Adolescent Suicide Questionnaire

Keith Olson in his excellent book *Counseling Teenagers* uses an adaptation of a questionnaire originally designed by A.G. DeVries in order to make a quick evaluation of a potential suicide from the person's self-rating.[i]

This questionnaire can be a tool to establish a need and then refer the person to a professional who is comfortable in dealing with potential suicidal tendencies.

YES NO

1. My future happiness looks promising.
2. I have recently had difficulty sleeping.
3. I think I am to blame for almost all my troubles.
4. When I'm sick, the doctor often prescribes sedatives for me.
5. My future looks secure.
6. Sometimes I really feel afraid.
7. Sometimes I fear I will lose control over myself.
8. Lately I haven't felt like participating in my usual activities.
9. I go on occasional drinking sprees.
10. Within the last few years I have moved at least twice.
11. I have someone whose well being I care about very much.
12. I generally feel that I am completely worthless.
13. I frequently have a drink in the morning.

Suicidal adolescents will tend to produce the following pattern of responses:

1. No
2. Yes
3. Yes
4. Yes
5. No
6. Yes
7. Yes
8. Yes
9. Yes
10. Yes
11. No
12. Yes
13. Yes[ii]

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[i] G.Keith Olson, *Counseling Teenagers* (Loveland, COL Group Books, 1984), p. 376.