

RECENTLY PUBLISHED ACADEMIC ARTICLES

Aligned with the [Research Programme 2018–22](#) in support of the National Responsible Gambling strategy and informing the [National Strategy to Reduce Gambling Harms](#)

Testing the usability of an app to help reduce gambling cravings and problem gambling

Gambling-related cravings can maintain or worsen problem gambling. They can also increase the rate of relapse. There is a need to help people manage gambling cravings as they experience them. The researchers developed and tested a smartphone-based ecological momentary intervention (EMI) to manage gambling cravings. Participants consisted of people who gambled, gambling clinicians, and researchers. The app was rated favourably by all participants. Participants reported they would recommend the app to others. Participants also thought the intervention could help manage cravings in different situations. However, participants thought the app could be more engaging and visually appealing. The results suggest that EMIs can help manage gambling cravings to reduce problem gambling.

Merkouris, S. S., Hawker, C. O., Rodda, S. N., Youssef, G. J., & Dowling, N. A. (2020). GamblingLess: Curb Your Urge: Development and usability testing of a smartphone-delivered ecological momentary intervention for problem gambling. *International Gambling Studies*. Advance online publication.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/14459795.2020.1749293>

Exploring gambling patterns that may contribute to failure to pay back loans

People with problem gambling often experience negative financial consequences. They may get loans and not be able to pay them back. Thus, a failure to repay loans may provide a way to detect problem gambling. In this study, the researcher examined a large dataset involving 20,750 Swedish adults who had taken out at least one loan from a financial institution. The aim was to explore if specific gambling-related transactions and patterns would predict a failure to pay back loans. The results revealed that making deposits to a gambling account or having withdrawals made by a gambling operator did not predict failure to repay loans. A short-term but intense gambling pattern was a risk factor. Specifically, people who made repeated gambling deposits within a short period of time were more likely to default on their loans. Such a pattern might be a sign of loss of control over gambling and contribute to a failure to pay back loans.

Håkansson, A. (2020). Role of gambling in payback failure in consumer credit – Data from a large body of material regarding consumer loan recipients in Sweden. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 17(8), 2907. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph17082907>



A review on the financial impact of gambling on other industries

This article examines how gambling can financially impact other industries. The authors summarised the results of 44 studies on the economic impacts of gambling. They divided gambling into destination gambling and convenience gambling. They found that destination gambling seemed to benefit some industries such as restaurants, construction, and insurance/real estate. However, both destination and convenience gambling harmed many other local industries. For example, they both harmed recreation, hotels/tourism, and manufacturing industries. Overall, the impact of gambling on local economies is complex. However, it is generally not as beneficial as the gambling industry claims it to be.

Marionneau, V., & Nikkinen, J. (2020). Does gambling harm or benefit other industries? A systematic review. *Journal of Gambling Issues*, 44. Advance online publication.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.4309/jgi.2020.44.2>

How does gambling behaviour affect work and nonwork roles?

This study tested a process-oriented framework to explore gambling interference in work and nonwork domains. The researchers also assessed whether cognitive withdrawal from work and nonwork roles linked gambling interference to reduced role performance. Participants (N=259) were living in the United States, were 18 years of age or older, gambled at least weekly, and worked 20 or more hours per week. Findings suggest that gambling behaviour creates strain and interferes with both work and nonwork roles. This in turn reduces job performance and negatively impacts nonwork areas. Cognitive withdrawal from one's role partly explains the negative effects of gambling on role performance in work and nonwork areas.

Eby, L. T., Roberston, M., Williamson, R., & Maupin, C. K. (2020). The development and test of a framework examining the associations between gambling behavior, strain-based gambling interference with work and nonwork, cognitive disengagement, and role performance. *Community, Work & Family*, 23(2), 201-223. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13668803.2018.1473336>

Describing gambling marketing during sports broadcasts in the United Kingdom

In this study, the researchers investigated the types and number of gambling marketing references that appeared on television during professional sporting events in the UK. The researchers counted the number of gambling references made during football, rugby, tennis, boxing, and Formula 1 broadcasts. Most of the references appeared during play (e.g., on players' shirts) or around the field border. These references were not covered by the UK's ban on gambling advertisements during commercial breaks on broadcasts before 9 pm. There were few responsible gambling messages, which mostly occurred during commercial breaks or sponsorship lead-ins.

Purves, R. I., Critchlow, N., Morgan, A., Stead, M., & Dobbie, F. (2020). Examining the frequency and nature of gambling marketing in televised broadcasts of professional sporting events in the United Kingdom. *Public Health*. Advance online publication.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.puhe.2020.02.012>



Exploring a small town's success in appealing EGM expansion through caring-with practices

This research offered a case study about how a local community in Australia came together to fight against electronic gambling machine (EGM) expansion in their small town. The researchers used the framework of “caring with” to illustrate the case. The researchers interviewed 17 key stakeholders to generate an account of how it all started. Participants included community members, local councillors, and legal experts. The researchers explored how a community was able to mobilise a network of community relations and expertise to appeal the expansion of EGMs.

Hotker, M., Steele, W., & Amati, M. (2020). When gambling fails: Caring-with urban communities at the local scale. *Cities*, 100, 102642. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cities.2020.102642>

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