

ARE THERE QUESTIONS THAT ONE CAN ASK TO DETERMINE IF THEY HAVE A PROBLEM WITH GAMBLING?

Gamblers Anonymous uses the following to help individuals determine whether they have a gambling problem. A compulsive gambler will answer "yes" to at least seven of the questions:

1. Did you ever lose time from work or school due to gambling?
2. Has gambling ever made your home life unhappy?
3. Did gambling affect your reputation?
4. Have you ever felt remorse after gambling?
5. Did you ever gamble to get money with which to pay debts or otherwise solve financial difficulties?
6. Did gambling cause a decrease in your ambition or efficiency?
7. After losing, did you feel you must return as soon as possible and win back your losses?
8. After a win, did you have a strong urge to return and win more?
9. Did you often gamble until your last dollar was gone?
10. Did you ever borrow to finance your gambling?
11. Have you ever sold anything to finance gambling?
12. Were you reluctant to use "gambling money" for normal expenditures?
13. Did gambling make you careless about the welfare of your family?
14. Did you ever gamble longer than you had planned?
15. Have you ever gambled to escape worry or trouble?

16. Have you ever committed, or considered committing, an illegal act to finance gambling?
17. Did gambling cause you to have difficulty in sleeping?
18. Do arguments, disappointments or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?
19. Did you ever have an urge to celebrate any good fortune by a few hours of gambling?
20. Have you ever considered self-destruction as a result of your gambling?

Additionally, should you decide to seek treatment at WVADS, Inc., we will administer the South Oaks Gambling Screen, which is considered one of the most effective, if not the most effective, gambling screening tool available.

ARE THERE WEBSITES THAT YOU CAN RECOMMEND SO I CAN GET MORE INFORMATION ON GAMBLING?

Here are a few websites that you will find most helpful:

- gamblersanonymous.org
- gam-anon.org
- arf.org
- ncrg.org
- thewager.org
- ncaa.org
- ambid.com
- education.mcgill.ca/gambling
- pacouncil.com
- azccg.org
- stopgamblingnow.com

DOES WVADS, INC. PROVIDE SCHOOL AND COMMUNITY PREVENTION AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS?

Yes. WVADS, Inc. is not only known for its outstanding treatment programs. The agency also has the same reputation for its prevention/education services. We will be more than happy to tailor our presentation to meet the needs of your audience on any topic associated with gambling and other addictions. We invite you to call our agency today to schedule a program for your school, group, or organization.

Remember...EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO PREVENTION.

For more information on our Gambling Services, please call



(570) 820-8888



**437 North Main Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705**

WVADS, Inc. is licensed by the Division of Licensing, Penna. Dept. of Health, and is a 501 C-3 charitable organization in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

**Member, United Way of Wyoming Valley
Member, Luzerne-Wyoming Counties
Drug & Alcohol Program**

GAMBLING SERVICES

OF WYOMING VALLEY ALCOHOL AND DRUG SERVICES, INC



**437 NORTH MAIN STREET
WILKES-BARRE, PA 18705**

570-820-8888

**"THE FIRST AGENCY CERTIFIED
TO DO GAMBLING TREATMENT
IN THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA."**

WHAT TYPE OF GAMBLING SERVICES DOES WVADS, INC. OFFER?

WVADS, Inc. became the first agency in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to be certified to treat individuals with gambling problems. Additionally, the staff of our agency was the first certified in problem gambling statewide. The agency provides counseling to patients and family members who are not only pathological (compulsive) gamblers, but also provides services to anyone who believes they are developing a problem with gambling. This may be action or escape gamblers, binge gamblers, professional/sports gamblers, or social gamblers.

IF I NEED HELP, HOW DO I ACCESS YOUR TREATMENT PROGRAM?

Quite simply, we are a phone call away. By calling 820-8888, we will schedule a prompt, confidential, appointment for you or your loved one to receive an assessment/evaluation. The results of this evaluation will help us to determine the most-appropriate type of treatment.

HOW DO I PAY FOR GAMBLING TREATMENT AT WVADS, INC.?

Third-party health insurance companies do not as yet pay for gambling treatment. We are hopeful that within a short period of time, reimbursement will be available for these services. We will work closely with the patient and family to arrange for a payment plan that will not place a further financial burden on the individual. The Luzerne-Wyoming Counties Drug and Alcohol Program is also a potential funding resource to help offset the cost of treatment. We will work with that agency to determine if assistance is available in the event that payment becomes difficult for the individual.

DO YOUR GAMBLING TREATMENT SERVICES ADDRESS SPECIFIC DIFFERENCES IN PATIENTS?

Yes. Women, for example, turn to gambling for two specific reasons; first, as a means of escape. Gambling provides a way to escape overwhelming problems, childhood disturbances, troubled relationships, loneliness, boredom, and "empty nest syndrome". Secondly, for excitement. Gambling creates an arousal state similar to the high produced by cocaine or other drugs. In this excited stage, women focus on the game and ignore all other concerns in their lives. Children, on the other

hand, develop problems with gambling because of:

- ◆ parents who gamble
- ◆ early exposure to gambling
- ◆ peers who gamble
- ◆ presence of family drug and alcohol problems
- ◆ personal history of alcohol or drug abuse
- ◆ video game fixation (flashing lights, clanging bells, fast excitement).

The Harvard Medical School Division of Addictions conservatively estimates that 7.9 million American adolescents are problem or compulsive gamblers. The strength of our treatment program at WVADS, Inc. is recognizing the individual needs of each patient we serve.



HOW PREVALENT IS PROBLEM GAMBLING IN THE U.S.?

It is estimated that between 3-5% of the United States population suffers from problem or compulsive gambling. This represents approximately 9-12 million individuals nationwide. Contrary to belief, most adults are able to gamble responsibly. Gambling, of all types, has become a part of American culture. Just examine the many forms that gambling takes on in our society:

- ◆ Bingo
- ◆ Horse racing
- ◆ Sports wagering
- ◆ Card games
- ◆ State lottery games
- ◆ Scratch-off Bingo tickets (bazaars, fundraising)
- ◆ Various games of chance
- ◆ Money wheels (picnics, bazaars)
- ◆ Raffles of all types
- ◆ World Series pools
- ◆ Office pools
- ◆ Fantasy sports leagues
- ◆ Car raffles
- ◆ Dice games
- ◆ Casinos
- ◆ Dog racing
- ◆ Stock market
- ◆ Poker machines
- ◆ Golf or some other game of skill for money

When you sit back and analyze how many different forms of gambling we participate in, you can see why many people say we live in a gambling culture.