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# Impact of problem gambling on financial, emotional and social well-being of Singaporean families

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## Abstract

Problem gambling has a profound impact on family members. While this has been previously documented, this paper reports on the first study to consider the extent of this impact in Asian societies where the family continues to be a very important basis for social organization. This study, based on in-depth interviews with 50 Singaporeans with a family member who has experienced problem gambling, explores how their financial losses or gains, emotional distress, and social well-being are affected. The findings show that the impact of problem gambling on families is similar across societies, routine mobilization of the extended family and the

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greater role of public shame and embarrassment in dictating Asian families' responses underscore the need for specialized services in these societies to assist family members to better cope with the financial, emotional and social strains caused by problem gambling.

Keywords: families gambling Asian

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