



DOES NON-PROBLEM GAMING HAVE ANY NEGATIVE IMPACT ON GAMBLERS?

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OUTLINE

- Background
- Literature Review
- Data and Methodology
- Analysis and Discussion





BACKGROUND

- Problem gambling has been the focus of gambling studies(Shaffer, & Martin, 2011).
- A strong majority(85%) of Americans view casino gaming as acceptable for themselves or others (2013 State of the States).
- Historically gambling has been regarded immoral, covetous, sinful and been related with crime. Gambling is illegal in many countries like Indonesia, China.
- Casino gaming has been legalized since 1847 in Macao, but many people believe that gambling itself is irresponsible. Responsible gaming does not exist at all.





LITERATURE REVIEW

- Most papers assume that non-problem gambling has no harm.
- It seems obvious and systematic evidence is not necessary.
- Gamblers seem to be happier than non gamblers. But no difference has been documented between problem gamblers and non-problem gamblers. (Thompson & Potts, 2011)





DATA

- Telephone Survey
- Time: October 14 to December 15, 2011
- Participants: Macao residents, 18 years old or above
- Sample Size: 2289
- Questionnaire:
 - Gambling behavior in the past 12 months
 - DSM-IV-TR
 - Perceived Social Support from Family, PSS-Fa(Procidano & Heller,1983).
 - General Health Questionnaire (GHQ 12, Goldberg et al., 1997)
 - Social and economic profile...





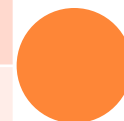
PARTICIPANTS PROFILE

Sex			Education		
sample size	2289	100%	F3 or below	872	38.10%
male	787	34.40%	F4-F6	653	28.50%
female	1485	64.90%	Associate Degree or above	664	29.00%
unknown	17	0.30%	unknown	100	4.40%
Age			Monthly Income		
18-24	663	29.00%	none	605	26.4%
25-34	310	13.50%	<10000	593	25.9%
35-44	374	16.30%	10000-19999	533	23.3%
45-54	443	19.40%	20000-29999	137	6.0%
55-64	285	12.50%	>30000	59	2.6%
65 or above	197	8.60%	unknown	363	15.9%



GAMBLING ACTIVITIES IN LAST 12 MONTHS

Gambling Activities	Participants	Percentage
Sample Size	2275	100.0%
None	1593	70.0%
At Least One Gambling Activity	682	30.0%
Lottery	432	18.9%
Social Gaming(Non commercial)	220	9.6%
Macao Casino or Slot Lounge	209	9.1%
Sports Betting(football or Basket ball)	60	2.6%
Horse or Greyhound Racing	45	2.0%
Mahjong(commercial)	39	1.7%
Online Gambling	12	0.5%





PROBLEM GAMBLING PREVALENCE RATE

Types	Persons	Pravalence
Problem Gamblers (3 or above)	41	1.79%
At-Risk Gamblers(1 or 2)	82	3.59%
No-Problem Gamblers	559	24.45%
No Gamblers	1604	70.17%
Total	2286	100.00%





PERCEIVED SOCIAL SUPPORT FROM FAMILY

Types	Persons	Mean	Std. Err.	95% Conf. Interval	
Problem Gamblers	41	11.34	0.90	9.57	13.11
At-Risk Gamblers	82	14.02	0.58	12.89	15.16
No-Problem Gamblers	559	15.80	0.17	15.47	16.13
None Gamblers	1604	15.48	0.11	15.26	15.70
Total	2286	15.43	0.09	15.25	15.61

The full score of Perceived Social Support from Family is 20. Higher score means higher perceived social support from family. The range for non-clinical samples is 11.60-14.28, averaged at 12.70, while the range for clinical samples is 7.19-11.34, averaged at 9.25. The difference is significant.





GAMBLING BEHAVIOR AND MENTAL HEATH

Types	Persons	Mean	Std. Err.	95% Conf. Interval	
Problem Gamblers	41	2.71	0.59	1.55	3.87
At-Risk Gamblers	82	1.23	0.22	0.81	1.66
No-Problem Gamblers	559	0.80	0.08	0.64	0.95
None Gamblers	1604	0.75	0.04	0.66	0.84
Total	2286	0.81	0.04	0.74	0.89

The highest score of the general health questionnaire is 12, higher score means more serious health problem. Score 0 or 1 is normal. 3 or higher means probable mental health disorder.





PROBLEM GAMBLING, MENTAL HEALTH AND FAMILY FUNCTIONING

	DSM4	GHQ	PssFa
DSM4	1.000		
GHQ	0.114***	1.000	
PssFa	-0.109***	-0.206***	1.000

Notes :

Spearman's rank correlation coefficients are reported.

DSM4 : Number of positive response.

GHQ : Score of General Health Questionnaire

PssFa : Perceived Social Support from Family

*** significant at 0.01 level





WHO IS HAPPIER

Overall your quality of life in Macao is:

1. Very good
2. Good
3. Poor
4. Very poor
5. Don't know?
6. Refuse to answer





OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE IN MACAO

Types of Reponses	Participants	Percentage
very good	135	6.0%
good	1658	73.5%
bad	291	12.9%
very bad	41	1.8%
don't know	108	4.8%
refuse to answer	23	1.0%
Total	2256	100.0%





NON GAMBLERS ARE HAPPIER THAN GAMBLERS

Quality of life	Non gamblers		Gamblers		Total	
very good	105	7.1%	30	4.7%	135	6.4%
good	1,172	78.8%	486	76.3%	1,658	78.0%
bad	185	12.4%	106	16.6%	291	13.7%
very bad	26	1.7%	15	2.4%	41	1.9%
Total	1,488	100.0%	637	100.0%	2,125	100.0%

Pearson $\chi^2(3) = 10.8354$ $Pr = 0.013$

Cramer's $V = 0.0714$





NO PROBLEM GAMBLERS ARE NOT HAPPIER THAN NON GAMBLERS

Quality of life	Non Gamblers		Non-Problem Gamblers		Total	
very good	105	7.1%	22	4.2%	127	6.3%
good	1,171	78.7%	412	78.6%	1,583	78.7%
bad	185	12.4%	80	15.3%	265	13.2%
very bad	26	1.7%	10	1.9%	36	1.8%
Total	1,487	100.0%	524	100.0%	2,011	100.0%

Pearson $\chi^2(3) = 7.4324$ $Pr = 0.059$

Cramer's $V = 0.0608$





AT-RISK OR PROBLEM GAMBLERS ARE NOT HAPPIER THAN NO PROBLEM GAMBLERS

Quality of life	Non-problem Gamblers		At-risk or Problem Gamblers		Total	
very good	22	4.2%	8	7.0%	30	4.7%
good	412	78.6%	75	65.8%	487	76.3%
bad	80	15.3%	26	22.8%	106	16.6%
very bad	10	1.9%	5	4.4%	15	2.4%
Total	524	100.0%	114	100.0%	638	100.0%

Pearson $\chi^2(3) = 9.2518$ Pr = 0.026
Cramer's V = 0.1204





PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

- Non-problem gambling has no significant impact on gamblers' general health, family functioning or the overall quality of life.
- At-risk gambling and problem gambling do have negative impact on gamblers' general health, family functioning or the overall quality of life.
- No-gamble participants are more satisfied with their quality of life in Macao
- Restrictions: cross-sectional data.





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