# Chapter 33 Sociology of Suicide

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# Abstract

Societal stressors play an important role in the major sociological theories of suicide. In Durkheim's theory, reduced social integration and excessive social regulation both result in stress, while Henry and Short's theory focuses on whether individuals can blame others for their unhappiness, a protective factor for suicide. Anthropologists have documented the role of stress created by cultural conflict in increasing the risk for suicide. Whereas individual stressors can increase the risk of suicide in individual members of a society, societal, and cultural stressors can increase the risk of suicide in all members of the society.