

✚ *Money is not the only thing you can lose in gambling:*

- Family and friend's trust
- Personal and family savings
- Good credit
- Good health
- Dignity and respect

❖ *Many casinos offer alcoholic beverages which can cause many other dangers and concerns especially for those who have problems limiting their alcohol consumption.*

- **Gamblers may become aggressive and defensive when questioned about their gambling and rationalize their reasons for gambling.**
- **U.S. Statistics**
 - Over 80% of Americans have gambled over their lifetime
 - Approximately 60% of Americans have gambled within the last year
 - 3% of the population has a gambling problem and
 - 1% of Americans meet the criteria for "pathological gambler"
- **The most popular form of gambling are instant win scratch off tickets and betting ie. sporting events, friendly wagers.**
- **Other types of gambling include:**
 - Instant Win Lottery Tickets
 - "Friendly wagers" are placing a wager or bet over a game of billiards, darts, dominoes golf, etc.
 - Daily/Weekly pick 3, 4, 5 and power ball tickets
 - Bingo
 - Online Gambling
- **Parimutuel bets are those placed in a large pool in which odds and winnings depend upon the size of the pool. Examples of parimutuel betting are:**
 - Sports Betting
 - Horse Racing
 - Dog Fights
 - Dog Racing "greyhounds"
- **Some popular casino games include:**
 - Slot Machines: Video Poker, Lucky 7's, Blackjack etc.

- Card games: Poker, Blackjack, Caribbean Stud Texas Hold'em, Casino War etc.
- Other popular games at casinos include:
 - Mah-Jong, Roulette, Craps, Keno, Baccarat, Pai Gow
- Dog and cock fights are examples of underground, illegal gambling and are punishable by large fines and/or imprisonment.
- Gambling is often glamorized by the media. Examples of this include:
 - The term “gambling” is often replaced with the less stigmatizing term “gaming.” Celebrity contestants on TV programs as Celebrity Poker Showdown and Celebrity Blackjack and compete in The World Series of Poker Celebrities. Viewers of celebrity gambling at times may forget that for certain poker events the money won goes to a charity or is supplied by the show, or that if a celebrity loses \$10,000 of their actually money. The lost is not as much of a financial set back as to compared with a typical player.
 - The term “professional gambler” is used to portray a person who gambles on a professional and more serious level than those who gamble for leisure. Many professional gamblers play in high stakes events, have years of experience and extensive knowledge and expertise in gambling.
 - The fact that many “big winners” have also been “big losers” is rarely illustrated.
 - Online gambling became popular after Andrew and Mark Rivkin founded the online financial transaction system “Cryptologic.”
 - By 1996 online gambling and casinos emerged and by 1997 online gambling had produced approximately \$1 billion in revenue (\$600 million of which came from the U.S.)
 - Online gambling offers patrons anonymity which often leads to greater addiction and more problems.
- ❖ Gambling addiction is as serious as having a drug or alcohol addiction. Many techniques and treatment options used by recovering alcoholics are also used with people who suffer from gambling addictions. For more information on gambling addiction visit these websites:

<http://www.dsf.health.state.pa.us/health/cwp/browse.asp?a=173&bc=0&c=38935>
<http://www.boxingscene.com/casino-gambling/18637.php>
<http://www.answers.com/topic/problem-gambling>