

NO CASINOS

NO ON 3

PROTECT OHIO FAMILIES

Casino Gambling Hurts Families

1. **Addiction**—Within 50 miles of a casino, the prevalence of problem and pathological gambling roughly doubles. Studies show that between 30-50% of casino revenues come from addicts.
2. **Suicide**—About 50% of all pathological gamblers consider suicide. One in four will attempt suicide. One in 10 spouses of addicts will attempt suicide.
3. **Bankruptcy**—SMR Research Corporation found gambling to be “the single fastest –growing driver of bankruptcy.” Numerous studies conclude that more than 20% of pathological gamblers file for bankruptcy.
4. **Crime**—A high percentage of problem gamblers resort to crime to support their addiction or to escape financial ruin. One National Institute of Justice study found that more than 30% of pathological gamblers who had been arrested reported having committed a robbery within the past year, about 13% said that they had assaulted someone, and 20% admitted to selling drugs.
5. **Domestic Violence**—A University of Nebraska Medical Center study concluded that problem gambling is as much a risk factor for domestic violence as alcohol abuse. National Research Council studies indicate that between one quarter and one half of spouses of compulsive gamblers have been abused. In Deadwood, South Dakota, after two years of casino gambling, child abuse cases increased 42%, while domestic violence and assaults increased 80%.

Destruction of Families—A Gamblers Anonymous survey revealed that 28% had been separated or divorced as a direct result of their gambling problems. A nationwide survey representing 2 million adults identified gambling as a significant factor in a previous divorce.

Paid for by The United Methodist Anti-Gambling Taskforce, Paul White Treasurer, PO Box 2800, North Canton, OH 44720

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