

# ***"Gambling should be banned in Australia"***



## ***What do you think?***

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# *What is Gambler's Help?*



Free service across Victoria:

- Helping people with gambling problems
- Helping family and friends of people with gambling problems
- Helping communities to decrease harm from gambling

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# *Your controversial essay topic*



What are the arguments "for" and "against"?

(+) Positives



(-) Negatives

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# *What is Gambling?*



- Wagering or betting something of value
- On an uncertain event
- Based partly or entirely on chance

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# *Examples of Gambling*



- Raffles
- Lotteries
- Scratch Tickets
- Casino Games
- Stock Market
- Sports Betting
- Bingo
- Racing
- Gaming machines  
(pokies)
- Card games
- Internet gambling

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# *Who gambles?*



- Over 80% of Australian adults gamble
- 40% gamble once a week or more
- Many young people (under 18) also gamble

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# *How much is gambled?*



In 03/04, total Victorian losses were \$4.3 billion, including:

- \$2,290 million on poker machines
- \$963 million at the casino
- \$578 million on racing and sports betting
- \$436 million on lottery products



\$72 per sec

# *Some newspaper headlines*



1. "Mystery winner claims \$12 million jackpot"
2. "States addicted to easy money"
3. "Casinos spin a great result"
4. "Gambling creating new criminal class"
5. "Champion starts poker boom"
6. "Pokies losses shock"

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# *Arguments "for" gambling*



- Enjoyment for recreation gamblers
- Taxes for government
- Employment
- Tourism
- Australian culture
- Problems with "illegal" gambling

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# *Arguments “against” gambling*



- “Problem gambling”
  - harms the person who gambles and/or their family, friends or community
- Taxes come from money lost by gamblers
- Effects on other businesses
- Are all gambling activities safe?

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# *How many people are affected?*

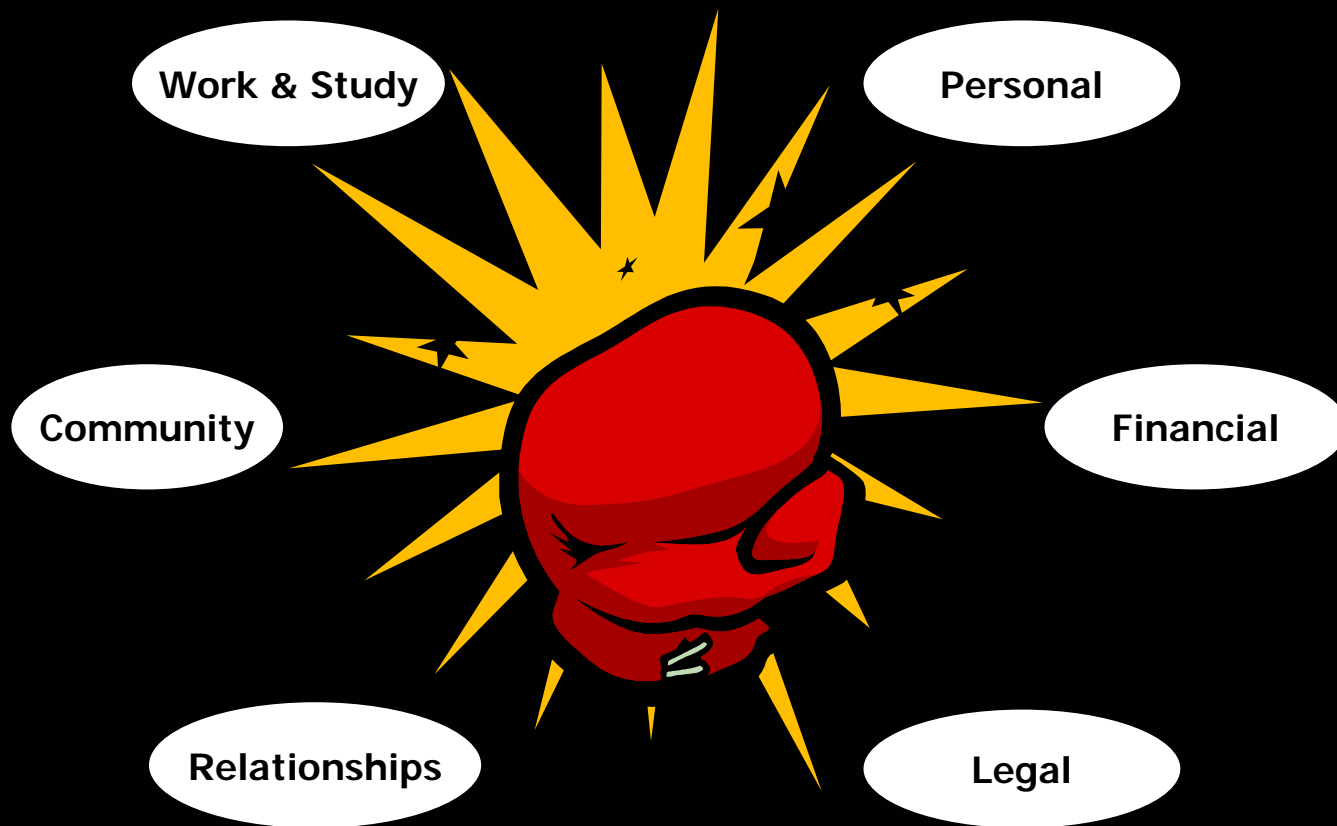


- 2.1% of adult Australians have a gambling problem (approx. 290,000 people)
- They lose 1/3 of all money lost
- Each person affects between 5 and 10 other people.

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# *Harm from problem gambling*



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# *Real life stories*



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# *Gambler's Help is...*



- Gambler's Help Line
  - Statewide telephone counselling service; 24 hours, 7 days a week; free phone call
- Local Gambler's Help Services
  - face to face support services and community initiatives

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# *Gambler's Help Services*



- Confidential, professional counselling
- Financial counselling
- Self help information
- Education
- Multicultural services

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# *Counselling helps people to:*



- work out what their problems are
- understand their situation
- set goals
- go through the process of change

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# *Useful websites*



[www.problemgambling.vic.gov.au](http://www.problemgambling.vic.gov.au)

[www.ghsouthern.org.au](http://www.ghsouthern.org.au)

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*Thank you*



*All the best with  
your essay!*

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