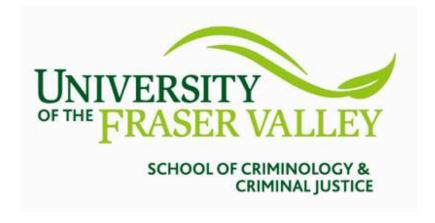
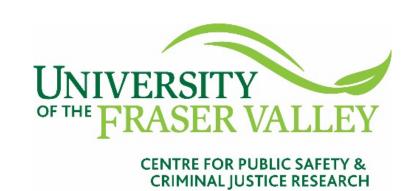
Gambling on the Future

Adolescent Participation in Gambling and Crime

Amanda V. McCormick, PhD





BCLC'S VOLUNTARY SELF-EXCLUSION PROGRAM FROM THE PERSPECTIVES AND EXPERIENCES OF PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS



Outline

Rates of gambling and problem gambling in youth

Relationship between crime and gambling

Dvelopmental trajectories

Implications for Problem gambling prevention

Frequency of Adolescent Gaming

3/4 of adolescents report having gambled

Scratch and wins, sports, video games, and online betting

Onset around 11-13 years old

Adolescents and Problem Gambling

Adult Rates of Problem Gambling (I-3%) (Williams et al., 2012)

3.1% Pathological and 7.1% At-Risk (Rainone & Gallati, 2007)

4%-8% Severe Problem and 10%-15% At-Risk (Messerlian et al. 2005)

Adolescence a Period of Risk Taking Behaviours

Gambling and Crime

Sub-Group of Problem Gamblers also Commit Crime

Crime 'items' tend to be endorsed by gamblers with more severe PG

Property, Non-Violent Offending



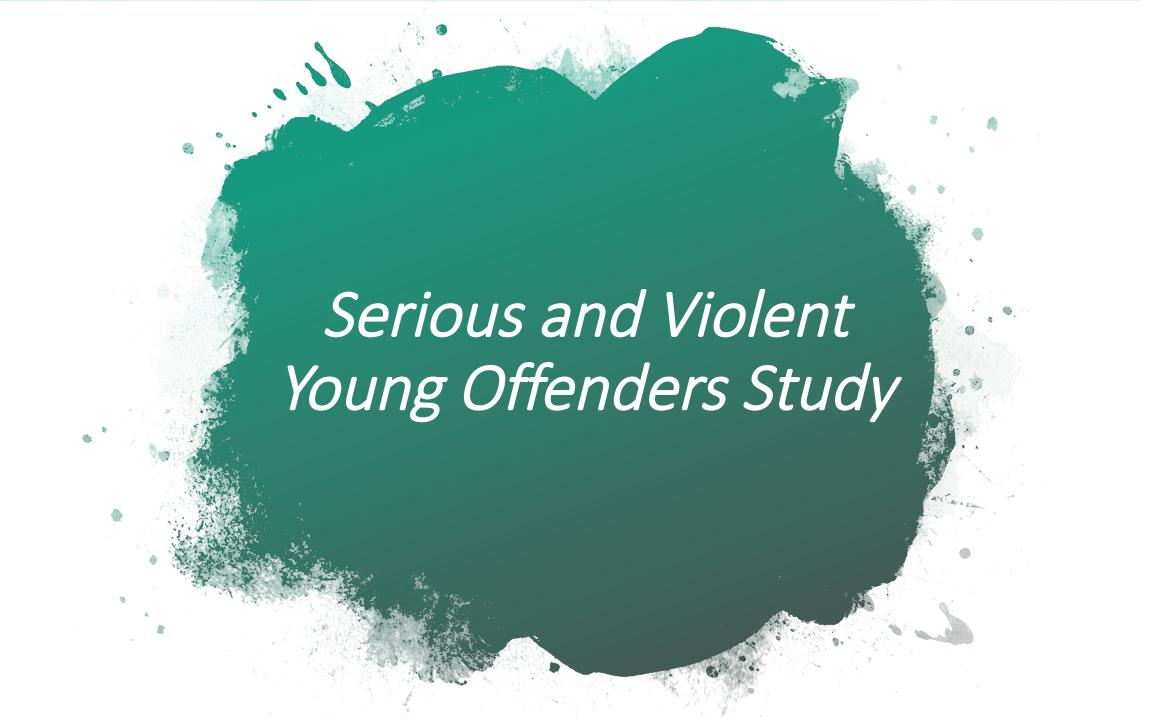
Adult Inmates

Up to 20x the rate of PG

Up to ½ of offending by gamblers related to PG

Gambling pre-prison ~ Upwards of 75%

Gambling in prison ~ 25% - 44%



Study Description

Interviews with Incarcerated Youth

Day I – Remanded Youth

Exit - Sentenced Youth

Average Days in Custody at Interview = 104

Sample Description

n=71	Per Cent
Male	77.5%
Caucasian	55.7%
Aboriginal	24.3%
Living before custody – Mother	17.1%
Living before custody – Relative	17.1%
Living before custody – Foster Family	14.3%
Living before custody – Alone	14.3%
Attending school before custody	53.6%

Current Incarceration

n=116	Per Cent
Breach Conditions/Probation Violation	57.0%
Robbery / Attempted Robbery	23.7%
Assault	23.1%
Theft	22.2%
Assault w/Weapon	18.8%
MV Theft	12.0%
Break and Enter / Attempted	10.3%
Possession of Drugs	7.8%
Murder	4.3%
Manslaughter	4.3%

- Average # Current Offences= 2.0
- Average # Violent Offences= 0.8
- Average # PropertyOffences = 0.5
- Average # AdministrativeOffences = 0.5

Previous Gambling Participation

n = 124	% Ever	Average Age Onset
Bet something of value on a card game	66.1%	13.1
Received a lotto or scratch and win ticket	63.2%	11.0
Bought lottery tickets	35.2%	12.6
Bet something of value on a video game	33.6%	13.2
Been in a casino	30.4%	15.3
Bet something of value on a sports pool	27.4%	13.6
Played pull tabs	27.2%	12.2
Bet money on a gambling machine	20.8%	15.3
Played bingo for money	13.6%	13.1
Bet something of value on a horse race	4.0%	12.8
Ever gambled	88.0%	13.2

Of 100% of the Gamblers...

	Number Reporting	% out of 100%
Bet something of value on a card game	82	25.5%
Bought lottery tickets	44	13.7%
Bet something of value on a video game	42	13.0%
Been in a casino	38	11.8%
Bet something of value on a sports pool	34	10.6%
Played pull tabs	34	10.6%
Bet money on a gambling machine	26	8.1%
Played bingo for money	17	5.3%
Bet something of value on a horse race	5	1.6%
Total Responses	322	100%

SOGS-RA

n = 117	Number Reporting	%
Tried to win back money lost	21	56.8%
Gambled more than planned	35	29.9%
Felt bad about betting	18	15.4%
Arguments with family or friends	17	14.5%
Problems with family and friends	15	12.8%
Criticized by others	12	10.3%
Would like to stop	10	8.5%
Hid signs of gambling	10	8.5%
Stole to cover gambling debts	7	6.0%
Borrowed money or did not pay back	6	5.1%
Skipped school or work	6	5.1%
Lied about winning	4	3.4%

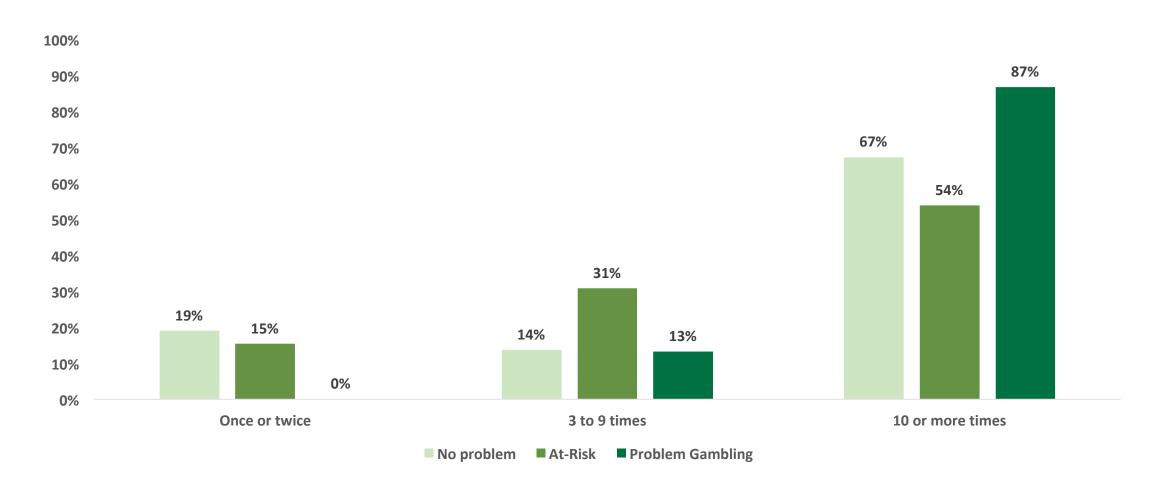
SOGS-RA Scores

n=125	
Average Score (Range)	1.31 (0-9)
No Problem (0-1)	72.0%
At Risk (2-3)	12.8%
Problem Gambling (4+)	15.2%

Gambling while in Custody

(X = 104 days)	n	%
Have you gambled while in custody?	88	70.4%
Once or twice	13	15.1%
3-5 times	12	14.0%
6-9 times	2	2.3%
10 or more times	59	68.6%

Frequency of Gambling in Custody x SOGS-RA



Gambling while in Custody

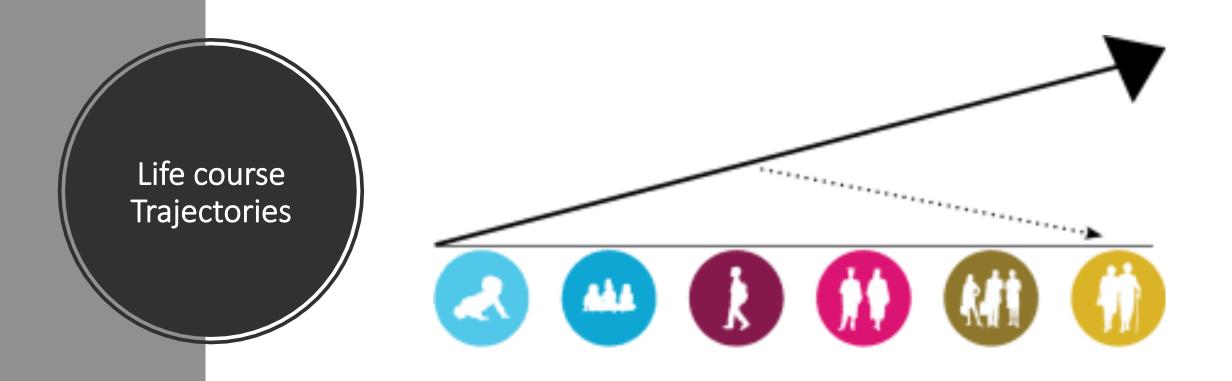
	n	Per Cent
Gambling on		
Card Game	79	87.8%
TV Sports Game	27	31.4%
Sports in Institution*	15	17.0%
Fights in Institution*	9	10.2%
Video Games inside*	8	9.1%
Dominoes	2	2.4%

Gambling while in Custody

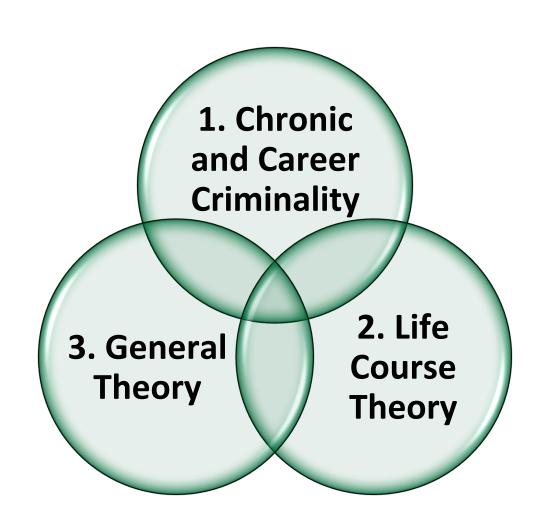
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Fights in Institution*	9	10.2%
Video Games inside*	8	9.1%
Dominoes	2	2.4%
Gambling with		
Food	64	72.7%
Money	40	44.9%
Hygiene products	24	28.6%
Contraband	20	23.8%
Favours	13	15.5%

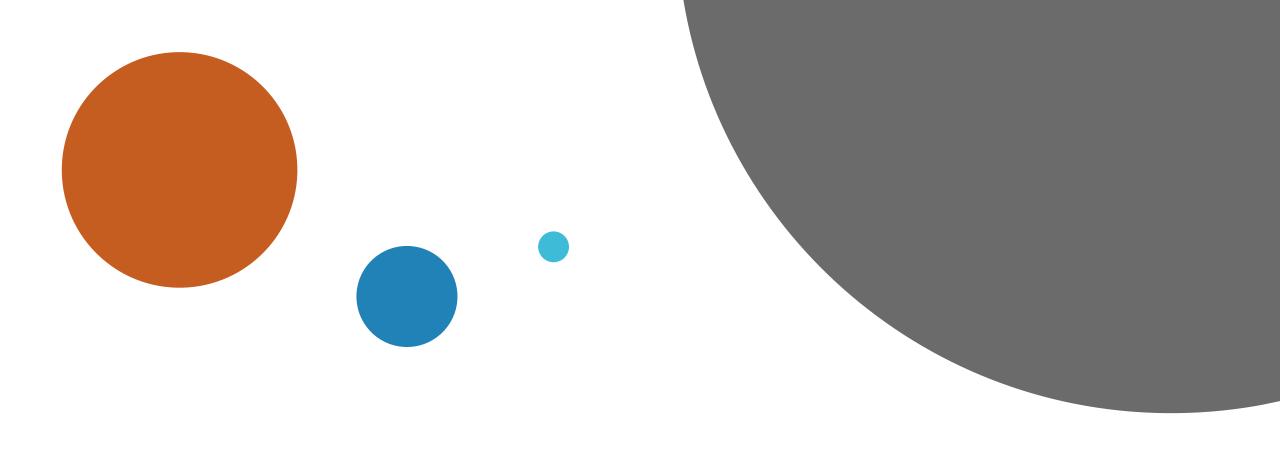
Why Gambling while in Custody

n = 88	n	Per Cent
For fun	69	77.5%
To win something of value	64	71.9%
Bored	59	67.0%
Pass the time	56	64.4%
Like to gamble*	39	43.8%
Socialize	26	30.2%



3 Major Concepts from Criminology





1. Chronic and Career Criminality

Career Criminals

Wolfgang et al. (1972)

A small proportion of offenders (~6%) are responsible for a majority of offending (~52%)

Age of Onset is Significant

Lifecourse versus Adolescent Limited (Moffitt, 1993)

How Does this Relate to Gambling?

Abbott, McKenna, & Giles (2005)

26% Female Prisoners in NZ Had Committed a Gambling-Related Offence

454 Convictions

2 Women Responsible for 390 Convictions



2. Life Course Theory

Age-Graded Theory of Delinquency

Sampson & Laub, 1993

Multiple Trajectories

Social Control Institutions (Family, School, Peers, State)

Transition Points

Cumulative Disadvantage

Relevance to Gambling?

Exposure from Parents = Trajectory

Early Onset = Persistence

Gambling Addiction begins to Spiral

Crime Becomes the 'Solution'



3. The Role of Low Self-Control



"will also tend to pursue immediate pleasures that are not criminal: they will tend to smoke, drink, use drugs, *GAMBLE*, have children out of wedlock, and engage in illicit sex"

(emphasis added; Gottfredson and Hirschi, 1990, p. 90)

The General Theory of Crime

Gottfredson & Hirschi, 1990

Criminal Behaviour is Learned

Ineffective Socialization by Parents

Set Early in Life

LSC and Gambling

(Bergen et al., 2012)

Study I) Self-reported "[s]elf-control strength is inversely associated with problem gambling severity" (p. 642)

Study 2) Behavioural measure found "problem gamblers had less emotional and cognitive self-control than non-problem gamblers" (p. 645)

LSC and Gambling

LSC Significantly Predicts Rates of Problem Gambling (Arneklev et al., 1993)

High Frequency Gambling is a Component of the Generality of Deviance (Mishra et al., 2017)

LSC A Significant Predictor Of Pathological Gambling, Substance Abuse, and Delinquency (Cheung, 2014)

J Gambl Stud (2014) 30:105–124 DOI 10.1007/s10899-012-9351-8

ORIGINAL PAPER

Low Self-Control and Co-occurrence of Gambling with Substance Use and Delinquency Among Chinese Adolescents

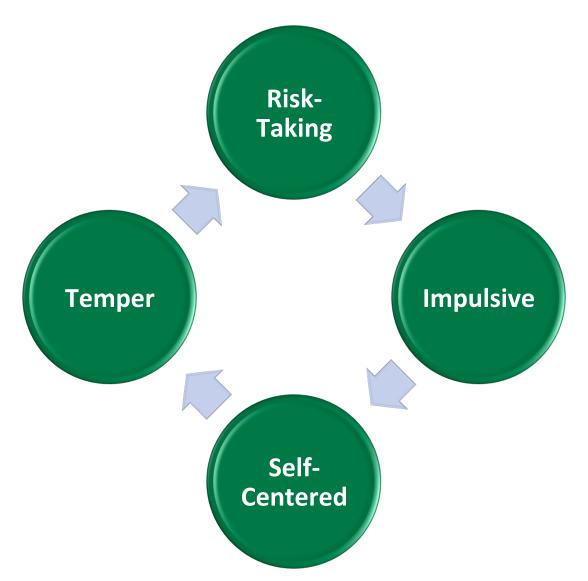
Nicole W. T. Cheung

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Abstract Relatively little is known about gambling co-morbidity in Asian youth populations. The role of trait self-control in co-morbidity also remains under-explored in the gambling literature. This study examined the association between gambling, substance use and delinquency among Chinese adolescents, and the extent to which these forms of risk behavior are commonly predicted by low self-control. Data from a cross-sectional questionnaire survey of a stratified, random sample of 4,734 high school students aged 12–23 years in Hong Kong were analyzed. The prevalence of gambling pathology, frequency and attitudes showed statistically significant, positive and consistent relationships with tobacco use, alcohol use, and delinquent acts at the p < .001 level. Further analyses revealed that low self-control significantly (p < .001) predicts at-risk/probable pathological gambling, frequent gambling, strong permissiveness toward gambling, heavy use of tobacco and alcohol, and delinquent involvement, even after controlling for the potential shared correlates of socioeconomic characteristics, parental monitoring and peer delinquency. Hence, the concept that gambling problems and strong receptivity to gambling are likely to be part of a general problem behavior syndrome is evinced cross-culturally among young people in a Chinese context. It may also be cost-effective to increase intervention efforts to improve the self-control deficit in adolescents, as this should reduce their gambling and concurrent problem behavior.

Components of LSC (Arneklev et al., 1993)



Importance of "Riskiness"

Association between gambling, LSC, and "taste for risk" (Mishra et al. 2010, 2017)

"Risky" personality traits [impulsivity, sensation seeking, LSC] explain a significant portion of ... problem gambling and antisocial behavior (Mishra et al., 2011)



Summary of LSC and Gambling

- Support for the Common Cause Variable
- Both gambling and deviance can be explained by a common cause
- Increasing self-control might reduce gambling and other deviance
- LSC as a component of "Riskiness", also including sensation seeking traits
- What are the implications for prevention?



Primary prevention through limiting exposure



Limiting Access to Adolescent Gaming

NCPGs Holiday Lottery Campaign

High Sensation Seeking Youth

Thrill and Adventure Seeking

Experience Seeking

Disinhibited

Susceptible to Boredom

Appealing to HSS Sensation Seeking Targeting (SENTAR) Model

Visual

• Cuts, Visual Effects, Slow Motion, Unusual Colours, Intense Images

Audio

Sound Saturation, Music, Sound Effects

Content

Acted Out, Unexpected Format, Surprise/Twist Ending



Strength Model of Self-Control

Increase self-control through regular exercise of self-control

Concluding Remarks from Criminology

Small but Active Target Population

Delayed Onset is Important

Multiple Opportunities for Positive Transition, Earlier the Better

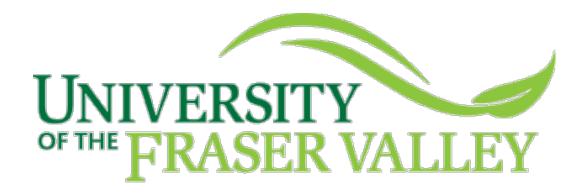
Consider the Target Population Characteristics (LSC, Risk, Stim.)

Opportunities to strengthen Self-Control



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