

Problem Gambling Among Asian–American Pacific Islanders

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Among APIs
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Speaker Bureau

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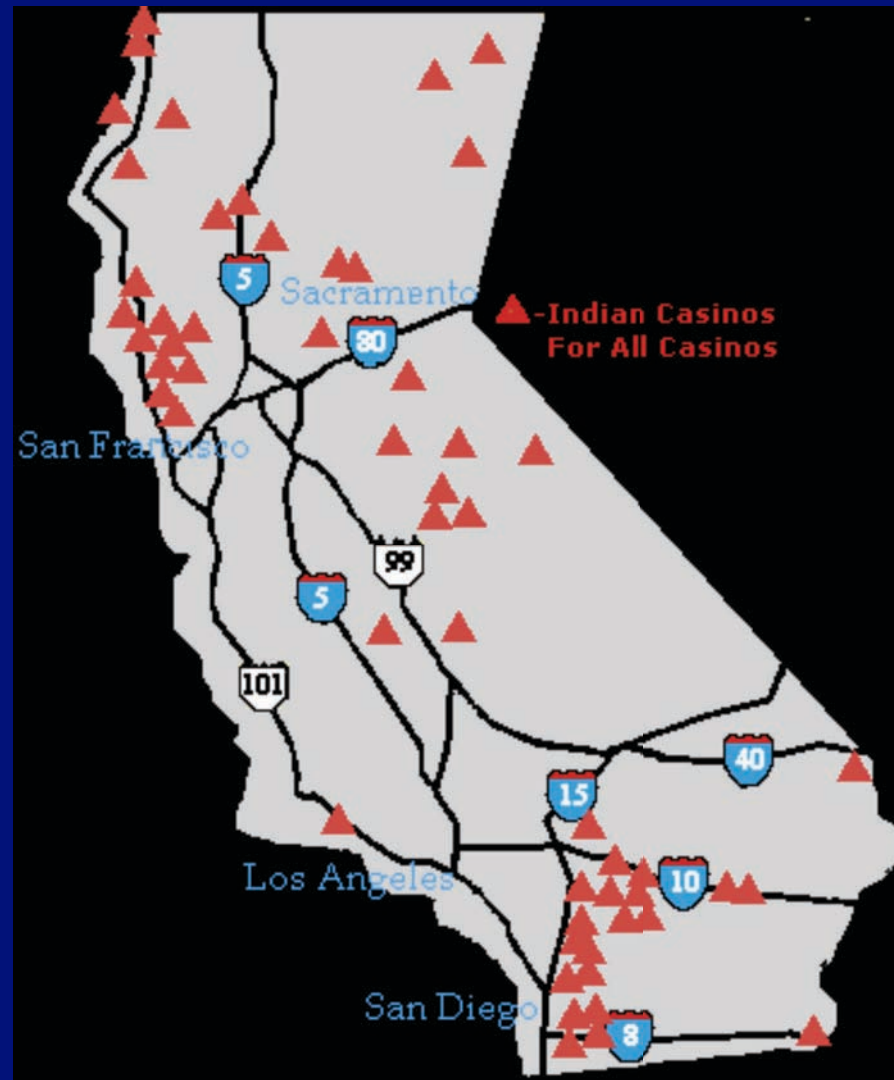
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Foundation

Overview

- The California Scene
- APIs and Gambling
 - Cultural Factors
 - Prevalence Surveys
- Treatment and Prevention
- Overcoming barriers

The California Scene



Background

- Exponential growth of legalized gambling
- \$2.5 billion (1997) to \$13 billion (2003)
 - Horse race wagering (\$ 4 billion)
 - Lottery (\$ 3 billion)
 - Card rooms (\$ 1 billion)
 - Tribal casinos (\$ 5 billion)
- 60% Californians gambled last year



California Prevalence Study (2005)

n=7,121 respondents, 18 years and older

Problem gambling 2.2%

Pathological gambling 1.5%

~ 1,000,000 problem/pathological cases

Highest Risk: African-Americans,
Disabled, Unemployed



Asians and Gambling



Asians in America

	Asians	Total Population
1990	7 million	248 million
2000	12 million	281 million
Net increase	50%	13%

US Census 2000

Asians in California

12 % of Californians are AAPIs

~ 4 million

Highest rate of growth

1.2 million Los Angeles County

State population ~ 35 million

(2000 Census)

Asians in California

- Largest Asian Groups:
 - Filipino
 - Chinese
 - Vietnamese
 - Korean
 - Asian Indian
 - Japanese
- Fastest growing
 - Asian Indian, Vietnamese, Hmong

Asian Communities

- Monterey Park (64%)
- Cerritos (61%)
- Rowland Heights (52%)
- San Gabriel (51%)
- San Marino (50%)
- Alhambra (48%)

Cultural factors that promote gambling

- Acceptance
- Belief in luck = self-worth
- Marketing forces
- Immigration Factors
- Peer behaviors
- Emphasis on material wealth

Background Data

- NICOS (SF)
- 70% identified gambling as number one social concern (1999)
 - 15% problem gamblers
 - 21% pathological gamblers

Asians and Gambling (Los Angeles)

- 30–40% of casino clientele are AAPIs
- Casinos market toward AAPIs
- Significant percentage of casino revenue comes from local AAPI residents
- Social activity of choice

Consequences of PG on APIs

- 20% of child neglect cases
 - (Santa Clara)
- 30% of API DV cases (SF Chinatown)
- Numerous bankruptcy reports from Monterey Park
- Recent cases of family violence
 - (April 2006)

“Impact of Gambling on Los Angeles Asian Communities”

1. To understand the impact of problem gambling on AAPIs.
2. To understand cultural influences which will inform prevention and treatment

(Funded by UCLA in LA)

Surveys

General Population Survey

- Tofu and Lotus Festival
 - 300 collected
 - (Summer and Fall 2005)
- Convenience sample
- Randomly selected
- Reimbursed water

General Population Survey

- Compare knowledge, attitudes and beliefs about problem gambling between Asians vs. Non-Asians
- Why?
 - To provide basis of where to focus prevention, education, treatment

Results

Gender	
Male	60%
Females	40%

Ethnicity	
Asians	70% Japanese, Chinese, Filipino, Korean
Non-Asians	30%

Results

Education	
High School or less	3%
High School	21%
Associate	13%
College	42%
Masters	17%
Post Doc and above	4%

Results

- No difference: Asians vs. Non-Asians
 - PG is a medical illness (54%)
 - Know someone with gambling problem (45%)
 - Shame about PG (54%)
 - PG as an important issue (50%)
 - Impacts the community (34%)
 - Feel helpless with PG (70%)

Conclusions

- Need more education about PG
- Need to increase awareness about treatment and services
- De-stigmatization campaign
- Surprisingly, little difference across cultures

Prevalence Surveys

Prevalence Survey

- 379 surveys collected over 3 days at Commerce Casino (March 2006)
- SOGS
- NODS
- UCLA Gambling Survey
- Convenience Sampling
- \$5 Starbucks reimbursement

Prevalence Survey

Objectives:

1. What is the rate of PG among casino patrons?
2. What is the rate of PG of AAPIs vs. Non-AAPIs?

Results

Gender	
Male	75%
Females	25%

Ethnicity	
Asians	27% Chinese, Filipino, Korean, Japanese
Non-Asians	63%

Results

Gambling Screening Scores	N= 180
SOGS >5	37%
NODS >5	28%

Results

Screening Score	AAPIs	Non-AAPIs
SOGS >5	42%	36%
NODS >5	35%	26%

Conclusions

- High rates of PG inside a casino
- How many require treatment?
- No obvious ethnic differences BUT APIs will have more PGs
- Replication needed
- Secondary analysis underway (gender, time, health status)

Treatment of AAPI
Pathological Gamblers and
Their Families

Treatment Approaches to Pathological Gambling

1. Medications
2. Psychotherapy
3. Gambler's Anonymous
4. Family Therapy
5. Brief Interventions
6. Prevention

Existing Treatment for AAPIs

- Gambler's Anonymous
 - (Korean, Chinese)
- NICOS - (SF)
- AAPI mental health providers
- AAPI substance abuse providers
- Churches
- Families

Barriers to Treatment

- Shame and Stigma
- Lack of culturally appropriate services
- Lack of outreach programs
- Language
- Access to insurance
- Transportation

Barriers to Treatment

- Familial insulation
- Self-reliance
- Therapy not accepted in community
- Sense of fatalism (won't get better)
- Level of education
- Level of acculturation

Survey results

- N= 59 (AADAP, WRAP, UPAC)
- Male: 36%
- Female: 64%
- Ethnicity
 - 68% Asians
 - 13% Caucasians
 - 6% African Americans
 - 6% Hispanic
 - 7% Others

Findings

- Training in treatment

0.5 % = clinical experience

0.3 % = certificate

0.2% = both

78 % = no experience

Findings

- Do you routinely screen for gambling problems?
 - Yes 85%
 - No 15%

Treatment Needs

- Interventions for Asian Americans
 - Adapting treatment to be culturally responsive
 - Need more gambling specialists
 - More research needed
 - Stigma operates at all levels

Clinical Pearls

- Work with the family, first
- Minimize shame through education
- Involve respected elders
- Address co-occurring disorders
- “Medicalize” treatments
- Develop 12-step alternatives

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