



FACTS ABOUT YOUTH GAMBLING

DID YOU KNOW?!?!



People with addiction use substances or engage in behaviors that become compulsive and often *continue despite harmful consequences*. Addiction is a treatable, chronic medical disease involving complex interactions among brain circuits, genetics, the environment and an individual's life experiences.



GAMING & Gambling Disorder have similar characteristics:

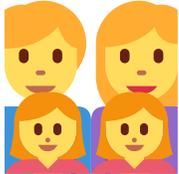
- Taking over important parts of life
- Impaired control
- Increased priority given to games
- Lying about gaming
- CONTINUED USE DESPITE NEGATIVE CONSEQUENCES



PREVENTION WORKS!

Make smart decisions about gambling & gaming

1. Set and stick to time limits
2. Set and stick to MONEY limits
3. Play for FUN, not to win money
4. Don't let gaming become your whole life



Most teens with serious gambling problems were introduced to gambling by a parent or other adult close to them

Youth who start spending money WITHIN games are more likely to gamble later and are at risk for more gambling problems later in life

In Butler County:

13.8%



of youth ages 12-17 were considered "at risk" for problem gambling

Youth under 18 prefer:

- Betting on video games (46%)
- Playing cards for money (46%)
- Betting on sports events (33%)

Youth gamble because: it's "fun" and "to win/make money"

Teen Help.com

<http://www.teenhelp.com/money/teen-gambling/>

Youth Gambler Self-Assessment

<http://www.cdpha.ca.gov/Programs/OPG/Pages/youth-self-assessment.aspx>

Gamblers Anonymous

Pittsburgh Hotline: 724-281-7484

www.gamblersanonymous.org

PA Problem Gambling Helpline

1-800-GAMBLER or 1-877-565-2112

TEXT LINE: 1-800-522-4700

Council on Compulsive Gambling of Pennsylvania

<http://www.pacouncil.com>

National Council on Problem Gambling

<http://www.ncpgambling.org>

ButlerFirstStep

www.ButlerFirstStep.org



WARNING SIGNS FOR TEEN GAMBLING ADDICTION

- Begins to sell personal belongings.
- Borrows money from friends and family and does not repay it.
- Steals and lies.
- Has large amounts of cash that cannot be explained.
- Has a great deal of debt that cannot be explained.
- Strangers call on the phone with increasing frequency.
- Withdraws from his or her regular social groups and activities.
- Makes "900" number calls to gambling numbers.
- Appears distracted and anxious; can be moody or depressed.
- Unexplained absences from school or work.
- Breaks curfew regularly.
- Spends hours on online gambling sites.
- Obsession with sports scores can indicate a sports gambling habit.

