

DID YOU KNOW ADOLESCENT PROBLEM GAMBLERS...

- May have lower self-esteem compared with other adolescents?
- May have higher rates of depression and report higher suicidal tendencies and attempts?
- May be truant from school to go gambling and as a result have poor grades in school?

So when you think adolescent problem gambling is no big deal....

FACT:

- Problem gambling behavior exists in 6-20% of adolescents ages 12-19.
- Adolescents are 2 to 4 times more likely than adults to have this problem.
- Gambling is readily accessible via computers and cell phones.
- Teens are exposed to televised poker tournaments, card games, sports betting, scratch tickets and more.
- Wagering is thought of as an adult privilege; therefore, adolescents are more susceptible to developing this behavior.
- Studies have indicated that kids who gamble are more likely to drink, carry a gun and fight.
- 85% of teens have gambled in the past year.

Even your kids!



**Wisconsin Council on
Problem Gambling, Inc.**
24-hour Helpline
**Call: 1-800-GAMBLE-5
(1-800-426-2535)**



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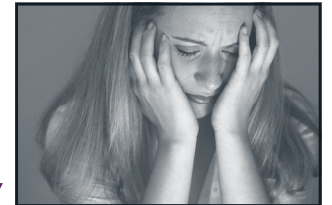
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www.wi-problemgamblers.org**

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WCPG Mission Statement
The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. provides resources, public awareness and education on problem and pathological gambling disorders while maintaining strict neutrality on the issue of legalized gambling.

KIDS

**are bright, bold
& beautiful**



Almost

20%

**are at risk
for problem**



gambling.

Does your **Kid** Have a
**Gambling
Problem?**



SIGNS OF TEEN PROBLEM GAMBLING:

- Gambling frequently with cards, dice, games, sports, or online.
- Trouble concentrating on homework or other things because they are thinking about gambling.
- Missing important events or sneaking out from them to gamble.
- Drinking alcohol or taking drugs.
- Borrowing or stealing money to gamble.
- Arguing with and/ or lying to friends or family about gambling.
- Feeling the need to bet more and more money.



- Sudden urgency for more money.
- Telephone calls from strangers and higher phone bills.
- Gambling “stuff” at home (lottery tickets, betting sheets).
- Thinking that gambling is an easy way to make money.
- Selling personal possessions.
- Thinking that the odds can be outsmarted.
- Believing that money that was lost can be won back.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Educate yourself and children about the risks of gambling.
- Set rules about gambling and discuss the risks associated with gambling.
- Build their self esteem and help them to develop appropriate coping skills.
- Monitor children’s activities and internet use.
- Create an open environment for conversation.

FACT:

Adolescents = High Risk

**2 out of 3 adolescents
gamble**

**Almost 20% have a
gambling problem**

HELPFUL WEBSITES

For teens:

www.addictionisagamble.com

For parents:

www.notagame.org

**Free Confidential Help is
available 24-hours a day!**

If you or someone you care about has a gambling problem, please call **1-800-GAMBLE-5 (1-800-426-2535)**.

The Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc. provides workshops and seminars on gambling awareness and education. Speakers are available for large and small groups.

**Wisconsin Council on Problem Gambling, Inc.
1-800-GAMBLE-5 (426-2535)**

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