**JOURNAL CLUB: STUDENT GUIDE**

**Article**: Butterworth, S. E., Daruwula, S. E., & Anestis, M. D. (2020). The role of reason for firearm ownership in beliefs about firearms and suicide, openness to means safety, and current firearm storage. *Suicide and Life-Threatening Behavior*, *50*(3), 617-630.

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**Keywords**: suicide; survey; gun owners; safe storage; lethal means safety; logistic regression; analysis of covariance

**Summary**: An online survey of 300 American firearm owners examining the relationship between reasons for gun ownership (for protection vs another reason) and (1) beliefs about firearm ownership/storage and suicide risk, (2) openness to means safety interventions, and (3) firearm storage practices.

**Discussion Questions**

Background

1. **What are the authors’ research objectives and hypotheses? Why is such research important?**
2. **What is the relationship between firearms and suicide risk?**
3. **What are means safety interventions? What are some examples of means safety measures specific to firearms?**
4. **What do we know from previous research about the relationship between firearm owners’ perceptions regarding firearms and suicide, their reasons for ownership, and their storage practices?**

Methods

1. **Who were the participants and how were they selected? How might the sampling procedure affect the generalizability of results?**
2. **Do you think the survey questions (which appear in Appendix 1) measure what the authors intended to measure?**
3. **What statistical analyses were performed? For each type of analysis, identify the independent variables, dependent variables, and covariates, and how they were measured.**
4. **What covariates were considered, and why is this important?**

Findings

1. **What were the main findings? Did the findings support the authors’ hypotheses?**

Limitations

1. **Discuss some limitations of the study.**

Practice and Application

1. **What does this study add to the literature?**
2. **What are the implications for clinical practice?**
3. **How would you build on or strengthen this study in future research?**

**Additional References**

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