幅度達到百分之三十四點五。以自殺率（每十萬人作基數）計算，這三年的數字依次是八點五六、十點零九及十三點五。

死亡人數雖然減少，但不等於我們可以感到「安慰」。還有更多嘗試自我結束生命的人，及時獲救，僥倖未被列入自殺名單，而這個數目，可能是死亡者的一倍、兩倍、三倍……。

事實上，本港向來沒有就「自殺行為」作過全面及正確的統計；每日見於報章的自殺事件報道，也僅僅是「懷疑自殺」、「相信自殺」。當局的處理方式，是只有證實死亡者才會「定案」，同時由於受種種因素影響，曾採取自殺行為的數字，缺乏正式的官方紀錄。

綜合分析八二年的自殺死亡數字，其中七十歲及以上的老人自殺率（以每十萬名同年齡者作基數），顯著減少，尤其是七十五歲以上的女性，由八一年的六十四點六下降至三十一點八（七零年代平均為六十三點九）。不過，六十歲至六十九歲的老人自殺數字，則由八一年的六十三宗增至七十六宗，上升百分之二十點六，應予注意。

其他年齡組別，變動情況輕微。雖然十五至十九歲和四十至四十四歲這兩組數字較上年略有增加（廿一比十九及卅四比廿六），但就整體來說，十五至二十四歲的青少年自殺率，仍然不算高，維持在四至八點之間；而由廿五至五十九歲的自殺率，則約在十至十四點之間。

性別方面，八二年男性自殺者佔二七一人，女性為一七七人，八一年則為三〇三人及二一七人；兩者的百分比是六十點五比三十九點五及五十八點三比四十一點七，顯示在八二年內，男女性的自殺數字差距較大。

（二）服務總結

八二年本會透過電話、面晤、外訪及通訊所處理的個案及諮詢，總數一萬一千三百二十一宗，其中新個案二八二五宗，較八一年的二三五零宗上升百分之二十；舊個案八八九宗，較八一年的六二八宗上升百分之四十二。

為了進一步了解當事人的情緒狀況，本會增添一項調查「自殺危機」的統計辦法。全年數字顯示，接近一千人（約佔新個案總數百分之二十五）有自殺意向、計劃自殺及當時而企圖自殺。我們不知道在經過接觸後，有多少人仍然採取自我毀滅的行動，但如果能夠從死亡邊緣中挽回十人、五人甚至一人的生命，所有努力都不會白費。

愛情、婚姻、家庭三類個案，與往年一樣，所佔最大比重。精神病個案雖然只佔總數百分之六點四，但增長趨勢明顯，比八一年增加百分之五十，若與八零年相比更跳增愈兩倍。顯著上升的，還有未婚懷孕、性暴力及性問題，由八一年的一〇九宗增至三〇一宗。

求助者年齡以十五至廿四歲青少年居多，約佔整體百分之六十四；次為廿五至卅四歲，約佔百分之廿五。

性別方面，女性一直以來多於男性，八二年是百分之六十六。這與自殺死亡統計成一反比，顯示女性較為主動尋求輔導和協助。

至於為中學會考生提供的暑期特別服務，八二年共處理個案及諮詢四九四四宗，比較上一年微增百分之五。我們很高興看到近年愈來愈多志願機構開辦同類服務，而會考生情緒受嚴重困擾甚或自殺的情況，一年比一年減輕。

（三）會務概要

到了今天，本會已進入第廿一年，不單人事幾番更替，社會面貌亦有所不同。面對不斷改變的環境，我們很自然地有一種想法：繼續提供長久不變的被動性服務？抑或提供主動性及積極性的服務（例如發展成為「危機輔導中心」）？

部份意見認為，維持固有的服務方式，等於沒有進步。事實上，愈來愈多志願機構甚至政府有關部門，陸續提供電話輔導，我們懷疑本會的服務價值，是很正常的反應。

不過，重新釐定目標和方針並不容易，首先必須改革組織。才可談到發展。這就牽涉到人力及經費問題了。

我們都是義工，撥出來的時間和精神有限，同時缺乏發展所需的專業才能。經費來源亦不充裕，公益金每年贊助的數萬元，甚至不足以支付兩位文職人員的薪金。

要解決困難，除了需要時間外，還需要同心協力。目前我們的服務雖然受到局限，但我們的精神可以繼續發揚光大。至少，能夠與來自不同階層的朋友一起，純粹義務不辭勞苦地替社會大眾服務，是我們獨一無二的特色。

一九八二年服務統計總結

(一)新個案

本年會本會共處理二千八百二十五個新個案及八百八十九個舊個案，分別較上年度增加百分之二十及四十二。暑期會考學生個案共四千九百四十四個，亦較上年略增。

舊個案再次接觸率約為三點二比一（一九八一年為三點七比一），表示平均三點二個案中有一個會有再次接觸本會。

(二)接觸方式

無論新舊個案，求助者以來電居多，佔百分之九十三，與去年百分之九十一大致相同，藉書信、面晤方式者只佔百分之七。

(三)性別

求助個案仍以女性居多，佔百分之六十六，與去年百分之六十七相同；諮詢性個案亦以女性居多，佔百分之六十二，無聊或戲弄性電話則以男性居多，佔百分之六十一。

(四)個案分類

本會於一九八二年初改用一套新個案分類法，故不能與往年個案類別作準確比較。

本年度愛情、家庭、婚姻及交友四類個案共佔全年個案百分之五十二（一九八一年百分之五十一）。

受愛情困擾個案中，女性求助者較男性多一倍；在婚姻問題求助者中，女性與男性為三與一之比，顯示在此類感情問題上，女性較為主動尋求輔助。此可能由於她們感情受挫而痛苦更深。有頗多在學青少年往往為男女間一些輕微爭吵或誤解而受極度困擾，甚或意圖自殺。

精神病者或其家人向本會求助有倍增之趨勢。

因學業問題向本會求助者佔百分之十一，其中極大部份亦涉及父母不和或欠缺家庭溫暖。

(五)求助者情緒狀況（自殺危險性）

本會設立之初主要是協助瀕於自殺邊緣之人士，但有一點要注意，即使求助者當時並無自殺念頭，如果他們的問題得不到解決、心事找不到人傾訴或情緒無法宣洩，自殺的危機便會加深，故本會對所有求助者一律予以適當協助。

全年中約有百分之二十五的求助者有自殺之念，或已有自殺計劃，甚至正企圖自殺。

(六)年齡

雖然本港自殺率以老年人為高，但本會求助者以青少年居多；十五至二十四歲之求助者約佔百分之六十四。

(七)時間

約有百分之四十求助者是在下班後（下午六時至十時之間）來電或來會；深夜（晚上十時至凌晨二時）求助者佔百分之十二。

一週統計，每天的求助者數目頗平均，星期五、六、日略高，各佔約百分之十七。星期三則略低，約為百分之八。

以全年平均計算，約百分之四十求助者與輔導員傾談半小時以上，其中超過一小時者佔百分之十四，部份個案，尤其是在深夜者，甚至長達二、三小時。

表二 問題、種類

性別 個案數字		男	女	總數	百分率
個案類別					
A	愛情	254	502	756	26.8
B	婚姻	94	285	379	13.4
C	家庭	136	325	461	16.3
D	交友	124	252	376	13.3
E	未婚懷孕	41	58	99	3.5
F	已婚懷孕	2	6	8	0.3
G	性暴力	41	33	74	2.6
H	性問題	00	28	128	4.5
I	健康	52	70	122	4.3
J	傷殘/弱智	12	6	18	0.6
K	精神病	65	116	181	6.4
L	學業	88	232	320	11.3
M	意外	5	7	12	0.4
N	職業	154	153	307	10.9
O	人生觀	79	78	157	5.6
P	經濟	83	67	150	5.3
Q	其他	134	136	270	9.6
總數		1464	2354	3818**	

* 因每一個案可能涉及多個問題，故3818並不等於全年個案總數。

表一 全年服務總表

	1982			1982	1981	1980
	男	女	總數	總數 (增加率%)	總數	總數
新個案	來電 來會 來信 外訪	965 90 0 7	1657 91 4 11	2622 181 4 18	2825 (+20%)	2350
舊個案	來電 來會 來信 外訪	194 21 0 1	621 44 7 1	815 65 7 2	889 (+42%)	628
暑期學生輔導 諮詢 戲弄 無聲	2039 2887 277	2905 4720 174	4944 7607 451	4944(+5%) 7607(-4%) 451(+8%)	4720 7932 416	4030 4944 145
3457			3457(-1%)		3506	1600

表三 求助者情緒狀況（自殺危機）

月份 狀況	個案數目												總數	百分率
	一	二	三	四	五	六	七	八	九	十	十一	十二		
正企圖自殺	0	0	2	2	3	5	5	3	6	0	1	2	29	1.0
有自殺計劃	11	5	9	9	5	19	23	8	2	7	4	3	105	3.7
略有自殺意向	34	27	73	44	31	55	126	41	46	37	20	28	562	19.9
無自殺意向	119	141	206	209	157	220	179	208	197	184	162	147	2129	75.4
													2825	100.0

表四
年齡／性別

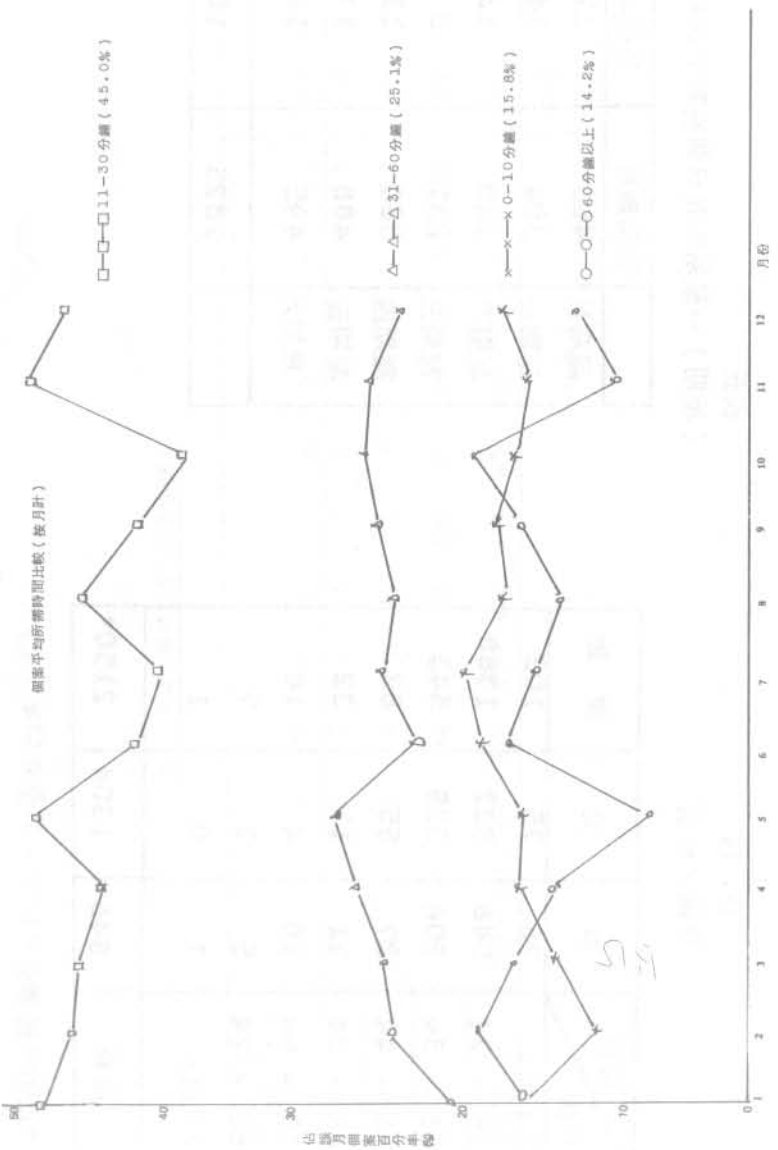
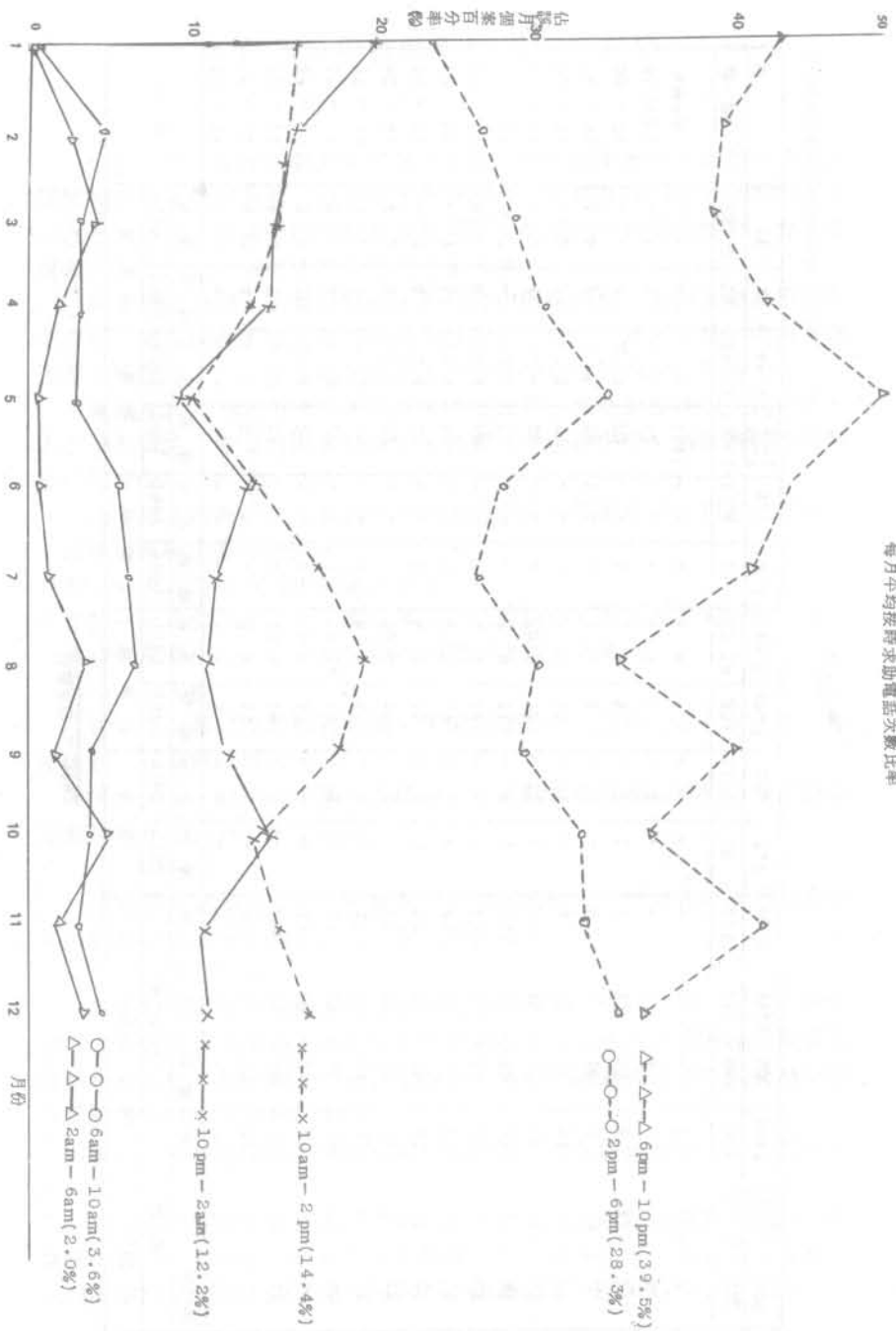
性別 年齡	男	女	總數
14 以下	28	75	103
15 - 24	546	822	1368
25 - 34	208	335	543
35 - 44	27	55	82
45 - 54	21	11	32
55 - 64	10	4	14
65 - 74	5	2	7
75 以上	1	0	1
總數	846	1304	2150*

*已知年齡個案 2150，佔全年個案 76%。

表五
（星期）一星期內每日個案數字比較

	個案數目	百分率*
星期日	468	17
星期一	394	14
星期二	369	13
星期三	231	8
星期四	380	13
星期五	488	17
星期六	495	18
	2825	100

每月平均按時求助電話次數比率



一九八二年會考生輔導服務評估

十多年前，本會有鑑於考試壓力日重、學位競爭劇烈，遂於會考放榜期間特設學生輔導服務，協助考生解決困難，由於此項服務需求殷切，在一九七九至八二年連續四年會考放榜期間，增設至十條電話熱線，每日動員義工五十多人，每年求助者達四千多人次。

根據個案分析，本會發覺絕大部份考生所遇困難，皆因欠缺升學及就業資料。每年放榜前後，亦有頗多學校校長、教師、社工人員、教育團體及青少年服務中心，要求本會提供資料以便他們推行類似之服務。

本會遂於本年五月中將歷年蒐集所得資料，重新整理核對，編印成一本八十多頁之「中五出路資料冊」，免費寄予全港中學，各教育機構及青少年服務中心。

因手冊印數有限，本會於八月初透過明報及華僑日報，刊登手冊內容，以便全港學生參考查閱。

日期：一九八二年八月十日至十六日

本會於一九八二年五、六月間寄發「中五資料冊」予四百多間中學及三百間青少年服務中心。下列數字並不包括以上服務對象。

(一)人數

在本年度暑期會考服務期間，來電者達四千九百四十四人次，與上年度比較，只有輕微增長。

另一方面，經由各中學、青年中心、志願團體及報章得到本會所提供之資料的學生人數，未能估計。

(二)性別

本年度來電學生中，二千零三十九名為男性，二千九百零五名為女性；男性與女性比率約為二比三，與上年相同。

(三)情緒狀況

絕大部份學生來電主要查詢升學及就業資料，情緒穩定，只有百分之六求助者情緒受困擾；其中二人曾有輕生念頭，十八人感到極度憂傷或沮喪但經工作人員聆聽、分析及鼓勵後，他們都願意嘗試採取較為積極及負責的態度尋求其他解決辦法。

男女生受輕微情緒困擾的比例大致相同，均佔該性別總人數約百分之六。

男生受嚴重困擾者佔百分之零點五，較女生的百分之零點二為高。根據資料顯示，形成此一現象的主要原因，是無論學生本人或家長，皆對男生的前途期望較高；因成績欠佳而不能繼續升學，所受的壓力也較大。

自殺死亡 - 1982

年齡	服務		自殺		投水		跳樓		其他		1982		1981	
	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	男	女	男	女
10 - 14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 19	1	1	3	2	1	1	5	11	-	-	12	9	3	6
20 - 24	1	1	7	9	7	13	29	2	1	-	25	21	12	7
25 - 29	4	7	10	19	6	25	27	2	-	-	41	15	32	19
30 - 34	3	4	10	19	6	25	27	2	-	-	23	21	43	23
35 - 39	2	2	4	4	3	21	21	3	1	3	23	21	34	16
40 - 44	3	2	3	9	2	11	10	-	-	3	18	9	19	9
45 - 49	4	2	5	13	3	12	9	-	-	3	28	6	18	8
50 - 54	-	1	4	11	4	17	15	1	1	1	18	6	21	8
55 - 59	-	1	1	15	9	12	8	3	17	2	25	14	21	14
60 - 64	3	-	6	16	1	22	14	-	-	4	23	5	27	17
65 - 69	1	2	-	13	1	19	11	-	-	2	23	13	22	9
70 - 74	-	4	4	14	9	14	10	2	12	1	24	16	19	13
75 - 79	-	2	6	1	9	11	2	1	1	2	3	13	17	10
80 - 84	1	4	2	1	5	14	1	-	-	-	5	9	7	13
85 歲以上	-	2	2	2	7	20	5	-	-	-	3	9	6	23
年齡不詳	-	1	1	-	6	12	1	-	-	-	-	9	-	14
總數	19	30	58	129	75	230(1.2)	201	11	109	59	271	177	303	216(1.1)
%	11	11.1	45.5	14.2	1.5	2.1	38.7	4.5	3.7	60.5	39.5	100	58.3	100

表格內的數字表示性別不詳

本會發覺，大部份受嚴重情緒困擾者均為中五重讀生，有些甚至重考三、四次之多。他們每年都希望能考取較好成績升讀預科，而忽略其他職業訓練途徑。沒有考慮自己的智能、興趣、專長等其他因素，結果每次失敗都帶來更大壓力。

據考試局一九八一年數字顯示，以自修生名義應考者有三萬四千多人，佔總投考人數百分之二十五，而由學校報考之重讀生尚未列入，此一龐大比例，實在值得教育界人士關注。

四 查詢內容

本年度會考生仍以查詢日校預科及中五資料為主，佔總求助人數百分之五十點九（一九八一年為百分之四十七點八）。其中百分之三十四學生查詢預科資料，高於一九八一年的百分之二十六，這可能與考獲預科入學最低要求者增多有關；但本年度各校收生標準相應提高，考獲五、六科「良」仍找不到資助預科學位者甚多。

查詢日校或夜校中五重讀者佔百分之二十五點七，低於上年的百分之三十四點七，反映漸多學生了解到重讀中五並非唯一出路，而查詢工業學院、職業訓練及就業資料者共佔百分之十五點二，較上年百分之九點三為高。

雖然有志接受職業訓練者甚眾，但目前本港此類學額仍然缺乏，競爭劇烈。除非政府能加速進行擬訂的工業學院擴充計劃，否則份將有很多考生被迫重讀。

至於對成績有懷疑而希望查卷者只佔百分之零點六，較上年百分之一點一為低，反映學生更能接受現實。

四 其他困擾

因家庭關係惡劣或受家長壓力而向本會求助者仍屬極少數（百分之零點八）；因成績欠佳而自責者更有減低之趨勢，由去年百分之零點五降至今年百分之零點二。

自怨自艾，固然不能解決問題，但本會發覺，有更多成績欠佳的同學，將怪責的「矛頭」指向學校，抨擊設備簡陋、師資低劣，而不反省自己一向的學習態度，貪求玩樂，只有在放榜時才感到讀書可貴。更甚者，有少數成績極劣學生，批評志願輔導機構未能替他們安排入讀津貼學校。

這種放任、毫無責任感、勇於「責人」而昧於責己的心態，有賴教育界人士矯正。

六 建議

1. 每年會考放榜後的主要求助原因，均為缺乏各類升學及就業資料。教育署應盡可能蒐集有關資料，如師範、工業學院、官立夜校、各公開考試等之報名日期及要求資格等，編印單張，以供考生參閱。

由於每間學校的課程或科目時有更改，教育署應於放榜前透過學校、民政署或其他媒介公佈全港學校所設之課程及科目，以便學生報名。

2. 每年均有極多考生因經濟、家庭等種種困難而轉讀夜校，但所有預科夜校均為私人團體所辦，水準參差，學費昂貴，中五官立夜校招收重讀生的學額亦極有限，本會建議政府自行或資助辦學團體設立更多夜間中五及預科。

3. 雖然政府已有計劃增進及擴建工業學院，但在短期內，本港職業訓練途徑仍然缺乏。本會建議政府雙管齊下，資助更多志願團體開辦各項職業訓練課程。

4. 本會深切了解，升學或職業輔導，需要一個長期及有系統的計劃，志願團體的熱線輔導只是權宜之策。本會希望教署儘可能減輕輔導教師的教學節數，從而加強學校的輔導服務。

七 結語

1. 本會今年在會考放榜前，將資料冊寄予各中學及青少年服務團體，並透過報章刊登升學及就業資料，廣受歡迎，明年繼續印行。至於放榜後之熱線輔導，將側重處理考生情緒或家庭等問題。

2. 歷年放榜日，本會均接獲學校扣留成績單之投訴，本會亦屢次向有關方面作出反映。今年可幸沒有接到這類投訴。

3. 去年有頗多自修生，尤以新界考生為然，因郵遞之誤，放榜後二、三天才收到成績通知書，本會曾於去年之「暑期會考生服務評估」報告內，指出問題之嚴重性。今年絕大部份考生均能於放榜當日或前一天下午接獲成績通知單；考試局的適當安排，殊堪嘉譽。

鳴謝

本會暑期服務有賴各界人士鼎力支持及贊助，特此鳴謝：

1. 下列各機構提供「中五出路手冊」資料：各中學、理工學院、教育署工業學院組、恒生銀行教育輔導組、勞工處青年就業指導組、考試局。
2. 香港賽馬會提供特別津貼，協助數年來之暑期會考生服務。
3. 香港電話公司免費安裝及捐助熱線電話費用。
4. 明報及華僑日報協助刊登中五出路資料。

甲、性別

	1982年		1981年	
	求助人數	百分率	求助人數	百分率
男	2039	41.2%	1970	41.7%
女	2905	58.8%	2750	58.3%
合計	4944	100%	4720	100%

乙、情緒狀況

1982年

1981年

情緒	性別	男	女	合計	百分率	合計	百分率
穩定		1913	2725	4638	93.8%	4143	87.8%
輕微困擾		115	173	288	5.8%	526	11.1%
嚴重困擾		11	7	18	0.4%	51	1.1%
合計		2039	2905	4944	100%	4720	100%

丙、主要查詢內容(百分率)

	1982年			1981年
	男(%)	女(%)	合計(%)	合計(%)
1. 日校 a 中大預科	18.0	16.0	17.0	14.3
b 港大預科	19.2	14.4	16.8	11.8
c GCE A LEVEL	3.3	2.1	2.7	2.4
d 中文中五重讀	3.7	3.5	3.6	4.5
e 英文中五重讀	14.4	12.5	13.5	17.2
f GCE O LEVEL	3.9	3.3	3.6	5.2
g 商科	2.4	8.0	5.2	6.2
2. 夜校 a 中大預科	1.6	2.1	1.8	2.2
b 港大預科	1.3	1.2	1.3	1.5
c 中五重讀	8.4	8.9	8.6	13.0
d 商科	1.3	2.9	2.1	2.5
3. 工業學院/理工學院	9.5	7.4	8.5	4.8
4. 大專(珠海、浸會等)	1.8	2.0	1.9	1.2
5. 海外留學	1.3	2.0	1.6	1.5
6. 其他教育機構	0.9	2.5	1.7	1.7
7. 查卷方法	0.7	0.5	0.6	1.1
8. 職業訓練(護士、學徒等)	2.0	3.9	3.0	2.5
9. 就業資料(各行各業)	3.3	4.1	3.7	2.0
10. 其他	3.0	2.7	2.8	4.4
合計	100	100	100	100

丁、其他困擾

	男(%)	女(%)	合計(%)	合計(%)
家庭關係/壓力	1.1*	0.5	0.8	0.8
經濟問題	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.5
男女感情/人際關係	0.3	0.1	0.2	0.3
前路茫茫/欠缺指引	2.8	3.4	3.1	3.8
自責	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.5
找不到職業	0.7	0.7	0.7	0.5

*佔該性別求助者之百分比

香港的自殺率

■侯傑泰

雖然自殺數字因種種政治、宗教因素影響不盡準確，但一些自殺數字的統計分析，仍可作為我們了解各種社會問題之參考。

甲、自殺率簡介

一般自殺數字都以自殺率來計算，以每十萬人為基數，稱為粗自殺率(CRUDE SUICIDE RATE)；例如美國的粗自殺率為十二點三，即平均每年每十萬人中有十二點五人是自殺而死的。

十五歲以下者自殺機會甚低，以香港而言，在七十年代(註一)十五歲以下自殺者，每年平均只有一點九人，故部份學者認為計算十五歲及以上的自殺率更具代表性。根據香港一九八一年人口分佈情況計算，粗自殺率為十點一。

下述各自殺率均為粗自殺率，根據生死註冊處及統計處的年報計算。由於所有自殺檔案皆由警方保密存放，故除年齡、性別外，未能在此作進一步詳細分析。

乙、七十年代自殺率

在一九七一年至八〇年內，每年平均有五百三十三人自殺，一九八〇年自殺的人數最多共六百八十四人。在該十年中，自殺率保持在十一至十四之間，平均是十二點零，與世界各地比較，香港的自殺率處於中間位置。

丙、自殺率與性別

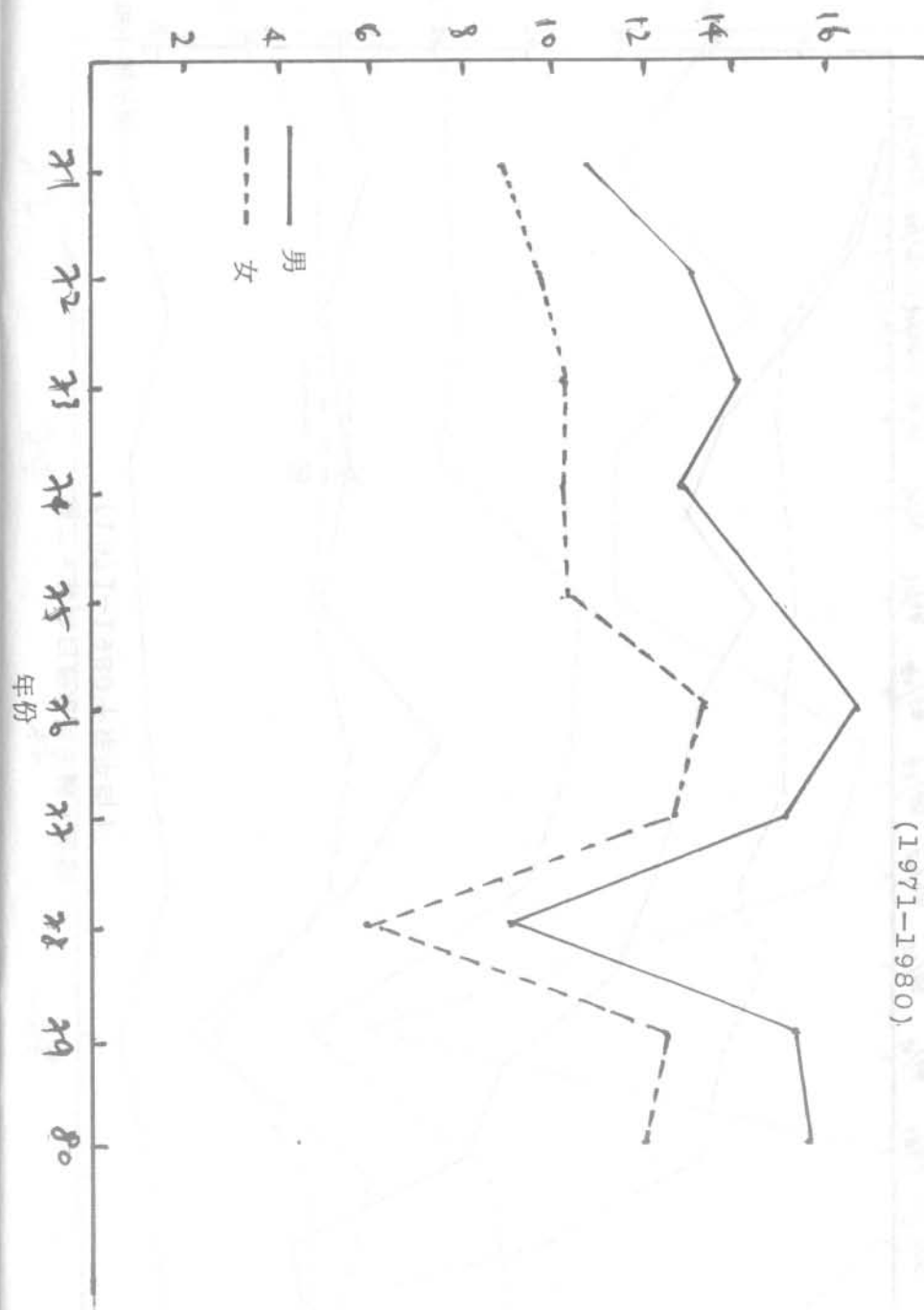
七十年代男性自殺率平均為十三點四，女性為十點四；男女自殺比率為一點三比一，與西方的三男比一女或二男比一女，香港女性自殺率偏高，但與亞洲地區之新加坡及日本相似。這可能是亞洲女性在社會上處於較受支配地位所致。

要注意的是，二十五歲以下及七十五歲以上女性的自殺率，反常地高於男性(註二)。

丁、自殺率與年齡

自殺率與年齡成正比，十五歲以下的自殺率最低，青年及中年人的自殺率徘徊在十至二十之間；六十五歲以後，男女自殺率均急劇上升至六十至七十之間。自殺率隨年齡而增長這個現象，與世界各國相同。

雖然少年(十至十九歲)自殺率甚低，約在三點與五點之間，但根據本會所處理個案分析，大部份企圖自殺之少年皆因一些輕微之爭執，或遇事業學業上些少挫折，一時衝動而萌自殺之念。

圖一、香港自殺率與性別
(1971-1980)

戊、七十年代的自殺率

各年齡組別的自殺率在七十年代中均無非常明顯的上升或下降趨勢。可幸青少年（十至二十四）自殺率常保持在三點至六點之間；青少年自殺問題並無惡化之趨勢。

五十五至六十九歲及七十歲以上兩組別的自殺率，經常在五點至六十之間，並有輕微上升的趨勢。

己、企圖自殺

一個墮樓身亡或服食過量藥物致死的個案，在甚麼情況下才算自殺呢？要一個準確的分野十分困難。

自殺未遂的個案，同樣難以界定。很多時候，當事人或其家人為了面子及種種其他原因，儘量將自殺事件隱瞞。從醫務衛生處的年報，我們約略可知道企圖自殺送院留醫的人數：一九八〇年共一千零五十二企圖自殺送院留醫，其中六百八十四人死亡，一九八一年一千一百八十人留醫，五百二十人死亡，平均每二人送院留醫，其中一人不治。然而，我們相信有更多人企圖自殺未被送院，或以其他理由送院，又或送院後並無留院治療者。這顯示香港每日平均有三個或更多人企圖自殺，其中有一個至二個因而送命。

庚、其他國家自殺率

在一九七一年至七九年內，香港的自殺率平均為十一點一，與加拿大的十三點零，美國的十二點三、新加坡的十點八及澳洲的十一點六（註三）相距不遠。

一些有濃厚宗教氣氛國家的自殺率都偏低：希臘三點、意大利五點八、愛爾蘭四點零。但這些數字未盡可信，因為基於宗教理由，部份自殺個案可能被歸入為其他死亡原因之下。

很多人有一個錯覺，認為日本自殺率很高，這可能是因為日本剖腹自殺方式頗為特別吧。實際上日本的自殺率只有十七點三，不算太高。從聯合國所公佈的數字來看，匈牙利的自殺率為三十九點八，可算最高。部份北歐國家，雖然社會福利完善，但可能因生活空虛關係，自殺率平均來說都偏高，如瑞典十九點九、芬蘭二十四點四及丹麥二十四點四。

不同國家的自殺數字，一如很多統計數字一樣，不能準確地互相比較，但上述簡單概括的分析，可助我們探討香港自殺問題。

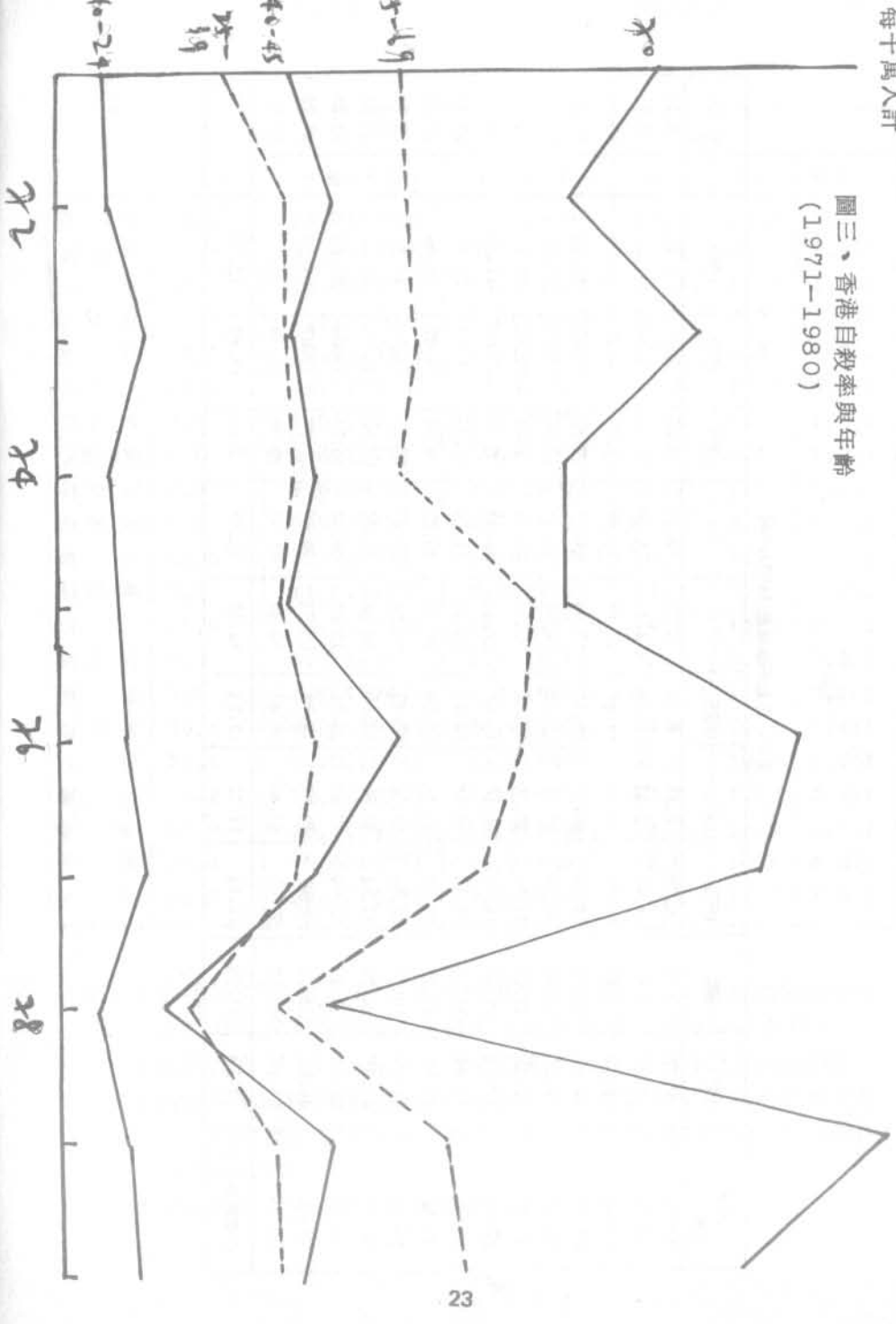
註一：統計一九七一年至一九八〇年數字，為方便與其他國家比較。

註二：有關形成女性及老年人自殺率高及其他影響香港自殺問題之社會因素，詳見韓榮德香港的自殺問題、中大校外進修部、生與死、報紙課程（一九八一）。

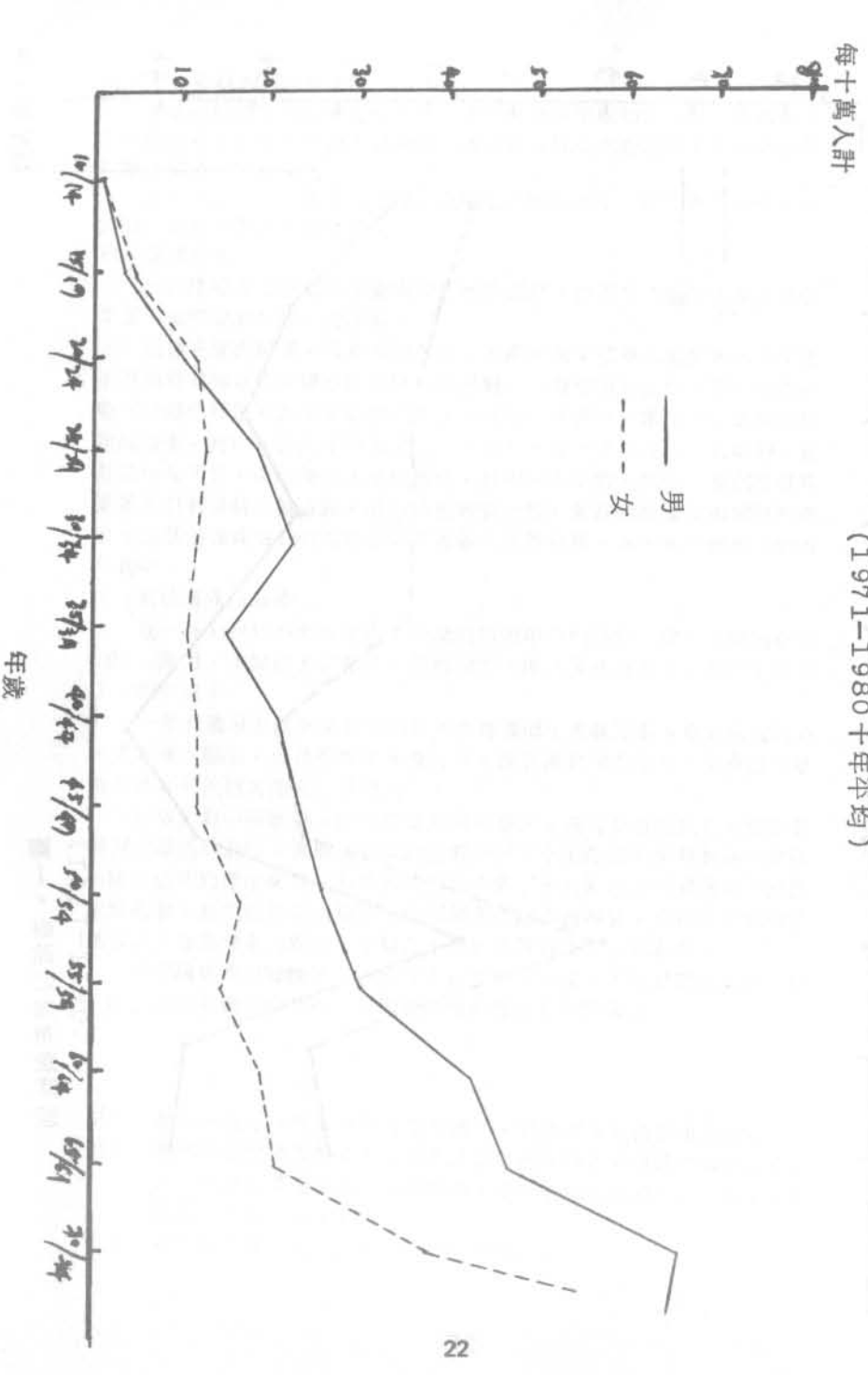
註三：根據聯合國一九八〇年人口統計年報計算。

每十萬人計

圖三、香港自殺率與年齡
(1971-1980)



圖二、香港自殺率與年齡、性別
(1971-1980十年平均)



表一 自殺率與年齡 (1971-80)

年份 年齡	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	十年平均
10-14	0.77	0.55	0.36	0.18	0.19	0.58	0.39	0.00	0.21	0.44	0.36
15-19	2.27	3.69	4.95	2.52	3.24	4.51	5.30	1.61	4.66	4.61	3.78
20-24	8.81	8.62	16.91	11.03	11.27	10.96	13.90	7.87	9.41	10.80	10.96
25-29	14.93	22.92	14.56	16.72	18.31	17.44	21.57	9.52	13.47	14.45	16.39
30-34	10.26	17.00	23.39	17.73	17.59	22.87	16.38	10.35	18.80	17.68	17.21
35-39	12.32	12.49	14.66	18.39	13.54	17.83	13.38	7.24	16.80	18.28	14.50
40-44	17.65	17.48	19.01	19.68	15.97	22.44	12.34	6.77	20.65	11.78	16.38
45-49	13.69	21.96	14.10	14.68	14.43	25.42	21.69	7.45	19.97	21.79	17.52
50-54	21.83	23.08	20.07	23.35	21.09	28.33	23.57	9.64	19.07	20.66	21.07
55-59	25.69	19.38	22.84	18.64	26.43	25.86	25.40	14.93	23.21	23.34	22.57
60-64	27.31	32.26	31.64	30.60	39.69	34.58	35.05	17.38	31.74	30.14	31.04
65-69	24.84	30.46	27.09	30.40	45.81	49.03	36.38	16.25	33.04	39.55	33.28
70-74	46.81	35.71	68.97	43.55	33.23	65.75	39.60	28.97	57.67	63.35	48.36
75	70.71	66.67	52.98	57.40	66.48	70.40	88.92	36.90	88.50	64.12	63.91
所有年齡合計	9.59	11.36	12.14	11.32	12.25	14.92	13.98	7.16	13.49	13.50	11.97

表二 各國自殺率

	平 均	1971-1979年		性別		
		最高 (年份)	最低 (年份)	男性	女性	男女比率
香 港	11.1 ^a	12.5(1979) ^b	2.2(1978)	14.5 ^c	12.4	1.2:1 ^d
新 加 坡	10.8	11.4(1978)	9.7(1977)	11.4	9.7	1.2:1
日 本	17.3	18.0(1979)	15.4(1971)	22.5	13.5	1.7:1
菲 律 賓	0.9	1.1(1974)	0.8(1976)	0.9	0.7	1.3:1
美 國	12.3	13.2(1977)	11.1(1971)	19.0	6.3	3.0:1
加 拿 大	13.0	14.5(1978)	11.9(1971)	22.4	17.3	3.1:1
英 格 蘭	7.9	8.5(1979)	7.5(1975)	10.4	6.6	1.6:1
北愛爾蘭	4.0	4.6(1977)	3.0(1972)	5.0	4.1	1.2:1
蘇 格 蘭	8.3	9.6(1979)	7.2(1971)	11.7	7.5	1.6:1
愛 爾 蘭	4.0	5.7(1976)	2.7(1971)	6.0	3.3	1.8:1
澳 洲	11.6	13.4(1971)	10.8(1976)	16.6	6.7	2.5:1
紐 西 蘭	9.6	11.8(1977)	8.3(1971)	13.8	5.8	2.4:1
瑞 士	21.4	24.5(1979)	18.3(1971)	34.6	15.5	2.2:1
意 大 利	5.8	6.0(1971)	5.6(1975)	7.9	3.5	2.3:1
希 臘	3.0	3.4(1974)	2.7(1972)	4.0	1.9	2.1:1
匈 牙 利	39.8	44.6(1979)	36.0(1971)	64.4	26.6	2.4:1
丹 麥	24.4	26.0(1974)	23.3(1978)	31.8	19.8	1.6:1
挪 威	10.2	12.1(1979)	8.1(1971)	17.2	7.1	2.4:1
瑞 典	19.9	20.8(1973)	18.9(1975)	28.3	12.9	2.2:1
芬 蘭	24.4	25.8(1977)	21.7(1971)	42.0	10.6	4.0:1
捷 克	22.2	24.7(1972)	9.8(1979)	30.1	10.1	3.0:1

*註：a 香港1971至1979年自殺率平均為11.1。部份國家因欠缺1979年或其他年度之自殺率，故平均是以已知年度計算。

b 在1971至1979年內，香港自殺率以1979年之13.5為最高。

c 男女性別自殺率是以最近已知數字之年度計算，表內自殺率大部為1978及1979年度之數字。在1979年香港男性之自殺率為14.5。

d 表內比率為男性自殺率與女性自殺率之比。

表三
企圖自殺送院留醫人數

年 份	留醫人數 (包括死亡)	死亡人數	留院人數： 死亡人數
1971	913	388	2.4:1
1972	866	463	1.9:1
1973	821	505	1.6:1
1974	1074	481	2.2:1
1975	1131	535	2.1:1
1976	852	654	1.3:1
1977	825	629	1.3:1
1978	1201	330	3.6:1
1979	1030	661	1.6:1
1980	1052	684	1.5:1
1981	1180	520	2.3:1

1982— 一年活動回顧

一月：

1. 英國議員夫人兼倫敦撒瑪利亞會會員MRS. JOPING由社會福利署助理署長潘雪清女士陪同造訪本會。
2. 在屯門何福堂舉行為期兩天之會員訓練營。
3. 本會正、副主席與公益金會員茶聚。
4. 在本會舉行新春團拜。

二月：

1. 會務推展幹事往元朗演講「電話服務」。
2. 第十期義工訓練班開始，參加者約有七十人。
3. 本會派人往聖三一堂演講。
4. 本會正、副主席出席社會福利署之春節酒會。

三月：

1. 商業一台播放宣傳本會服務之廣告，為期一個月。
2. 華僑日報記者到會訪問。

四月：

1. 第十期訓練班已完滿結束，共有六十三人投入服務。
2. 舉行非正式會員大會，討論關閉灣仔會所事宜。
3. 假大坑東社區服務中心會議室舉行個案研討會。

五月：

1. 荃灣麥理浩夫人中心會員到會訪問。
2. 主席接受香港電台訪問。
3. 副主席接受無綫電視台訪問。
4. 本會派員到基愛堂演講。
5. 新學員開始實習。

六月：

1. 由本月一日起，關閉灣仔辦事處，以後所有服務在樂富辦事處提供。
2. 副主席出席公益金週年大會。
3. 副主席出席黃大仙區輔導機構協調會議。
4. 會員訓練幹事出席社聯座談會。
5. 香港電台電視部、商業電台、中報、晶報、女青年會先後派員到會訪問。

七月：

1. 會務發展幹事到葵盛居民會演講。
2. 本會假大坑東社區服務中心會議室舉行個案研討會。
3. 新報、天天日報、無綫電視新聞報、中華廠商會學校、樹仁先後派員到會訪問。
4. 十七日下午假尖沙咀西青會舉行會員大會報告會務。

八月：

1. 本會假尖沙咀西青會舉行記者招待會，澄清收回英文服務之真相。
2. 本會提供二十四小時會考諮詢服務。
3. 主席出席家庭福利會及香港電台之青少年問題講座。
4. 讀者文摘派員到會訪問。
5. 八月六日舉行遊船河活動，會員踴躍參加，熱鬧非常。

九月：

1. 主席、副主席分別接受香港電台節目之訪問。
2. 副主席出席黃大仙區之輔導機構協調會議。
3. 星報、無綫電視台先後派員到會訪問。
4. 九月十九日下午在本會舉行「人際關係溝通」講座。

十月：

1. 香港電台電視部訪問本會，準備製作關於本會義工服務。
2. 讀者文摘、明愛、中大及真光書院先後派員到會訪問。
3. 十月廿四日在大埔大尾篤之獨木舟暢遊，有八名會員參加。

十一月：

1. 副主席於旅行期間訪問星加坡撒瑪利亞會。
2. 禾華青年中心、樹仁、聖保羅學校先後派員到會訪問。
3. 十一月廿七至廿八日的白沙灣宿營，有三十名會員參加。

十二月：

1. 星島日報、樹仁先後派員到會訪問。
2. 本會舉行聖誕聯歡會。
3. 香港公益金一委員來會訪問。

義務核數師報告

致香港撒瑪利亞防止自殺會會員

本核數師已審核截止一九八二年十二月三十一日收支賬表及資產負債表。

所有審核是根據一般核數程序，包括審查賬目紀錄表及其他必須的核數程序。

本核數師認為此財政報告足以表達該會在一九八二年十二月三十一日之真實兼正確財政狀況及結至該日之收支。

義務核數師樓

安永會計師樓

香港執業會計師

一九八三年三月八日香港

資產負債表

截至一九八二年十二月三十一日

(以港元計算)

	31/12/1982	31/3/1982
流動資產		
現金	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,300
銀行存款	33,771	66,178
定期存款	11,557	10,843
應收存款利息	245	63
應收賬款及預付款	585	1,190
	47,158	79,574
流動負債		
應付賬款	29	3,060
預收款項	—	2,060
	29	5,120
流動資產淨值	47,129	74,454
資產、傢具、裝備—附錄B	1	1
	\$47,130	\$74,455
累積盈餘		
上年度結存轉入	\$27,130	\$74,455
儲備金	20,000	—
	\$47,130	\$74,455

主席：羅鏞鳴

義務財政：徐志英

收支賬表
一九八二年四月一日至一九八二年十二月三十一日
(以港元計)

	1/4/1982 至 31/12/1982	1/4/1981 至 31/3/1982
收入：		
會費	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,020
捐款、津貼	68,382	96,118
存款利息	4,257	7,209
電影籌款	—	9,151
灣仔辦事處收益	—	104,001
	75,439	217,499
支出：		
職員薪金	44,040	46,400
購置傢具	—	585
租金及地稅	3,507	5,808
修理及保養	578	989
文具及印刷	5,553	4,185
會費	500	1,289
參考書籍	128	4,458
電費及水費	5,723	5,143
電話費	4,714	3,772
報紙及廣告	660	681
郵費	520	1,070
交通	21	61
清潔	343	576
學生暑期服務	13,123	12,342
個案費用	1,250	2,480
訓練會員費用	57	118
宣傳	4,182	12,200
會員通訊	4,343	2,838
保險	110	—
雜項	1,703	2,636
代灣仔辦事處付款	—	104,001
	91,055	211,632
捐款	11,709	—
	(102,764)	211,632

本年度收支虧損／盈餘	(27,325)	5,867
本年初累積盈餘	74,455	68,588
	47,130	74,455
儲備金—附錄D	20,000	—
本年底累積盈餘	\$ 27,130	\$ 74,455

財政報告附錄
截至一九八二年十二月三十一日

附錄A：結構

在該期間初時，此法團設有兩辦事處，分別位於九龍樂富邨第十三座四十五號及香港灣仔軒尼詩道二十二號三樓水手會。

位於灣仔水手會之辦事處已於一九八二年六月一日關閉。此法團在同日將屬於該辦事處之資產，總值港幣\$11,709 捐贈在原處成立之另一社會服務團體。此捐贈已列明在該期間之收支賬表內。

附錄B：主要會計政策

會計政策所製訂之財政報告是根據權責計算，即收支賬表所顯示乃該期間內應收應支款項。

資產、傢具、裝備

根據此法團政策，所有改良用具，購買傢具及裝備等費用，作為該期間支出，故在資產負債表內此項賬目祇有象徵式的一元。

在此期間內該法團並沒有添置或售賣任何資產，傢具及裝備。

附錄C：更改會計年度

根據一九八二年七月十八日經會員議決此法團更改其會計年度至十二月三十一日，即此財政報告是反映由一九八二年四月一日至一九八二年十二月三十一日之活動。

附錄D：儲備金

根據一九八三年一月四日經委員議決將一九八二年十二月三十一日之累積盈餘港幣貳萬元轉為儲備金，以應付突然之需要。

附錄E：稅務

此法團乃非牟利團體，得香港稅務局豁免利益課稅，故無此備付金賬。

ANNUAL REPORT

1982

THE SAMARITAN BEFIENDERS

H. K.

THE SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS HONG KONG

The objects for which the Society is formed are:

- (a) To prevent suicide by befriending depressed and lonely persons thus helping them to regain a balanced perspective of life; for which purpose members are selected and prepared.
- (b) To advance and strengthen the spirit of the Society in developing human virtues through speeches, conferences, publication and other promotional efforts.
- (c) To print and publish any newspapers, periodicals, journals, books, examination papers, circulars or leaflets that the Society may think desirable for the promotion of its objects.
- (d) To co-ordinate and liaise with other Societies having similar objectives to the Society.

Affiliation:

- (a) Member of the International Association of Suicide Prevention.
- (b) Member of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service.
- (c) Member of the Hong Kong Community Chest.

Address:

45, Ground Floor, Block 13, Lok Fu Estate, Kowloon.

Telephone:

3-370000, 3-368888

HONORARY PRESIDENT
MR. ANDREW TU

CONSULTANTS

Ernst & Whinney, Ceritified Public Accountands
D.W. Ling & Co., Solicitors & Notaries
Dr. Edith Horsfall
Dr. Pual T.C. Lam

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
(From June 1981 to May 1983)

Mr. Lo Cheong Ming	Chairman
Miss Tsui Chi Ying	Vice Chairman treasurer & Coordinating Officer
Mr. Yeung Sai Him	Secretary

Mr. Lee Kea Chui	Case Officer
Miss Chan Mei Hing	Public Relations Officer
Mr. Hau Kit Tai	Public Relations & Training Officer
Mr. Mok Chi Hung	Training & Recreational Officer
Miss Mui Chuk Yee	Membership Officer
Mr. Wong Tak Man	Promotion Officer
Miss Tse Yan Wah	Publicity Officer

STAFFS

Mr. H. Y. Chiu
Miss Ip Pik Fai

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

All consultants and scholars Taking part in training members and administrative work and giving suggestions to the Society.

Hong Kong Telephone Company Limited providing telephone service and special telephone number.

Government Departments providing informations and giving opinions.

The Mass Media recommending our service to the public.

Donars:
Community Chest of Hong Kong \$80,000.00

Hong Kong Telephone Company Limited \$4,500.00
(Special Student Service)

Jockey Club Grant Allocation \$2,702.00
(Special Student Service)

D.W. Ling & Co \$1,000.00

Mr. Foster Lo Cheong Ming \$180.00

Mr. Choi Man Cheong \$100.00

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

A. Number of People Died of Suicide

According to the Births and Deaths Registry's statistics, there were 448 suicide incidents in 1982, a decrease of 13.85% and 34.5% compared with 1981's 502 and 1980's 684 respectively. Calculated in terms of suicide rate (using a hundred thousand of the population as a base number), the rates for these three years from 1982 backwards were 8.56, 10.09 and 13.5.

Though the number of deaths has dropped, it does not mean that we should feel "relieved". A lot more people might have tried to end their lives but luckily were not included in the suicide lists, being rescued in time. The figure in this category might well double, or treble the number of deaths.

In fact, Hong Kong has never any full, accurate statistics of "suicide behaviour". Everyday on the papers there are only "suspected suicides", or "believed to suicides" reported. The Authority only counts it "a suicide case" when someone has been certified dead. And due to various factors, there is no official record of attempted suicides.

A study of 1982's suicide figures shows that the suicide rate for old people of 70 or over basing on every hundred thousand people of the same age group had dropped markedly. It was specially the case for females over 75, dropping from 1981's 64.6 to 31.8 (the average in 1970s was 63.9). However, we should note that suicide figures for the elderly of 60 to 69 rises from 63 cases in 1981 to 76 cases, making an increase of 20.6%.

Other age groups had seen little changes. Although figures of the two groups, 15 to 19 and 40 to 44, had a small increase over the previous year (21 to 19 and 34 to 26). The suicide rate of between 4 and 8 for youths of 15 to 24 on the whole was not considered too high. The suicide rate for people of 25 to 59 was about 10 to 14.

Sex-wise, 271 males and 177 females killed themselves in 1982 whereas in 1981, the figures were 303 for males and 217 for females. The sex ratios for these two years were thus 60.5 to 39.5 and 58.3 to 41.7, indicating a relatively big difference between the male and female suicide figures in 1982.

B. A Sum-up of Services

By means of telephone, interview, visit and correspondence the Society in 1982 handled a total of 11,321 cases and enquiries. Of them, 2,825 were new cases and 889 old ones. This marked an increase of 20% and 42% respectively as compared with 1981's 2,350 new and 628 old cases.

In order to have a better understanding of the clients' state of mood, the Society introduced a new survey item, "suicide crisis". The whole-year figure revealed that nearly one thousand people (about 25% of the new cases) had the tendency of committing suicide, planned to commit suicide or actually attempted it at the time they contacted the Society. We did not know how many of them would still attempt self-destruction after the contact. However, if we could save ten, five or even one of them, our efforts were not wasted.

Same as previous years, love affairs, matrimonial and family problems remained the three predominant categories of cases. Though psychiatric cases occupied just 6.4% of the whole, the trend of increase was obvious. The number was up 50% compared with 1981, and more than double the 1980's figure. Other cases with obvious increase were un-married mothers, sexual abuse and sexual problems, rising from 109 in 1981 to 301.

The majority of clients, about 64%, were youngsters of 15 to 24 years of age, followed by youths of 25 to 34 who made up another 25%.

Sex-wise, female clients outnumbered the male all along, occupying 66% in 1982. This contradicted the statistics of suicides and showed that females were more ready in seeking counselling and help.

In respect of special summer services for students sitting for the HKCEE, the Society handled a total of 4,944 cases and enquiries in 1982, a slight increase of 5% over the previous year. We are very glad that more and more voluntary agencies have provided similar services in recent years and less above-mentioned students were so upset as to attempt suicide.

C. A Summary of the Society's Work

The Society has come to its 21st years to-day. Not only has the Society's personnel changed time and again, so has the society. In the face of such ever changing environment, we naturally would wonder whether we should continue with our unchanged passive services or change to provide more active services and take the initiative to help developing into a "crisis counselling centre", for example.

People think that sticking to our existing services means no progress. In fact, more and more voluntary agencies and even government departments have started providing telephone counselling. Therefore, it is a normal reaction that we doubt the value of the Society's services. However, it is no easy job to re-set the goal and policy. We must first of all have the Society re-organized before we can talk of development. These will involve the manpower and finance problems.

As we all are voluntary workers, the time and energy we can contribute are limited. Besides, we do not have the professional ability necessary for development. Moreover, financial resources are not sufficient. Each year, the several hundred thousand dollars from the Community Chest are even not enough to pay the two clerical staff of the Society.

To solve these difficulties, we need not only time but also concerted efforts. Although our services are restrained at the moment, we may continue to bring our spirits into full play. At least, we can claim as the unique characteristic of our Society that a group of friends from all walks of life sparing no pains in serving the society.

A Summing-up of the Statistics of 1982's Services

(I) Old and New Cases

The Society handled 2825 new cases and 889 old cases this year, an increase of 20% and 42% respectively as compared with the previous year. Cases concerning school certificate students numbered 4944, a slight rise over last year.

The ratio of re-contact with the Society was about 3.2 : 1 (3.7 : 1 in 1981), indicating that of every 3.2 cases, one client re-approached the Society.

(II) Means of Contact

Of the cases, old or new, the majority, 93%, contacted the Society by telephone. The percentage is close to last year's figure (91%). Only 7% of the clients made use of letters or interviews.

(III) Sex

Of the client's seeking counselling and help, the majority, 66%, were female, and the figure was similar to last year's 67%. As for cases of enquiry, female clients again made up the major proportion, 62%. However, nonsense or teasing calls were mostly made by males, making up 61%.

(IV) Classification of Cases

Since early 1982, the Society has adopted a new method of classification. Therefore, comparison could not be accurately made with previous figures.

Of all the cases handled this year, the four categories: love affairs, family problems, matrimonial problems and friendship made up 52% (51% in 1981).

In cases of unhappy love affairs, number of female clients doubled the male ones. In matrimonial cases, the ratio of female clients to male clients was 3 : 1, indicating that in sentimental matters, females were more ready to seek help, probably because they were more vulnerable sentimentally. Quite a number of young students became deeply upset for some minor dispute or misunderstanding with their friends of the opposite sex. Some even attempted suicide.

Number of psychiatric patients or their family seeking help from the Society tended to multiply.

11% of the cases were about problems of study. And a majority of these cases involved also parental disputes and the lack of family love.

(V) Clients' State of mood (Possibility of suicide)

When the Society was first established, its primary purpose was to give a helping hand to those who were on the brink of attempting suicide. It should, however, be noted that even the clients did not have any tendency to commit suicide at that particular moment, the possibility of suicide would become higher if they could not solve their problems, found no one to lend an attentive ear or got no relief for their bad mood. So the Society offered proper help to all clients.

In the year about 25% of the clients intended or already prepared to commit suicide, or actually attempted suicide.

(VI) Age

Although the elderly had the highest rate of committing suicide in Hong Kong, the majority of clients asking for help from the Society were young people, and 64% of them were 15 to 24 years of age.

(VII) Time

About 40% of the clients made the phone calls or came to the Society after work (6:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.). 12% of them asked for help late at night (10:00 p.m. - 2:00a.m.).

According to weekly statistics, the daily distribution of clients was fairly even. Friday, Saturday and Sunday had slightly higher figures, occupying 17% each, and Wednesday a slightly lower, 8%.

On the yearly average, about 40% of clients talked with workers for over half an hour, and of them, 14% over one hour. In some cases, especially those who called late at night, the conversation even lasted for two or three hours.

Table I Statistics of Cases Dealt with in 1982

	1982			1982 Total Increasing %	1981 Total	1980 Total
	M	F	Total			
New Case	Telephone Calls Received	965	1657	2622	2350	1732
	Interview	90	91	181		
	Correspondence	0	4	4		
	Visits	7	11	18		
Old Case	Telephone Calls Received	194	621	815	628	421
	Interview	21	44	65		
	Correspondence	0	7	7		
	Visits	1	1	2		
Special Student Service Information Joking Silent		2039	2905	4944	4720	4030
		2887	4720	7607		
		277	174	451		
		3457		3457		
				4944(+5%)	4720	4030
				7607(-4%)	7932	4944
				451(+8%)	416	145
				3457(-1%)	3506	1600

Table II Problem Categories

		M	F	Total	%
A	Boys and Girls	254	502	756	26.8
B	Marital	94	285	379	13.4
C	Family	136	325	461	16.3
D	Relationships	124	252	376	13.3
E	Premarital Pregnancy	41	58	99	3.5
F	Pregnancy after marriage	2	6	8	0.3
G	Criminal rape	41	33	74	2.6
H	Sexual Problem	100	28	128	4.5
I	Health	52	70	122	4.3
J	Handicapped/ Mentally retarded	12	6	18	0.6
K	Psychiatric	65	116	181	6.4
L	Education	88	232	320	11.3
M	Accidents	5	7	12	0.4
N	Employment	145	153	307	10.9
O	Philosophy of Life	79	78	157	5.6
P	Finance	83	67	150	5.3
Q	Other	134	136	270	9.6
	Total	1464	2354	3818*	

* As one case may include many problems, 3818 is not equal to total number of cases.

The Mental State of Client (Potential Crisis Suicide)

state	case number	month												TOTAL	%
		I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	IX	X	XI	XII		
attempt suicide		0	0	2	2	3	5	5	3	6	0	1	2	29	1.0
planning suicide		11	5	9	9	5	19	23	8	2	7	4	3	105	3.7
has slight intention to commit suicide		34	27	73	44	31	55	126	41	46	37	20	28	562	19.9
no intention to commit suicide		119	141	206	209	157	220	179	208	197	184	162	147	2129	75.4
														2825	100.0

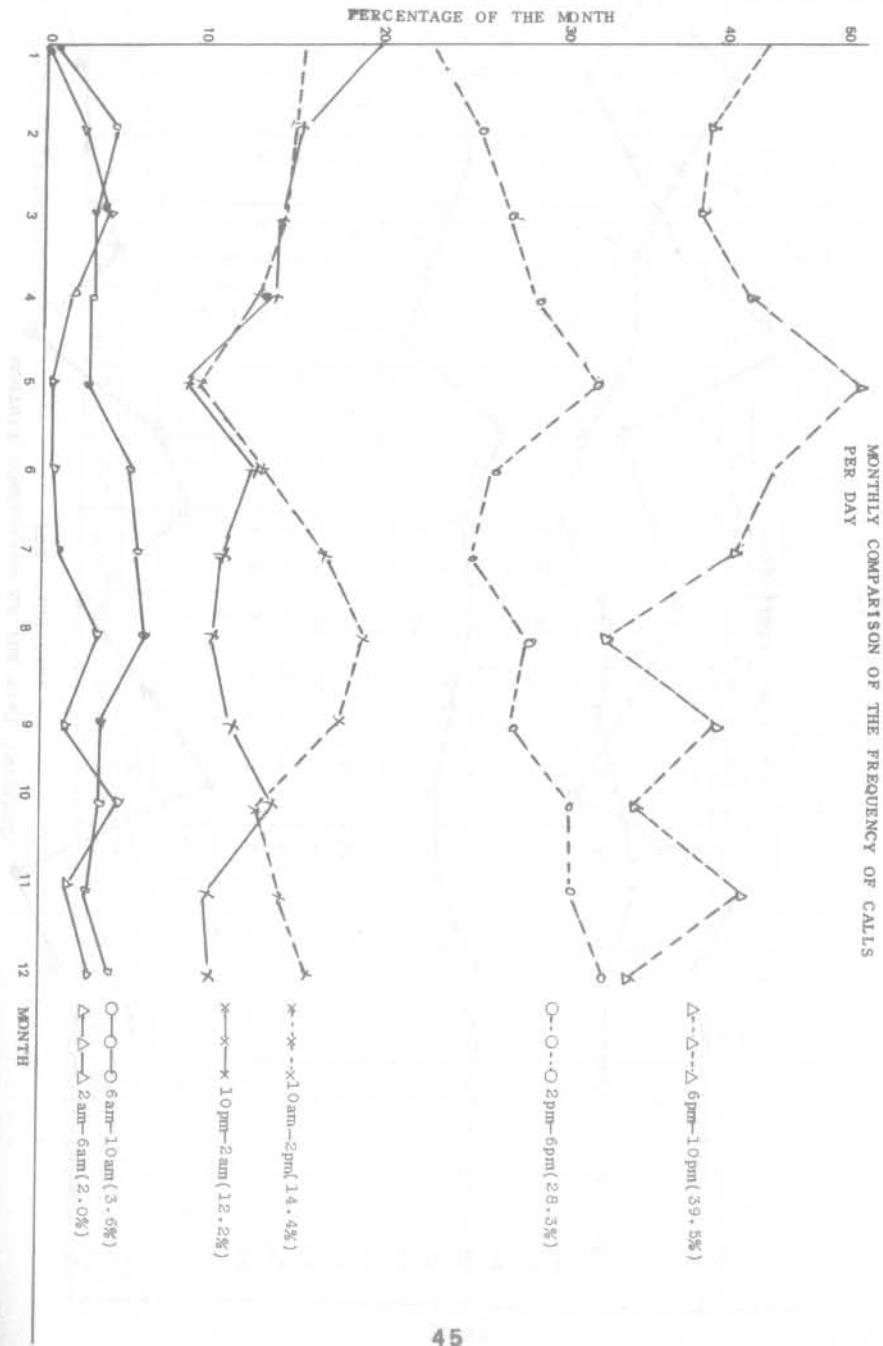
Table IV Age/Sex

Age \ Sex	M	F	Total
Under 14	28	75	103
15 - 24	546	822	1368
25 - 34	208	335	543
35 - 44	27	55	82
45 - 54	21	11	32
55 - 64	10	4	14
65 - 74	5	2	7
Over 75	1	0	1
	846	1304	2150*

Table V (Week) The daily recorded cases within one week.

	Case Number	%
Sunday	468	17
Monday	394	14
Tuesday	369	13
Wednesday	231	8
Thursday	380	13
Friday	488	17
Saturday	495	18
	2825	100

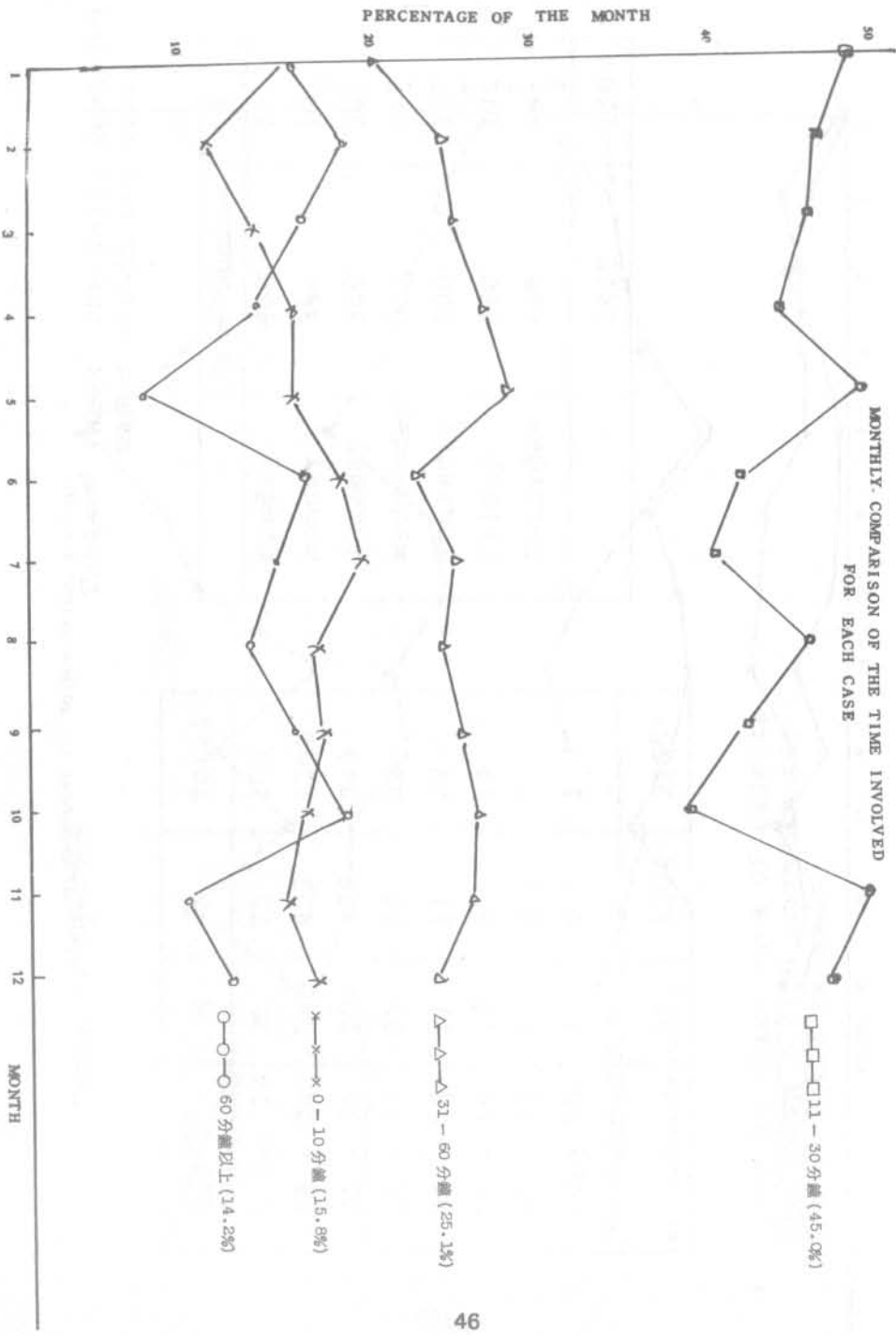
* Cases in which ages of clients are known : 2150 accounts for 76% of total cases.



Suicide Deaths - 1982

Age Group	Poisoning		Hanging		Drowning		Jumping		Others		1982		1981		
	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	1982	1981	Total		Total		
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	Male	Female	Male	Female	
10 - 14	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	
15 - 19	1	1	3	2	3	5	1	4	11	5	12	9	21	12	
20 - 24	1	4	7	9	7	13	-	1	29	2	25	21	46	7	
25 - 29	3	4	10	19	6	25	1	-	27	2	41	15	56	19	
30 - 34	2	2	4	4	3	21	-	2	21	2	23	21	44	23	
35 - 39	3	2	3	9	2	11	-	1	14	3	18	9	27	16	
40 - 44	4	2	5	13	3	12	-	6	10	3	18	9	27	9	
45 - 49	-	1	4	11	4	17	1	-	9	-	28	6	34	8	
50 - 54	-	1	1	15	9	12	-	2	15	1	18	8	26	21	
55 - 59	3	-	5	16	1	22	-	1	17	4	25	14	39	18	
60 - 64	1	2	-	13	1	19	-	1	14	2	23	5	28	21	
65 - 69	-	4	4	14	9	14	-	9	11	-	23	13	36	17	
70 - 74	-	2	6	1	9	11	-	10	12	1	24	16	40	13	
75 - 79	1	4	2	1	5	14	-	2	10	-	3	13	16	10	
80 - 84	-	-	2	2	7	20	-	1	4	-	5	9	14	7	
85 & over	-	1	1	-	6	12	-	1	5	1	3	9	12	6	
Unknown age	-	-	-	1(1)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	9	-	
Total	19	30	58	129	75	230(1)	3	4	201	11	271	177	448	303	
%	11	11.1	45.5	44.8	45.5	44.8	1.5	2.1	38.7	4.5	60.5	39.5	100	58.3	
				(0.2)		(0.2)								(0.2)	

* Bracketed figure is unknown sex



Though the accuracy of suicide rates is affected by various political and religious factors, statistical analysis can still be of reference for a better understanding of some social problems.

(A) A Brief Note On Suicide Rate

In general, suicide figures are calculated in terms of suicide rate, using a hundred thousand of the population as a base number. It is called the Crude Suicide Rate. For example, a US suicide rate of 12.3 means for every hundred thousand Americans 12.3 die of suicide.

The suicide figure for people under 15 years of age is very low. In Hong Kong in the 1970s (Note 1), only 1.9 people under 15 committed suicide each year. Some scholars, therefore, considered the suicide rate of people over 15 more representative. According to 1981's statistics, the crude suicide rate in Hong Kong was 10.1.

The following suicide rates are all crude rates based on information provided in the annual report of the Births and Deaths Registry and the Census and Statistics Department. As suicide files are all confidential in police keeping, detailed further analysis other than age and sex is impossible.

(B) Suicide Rate in 1970s

From 1971 to 1980, an average of 533 people committed suicide each year. The greatest yearly number was 684, which was recorded in 1980. In the ten years, the suicide rate varied from 10 to 14, making an average of 12. As compared with countries elsewhere, the suicide rate in Hong Kong was moderate.

(C) Suicide Rate and Sex

In 1970s, the average suicide rate was 13.4 for males and 10.4 for females. The ratio of male to female suicide was 1:3.1, which was high compared to ratios of 3:1 or 2:1 in Western countries. However, the ratio was similar to those of Asian countries like Singapore and Japan, probably because Asian women were in a more passive position in society.

It should be noted that the suicide rate of females under 25 and over 75 is abnormally high compared with their male counterparts (Note 2).

(D) Suicide Rate and Age

Suicide rate and age are in direct ratio. The suicide rate of people under 15 is the lowest whereas that of youths and the middle-aged lingered between 10 and 20. The rate for people over 65, men or women, soared up to between 60 and 70. This phenomenon, rise of suicide rate with age, was consistent with situations all over the world. The suicide rate of youths (10-19) is very low, around 3 to 5. However, according to analysis of cases handled by the Society, most youngsters who attempted suicide did so mostly on impulse for trivial disputes or minor frustrations at work or in study.

(E) Suicide Rate in 1970s

The suicide rate for each age group in 1970s showed no obvious tendency of increase or decrease. Fortunately, the suicide rate for youths (aged 10 to 24) remained 3 to 6, and the suicide problem of this group showed no sign of deterioration.

For age groups of 55 to 69 and over 70, the suicide rate remained between 50 and 60, with a slight upward tendency.

(F) Attempting Suicide

Under what circumstances can a case of death, caused by leaping off a building or an overdose of drugs, be considered as suicide? It is difficult to draw up a definition.

It is similarly difficult to define unsuccessful suicides. Very often, clients or their families would try every effort to conceal the suicide incidents for face-saving or for many other reasons. We know, roughly, from the annual report of the Medical and Health Department the number of people rushed to hospitals for having attempted suicide: 1052 in 1980, of them 684 died; 1080 in 1981, of them 520 died. On the average, one out of every two people rushed to hospitals and admitted for treatments lost his/her life. However, we believe that many more had attempted suicide but were not sent to hospitals, for they were sent there under other excuses, or sent there but discharged. This indicated that on daily average, three or more people in Hong Kong attempted suicide and of them, one or two died.

(G) Suicide Rates in Other Countries

From 1971 to 1979, the suicide rate in Hong Kong was 11.1 on the average. This was close to the rate of Canada (13.0), USA (13.3), Singapore (10.8) and Australia (11.6) (Note 3).

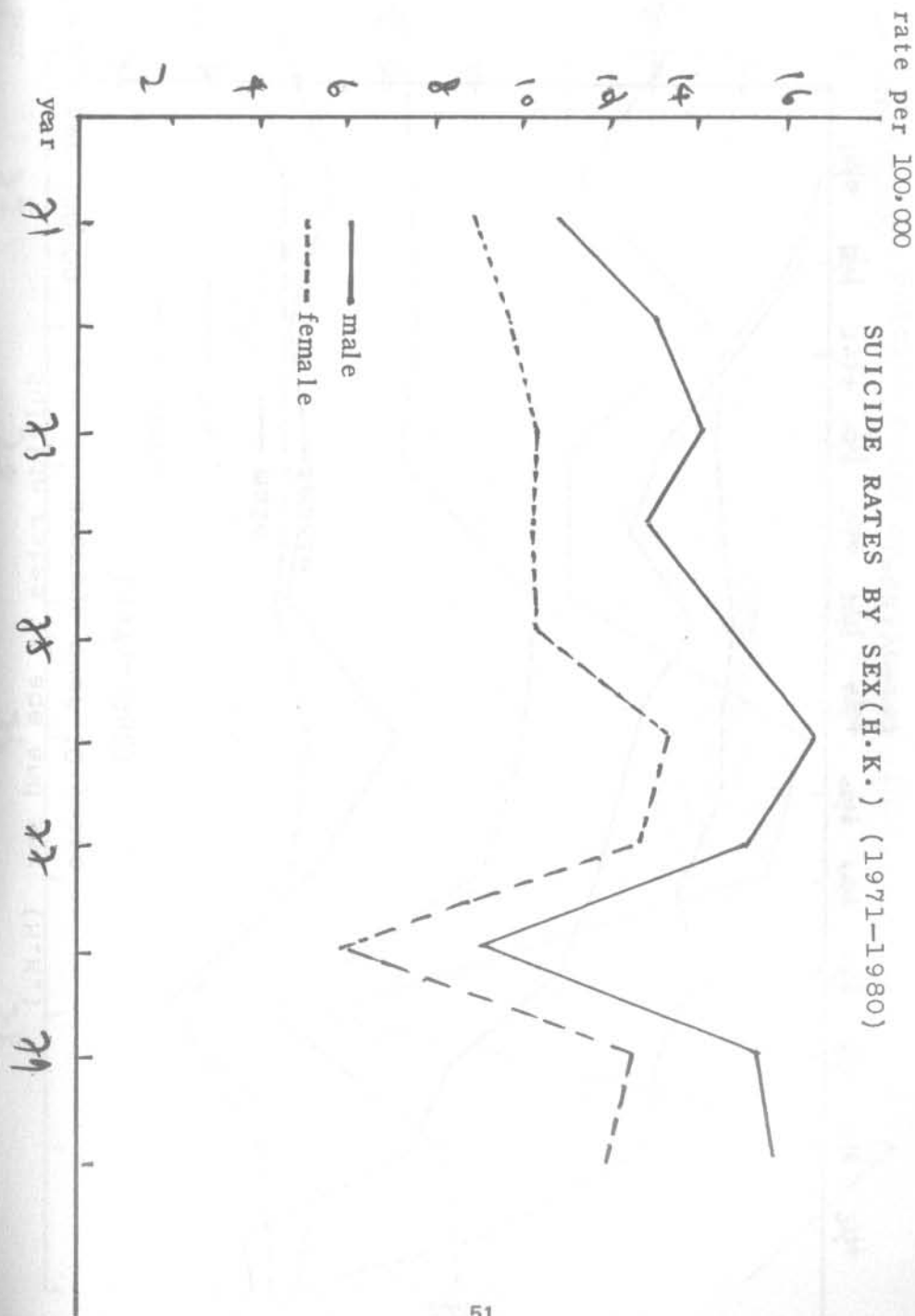
Suicide rates of countries with strong religious atmosphere tended to be low: 3.0 for Greece, 5.8 for Italy 4.0 for Ireland. However, these figures are not fully credible as some suicide cases may be classified under other causes of death for religious reasons.

Many people have the wrong impression that the suicide rate of Japan must be very high, probably because of the rather special hara-kiri. As a matter of fact, the suicide rate of Japan is only 17.3 and it is not considered too high. According to figures published by the United Nations, Hungary is the country with the highest suicide rate, 39.8. Despite the perfect social welfare system in some North European countries, suicide rates of these countries are high in general, probably people of these countries are leading a life void of meaning. For instance, suicide rates for Sweden, Finland and Denmark are 19.9, 24.4 and 24.4 respectively.

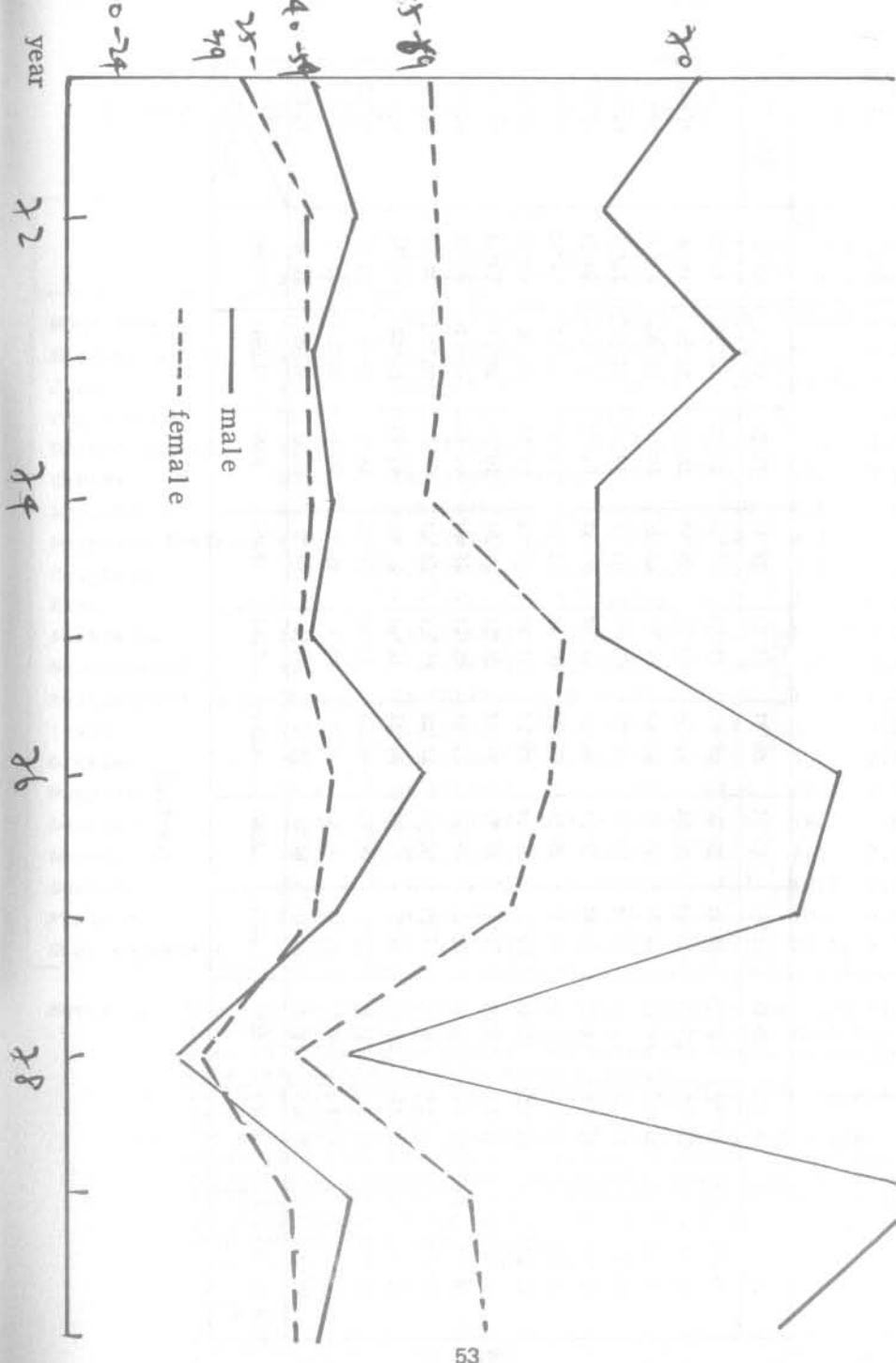
Just like many other statistical figures, suicide figures of different countries cannot be accurately compared. However, the brief analysis above may help us to prove into the suicide problem of Hong Kong.

Notes

- 1) Figures from 1971 to 1980 were used for comparisons with other countries.
- 2) For details of factors causing the high suicide rate for females and the elderly, and other social factors affecting Hongkong's suicide problem, please refer to Suicide Problem in Hong Kong by W.T. Hon and the Newspaper Course (1981) of Chinese University Extra Mural Studies on Life and Death.
- 3) Calculation was based on the United Nations' 1980 Census Annual Report.



rate per 100,000 Suicide rates by age group (H.K.) (1971-1980)



rate per 100,000 Suicide rates by age and sex (H.K.) average over 10 years (1971-1980)

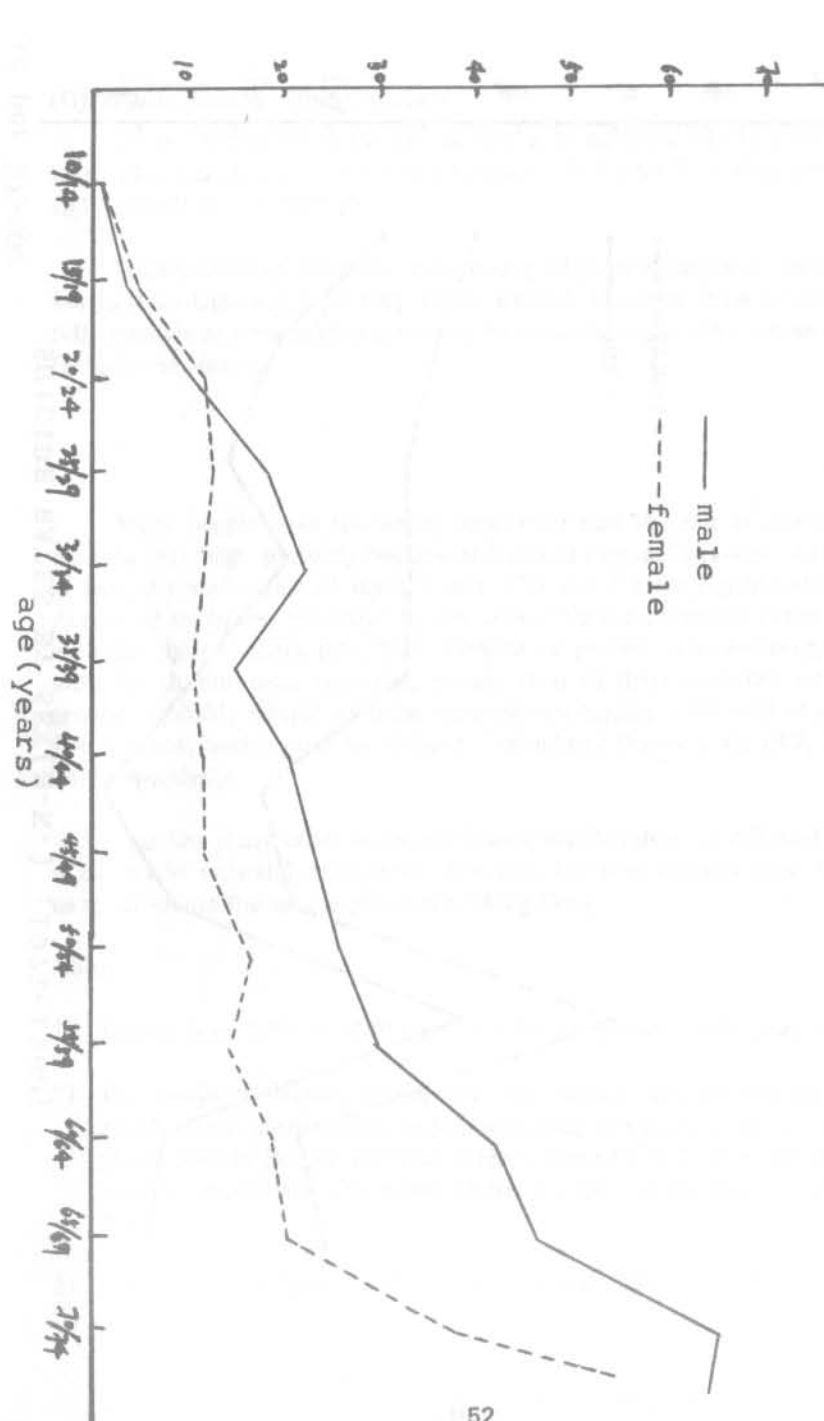


Table II SUICIDE RATE OF DIFFERENT COUNTRIES

	Average	1971 - 1979		Sex		
		The highest (year)	The lowest (year)	M	F	M F Ratio
Hong Kong	11.1 ^a	12.5(1979) ^b	2.2(1978)	14.5 ^c	12.4	1.2:1 ^d
Singapore	10.8	11.4(1978)	9.7(1977)	11.4	9.7	1.2:1
Japan	17.3	18.0(1979)	15.4(1971)	22.5	13.5	1.7:1
Philippine	0.9	1.1(1974)	0.8(1976)	0.9	0.7	1.3:1
United States	12.3	13.2(1977)	11.1(1971)	19.0	6.3	3.0:1
Canada	13.0	14.5(1978)	11.9(1971)	22.4	17.3	3.1:1
England	7.9	8.5(1979)	7.5(1975)	10.4	6.6	1.6:1
Northern Ireland	4.0	4.6(1977)	3.0(1972)	5.0	4.1	1.2:1
Scotland	8.3	9.6(1979)	7.2(1971)	11.7	7.5	1.6:1
Eire	4.0	5.7(1976)	2.7(1971)	6.0	3.3	1.8:1
Australia	11.6	13.4(1971)	10.8(1976)	16.6	6.7	2.5:1
New Zealand	9.6	11.8(1977)	8.3(1971)	13.8	5.8	2.4:1
Switzerland	21.4	24.5(1979)	18.3(1971)	34.6	15.5	2.2:1
Italy	5.8	6.0(1971)	5.6(1975)	7.9	3.5	2.3:1
Greece	3.0	3.4(1974)	2.7(1972)	4.0	1.9	2.1:1
Hungary	39.8	44.6(1979)	36.0(1971)	64.4	26.6	2.4:1
Denmark	24.4	26.0(1974)	23.3(1978)	31.8	19.8	1.6:1
Norway	10.2	12.1(1979)	8.1(1971)	17.2	7.1	2.4:1
Sweden	19.9	20.8(1973)	18.9(1975)	28.3	12.9	2.2:1
Finland	24.4	25.8(1977)	21.7(1971)	42.0	10.6	4.0:1
Czechoslovakia	22.2	24.7(1972)	9.8(1979)	30.1	10.1	3.0:1

- Note: a. The suicide rate of HK between 1971 and 1979 averages 11.1%. As some countries have no record of the suicide rate for the year 1979 (or other years), the rates for these countries were calculated from the known figures.
- b. In the years 1971 to 79, the highest suicide rate recorded is the 13.5% of 1979.
- c. The suicide rates of the male and the female sexes are calculated from the 'known' figures of recent years, the suicide rates listed above are mostly taken from the 1978 & 79 figures. The suicide rate of males in HK in 1979 is 14.5%.
- d. The last column of the above list is the % of the suicide rate between both sexes: $\frac{\text{males}}{\text{females}}$

AGE	MONTH												
		1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978	1979	1980	AVERAGE over 10 yr.	
10-14		0.77	0.55	0.36	0.18	0.19	0.58	0.39	0.00	0.21	0.44	0.36	
15-19		2.27	3.69	4.95	2.52	3.24	4.51	5.30	1.61	4.66	4.61	3.78	
20-24		8.81	8.62	16.91	11.03	11.27	10.96	13.90	7.87	9.41	10.80	10.96	
25-29		14.93	22.92	14.56	16.72	18.31	17.44	21.57	9.52	13.47	14.45	16.39	
30-34		10.26	17.00	23.39	17.73	17.59	22.87	16.38	10.35	18.80	17.68	17.21	
35-39		12.32	12.49	14.66	18.39	13.54	17.83	13.38	7.24	16.80	18.28	14.50	
40-44		17.65	17.48	19.01	19.68	15.97	22.44	12.34	6.77	20.65	11.78	16.38	
45-49		13.69	21.96	14.10	14.68	14.43	25.42	21.69	7.45	19.97	21.79	17.52	
50-54		21.83	23.08	20.07	23.35	21.09	28.33	23.57	9.64	19.07	20.66	21.07	
55-59		25.69	19.38	22.84	18.64	26.43	25.86	25.40	14.93	23.21	23.34	22.57	
60-64		27.31	32.26	31.64	30.60	39.69	34.58	35.05	17.38	31.74	30.14	31.04	
65-69		24.84	30.46	27.09	30.40	45.81	49.03	36.38	16.25	33.04	39.55	33.28	
70-74		46.81	35.71	68.97	43.55	33.23	65.75	39.60	28.97	57.67	63.35	48.36	
75		70.71	66.67	52.98	57.40	66.48	70.40	88.92	36.90	88.50	64.12	63.91	
ALL AGE		9.59	11.36	12.14	11.32	12.25	14.92	13.98	7.16	13.49	13.50	11.97	

(1971-80)

January

1. Mrs. Jopling, wife of a Member of Parliament and a member of The Samaritans — London, accompanied by Mrs. Doe, Evelyn, Assistant Director of Social Welfare, visited the Society.
2. A two-day training camp for members was held at LST Hoh Fuk Tong (Tuen Mun).
3. The Chairman and the Vice-chairman attended the tea reception held by the Community Chest of Hong Kong.
4. Chinese New Year gathering held in the Society.

February

1. The Promotional Officer of the Society gave a talk on "Telephone Counseling" in Yuen Long.
2. The 10th Volunteer Workers' Training Course started, attended by about 70 people.
3. A Talk given at the Holy Trinity Church Youth Fellowship.
4. The Chairman and the Vice-chairman attend the Spring Festival Cocktail Party held by the Social Welfare Department.

March

1. The Commercial Radio Channel I broadcast advertisements promoting the services of the Society for a month.
2. A Reporter of Wah Kiu Yat Po visited the Society.

April

1. The 10th Training Course concluded successfully. 63 volunteers joined the services.
2. An unofficial general meeting was held to discuss the closing of Wanchai Office.
3. A casework conference was held at the Conference Room of Tai Hang Tung Community Centre.

May

1. Members of SKH Lady Macle hose Centre visited the Society.
2. RTHK interviewed the Chairman.
3. TVB interviewed the Vice-chairman.
4. The Society gave a talk at Kei Oi Church.
5. Student members started practical training.

Table III No. of people admitted to hospital attempting suicide in HK.

Year	No. of people admitted to hospital (including deaths)	No. of death	No. of people admitted to hospital : No. of death
1971	913	388	2.4:1
1972	866	463	1.9:1
1973	821	505	1.6:1
1974	1074	481	2.2:1
1975	1131	535	2.1:1
1976	852	654	1.3:1
1977	825	629	1.3:1
1978	1201	330	3.6:1
1979	1030	661	1.6:1
1980	1052	684	1.5:1
1981	1180	520	2.3:1

June

1. Staring from June 1, the Wanchai Office was closed. All services were then provided at Lok Fu Office.
2. The Vice-chairman attended the Annual Meeting of the Community Chest of Hong Kong.
3. The Vice-chairman attended the Meeting of Casework & Residential Service Coordination Community of Wong Tai Sin.
4. The Training Officer attended the conference held by Hong Kong Council of Social Service.
5. RTHK (TV), The Commercial Radio, the Centre Daily News, Ching Pao Daily and YWCA visited the Society.

July

1. The Promotional Officer gave a talk at the mutual-aid committee of Kwai Shing.
2. A casework conference was held at the Conference Room of Tai Hang Tung Community Centre.
3. Hong Kong Daily News, Tin Tin Yat Pao, TVB News Department, CMA Prevocational School and Shue Yan College visited the Society.
4. The Annual General Meeting was held at YMCA of Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui, in the afternoon on July 17.

August

1. The Society met the press at YMCA of Hong Kong, Tsim Sha Tsui, clarifying the taking back of the English Service Section.
2. A 24-hour consultative services on HKCEE was provided.
3. The Chairman attended the seminar on youth problem organized by the Hong Kong Welfare Society and RTHK.
4. The Reader's Digest visited the Society.
5. A ferry trip was held on August 6. Members were keen to join and the trip was full of joy indeed.

September

1. RTHK interviewed the Chairman and the Vice-chairman respectively.
2. The Vice-chairman attended the Seasonal Meeting of Casework & Residential Service Co-ordinating Community of Wong Tai Sin.
3. The Star and TVB visited the Society.
4. Seminar on "Inter-personal Communication" was held at the Society in the afternoon on September 6.

October

1. RTHK (TV) visited the Society in preparation for the production of programmes about the Society's voluntary services.
2. The Reader's Digest, the Caritas, the Chinese University of Hong Kong and the True Light College visited the Society respectively.
3. Canoeing at Tai Mei Tuk was held on 24th October. Eight members participated.

November

1. The Vice-chairman visited the Samaritan of Singapore during her tour there.
2. Wo Che Youth Centre, Shue Yan College, and St. Paul Co Education College visited the Society.
3. Camping at Pak Sha Wan was held on 27th and 28th November. Thirty members participated.

December

1. Sing Tao Jih Pao and Shue Yan College visited the Society.
2. The Society gave a Christmas Party.
3. A member of the Community Chest of Hong Kong visited the Society.

Ernst & Whinney

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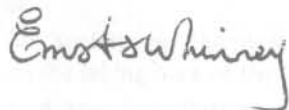
REPORT OF HONORARY AUDITORS

To the Members
The Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong

We have examined the balance sheet of The Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong as of 31st December, 1982 and the related statement of income and expenditure for the period from 1st April, 1982 to 31st December, 1982 as set out on pages 2 to 4.

Our examination was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and, accordingly, included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances.

In our opinion, the financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of The Samaritan Befrienders Hong Kong at 31st December, 1982, and the details of its income and expenditure for the period then ended.



Hong Kong
8th March, 1983

THE SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS HONG KONG

BALANCE SHEET

31st December, 1982

(Stated in Hong Kong Dollars)

	31/12/1982	31/3/1982
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash on hand	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,300
Cash in bank	33,771	66,178
Time deposit	11,557	10,843
Interest receivable	245	63
Sundry debtors and prepayments	585	1,190
	<u>47,158</u>	<u>79,574</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Accrued expenses	29	3,060
Receipts in advance	-	2,060
	<u>29</u>	<u>5,120</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	47,129	74,454
PROPERTY, FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT - Note B	1	1
	<u>\$ 47,130</u>	<u>\$ 74,455</u>
	=====	=====
ACCUMULATED FUNDS		
Accumulated surplus	\$ 27,130	\$ 74,455
General reserve - Note D	20,000	-
	<u>\$ 47,130</u>	<u>\$ 74,455</u>
	=====	=====

The Accompanying Notes Form Part of the Financial Statements.

.....
Chairman

.....
Honorary Treasurer

THE SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS HONG KONG

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

Period from 1st April, 1982 to 31st December, 1982

(Stated in Hong Kong Dollars)

	Period from 1/4/1982 to 31/12/1982	Year ended 31/3/1982
Income:		
Membership subscriptions	\$ 2,800	\$ 1,020
Donations and subsidies	68,382	96,118
Interest	4,257	7,209
Fund raising film show	-	9,151
Income received by Wanchai Office	-	104,001
	<u>75,439</u>	<u>217,499</u>
Expenses:		
Salaries	44,040	46,400
Purchases of furniture and equipment	-	585
Rent and rates	3,507	5,808
Repairs and maintenance	578	989
Stationery and printing	5,553	4,185
Subscriptions	500	1,289
Library books	128	4,458
Electricity and water	5,723	5,143
Telephone	4,714	3,772
Newspapers and advertisements	660	681
Postage and stamp duty	520	1,070
Travelling	21	61
Sanitary and cleaning	343	576
Summer service	13,123	12,342
Case expenses	1,250	2,480
Training expenses	57	118
Publicity	4,182	12,200
Newsletters	4,343	2,838
Insurance	110	-
Sundry	1,703	2,636
Expenses paid by Wanchai Office	-	104,001
	<u>91,055</u>	<u>211,632</u>
Donation - Note A	11,709	-
	<u>102,764</u>	<u>211,632</u>
(DEFICIT)/SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD/YEAR	(27,325)	5,867
Accumulated surplus at beginning of period/year	74,455	68,588
	<u>47,130</u>	<u>74,455</u>
Transfer to General Reserve - Note D	20,000	-
ACCUMULATED SURPLUS AT END OF PERIOD/YEAR	\$ 27,130	\$ 74,455
	=====	=====

The Accompanying Notes Form Part of the Financial Statements.

THE SAMARITAN BEFRIENDERS HONG KONG

NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

31st December, 1982

NOTE A: ORGANIZATION

The Society operated in two locations at the beginning of the period at 45, Block 13, G/F Lok Fu Estate, Kowloon and at the Sailors and Soldiers Home, 22 Hennessy Road, 3/F Wanchai, Hong Kong.

The office at the Sailors and Soldiers Home, Wanchai, was closed on 1st June, 1982 and the Society donated all the assets located in that Office at that date amounting to HK\$11,709 to a group which was set up to run social services independently. This donation has been charged to the statement of income and expenditure for the period.

NOTE B: SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accrual Accounting

The financial statements are prepared based on the 'accruals' concept such that income and expenditure are accrued and dealt with in the statement of income and expenditure of the period to which they relate.

Property, Furniture and Equipment

It is the policy of the Society to expense the cost of leasehold improvements and purchases of furniture and equipment wholly in the year of acquisition. As a result of this, property, furniture and equipment is maintained in the balance sheet at the nominal value of \$1.

The Society has not acquired or disposed of property, furniture and equipment during the period.

NOTE C: CHANGE OF FINANCIAL YEAREND DATE

Pursuant to a resolution of the members on 18th July, 1982, the Society changed its financial yearend date to 31st December. These financial statements reflect the Society's operations for the period from 1st April, 1982 to 31st December, 1982.

NOTE D: GENERAL RESERVE

Pursuant to a resolution of the Committee Members on 4th January, 1983, an amount of HK\$20,000 was transferred from Accumulated Surplus at 31st December, 1982 to a Reserve Fund to meet any contingencies.

NOTE E: TAXATION

No provision for Hong Kong taxation is required as the Society is a non-profit making organization and is exempt from taxation by the Inland Revenue Department.