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Back in My Day: Comparison of Gambling Propensity in Twin Young Adults in 1962 and 2002

# Links

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Have you ever felt the need to bet more and more and more money?

Have you ever had to lie to people about how much you gamble?

An answer "yes" to either or both of these questions may indicate a problem with gambling.

Lie Bet Screen by Johnson, E.E., et al. (1988).

FOR A CONFIDENTIAL

1-800-994-8448

REFERRAL CALL

The Indiana Problem Gambling Awareness Program (IPGAP) is funded by a contract with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration Division of Mental Health and Addiction with funds through the Indiana Problem Gamblers' Assistance Fund.

DATE: MAY 16, 2018

TIME: 9:00am - 4:00pm

5255 Noggle Way, Indianapolis, IN

LOCATION: Hilton Garden Inn

## FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR PROBLEM GAMBLING

The majority of individuals seeking treatment for problem gambling are in dire financial trouble due to the gambling disorder. Over 80% of helpline callers indicate they need financial help as well as addiction treatment. In contrast, many therapists are not well versed in working with clients with large debt problems. Most therapists cannot imagine not talking about drugs to a substance abuse client. No mental health therapist would not talk about the triggers to the clients disorders. All gambling counselors need to be well versed in working with money and finance issues, as many times money is the trigger to relapse. This training helps bridge the gap giving therapists and agencies the needed knowledge to help individuals and families through what seems to be financial ruin. Understanding how to work with clients finances helps retain clients, and improve outcomes.

## Trainer:

Name: Jerry Bauerkemper

Credentials: BS Social Work Certified **Gambling Counselor CCGC** 

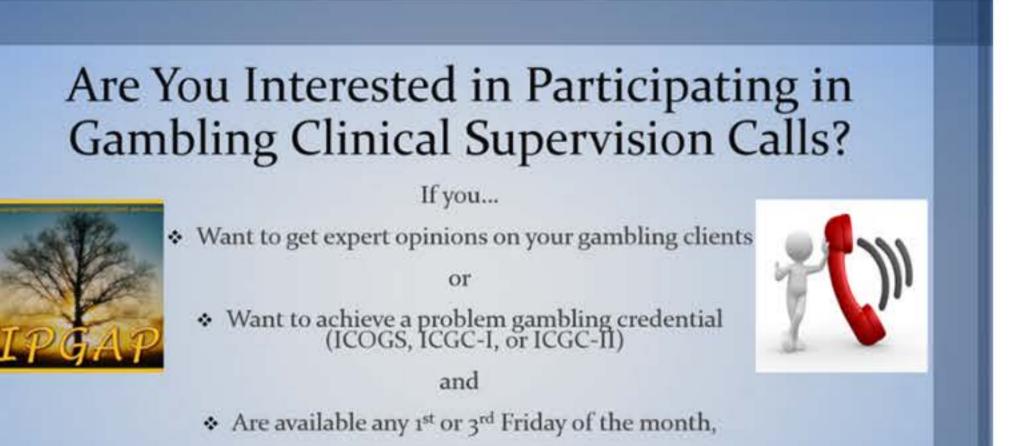
Jerry Bauerkemper BS, CCGC Executive Director of the Nebraska Council on Problem Gambling. He served on the Board of Directors for the National Council on Problem Gambling from 2001-2008. He has published research on the prevalence of problem gambling in the Nebraska Probation Department. He received the First Step award in 1999 for his work in problem gambling.

Mr. Bauerkemper is a nationally recognized expert on problem gambling and provides training throughout the United States.

## Goals & Objectives:

- Participants will learn the commonalities and the financial profile of disordered gambling.
- Participants will understand the clinical implications and rewards of completing a financial plan with families.
- · Participants will be given tools to help complete a financial assessment and prepare a plan for the individual and family with a gambling disorder.
- · Participants will understand their role in helping the person with a problem gambling get back on track financially.

www.ipgap.indiana.edu/training/



Please register through the Spring Clinical Supervision Calls link.

The calls are provided to you the Indiana Problem Gambling Awareness Program, through a contract with the Indiana Family and Social Services Administration-Division of Mental Health and Addiction with funds from the Indiana Gamblers' Assistance Fund.

Behavioral Health Virtual Job Fair

### Wednesday, April 11, 2018 | 6:45—10:15 p.m. Eastern Time Join the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), an agency of the U.S. Department of Health and

Physician Assistants, specializing in psychiatry or behavioral health

Human Services, for a behavioral health virtual job fair. Recruiters will discuss clinical environments, community culture, salary, and benefits. More than 100 health care organizations across the country will participate and discuss open positions for:

- Psychiatrists Psychologists
- Licensed Clinical Social Workers
- Licensed Professional Counselors Marriage and Family Therapists
- Nurses, specializing in psychiatry or behavioral health

Young Adults in 1962 and 2002.

Loan Repayment Opportunities

Clinicians hired by organizations in Health Professional Shortage Areas may also qualify for educational loan repayment through HRSA programs, such as the National Health Service Corps and NURSE Corps.

Learn More and Register

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### by: NCRG Staff | Mar 29, 2018 Opportunities to gamble have increased starkly over the last 50 years, and with it has come a shift in social attitude towards gambling. Wendy Slutske, PhD, recipient of a 2017 NCRG Center of Excellence Grant, set out to compare the

Back in My Day: Comparison of Gambling Propensity in Twin

role of genetics and environment from two National Twin Studies, collected about 50 years apart, on propensity to gamble.

What is the aim?

The aim of this study by Slutske, (2018), was to examine the difference in genetic and environmental factor contribution and overall

prevalence of gambling involvement in the United States in 1962 versus 2002. It was hypothesized that both prevalence and

heritability of gambling would be higher in 2002 than 1962 due to various social factors and the expansion of legalized gambling.

### What did the researchers do? The researcher completed a secondary analysis on the gambling propensity data of two national samples of young twins from

(Add Health). The National Merit Study data was ascertained in 1962 from a sample of high school juniors that completed the National Merit Scholarship test and included 509 MZ twin pairs and 330 DZ twin pairs of an average 17 years of age. National Longitudinal (Add Health) data was ascertained in 2001-2002 from a sample of adolescents and young adults and included 220 MZ twins, and 182 DZ twins from 45 different states. Both studies included assessments of participation in gambling at the time, categorized into yes/no responses to various gambling activities. The considerable overlap in the two assessments allowed the researcher to compare prevalence of gambling activity and use a statistical model to compare the influence of genetic and environmental influences in gambling participation. Why is this important

National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test twin study (National Merit) and National Longitudinal Study of Adolescent to Adult Health

Twin studies are important to public health because they allow researchers to look at the comparative influences of genetics and environment on a certain behavior. This study is modeled after previously completed cigarette studies; which looked at the influence of social factors on smoking behavior. These found that as the social acceptability of smoking increased, prevalence and genetic heritability increased as well (Kendler et al., 2000; Mezquita et al. 2018). This present gambling propensity study set out to find whether gambling followed this same pattern of increased heritability and prevalence with increased social acceptance.

# <u>Prevalence</u>: The researcher found the prevalence of gambling activity (yes/no) of the 2002 Add Health full sample to be significantly

What did they find

greater than the 1962 National Merit full sample (75% versus 49%, with an odds ratio of 2.80, p<.0001). In both cohorts, the prevalence of gambling activity was higher among men than women. After matching the cohorts on age, it was found that the differences in prevalence were likely affected by age as well. Genetic and Environmental Propensity: The researcher found there to be no difference in genetic contribution to gambling propensity between the two cohorts. It was also determined that all the variation in propensity to gamble in both cohorts was due to

environmental factors, including both shared factors between twins, and factors that are unique to the individual. Overall: The researcher was surprised by these genetic and environmental factors contribution to gambling propensity. She had hypothesized that genetic heritability would differ between the two cohorts, but this study proved that incorrect. The author offered

that this could be due to environmental cross-state differences that existed in both 1962 and 2002. Limitations

The first obvious limitation of this sample was that the ages of the samples differed, with National Merit participants all approximately 17 years old, and Add Health participants 18-26 years old. In addition, secondary analyses on previously obtained data hold inherent

# limitations, such as vulnerability to changing definitions, unknown confounders, and unknown effect of biases.

References

conducted in 1962 and 2002. Twin Research and Human Genetics, 21(02), 119-125. doi:10.1017/thg.2018.7 Kendler, K. S., Thornton, L. M., & Pedersen, N. L. (2000). Tobacco consumption in Swedish twins reared apart and reared together.

Mezquita, L., Sánchez-Romera, J. F., Ibáñez, M. I., Morosoli, J. J., Colodro-Conde, L., Ortet, G., & Ordoñana, J. R. (2018). Effects of

Archives of General Psychiatry, 57, 886–892.

Slutske, W. S. (2018). Has the genetic contribution to the propensity to gamble increased? Evidence from national twin studies

social attitude change on smoking heritability. Behavior Genetics, 48, 12–21.