



Problem Gambling Library

Newsletter
June/July 2009

The following publications were released in mid 2009 in New Zealand by the New Zealand Ministry of Health. They include:

1. **Informing the 2009 problem gambling needs assessment: report for the MOH;**
2. **Problem gambling resource for local government;**
3. **A focus on problem gambling. Results of the 2006/07 New Zealand Health Survey.**

Informing the 2009 problem gambling needs assessment: report for the MOH. This report was produced to analyze and review the current situation in New Zealand with a view to evaluate problem gambling needs. It provides a up-to-date picture of problem gambling in NZ and examines five key areas: A literature review from 2006-8; A review of seven research projects contracted by the MOH; An analysis of trends using GIS data (2009 problem gambling geography); Analysis of recent prevalence data; and an assessment of the evaluation reports stages one and two of a service evaluation currently being undertaken.

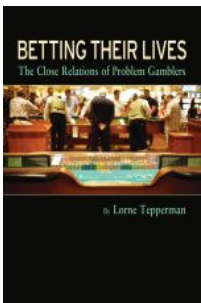


The Problem gambling resource for local government aims to assist territorial local authorities (TLAs) with their Class 4 and TAB gambling venue policy reviews. It includes: information about gambling legislation and the roles of various government departments in New Zealand; the role of the territorial authorities in reviewing their gambling venue policies (including what they are required to do, what they may choose to do, and what they cannot do); gambling venue policy options for territorial authorities; background information on the economic and social impacts of gambling and problem gambling in New Zealand; guidance on the statistics that could be used to inform gambling policies, based on available and well-referenced research; guidance on how territorial authorities could best present the statistical information (using tables, graphs and/or charts) so that it is easily understood.

A focus on problem gambling. Results of the 2006/07 New Zealand Health Survey presents key findings about problem gambling and gambling-related harm in the New Zealand population, with data from the 2006/07 New Zealand Health Survey. The survey involved 12,488 participants over 15 years of age and included the nine-question Canadian Problem Gambling Index (CPGI). It examines gambling participation, the prevalence of gambling-related harm, other behaviours and health outcomes linked with problem gambling, and the prevalence of experiencing harm from someone's gambling. Overall, the prevalence of problem gambling in New Zealand adults was 0.4% (about 13,100 adults). Additionally, the prevalence of moderate-risk gambling was 1.3% (representing a further 40,900 people). In total, 1 in 58 adults (1.7%, or 54,000 adults) were experiencing either problem or moderate-risk gambling.

Books added to the library during July 2009

L. Tepperman. Betting their lives. ***The close relations of problem gambling.*** Oxford University Press, 2009.

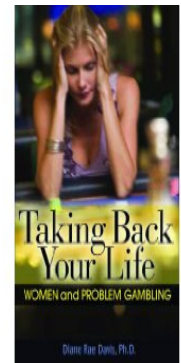


Problem gambling has traditionally been seen as an individual issue: it's your problem, you deal with it. Tepperman uses a public health approach (with social causes and significant health outcomes). The book is based on a series of interviews that study the lives of a selection of problem gamblers; she shows how gambling is influenced by, and in turn influences, relationships with intimate partners - husbands, wives, children.

Read more at <http://www.camh.net/egambling/issue23/11lesieur.html>

Diane Rae Davis, PhD, ***Taking Back Your Life: Women and Problem Gambling.*** Hazelden, 2009.

Davis is a professor in the School of Social Work and Human Services at Eastern Washington University. She has researched and written extensively on addiction and recovery, specifically with regard to women in recovery from compulsive gambling. Davis offers information on preventing relapse, finding support groups, and healing relationships with loved ones, and uses the most up-to-date research and methods for treatment to help women gamblers.



**Please come and visit the library at PGFNZ Auckland Office
Level 1, 128 Khyber Pass Road, Grafton, Auckland.
Hours are 8.30am - 5.00pm during the week**



Books/Articles/Reports added to library in July 2009

CRIME AND GAMBLING (US)

John Kindt. *United States International gambling report series*. Buffalo, NY: WS Hein, 2009.

Three volumes: *Gambling with crime, disabled economies, and financial systems*; *Gambling with national security, terrorism, and military readiness*; *Gambling: executive summaries and recommendations*.

University of Illinois professor John W. Kindt, a national gambling critic and contributing author and editor of the nearly 3,000-page series. The three-volume series of academic and government reports recommends that the U.S. and other countries follow the lead of Russia, which has seen an economic boost since it virtually abolished legalized gambling in 2006-07. Kindt states that casinos drain money from consumer products and services, weakening the economic engine that ultimately drives defense spending.

The just-released volume on gambling's links to crime and the economy caps the research series. Other books include a volume of executive summaries and recommendations, and a volume devoted to research showing that gambling harms national security and military readiness.

The series contains reprints of many important government documents and academic source materials relevant to gambling issues, divided topically. These books preserve documents in danger of being lost, particularly in their historical context; therefore, each document is preceded by a historical commentary. The reprinted documents are primarily substantive reference materials, especially those contributing to determinations of congressional intent as well as the motivations of federal/state decision makers.

BEST ADVICE ON PREVENTION (CANADA)

Gary Robert and Associates. *Best advice for preventing gambling problems in Nova Scotia*. Halifax: Nova Scotia. Health Promotion and Protection, November 2008.

The report evaluates current research on what is known about how best to prevent gambling problems. It examines studies on: the impact of gambling; prevalence of problem gambling; identification of risk and protective factors; and evaluation of intervention effectiveness. The report uses a public health model for the framework of research. It focuses on the prevention of problem arising from Gambling, and examines the diagnostic and screening tools which have been recently developed.

WOMEN

Emma Casey. *Women, pleasure and the gambling experience*. Ashgate, 2008.

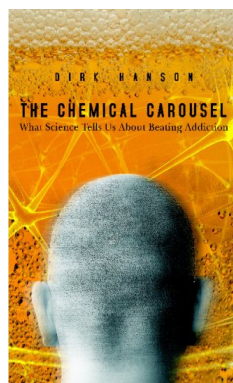
Casey uses both a historical and sociological perspective to examine the everyday gambling experiences of a diverse group of women.

She provides insights into the pleasures afforded to women through their gambling participation and draws on a variety of feminist literature to understand women's motivations and experience of play, and to examine the ways in which women negotiate their right to gamble without reprimand and adds to contemporary feminist debates about women's leisure by showing how women seize control of their lives in order to carve out a time and space for the pursuit of pleasure.



SCIENCE

Dirk Hanson. *The chemical carousel. What Science tells us about beating addiction*. Booksurge Publishing, 2009.



Dirk Hanson examines the world of addiction science, from the lab to the clinic to the junky on the street.

He explains the workings of common neurotransmitters and documents the direct effect drugs and alcohol produce on the reward pathways of the brain. He shows how scientists and treatment professionals have finally given us an answer to the perennial question about addiction: Why can't those people just say no?

INDIGENOUS

Dyall. Gambling: A poison chalice for indigenous people. *International Journal of Mental Health and Addiction*. May 2009.

Indigenous populations are now being encouraged to be involved in the business of gambling as an operator or if not given that status, are actively encouraged to participate in gambling activities. Research both published and unpublished show that different indigenous populations often have a higher prevalence of problem and pathological gambling than other populations groups, especially the dominant population, which actively encourages the normalisation and exposure of vulnerable peoples to gambling.

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