

Introduction to Gambling Treatment Part 2

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Gambling History

✓ Taken from: The Wager, “Living Timeline of Gambling”, available online at: www.thewager.org/timeline.htm

❖ Taken from: I. Nelson Rose, “Gambling and the Law: Pivotal Dates”, available at: <http://gamblingandthelaw.com/dates.html>

✓ 1300-1200 BC

- ✓ Moses used lots to select goats for sacrifice

✓ 1096

- ✓ Kings allow nobleman to gamble in Crusades

✓ 1636

- ✓ Lotteries help establish Harvard and Ivy League

✓ 1776

- ✓ Lotteries help fund Revolution

❖ 1862

- ✓ “First Wave” ends with scandals and Jacksonian morality

✓ 1867

- ✓ “The Gambler” written by Dostoevsky

❖ 1890 – 1910

- ❖ “Second Wave”
- ❖ Rise of gambling falters due to widespread scandals
- ❖ Horseracing in Kentucky and Maryland and a few card clubs only legal gambling in the US

❖ 1931

- ❖ “Third Wave” (Current)
- ❖ Nevada casinos
- ❖ Charity gambling

Gambling History

❖ 1940 – 1950

❖ Pari-mutuel betting at racetracks legal

✓ 1951

✓ Iago Galdston publishes first co-morbidity study

✓ 1957

✓ GA founded

✓ 1963

✓ New Hampshire first state with Lottery in 20th Century (called a sweepstakes)

✓ 1972

✓ First Tx program (Custer)

✓ NCPG founded

✓ Maryland funds Tx

❖ 1975

❖ Federal Law amended to allow for State Lotteries

❖ 1978

❖ Atlantic City opens casino

✓ 1980

✓ DSM III includes Pathological Gambling

Gambling History

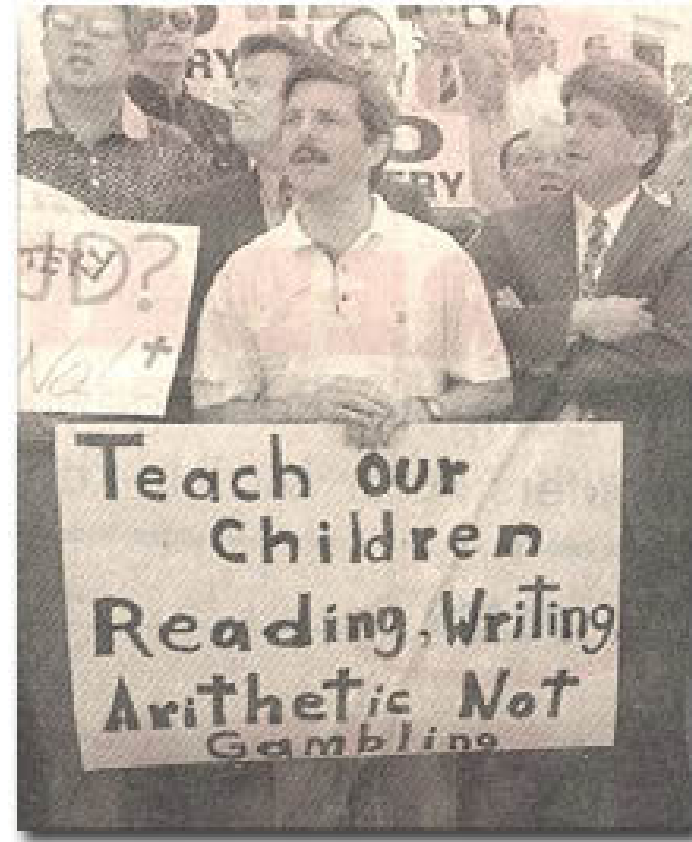
- ✓ 1982
 - ✓ Connecticut is first state to fund outpatient Tx
- ❖ 1988
 - ❖ Reagan signs IGRA
- ❖ 1991
 - ❖ Riverboat casinos in Iowa
- ✓ 1994
 - ✓ APA revises criteria for DSM-IV
 - ✓ Antigua licenses online gambling operations
 - ✓ AMA resolution on problem gambling
- ❖ 1995
 - ❖ First internet wager
- ✓ 1997
 - ✓ Harvard meta-analysis study released
- ✓ 1998
 - ✓ AGA holds initial Responsible Gaming Education Week
 - ✓ NAADAC position paper
- 1999
 - NGISC issues report
 - Nebraska first state to certify gambling counselors in statute

"A lottery is a salutary instrument and a tax laid on the willing only, that is to say, on those who can risk the price of a ticket without sensible injury, for the possibility of a higher prize."

- *Thomas Jefferson*

"A number of moralists condemn lotteries and refuse to see anything noble in the passion of the ordinary gambler. They judge gambling as some atheists judge religion, by its excesses."

- *Charles Lamb, Essays of Elia (1832)*



Perspectives on Gambling

- Nine gamblers could not feed a single rooster.
- *Yugoslav proverb*
- "A gambler with a system must be, to a greater or lesser extent, insane."
- *George Augustus Sala (1828-95)*
- "Gambling: The sure way of getting nothing from something."
- *Wilson Mizner*

Types of problem gamblers

- Action/Skill
 - Stereotypical gambler
 - Likely to be male
 - Earlier onset / late treatment seeking
- Escape / Luck
 - Increasing numbers
 - Prefer machines, games of chance
 - More females
 - Late onset / early treatment seeking

Common characteristics of gamblers and substance abusers

- Extensive use of lingo
- Relapse history
- Severe financial problems
- LYING
- Erratic spending
- Family/client will ask for help
- Continued disruption after abstinence

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Co-occurring disorders

- In the problem gambling treatment population, 70 percent of participants reported using illicit drugs and 24 percent reported drugs had been a problem at least once in their life (Toneatto, 2002).
- Iowa (Shaffer et al., 2002) found 23% of gamblers had been treated for substance abuse.
- A review of 520 problem gamblers receiving gambling treatment in Nebraska revealed that 45% had received mental health or substance abuse services in the six months prior to gambling treatment, and 43% of those were receiving outpatient substance abuse treatment (Christensen, 2001).

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Florida 2010 Study

- 1 in 5 inmates is a problem gambler
- Nebraska study 2006 similiar numbers (22%)
 - Probation numbers around 10%

“Know when to hold ‘em and know when to fold ‘em” is an adage that doesn’t seem to apply to gamblers who are winning big, according to research conducted at the University of Notre Dame.

- Researchers found those players who perceived they were on a winning streak gambled more and more recklessly and lost
- “Like individual investors who expect stocks that have recently risen in price to continue to gain in value, people who had just won many bets would wager too much on hands that were likely to lose,”

Problem Gambling May Start in Failure of Brain's Fear Instinct

- A study has found that a part of the brain that controls fear may prevent gambling, even when the estimated benefit is greater than the cost. Conversely, those whose amygdalas, containing the brain's fear responses, are damaged were found to gamble even when the odds are against them, like problem gamblers.
- California Institute of Technology and the University College of London

Parkinson's meds and compulsive behaviors: a strong link

- Some 13.6% of Parkinson's Disease patients taking [levodopa](#) or one of the dopamine-agonist medications widely used for the movement disorder show clear signs of some impulse-control disorder. That rate was between 2 and 3.3 times higher among Parkinson's patients being treated with these medications than among patients who did not take them. About a quarter of those patients suffered from more than one type of compulsive behavior.

Scientists identify 4 kinds of compulsive gamblers

- Type I, which could be called 'disorganized and emotionally unstable', is characterized by schizotypal personality traits, high degrees of impulsiveness, alcohol and substance abuse, psychopathological alterations and early onset age.
- Type II, which is a schizoid type, exhibits high levels of harm avoidance, social distancing, and alcohol abuse.
- Type III is reward-sensitive, and is characterized by high levels of sensation-seeking and impulsiveness, although without any psychopathological alterations.
- Type IV is a high functioning, globally-adapted personality type, without any disorders relating to substance abuse, and no associated psychopathological alterations.
- Susana Jiménez Murcia, co-author of the study and coordinator of the Pathological Gambling Unit at the Bellvitge-IDIBELL Hospital in Barcelona

Steven Wright

“I’m addicted to placebos,

Steven Wright

“I’m addicted to placebos,
I’d give them up but it wouldn’t make
any difference.”

A FINAL QOUTE

"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others, whenever they go."

• *Oscar Wilde (1854-1900)*