SPORTS BETTING NORMALISATION IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Results from the 2021 survey of South Australians adults' attitudes, beliefs and behaviours regarding sports betting

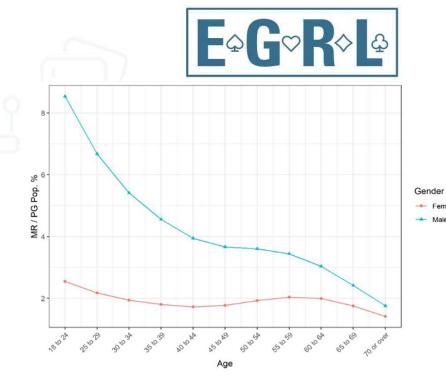






SPORTS BETTING

- Sports betting participation up
- Particularly risky form
- Popular among young men
- They also have the higher rates of problems





MEDIA AND NORMALISATION

- Advertising around sport is saturated
- Delivery via a wide variety of media channels
- Gambling becomes associated with the game
 - Normal part of watching sport
 - Makes the game more fun
 - Is a natural way to socialise with friends





SOCIAL AND NORMATIVE INFLUENCES

- Subjective norms
- Parental and household influences

Family and friends are key drivers

- Peer influences IRL and online
 - Social clustering





THE SURVEY

- 2030 total respondents
- Internet panel, demographically matched to SA
 - Normalisation
 - Dangerous / protective beliefs
 - Attitudes to sports betting and betting promotions
 - Protective behaviours around young people





TRIPARTITE NORMALISATION INDEX

- Friends (5 items)
 - E.g. "Most of my friends have bet on sports occasionally"
- Family (5 items)
 - E.g. "My family would disapprove of me betting on sports"
- Community (6 items)
 - E.g. "Is betting on sports a part of South Australian culture?"

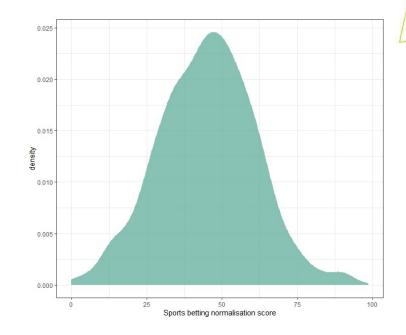




TRIPARTITE NORMALISATION INDEX

- Items normalised and added
- 0-100 index
- Wide variation across individuals
- 'Fair' average degree of normalisation at present 45.19, (44.51, 45.87).

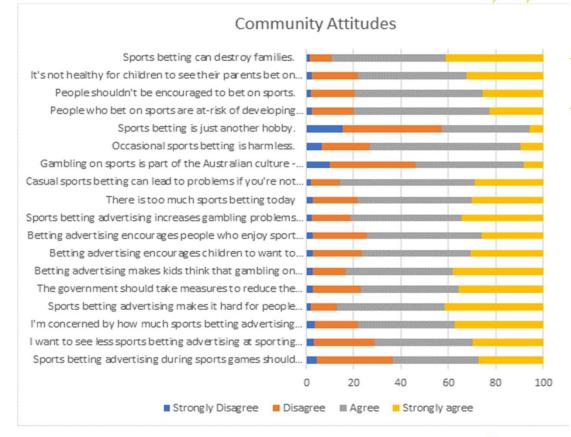






ATTITUDES TO SPORTS BETTING

Overwhelmingly negative!







ERRONEOUS BELIEFS ABOUT BETTING

Label	M	SD	F1	F2	h2	u2
When I win my sports bet, it's due to my skill and knowledge of sports	2.52	0.81	0.72		0.52	0.48
When I win my sports bet, it's due to my experience as a bettor	2.38	0.79	0.75		0.57	0.43
Just narrowly losing a bet shows how good my skills as a bettor are	2.24	0.78	0.77		0.59	0.41
Betting on sport is safer as it relies less on luck than other forms of gambling	2.56	0.84	0.62		0.39	0.61
The highs are higher and the lows are lower when I bet on my favourite team or player	2.57	0.81	0.61		0.38	0.62
The very moment I place a bet, I feel good	2.58	0.75	0.57		0.33	0.67
I can often estimate the true odds better than the advertised odds	2.26	0.80	0.74		0.55	0.45
If you have the knowledge and skills, betting on sports is a good way to make extra money	2.51	0.80	0.63		0.4	0.6
My chances of picking a winner on a sports match are better than most people	2.29	0.79	0.76		0.58	0.42
Bookmakers make mistakes when setting odds, which I can take advantage of	2.37	0.77	0.64		0.41	0.59
If I'm not having fun gambling on sports, I stop	3.10	0.69		0.73	0.53	0.47
I stick to a dedicated budget for sports betting	3.06	0.75		0.58	0.34	0.66
If I'm feeling depressed or upset, I don't bet on sports	2.68	0.85		0.38	0.16	0.84





PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS AROUND YOUNG PEOPLE

	Caregivers who are sports bettors (n = 381)				
Protective Behaviours	Strongly disagree	Disagree	Agree	Strongly agree	
	%	%	%	%	M (SD)
If an adult friend or family member is betting a lot on sports, it's a good idea to talk to them about whether sports betting is a problem for them.	1.6	13.4	58.5	26.5	3.10 (.673)
I feel confident talking to a friend or family member about the risks of sports betting.	1.6	13.4	63.8	21.3	3.05 (.639)
It's important to talk to children and adolescents about the risks of betting on sports.	1.6	8.7	56.4	33.3	3.22 (.662)
I feel confident talking to a child or adolescent about the risks of sports betting.	0.8	11.3	59.3	28.6	3.16 (.638)
Children and adolescents need to understand that betting is not a normal part of enjoying sports.	1.3	12.9	53.3	32.5	3.17 (.692)
It's important to keep your sports betting conversations private so that children and adolescents don't overhear.	4.7	29.9	42.8	22.6	2.83 (.829)
It's OK if children and adolescents see you betting on sports.	13.4	35.7	42.8	8.1	2.46 (.825)
It's OK to include children or adolescents in your sports betting.	30.4	36.5	23.6	9.4	2.21 (.952)

PROTECTIVE BEHAVIOURS AROUND YOUNG PEOPLE

Sports betting behaviours around	Caregivers who are sports bettors (n = 381)						
children	Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Usually	Always		
	%	%	%	%	%	M (SD)	
If I make a win betting on sports, I take care not to mention it to them.		9.4	23.6	24.4	34.6	3.69 (1.255)	
If I talk about betting sports, I take care not to let them overhear.	6.6	13.1	18.6	28.1	33.6	3.69 (1.243)	
If I bet on sports, I make sure not to do it when they are in the same room.		13.1	18.9	22.0	38.8	3.72 (1.292)	





CONCLUSIONS

- Significant variation
 - across the population
 - Between demographic groups, and bettors / non-bettors
- Ample room to 'move the needle'
- Widespread recognition of the risks
- Some complacency about inevitability, and around behaviours to keep children



