



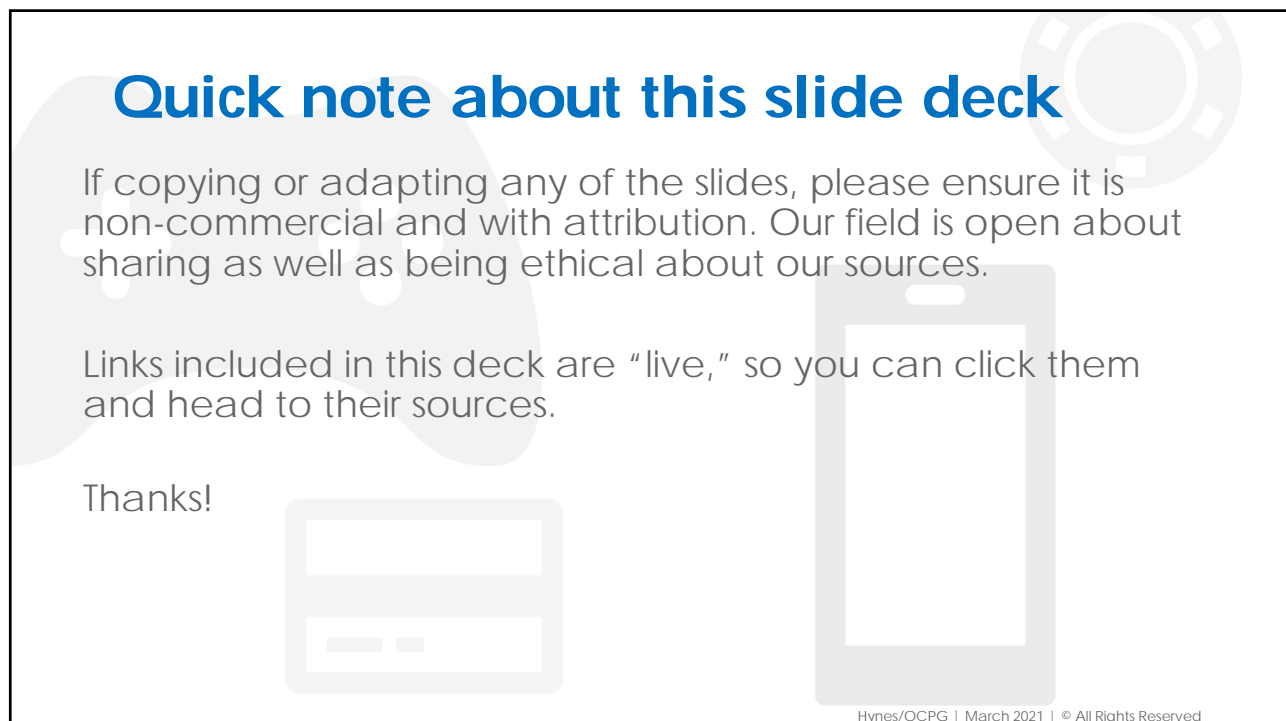
# LEVELING UP

in How We Understand  
and Address the  
Convergence of Youth  
Gaming & Gambling

Julie M. Hynes, MA, RDN, CPS, IGDC  
IDPH Problem Gambling Webinar Series | March 2021

ocpg  
OREGON COUNCIL on PROBLEM GAMBLING

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Thanks!

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**Thanks, IDPH!  
And thank you  
for being here!**

**A copy of the slide deck  
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to you following the  
session.**



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## What to Expect:

1

Name 3 specific trends that are contributing to the convergence of gaming and gambling

2

Identify 5 common risk factors between gaming and gambling disorders

3

3 programmatic tools that can be used to address gaming and gambling with populations served.

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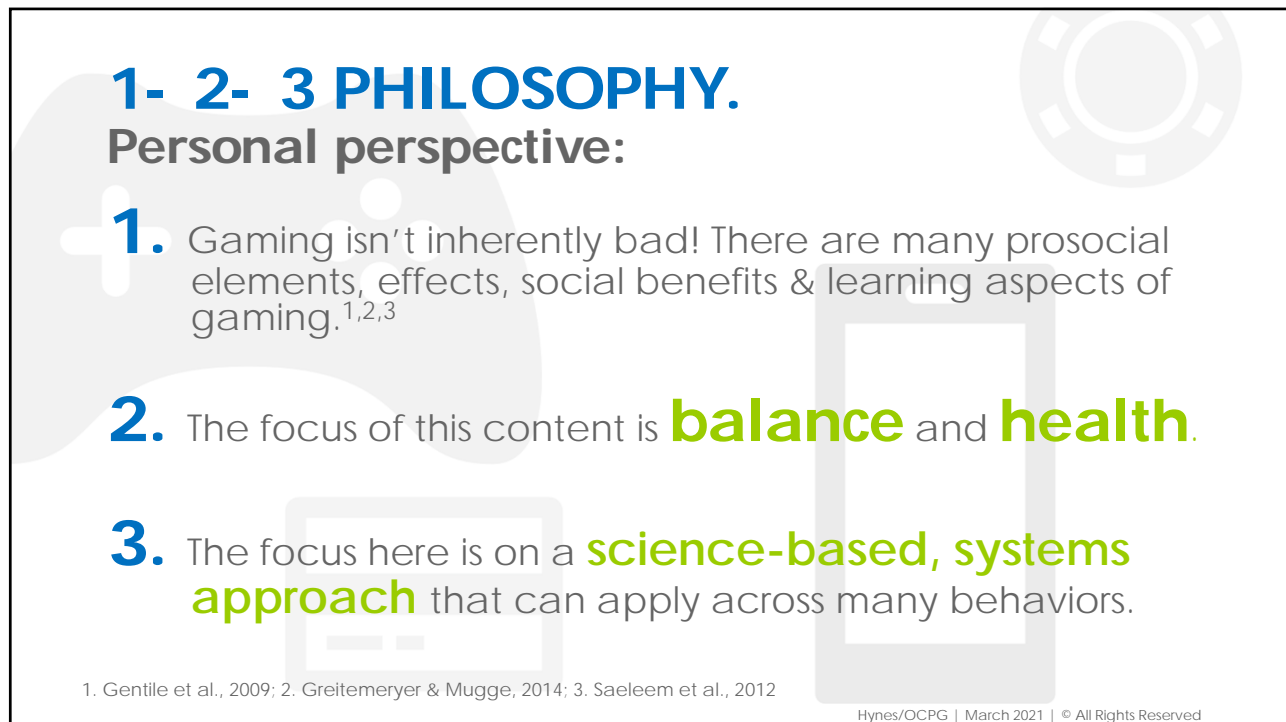
5

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3 programmatic tools that can be used to address gaming and gambling with populations served.

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## 1- 2- 3 PHILOSOPHY.

**Personal perspective:**

1. Gaming isn't inherently bad! There are many prosocial elements, effects, social benefits & learning aspects of gaming.<sup>1,2,3</sup>
2. The focus of this content is **balance** and **health**.
3. The focus here is on a **science-based, systems approach** that can apply across many behaviors.

1. Gentile et al., 2009; 2. Greitemeyer & Mugge, 2014; 3. Saeleem et al., 2012

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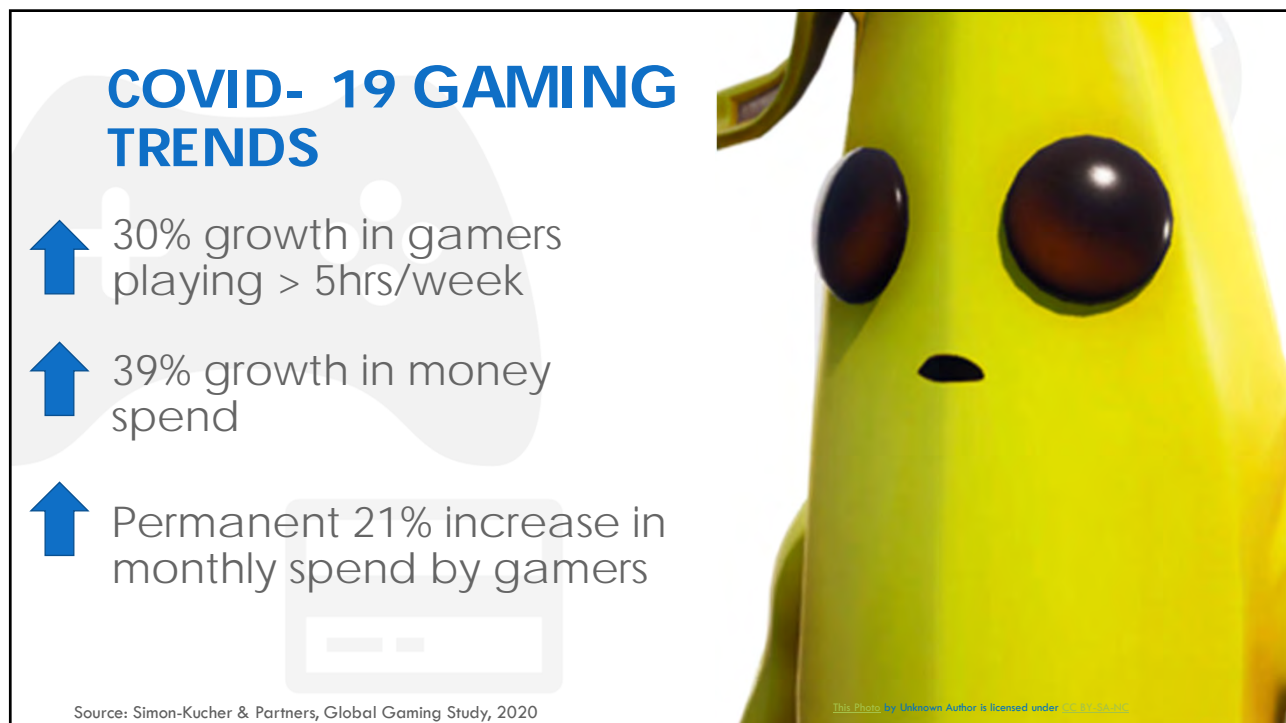
# 1

## PART 1: OVERVIEW & TRENDS

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## DEFINING GAMBLING LEGALLY.

 **1. PRIZE:** Anything of value the sponsor awards in a promotion.

 **2. CHANCE:** Outcome is beyond the participant's direct control.



Rose, 2006

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## DEFINING GAMBLING LEGALLY.

 **1. PRIZE:** Anything of value the sponsor awards in a promotion.

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Rose, 2006

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## DEFINING GAMBLING LEGALLY.

-  **1. PRIZE:** Anything of value the sponsor awards in a promotion.
-  **2. CHANCE:** Outcome is beyond the participant's direct control.
-  **3. CONSIDERATION:** Requires money or significant effort.

Rose, 2006

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## EXAMPLES

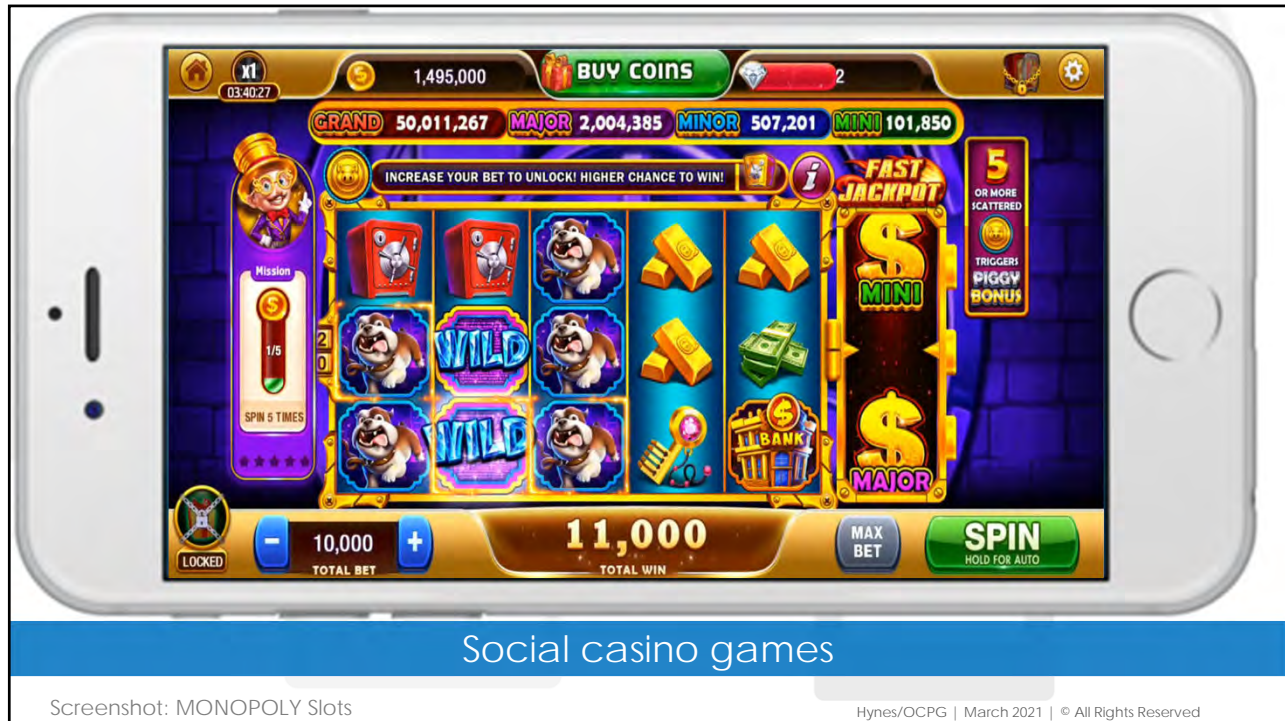
### Content Warning

The next slide contains active slot machine visuals.

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Social casino games

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## WHY CONVERGENCE MATTERS MORE THAN EVER.

-  **Availability**
-  **In-person gambling replacement**
-  **Isolation / connection**
-  **Boredom, escape, self-medication**
-  **Dopamine & rewards**
- 



Image source: <https://www.reddit.com/r/cats>

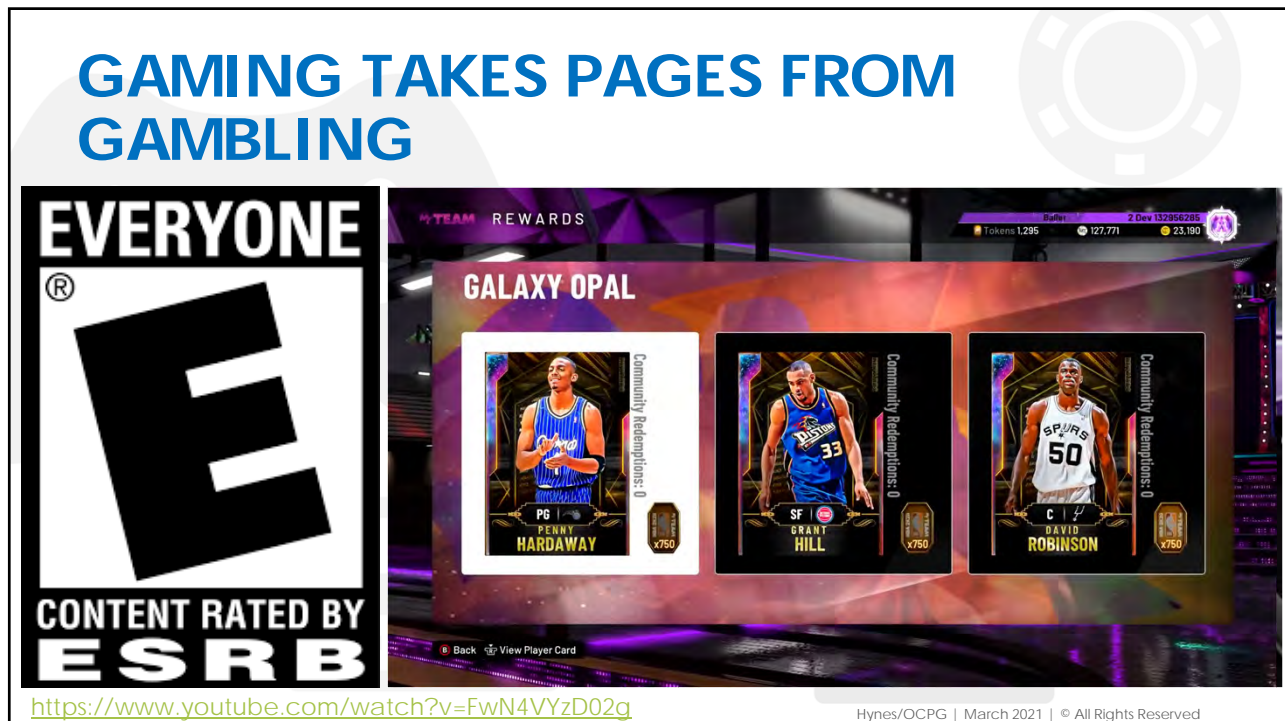
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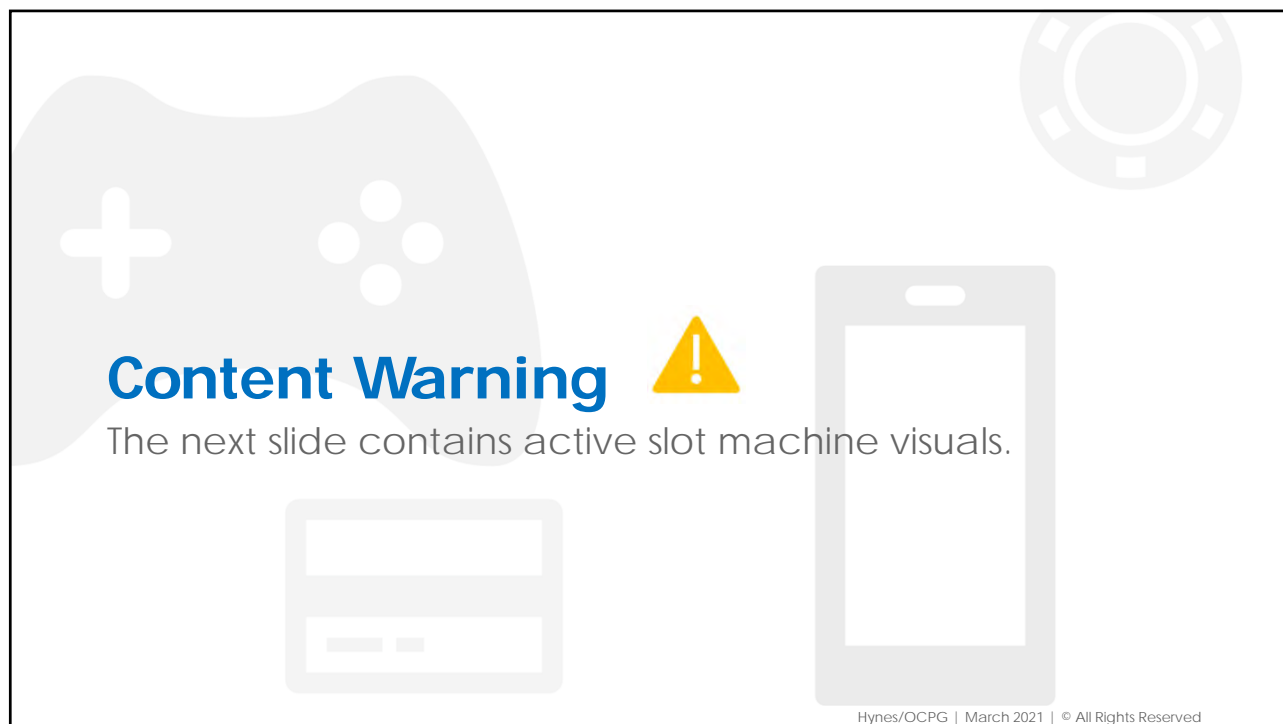




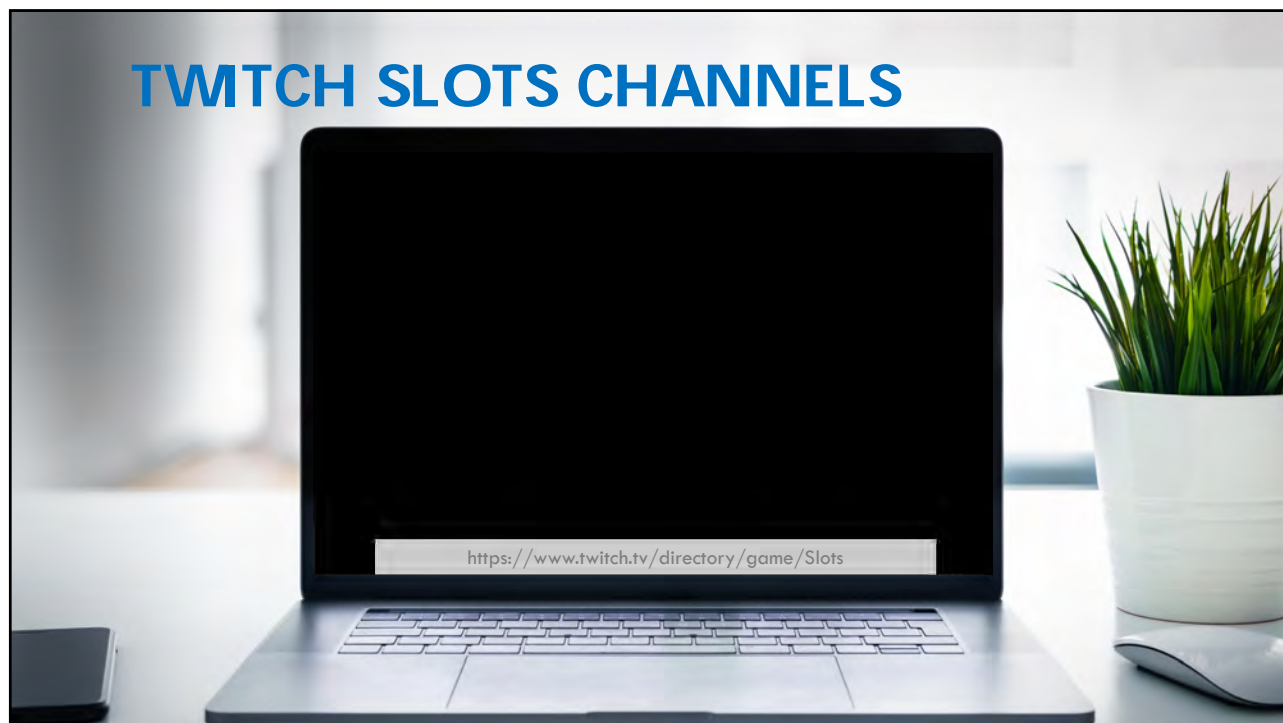
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18



19



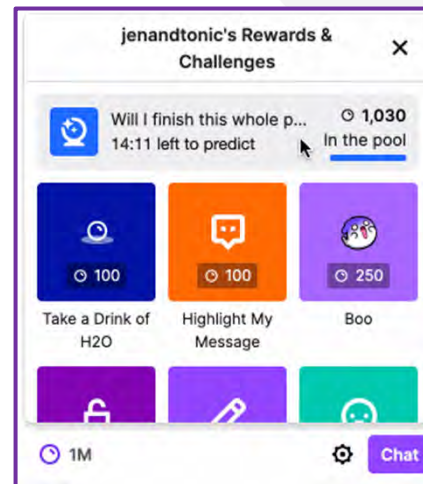
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## TWITCH PREDICTIONS

Viewers can use their channel "points" to "predict" and outcome to earn more channel points.

Channel points can be used to purchase more items in Twitch.

<https://www.engadget.com/twitch-predictions-channel-points-182233979.html>



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## "MICROTRANSACTIONS"

REAL \$,  
VIRTUAL PRIZES

(BTW, this game grosses between \$20-\$30 million every month.)

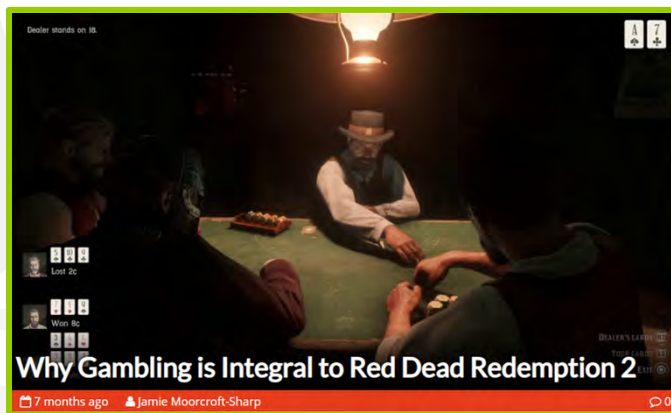
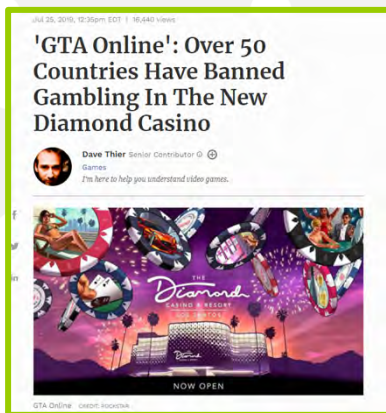
Data source: sensortower.com



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## REAL MONEY TO MAKE VIRTUAL MONEY.



Left: Image credit Rockstar Games; article <https://www.forbes.com/sites/davidthier/2019/07/25/gta-online-over-50-countries-have-banned-gambling-in-the-new-diamond-casino/?sh=16d33a991757>; Right:

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## LOOT BOX MICROTRANSACTIONS

Small payment →

- Weapons
- Characters
- "Skins"
- Cool rare stuff

Structure:

- Random prizes
- Intermittent rewards
- Near-miss features



Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tAffiGymEMc>

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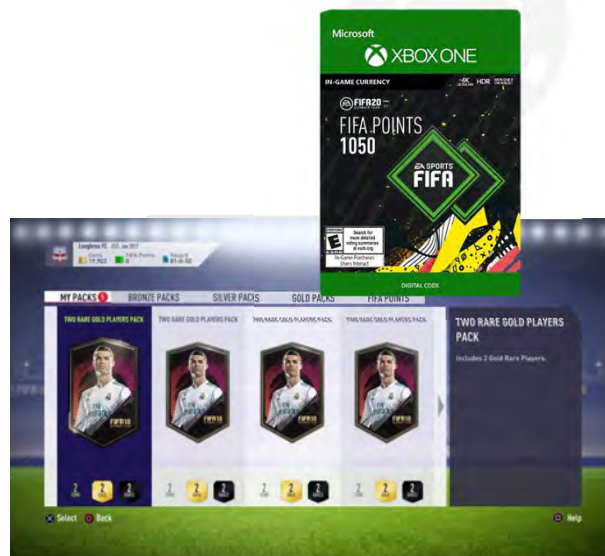
## LOOT BOXES

Loot boxes (or "packs" or "crates") are in **58%** of top games on the Google Play & iPhone stores<sup>1</sup>

**44%** of children aged 11-16 have paid to open loot boxes<sup>2</sup>

1. Zendle et al., 2020; U.K. Gambling Commission, 2019

Image sources: <https://www.forbes.com/sites/insertcoin/2019/01/29/ea-surrenders-in-belgian-fifa-ultimate-team-loot-box-fight-raising-potential-red-flags/#1f87db2e3675> ; Target.com (FIFA Points)



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## "SKINS" : CONSIDER THEM LIKE VIRTUAL SNEAKERS



Weapons



Clothing



Dances / emotes

Skins can be used as virtual currency to gamble

"SKINS:" collectable items not typically helpful in game play

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## SKINS GAMBLING IN ACTION.

ORIGINAL WEAPON

SKINS FOR ORIGINAL WEAPON

<https://www.legalsportsreport.com/esports-betting/>

Images: Steam (top left/right); legalsportsreport.com/esports-betting (middle); screen grab from csghowl.com (bottom)

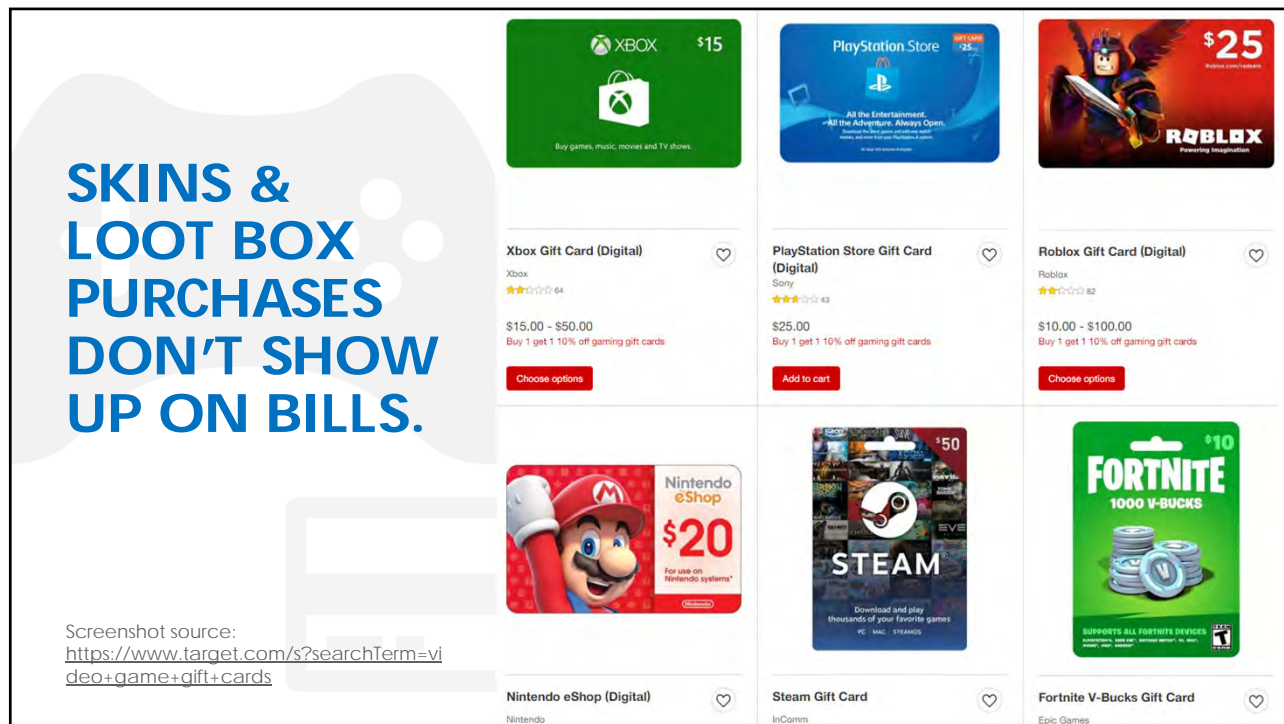
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## HOW THE SPENDING OCCURS.

Photo source: Hynes

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## COVID & ESPORTS WAGERING TRENDS

**"COVID has been the oracle of the future."**

Rahul Sood, CEO of esports betting site Unikrn (12/1/2020), Betting on Sports America

- Trends: primarily 1:1 translation sports to esports (FIFA, NBA2K)
- Wagering on games such as CSGO & COD will only continue to increase
- Increased betting sponsorship of leagues and teams – (e.g., Bet365)

Source: Tatiana Tacca, Director of Esports Monument Worldwide (12/1/20), Betting on Sports America

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## Esports Betting Redefined

The platform that solves everything - Esports Betting Iframe

<b>Profit</b> Profit guarantee for sportsbook or casino	<b>All in one</b> Odds, risk management, live stream and statistics
<b>Transparency</b> Iframe offers unique elements of transparency	<b>Design</b> Attractive design, customisable to fit your brand

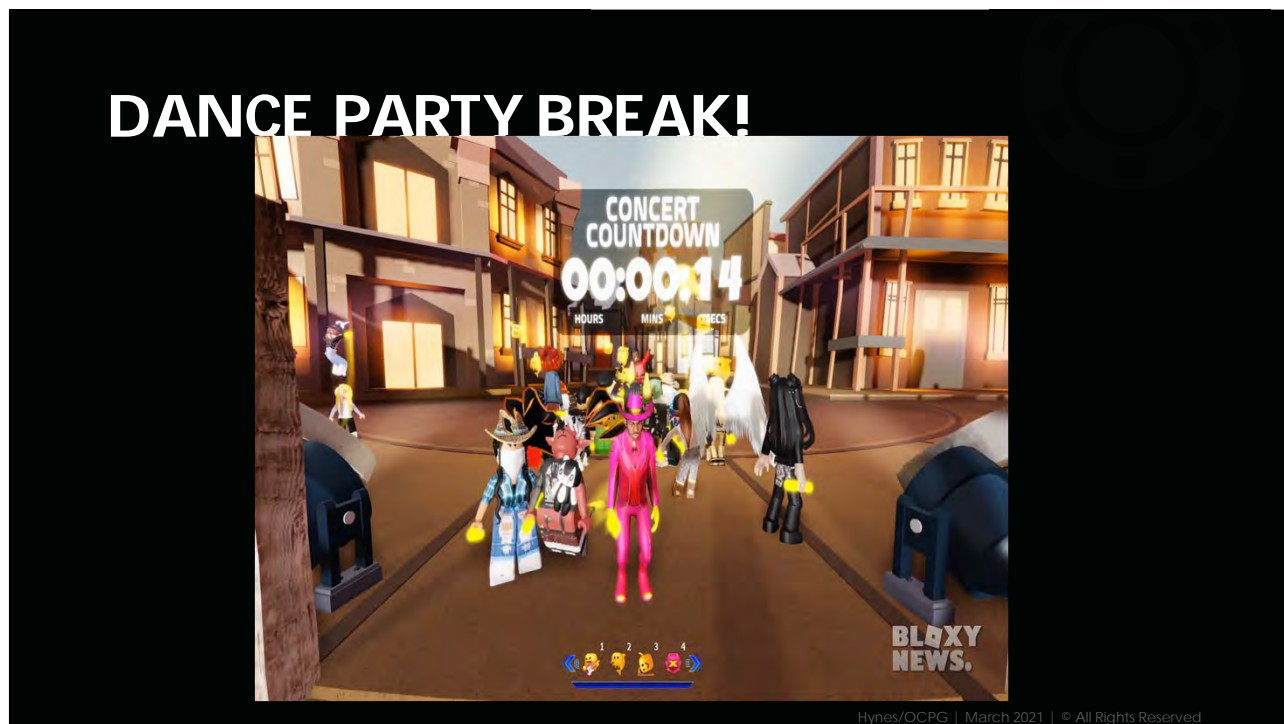
**"Esports live betting is increasing on a daily basis"**  
Tatiana Tacca, Director of Esports Monument Worldwide (12/1/20)

## COVID'S CATALYSIS INTO MAINSTREAM

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# DSM-5 (2013)

## Gambling Disorder

### Diagnostic Criteria

#### 312.31 (F63.0)

A. Persistent and recurrent problematic gambling behavior leading to clinically significant impairment or distress, as indicated by the individual exhibiting four (or more) of the following in a 12-month period:

1. Needs to gamble with increasing amounts of money in order to achieve the desired excitement.
2. Is restless or irritable when attempting to cut down or stop gambling.
3. Has made repeated unsuccessful efforts to control, cut back, or stop gambling.
4. Is often preoccupied with gambling (e.g., having persistent thoughts of reliving past gambling experiences, handicapping or planning the next venture, thinking of ways to get money with which to gamble).
5. Often gambles when feeling distressed (e.g., helpless, guilty, anxious, depressed).
6. After losing money gambling, often returns another day to get even ("chasing" one's losses).
7. Lies to conceal the extent of involvement with gambling.
8. Has jeopardized or lost a significant relationship, job, or educational or career opportunity because of gambling.
9. Relies on others to provide money to relieve desperate financial situations caused by gambling.

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# 2019 WHO - ICD- 11: GAMING DISORDER

## 6C51 Gaming disorder

Parent

Disorders due to addictive behaviours

Show all ancestors

### Description

Gaming disorder is characterized by a pattern of persistent or recurrent gaming behaviour ('digital gaming' or 'video-gaming'), which may be online (i.e., over the internet) or offline, manifested by: 1) impaired control over gaming (e.g., onset, frequency, intensity, duration, termination, context); 2) increasing priority given to gaming to the extent that gaming takes precedence over other life interests and daily activities; and 3) continuation or escalation of gaming despite the occurrence of negative consequences. The behaviour pattern is of sufficient severity to result in significant impairment in personal, family, social, educational, occupational or other important areas of functioning. The pattern of gaming behaviour may be continuous or episodic and recurrent. The gaming behaviour and other features are normally evident over a period of at least 12 months in order for a diagnosis to be assigned, although the required duration may be shortened if all diagnostic requirements are met and symptoms are severe.

### Exclusions

- Hazardous gaming (QE22)
- Bipolar type I disorder (6A60)
- Bipolar type II disorder (6A61)

Source: World Health Organization. (2019). <http://www.who.int/features/qa/gaming-disorder/en/>

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## DIAGNOSTIC CRITERIA COMPARED (DSM- 5)

**Gambling Disorder =**  
4 or more of the following:

Withdrawal  
Tolerance

Unable to cut back/quit  
Preoccupation

Gambling when distressed  
Chasing losses

Lying/concealing  
Jeopardizing relationships, jobs, educ.

**Proposed**  
**Internet Gaming Disorder criteria:**

Withdrawal  
Tolerance

Unable to cut back/quit  
Preoccupation

Gaming to relieve negative moods  
Continuing to game despite problems

Deceiving family members or others  
Jeopardizing relationships, jobs, educ.

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QUESTION!

10%  
34%  
65%  
90%

%

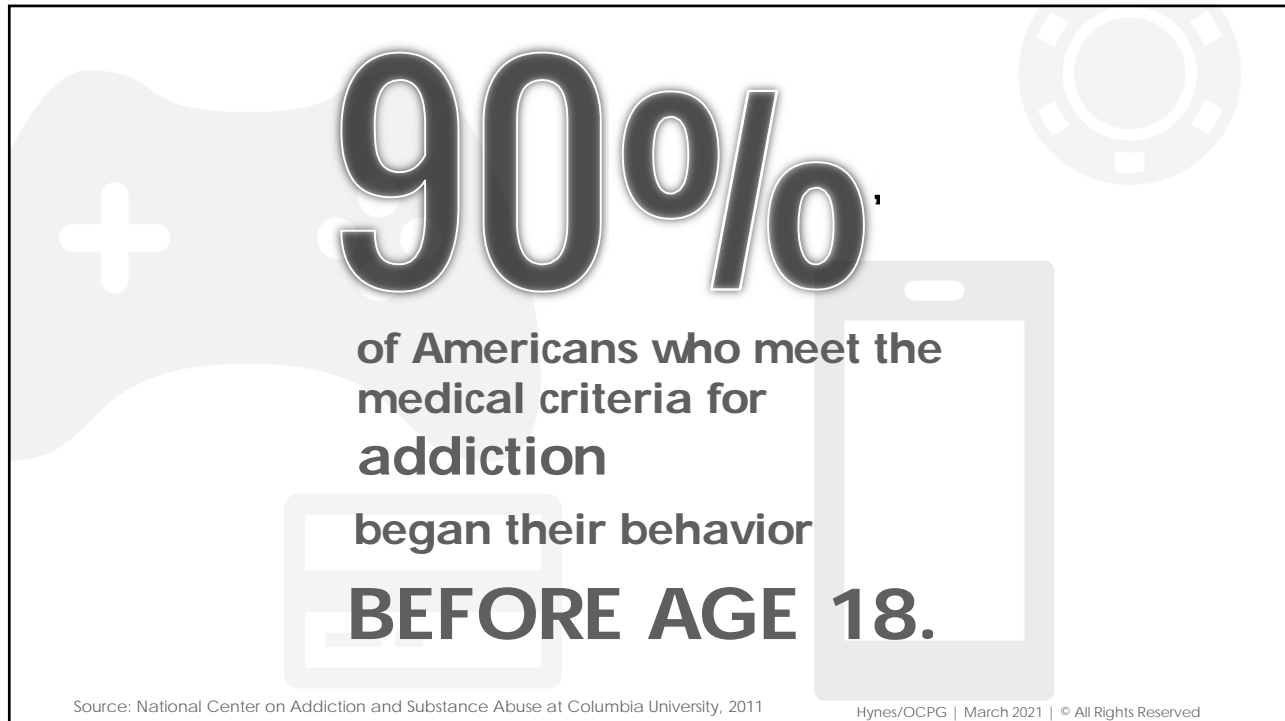
of Americans who meet the  
medical criteria for  
addiction

began their behavior

**BEFORE AGE 18.**

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## YOUTH GAMBLING: WHY WE SHOULD CARE.

- Youth have 2-4 times higher rates of gambling problems than adults (2-4%).<sup>1</sup>
- We don't know the effects of convergence...

1. Calado, Alexandre & Griffiths, 2016.

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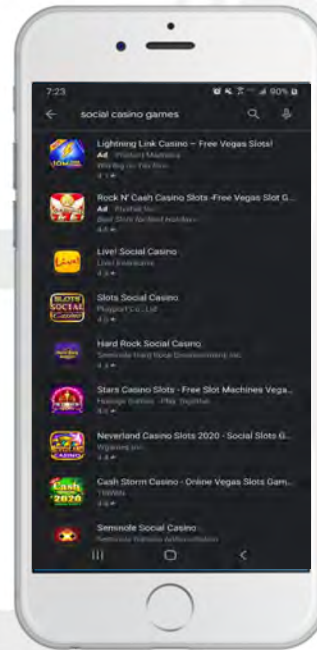
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## AGE & ACCESS

**97%** of social casino games are accessible to under 12.

**>93%** of Android & iPhone games that featured loot boxes were deemed suitable for children aged 12+.

Source: Zendle & Scholten, 2020; Zendle et al., 2020



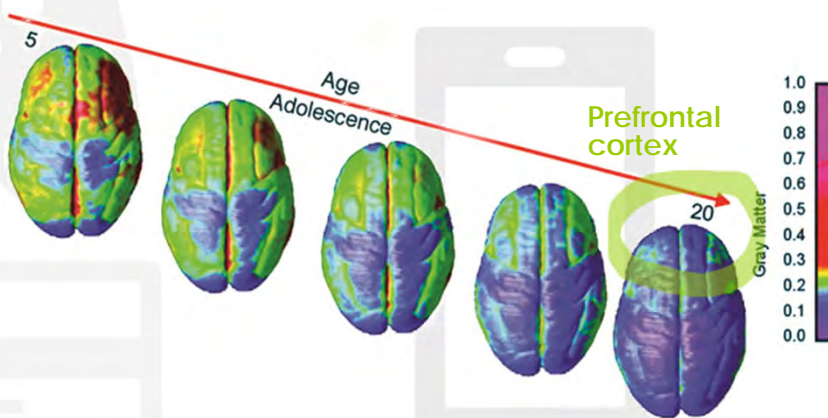
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## AGE

### PREFRONTAL CORTEX

- Emotion regulation
- Decision making
- Problem solving
- Planning
- Reasoning
- Empathy



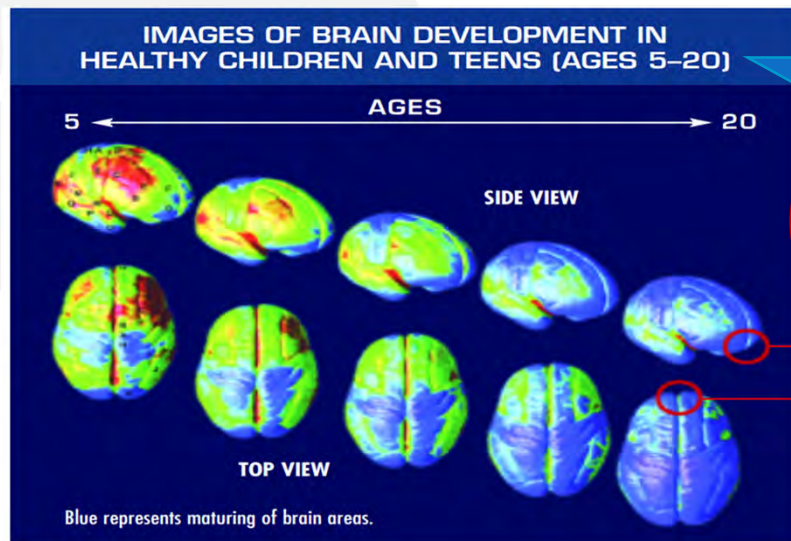
Graphic: Gogtay et al., 2004

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## YOUTH SENSITIVE TO DOPAMINE.



The brain is still developing until

25

PREFRONTAL CORTEX PART

Source: PNAS 101:8174-8179, 2004.

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## ACCEPTABILITY

- Parental use & facilitation
- Gambification in education
- Gambling-like features

Note: This is not to say gamification itself is harmful! It is meant to illustrate the overall societal acceptance of gaming & potential grooming nature into gambling..

Image: nflnickplay.com



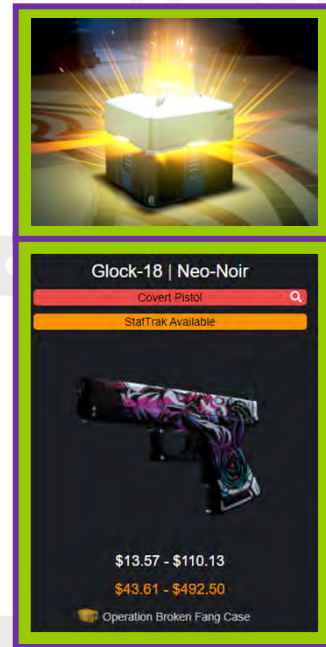
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## ASSOCIATIONS

- Paying for loot boxes linked to problem gambling<sup>1</sup>
- Rare loot box opening triggers arousal & rewards responses, greater urge to open more<sup>2</sup>
- Among gamblers, those who bet skins had higher rates of at-risk and problem gambling than those who did not (23% vs. 8%).<sup>3</sup>

1. Zendle & Cairns, 2018; 2. Larch et al., 2019); 3. Wardle, 2019  
Images: dotesports.com; csgostash.com



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## ASSOCIATIONS



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## KEY INDIVIDUAL RISK FACTORS FOR GD:

- Impulsivity
- Low self-control
- Anxiety
- Severe depressive systems
- Poor sleep quality
- Active pursuit of goals
- Money spent on gaming
- Weekday game time
- High sensation seeking
- Emotion-focused coping styles (suppressive/reactive)
- Attention problems
- Conduct disorders
- Delinquency

Conclusions: These risk factors allow for the prediction of GD... In the future, these risk factors could also be used to inform clinical services for GD diagnosis & treatment.

Brezing, Derevensky, & Potenza, 2010; Dowling et al., 2017; Derevensky, 2019; Johansson et al., 2009; Kuss & Griffiths, 2012; Richard et al., 2020; Rho et al., 2017; Severo et al., 2020; Shead, Derevensky, & Gupta, 2010; Sugaya et al., 2019

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## FAMILY GD RISK FACTORS & COMMUNITY RISK FACTORS



### FAMILY:<sup>1</sup>

- Low family support
- Inadequate supervision



### COMMUNITY:<sup>2</sup>

- Availability/accessibility
- Community laws & norms



1. King & Delfabbro, 2018 2. Not yet verified; based upon prevailing ATOD prevention research

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## YOUTH GAMBLING RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS BY DOMAIN

### INDIVIDUAL & PEER

- Male
- **Early initiation**
- **Early big wins (gambling)**
- **Greater confidence of winning**
- **Impulsivity**
- **Competitiveness**
- Friends' use/pressure
- Substance use
- Time spent (gaming)
- Psychological distress, mental health issues (gaming: anxiety)

- + Female
- + Prosocial involvement
- + **Early losses**
- + **Boredom**
- + **Awareness of risk**

Gupta & Derevensky, 2001; Gupta & Derevensky, 2000; Hayatbakhsh et al., 2006; Johansson et al., 2009; King & Delfabbro, 2016; Raylu & Oei, 2002; Rho, et al., 2018; Scholes-Balog et al., 2014; Shead et al., 2010; Volberg, 2008; Winters et al., 2002

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## YOUTH GAMBLING RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS BY DOMAIN

### COMMUNITY

- Exposure
- Availability & accessibility
- Media portrayal

### SCHOOL

- Academic failure & poor school performance
- Low school commitment
- + Connection

Gupta & Derevensky, 2001; Gupta & Derevensky, 2000; Hayatbakhsh et al., 2006; Johansson et al., 2009; King & Delfabbro, 2016; Raylu & Oei, 2002; Scholes-Balog et al., 2014; Shead et al., 2010; Volberg, 2008; Winters et al., 2002

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## YOUTH GAMBLING RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS BY DOMAIN

### FAMILY

- Family conflict
- Family history antisocial behavior
- **Parental attitudes & involvement**

+ Encouragement of prosocial behavior

Gupta & Derevensky, 2001; Gupta & Derevensky, 2000; Hayatbakhsh et al., 2006; Johansson et al., 2009; King & Delfabbro, 2016; Raylu & Oei, 2002; Rho, et al., 2018; Scholes-Balog et al., 2014; Shead et al., 2010; Volberg, 2008; Winters et al., 2002

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## RISK POPULATIONS: KEEP IN MIND TRAUMA IS LIKELY INVOLVED.

3 or more Adverse Childhood Experiences associated with **3x rate** disordered gambling

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)

Emotional dysregulation

Self-medicating w/ substance use, eating, gambling, etc.

Substance use disorders, eating disorders, disordered gambling

Associated w/ ADHD, personality disorders & **disordered gambling**

Source: Poole et al., 2017

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## PROTECTIVE FACTORS<sup>1,2,3:</sup>



### INDIVIDUAL FACTORS

- Gender (female)
- Resilient Temperament
- Positive Social Orientation
- Intelligence



### SCHOOL FACTORS:

- Academic achievement



### COMMUNITY/FAMILY FACTORS

- Strong & positive bonds / parent-child connectedness (GD)<sup>4</sup>
- Warm family environment (GD)<sup>4</sup>
- Parental monitoring of activities & peers
- Involvement of parents in children's lives
- Clear rules & consistently enforced within family

1. SAMHSA, 2014, 2019a; 2. NHSDUH, 2010; 3. O'Connell et al., 2009; 4. Liao et al., 2014

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## TAKE- HOME ON RISK & PROTECTIVE FACTORS



Most risk & protective factors for problem gambling are similar to other problem behaviors, with some exceptions.

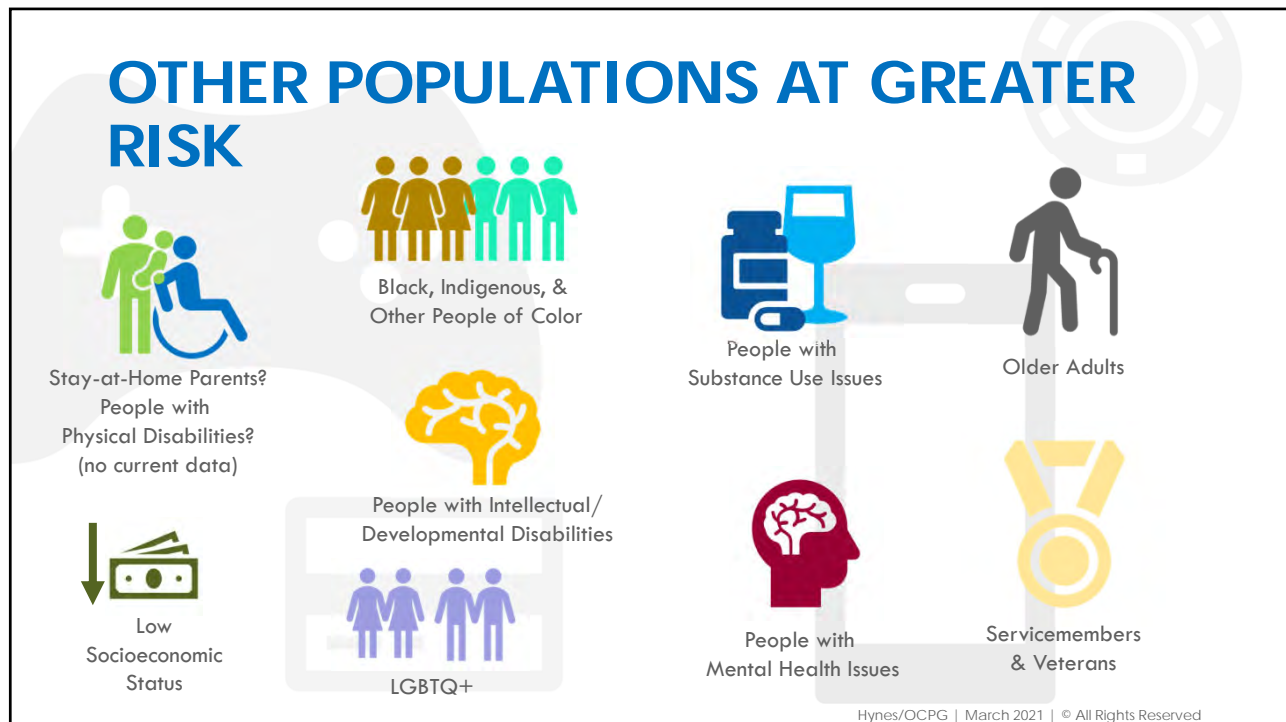


Interventions to address problem gambling should **address reduction of risk factors** AND **bolster protective factors.**

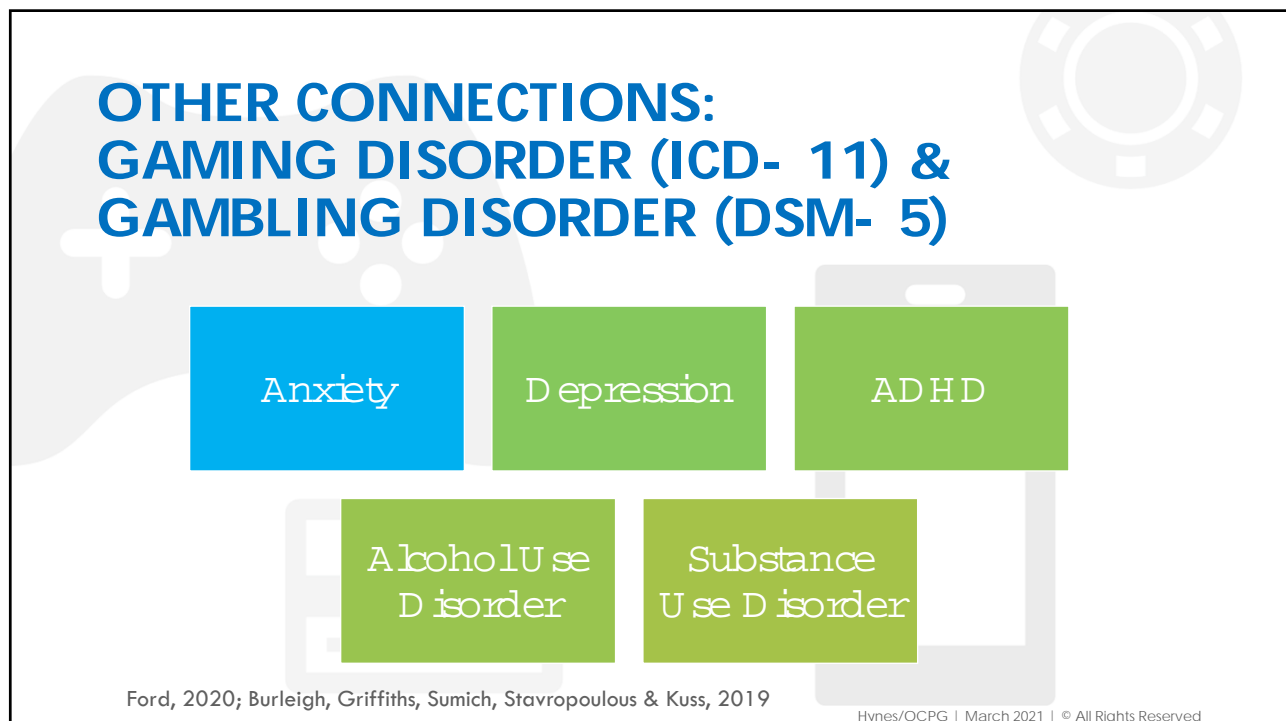
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## OTHER FACTORS: GAMING DISORDER (ICD- 11) & GAMBLING DISORDER (DSM- 5)

Stress

Sedentary activity

Poorer nutrition

Sleep issues

Ford, 2020; Parhami, Siania, Rosenthal & Fong, 2013; Burleigh, Griffiths, Sumich, Stavropoulos & Kuss, 2019  
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## DOPAMINE

*It's NOT about the money!*

Potential losses

Potential gains

LH

RH

Z-value  
-4.0 -2.3 2.3 4.0

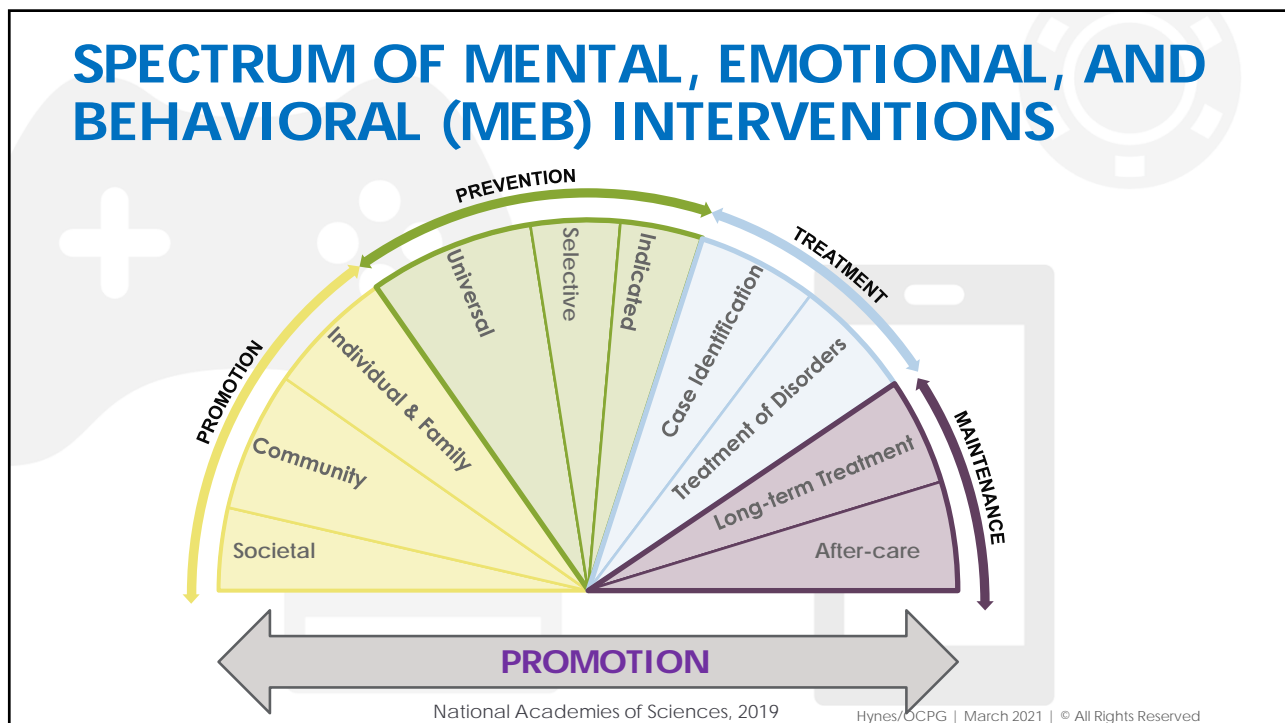
Dopamine not released when expecting a loss.  
Flooded with dopamine when expecting a win.

Source: Brain Briefings (2007, October), Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC

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# 3 PART 3: ADDRESSING YOUTH

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## HISTORICAL PREVENTION APPROACHES...

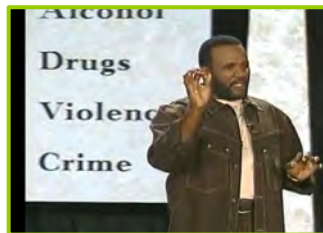


**SEXY. BUT  
INEFFECTIVE.**

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## HISTORICAL APPROACHES...



**SEXY. BUT  
INEFFECTIVE.**

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## WHAT IS EFFECTIVE?




- ✓ Interactive
- ✓ Structured sessions over time
- ✓ Delivered by trained facilitator (also including trained peers)
- ✓ Providing opportunity to PRACTICE (*e.g., coping / decision making*)
- ✓ Changing perceptions of the risks associated with use, emphasizing the immediate consequences (*get out of the prefrontal cortex*)
- ✓ Dispelling misconceptions regarding norms

International Standards on Drug Use Prevention, 2018

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## PREVENTION TAKES TIME; MULTIPLE STRATEGIES, MULTIPLE DOMAINS








Information Dissemination					
Education					
Community Process					
Policy Change					
Alternative Activities					
	Individual	Peer	Family	School	Community

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration

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## GAMING/GAMBLING DISORDER PREVENTION SHOULD ...

-  Be research/science-based
-  Use common prevention best practices
-  Use promising approaches when available
-  Be inclusive
-  Be ethical!!!

Evidence in GD prevention is  
"one of the least developed areas of  
this emerging field"

*-King & Delfabbro, 2018*

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## PREVENTION THEORIES & FRAMEWORKS

### Theories / Approaches:

- **Risk and Protective Factors Theory**
- Social Development Strategy
- Developmental Assets
- Resiliency Approach

### Frameworks:

- **Strategic Prevention Framework**
- Center for Substance Abuse Prevention (CSAP) Strategies
- Public Health Model

For this training,  
we will concentrate on  
the approaches & practices in  
green.

Hawkins et al., 1992; SAMHSA, 2019a; Search Institute, 2006; Frieden, 2010

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## ASSUMPTION

Assuming the communities and individuals are ready for some change.

### The Stages of Change



Images: SMARTrecovery.org (left); ctb.ku.edu (right)

### Stages of Community Readiness



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EXAMPLES

## 1. PROVIDE INFORMATION:

Educational presentations, workshops or seminars, and data or media presentation:

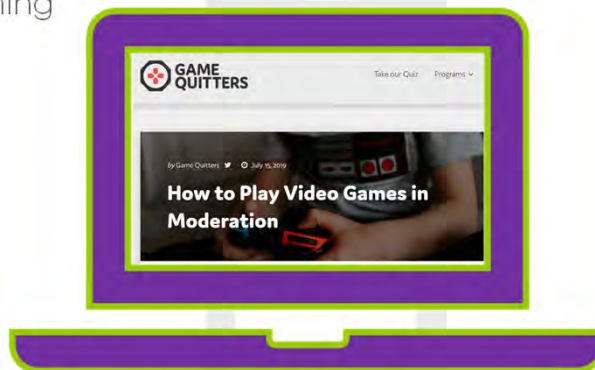


Parenting town hall on gaming

Fact sheets:  
Guidelines for healthy use

Digital literacy

Public awareness ads



1. Seven Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010; screenshot: GameQuitters.com

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EXAMPLES

## ADDITIONAL EXAMPLES OF INFORMATIONAL RESOURCES



[www.gamequitters.com](http://www.gamequitters.com)



Center on Media  
and Child Health

[cmch.tv](http://cmch.tv)



[commonsensemedia.com](http://commonsensemedia.com)

TALK2KIDS

[talk2kids.org](http://talk2kids.org)

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EXAMPLES

## 2. ENHANCE SKILLS:

Workshops, seminars, or activities designed to increase the skills of participants, members and staff. <sup>1</sup>

- Screening tools
- Ongoing digital hygiene workshops
- Parenting programs
- **NEEDED: Gaming disorder curriculum.**



1. Seven Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010. Image: Foundations in Gaming Disorder artwork, Massachusetts Council on Gaming Health & Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling

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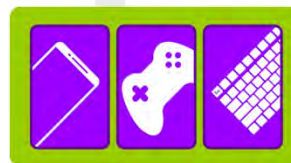
EXAMPLES

## 2. ENHANCE SKILLS: Gaming Disorder Training:

IGCCB International Gaming Disorder Certificate (IGDC)  
<https://www.igccb.org/igdc-certification/>

# INTENTA

Cam Adair  
Jamison Wiggins  
Dr. Jay Berk



Evergreen Council on Problem Gambling  
Massachusetts Council on Gaming & Health  
with Oregon Council on Problem Gambling  
and reSTART Life

**HAS A PREVENTION TRACK!!**

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EXAMPLES

## ADDITIONAL EXAMPLE OF ENHANCING SKILLS

### The Good Behavior Game

- Kindergarten – 2<sup>nd</sup> grade
- Classroom management; behavioral "vaccine"
- Impulse control, self-regulation
- NO specific prevention "curriculum"

Over 4 decades of research proving reduced rates alcohol, tobacco, other drugs, suicide, increase in graduation...

**Assumption: extrapolate to gaming.**

Tingstrom et al., 2016; image: paxis.org



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EXAMPLES

## 3. PROVIDE SUPPORT:

Creating opportunities to support people to participate in activities that reduce risk or enhance protection.<sup>1</sup>

- Art therapy
- Music therapy
- Group counseling
- Stress management
- Conflict management
- Empowerment programs
- Self-control training programs

*10 or more sessions has significantly larger effects<sup>2</sup>*

1. Seven Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010; 2. King & Delfabbro, 2018; Image: SearchInstitute.com

### General evidence-based protective factor promotion: 40 Developmental Assets®

Support	1. Family support—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
	2. Positive family communication—Young person and her or his parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek advice and counsel from parents.
	3. Other adult relationships—Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.
	4. Caring neighborhood—Young person experiences caring neighbors.
Empowerment	5. Caring school climate—School provides a caring, encouraging environment.
	6. Parent involvement in schooling—Parent(s) are actively involved in helping young person succeed in school.
	7. Community values youth—Young person perceives that adults in the community value youth.
	8. Youth as resources—Young people are given useful roles in the community.
Boundaries & Expectations	9. Service to others—Young person serves in the community one hour or more per week.
	10. Safety—Young person feels safe at home, school, and in the neighborhood.
	11. Family boundaries—Family has clear rules and consequences and monitors the young person's whereabouts.
	12. School boundaries—School provides clear rules and consequences.
Constructive Use of Time	13. Neighborhood boundaries—Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young person's behavior.
	14. Adult role models—Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.
	15. Positive peer influence—Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.
	16. High expectations—Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.
Constructive Use of Time	17. Creative activities—Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.
	18. Youth programs—Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in the community.
	19. Religious community—Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution.
	20. Time at home—Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do" two or fewer nights per week.

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EXAMPLES

## HIGHLIGHT: 40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS

### EXTERNAL ASSETS

*The supports, opportunities, and relationships young people need across all aspects of their lives.*

#### Support

Young people need to be surrounded by people who love, care for, appreciate, and accept them.

#### Empowerment

Young people need to feel valued and valuable. This happens when youth feel safe and respected.

- Family support—Family life provides high levels of love and support.
- Positive family communication—Young person and their parent(s) communicate positively, and young person is willing to seek parent(s) advice and counsel.
- Other adult relationships—Young person receives support from three or more nonparent adults.
- Caring neighborhood—Young person experiences caring neighbors.
- Caring school climate—School provides a caring, encouraging environment.
- Parent(s) involvement—Parent(s) are actively involved in their child's life and supporting school.

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EXAMPLES

## HIGHLIGHT: 40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS

### Boundaries and Expectations

Young people need clear rules, consistent consequences for breaking rules, and encouragement to do their best.

- Family boundaries—Family has clear rules and consequences, and monitors the young person's whereabouts.
- School boundaries—School provides clear rules and consequences.
- Neighborhood boundaries—Neighbors take responsibility for monitoring young people's behavior.
- Adult role models—Parent(s) and other adults model positive, responsible behavior.
- Positive peer influence—Young person's best friends model responsible behavior.
- High expectations—Both parent(s) and teachers encourage the young person to do well.

### Constructive Use of Time

Young people need opportunities—outside of school—to learn and develop new skills and interests with other youth and adults.

- Creative activities—Young person spends three or more hours per week in lessons or practice in music, theater, or other arts.
- Youth programs—Young person spends three or more hours per week in sports, clubs, or organizations at school and/or in community organizations.
- Religious community—Young person spends one or more hours per week in activities in a religious institution.
- Time at home—Young person is out with friends "with nothing special to do," two or fewer nights per week.

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EXAMPLES

## INTERNAL ASSETS

*The personal skills, commitments, and values they need to make good choices, take responsibility for their own lives, and be independent and fulfilled.*

### Commitment to Learning


Young people need a sense of the lasting importance of learning and a belief in their own abilities.



- Achievement motivation—Young person is motivated to do well in school.
- School engagement—Young person is actively engaged in learning.
- Homework—Young person reports doing at least one hour of homework every school day.
- Bonding to school—Young person cares about their school.
- Reading for pleasure—Young person reads for pleasure three or more hours per week.

### Positive Values

Young people need to develop strong guiding values or principles to help them make healthy life choices.



- Caring—Young person places high value on helping other people.
- Equality and social justice—Young person places a high value on promoting equality and reducing hunger and poverty.
- Integrity—Young person acts on convictions and stands up for their beliefs.
- Honesty—Young person "tells the truth even when it is not easy."
- Responsibility—Young person accepts and takes personal responsibility.
- Restraint—Young person believes it is important not to be sexually active or to use alcohol or other drugs.

# HIGHLIGHT: 40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS

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EXAMPLES

## SOCIAL COMPETENCIES

Young people need the skills to interact effectively with others, to make difficult decisions, and to cope with new situations.



### Positive Identity

Young people need to believe in their own self-worth and to feel that they have control over the things that happen to them.



- Planning and decision-making—Young person knows how to plan ahead and make choices.
- Interpersonal competence—Young person has empathy, sensitivity, and friendship skills.
- Cultural competence—Young person has knowledge of and comfort with people of different cultural/racial/ethnic backgrounds.
- Resistance skills—Young person can resist negative peer pressure and dangerous situations.
- Peaceful conflict resolution—Young person seeks to resolve conflict nonviolently.

# HIGHLIGHT: 40 DEVELOPMENTAL ASSETS

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EXAMPLES

## 4. ENHANCE ACCESS/REDUCE

**BARRIERS:** Improving systems/processes to increase the ease, ability, and opportunity to utilize those systems and services.<sup>1</sup>

Easily useable and no-cost parental controls

**Accessible classes for parents:**

- Providing childcare, transportation
- Providing in native language and / or providing translations

Providing low-cost gaming help/interventions for families



Family-based interventions are seen as most promising across risky behaviors (gaming, alcohol use) and depressive symptoms in children and adolescents.<sup>2</sup>



**Strengthening Families Program** by Dr. Karol Kumpfer

1. 1. Seven Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010; 2. Mason & Spoth, 2012; 3. Image: StrengtheningFamiliesProgram.com Hynes/OCPG | March 2021 | © All Rights Reserved

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EXAMPLES

## 5. CHANGE CONSEQUENCES:

Increasing or decreasing the probability of a behavior by altering the consequences for performing that behavior.<sup>1</sup>

**Parental monitoring:**

- Non-gaming incentives for engaging in alternative activities
- Revoking access related to unwanted behaviors
- Time limit settings



1. Seven Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010

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EXAMPLES

## 6. CHANGE PHYSICAL DESIGN:

Changing the physical design of the environment to reduce risk or enhance protection.

Introduce in-game features to help self-monitoring / awareness:

- Education
- Limit-setting
- Reminders on playing time
- Implement self-exclusion

Use player data to support health research & plan prevention efforts.

Diagram illustrating the PREVENTION and PROMOTION model. A blue smartphone displays a stopwatch icon with a green exclamation mark. Above the phone is a semi-circular diagram divided into two sections: 'PREVENTION' (green) and 'PROMOTION' (yellow). The 'PREVENTION' section is further divided into 'Unreached' and 'Individual & Family'. The 'PROMOTION' section is divided into 'Community' and 'Societal'.

even Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010; 2. Stevens et al., 2021; Griffiths & Pontes, 2020.  
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## QUESTION!

In the U.S., which government entity regulates video gaming?

- a. The Federal Trade Commission
- b. The Federal Communications Commission
- c. The Federal Gaming Commission
- d. None of the above

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QUESTION!

**Because there is none!**

- a. The Federal Trade Commission
- b. The Federal Communications Comission
- c. The Federal Gaming Commission
- d. None of the above**


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ESRB RATING

4/13/20

"Random items"



EVERYONE 10+  
**E**  
10+  
ESRB

Cartoon Violence  
Comic Mischief  
**In-Game Purchases**

**TEEN**  
**T**  
ESRB

Language Violence  
**In-Game Purchases  
(Includes Random Items)**

<https://www.esrb.org/blog/what-parents-need-to-know-about-loot-boxes-and-other-in-game-purchases/>

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EXAMPLES

## 7. MODIFY/CHANGE POLICIES:

Formal change in written procedures, by-laws, proclamations, rules, or laws.

**Enact laws preventing sale of certain games to minors**  
(e.g., those containing loot boxes)

**Proactively support / fund prevention programming:**

- Percent from industry (similar to alcohol / tobacco / gambling)
- Government funding / grants

**Enact school / workplace policies & training.**

1. Seven Strategies for Change, CADCA, 2010

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EXAMPLE PREVENTION STRATEGIES BY DEVELOPMENTAL PHASE & DOMAIN						
	Pre-conception	Prenatal/Infancy	Early Childhood	Childhood	Early Adolescence	Adolescence
FAMILY		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prenatal care</li><li>• Home visiting</li></ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Evidence-based parenting programs</li><li>• Evidence-based digital skill building</li></ul>		
SCHOOLS			<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High-quality preschool and childcare</li><li>• Classroom-based prevention curricula</li><li>• Afterschool programs</li><li>• Booster sessions on digital health / gaming</li></ul>			
COMMUNITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community organizing to improve neighborhood environments</li><li>• Support for evidence-based strategies</li><li>• Support for out-of-school activities</li><li>• Support for skill-building among behavioral/public health providers</li></ul>					
POLICY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Community members have ensured access to services to meet basic needs</li><li>• Promotion and support of healthy lifestyles</li><li>• Policy to promote and support evidence-based strategies</li><li>• Policies protecting youth gaming/gambling</li></ul>					

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## FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: PRIMARY PREVENTION TIPS



START EARLY (e.g., toddler age)  
For <25, talk brain development.



Assess for prosocial benefits, pros/cons.



Monitor play; check [ESRB ratings](#) & set ground rules.



Set age-appropriate time/game limits.



**"Includes random items" = loot boxes**



Tips on talking: <https://www.starttalkingnow.org/find-resources#conversations> (alcohol);  
<https://www.beforeyoubet.org/how-to-talk-to-kids-about-gambling/> (gambling); image source: esrb.org

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## FOR PARENTS & CAREGIVERS: PRIMARY PREVENTION TIPS



Keep devices (consoles) in open areas.  
Set location / time rules for laptop,  
mobile devices.



Be curious about the games;  
play to understand.



Check your own habits.



Keep talking. Ongoing conversations  
have better results.



<https://www.healthychildren.org/English/family-life/Media/Pages/How-to-Make-a-Family-Media-Use-Plan.aspx>  
<https://www.aap.org/en-us/aap-voices/Pages/How-Shared-Screen-Time-Can-Help-Spark-Tough-Conversations-with-Teens.aspx>  
<https://www.esrb.org/ratings/where-to-find-ratings/>

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## SO THEY WANT TO BE A PROFESSIONAL GAMER.

Example concepts to discuss:



Completion of "low dopamine" chores



Practice similar time period to traditional sports



Maintain good sleep hygiene



Practice good nutrition & physical activity



Understand the individual's risk/protective factors



Remind them:  
Aspiring pro  
football players  
don't practice till  
2am!

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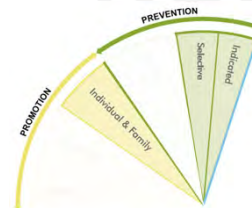
## FOR PARENTS, CAREGIVERS & CLINICIANS: SECONDARY / TERTIARY PREVENTION TIPS



Monitor: which game(s) / platform(s) are you noticing most problematic?



Screen. Refer if necessary.



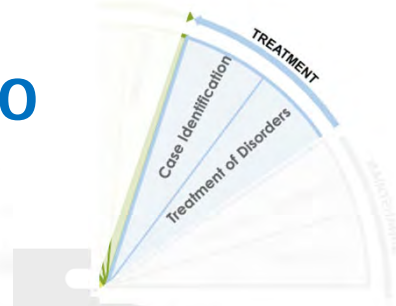
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## GD SCREENING: IGDT- 10

1. When you were not playing, how often have you fantasized about gaming, thought of previous gaming sessions, and/or anticipated the next game?
2. How often have you felt restless, irritable, anxious and/or sad when you were unable to play or played less than usual?
3. Have you ever in the past 12 months felt the need to play more often or played for longer periods to feel that you have played enough?
4. Have you ever in the past 12 months unsuccessfully tried to reduce the time spent on gaming?
5. Have you ever in the past 12 months played games rather than meet your friends or participate in hobbies and pastimes that you used to enjoy before?
6. Have you played a lot despite negative consequences (for instance losing sleep, not being able to do well in school or work, having arguments with your family or friends, and/or neglecting important duties)?
7. Have you tried to keep your family, friends or other important people from knowing how much you were gaming or have you lied to them regarding your gaming?
8. Have you played to relieve a negative mood (for instance helplessness, guilt, or anxiety)?
9. Have you risked or lost a significant relationship because of gaming?
10. Have you ever in the past 12 month jeopardized your school or work performance because of gaming?



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## GD SCREENING: GAS-7

How often during the last six months:

1. Did you think about playing a game all day long?
2. Did you spend increasing amounts of time on games?
3. Did you play games to forget about real life?
4. Have others unsuccessfully tried to reduce your game use?
5. Have you felt bad when you were unable to play?
6. Did you have fights with others (e.g., family, friends) over your time spent on games?
7. Have you neglected other important activities (e.g., school, work, sports) to play games?



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## GD SCREENING: IGDS9- SF

1. Do you feel preoccupied with your gaming behavior? (Some examples: Do you think about previous gaming activity or anticipate the next gaming session? Do you think gaming has become the dominant activity in your daily life?)
2. Do you feel more irritability, anxiety or even sadness when you try to either reduce or stop your gaming activity?
3. Do you feel the need to spend increasing amount of time engaged gaming in order to achieve satisfaction or pleasure?
4. Do you systematically fail when trying to control or cease your gaming activity?
5. Have you lost interests in previous hobbies and other entertainment activities as a result of your engagement with the game?
6. Have you continued your gaming activity despite knowing it was causing problems between you and other people?
7. Have you deceived any of your family members, therapists or others because the amount of your gaming activity?
8. Do you play in order to temporarily escape or relieve a negative mood (e.g., helplessness, guilt, anxiety)?
9. Have you jeopardized or lost an important relationship, job or an educational or career opportunity because of your gaming activity?





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## Gambling Disorder:

<https://idph.iowa.gov/igtp>



**Iowa Problem Gambling Services**

*Working to reduce the harm caused by problem gambling by funding a range of services for Iowans.*

**I-800-BETS OFF**

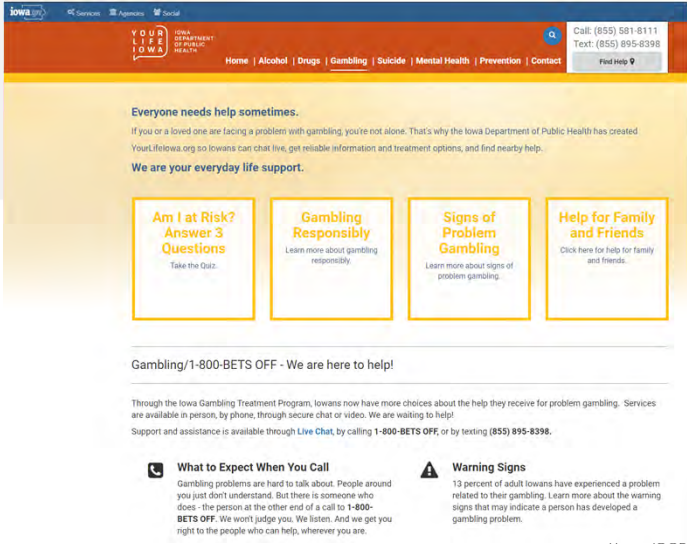
**1800BETSOFF.ORG**

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## Gambling Disorder:

<https://yourlifeiowa.org/gambling>



Everyone needs help sometimes.

If you or a loved one are facing a problem with gambling, you're not alone. That's why the Iowa Department of Public Health has created YourLifeIowa.org so Iowans can chat live, get reliable information and treatment options, and find nearby help.

We are your everyday life support.

**Am I at Risk? Answer 3 Questions**  
Take the Quiz.

**Gambling Responsibly**  
Learn more about gambling responsibly.

**Signs of Problem Gambling**  
Learn more about signs of problem gambling.

**Help for Family and Friends**  
Click here for help for family and friends.

Gambling/1-800-BETS OFF - We are here to help!

Through the Iowa Gambling Treatment Program, Iowans now have more choices about the help they receive for problem gambling. Services are available in person, by phone, through secure chat or video. We are waiting to help!

Support and assistance is available through **Live Chat**, by calling **1-800-BETS OFF**, or by texting **(855) 895-8398**.

**What to Expect When You Call**  
Gambling problems are hard to talk about. People around you just don't understand. But there is someone who does - the person at the other end of a call to 1-800-BETS OFF. We won't judge you. We listen. And we get you right to the people who can help, wherever you are.

**Warning Signs**  
13 percent of adult Iowans have experienced a problem related to their gambling. Learn more about the warning signs that may indicate a person has developed a gambling problem.

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## GAMING DISORDER TREATMENT RESOURCES



 **Reboot & Recover**  
[rebootandrecover.org](https://rebootandrecover.org)

 **the Better INSTITUTE**  
[betterinstitute.com](https://betterinstitute.com)

**reSTART**  
[restartlife.com](https://restartlife.com)  
OP, intensive OP, inpatient

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**"We don't have to  
do all of it alone.  
We were never  
meant to."  
— Dr. Brené Brown**

**THANK YOU!  
LET'S STAY CONNECTED!**

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