

CHANGE THE GAME

UNLOCK THE REALITY
OF YOUTH GAMBLING



THE REALITY OF YOUTH GAMBLING What Parents Need to Know About Youth Gambling



What is Gambling?

Any act that involves risking money or valuables on the outcome of a game or contest that is mostly determined by chance.



Video Games & Gambling

Young people spend hours playing games on computers and mobile devices. Many of the games, with their coins, gems, loot boxes, and skins, replicate real-life gambling situations.



Teens are Gambling

Problem gambling rates among teens and young adults have been shown to be 2-3 times that of adults. Of U.S. residents ages 14-21, 2.1% struggle with problem gambling and another 6.5% are at risk.



Teens Who Gamble are More likely to...

- Have depression & anxiety issues
- Have damaged relationships
- Drink & use illegal drugs
- Get into fights or criminal activity
- Have low self-esteem
- Think about suicide



HOW THEY ARE GAMBLING:

- Card Games
- Lottery Tickets
- Truth or Dare
- Internet Challenges
- Fantasy Sports
- Trading Card Games
- Role Play Strategy Games
- Bets on School Sports
- Family Fun Center Arcades
- Video Games & Apps





TEEN GAMBLING WARNING SIGNS

- Unexplained absences from school or classes
- Sudden drop in grades
- Change of personality or behavior
- Exaggerated display of money
- Bragging about gambling activities
- Intense interest in gambling conversations
- Unusual interest in sports scores
- Questionable explanation for new items or loss of valuable possessions
- Borrowing or stealing money
- Using earmarked money for gambling
- Withdrawing from family and friends
- Uncharacteristically forgetting appointments or other important dates
- Exaggerated use of word "bet" or other gambling language in conversations.
- Unexplained credit card charges



RESEARCH SHOWS THAT KIDS WHO GAMBLE ARE MORE LIKELY TO ENGAGE IN OTHER RISKY BEHAVIORS, SUCH AS:

- Using Alcohol
- Using Tobacco
- Criminal Activity
- Violent Behavior

The shift from gaming habit to gambling problem is subtle. But the risks aren't. Learn how to lower the risks for youth at [ChangeTheGameOhio.org](https://www.changethegameohio.org)

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