

"Gambling should be banned in Australia"



What do you think?

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Gambler's Help Southern

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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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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 counselling, education and community development

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Free Gambler's Help Services



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

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"Harm minimisation"

Information

Education

Community building for prevention

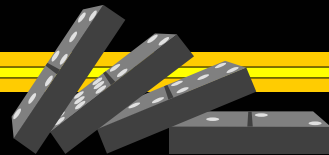
Policy frameworks and industry interventions

Self Help

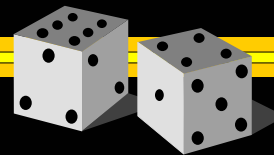
Counselling &
Financial Counselling



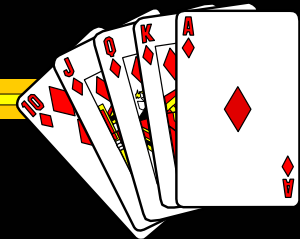
**Non-
Gambling**



**Social
Gambling**



**At Risk/Harmful
Gambling**



**Problem
Gambling**

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
- For gain

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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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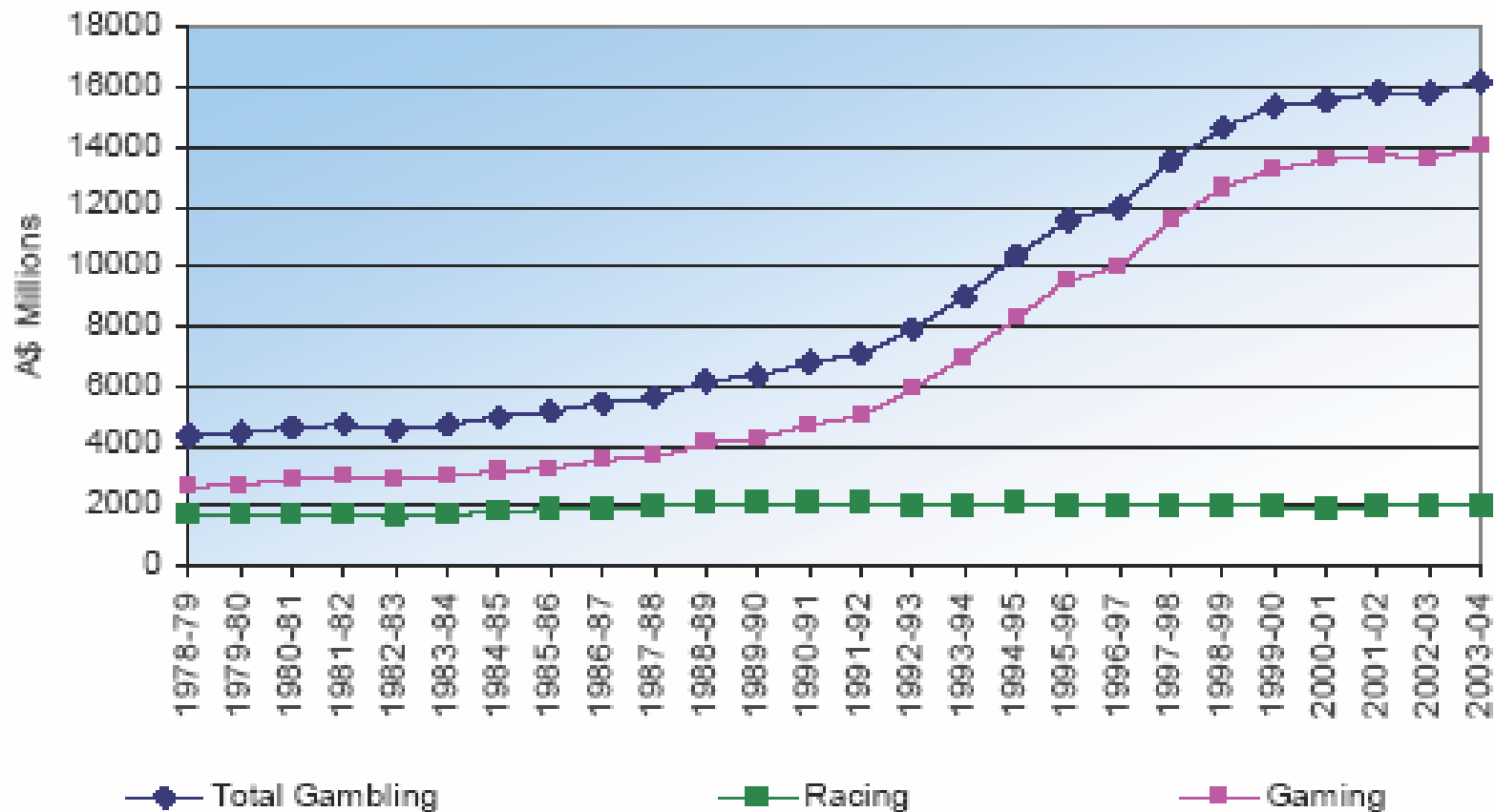
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Why gamble?

- Accessibility
- Entertainment
- Excitement
- Cultural acceptance
- Dream of “big win”
- Habit
- Boredom
- Low self-esteem
- Loneliness & isolation
- Depression or anxiety
- Chase losses
- Loss of control
- Pressure (from family/friends who gamble)
- Escape from/forget problems (family, work, relationships)
- Stressful event in a person’s life (e.g. bereavement, job loss)
- Misperceptions of chances of winning/control over outcomes

Australian Losses

Figure 2: Real total gambling expenditure in Australia, 1977-78 to 2003-04.



(ANU Centre For Gambling Research 2005 Fact Sheet, citing Queensland Treasury, 2005)

Victorian Losses

In 04/05, total Victorian expenditure on gambling was \$4.372 billion, including:

- \$2,393 million on poker machines
- \$921.6 million at the casino
- \$615.8 million on racing & sports betting
- \$435 million on lottery products



\$75.88 per sec

The Tax Man's share in 04/05

Tax revenue from gambling was **\$1.369 billion**, or **13.3%** of Victoria's taxation revenue.

This included:

- \$841 million from **pokies** (61% of gambling tax revenue and 8% of state tax revenue)

Source: Financial Report for the State of Victoria 04/05

Figures are approximate

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
- Much tax comes from people with problems
- Effects on other business & employment
- Are all gambling products safe?

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How many people are affected?

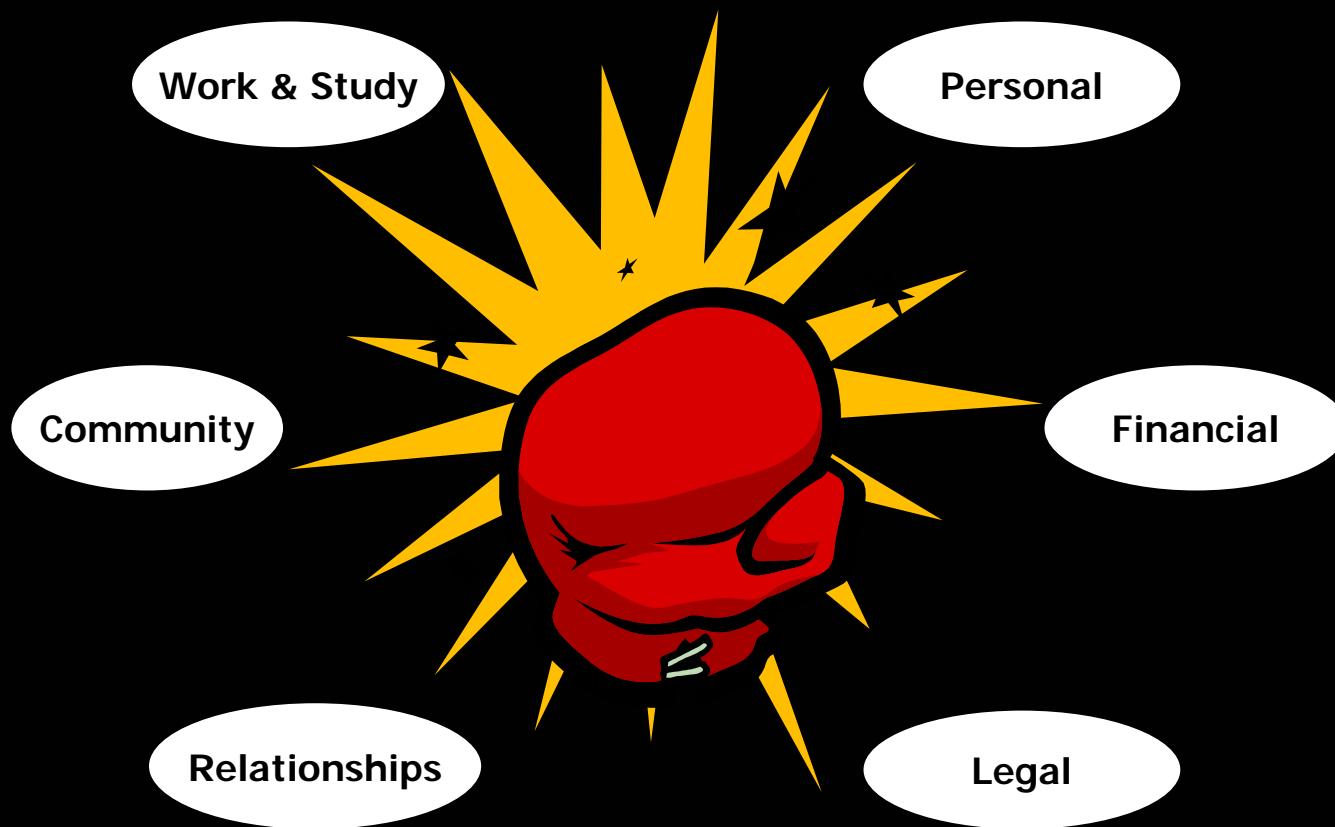


- 2.1% of adult Australians have a gambling problem (approx. 290,000 people)
- They lose 1/3 of all money lost
- Each person affects between 5 and 10 other people.

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Harm from problem gambling



Real life stories



Jade

Aged 21, Melbourne

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Useful websites



www.problemgambling.vic.gov.au

www.ghsouthern.org.au

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Thank you



*All the best with
your essay!*

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