

The WAGER Vol. 7(32) - Living Timeline of Gambling

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During the Harrah's General Council meeting of 2001, Judy Patterson, Senior Vice-President and Executive Director of the American Gaming Association presented the framework for a timeline of the history of gambling. Together, Patterson and the staff of The WAGER would like to invite all readers of The WAGER to contribute information about dates and events to add to this timeline. It is our hope that we will be able to create an ongoing and interactive document that will provide valuable information to individuals seeking to know more about historical events associated with gambling and problem gambling. The framework laid out by Patterson can be accessed below. We invite any and all feedback, comments, and additions. We request that all suggested additions be accompanied by an original source of reference.

Roman Soldiers throw dice for Jesus' Robes	31 AD
1096	During Crusades, kings permit noblemen to gamble
Lotteries help establish Harvard and other Ivy League institutions, help fund American Revolution	1636
1861-65	Lotteries used to fund the Civil War
Dostoevsky writes The Gambler	1867
Late 1800's/Early 1900's	Excessive Gambling characterized as moral issue
Galdston, I. publishes first comorbidity study	1951
1957	Gamblers Anonymous founded
New Hampshire establishes first legal lottery in the U.S. in 20th Century	1963

First treatment program for pathological gambling established by Robert Custer, M.D.

1972 National Council on Problem Gambling (NCPG) founded

Maryland establishes first state-funded treatment program

First nationwide prevalence study conducted

1975

American Psychiatric Association recognizes pathological gambling as "official" disorder (DSM III)

1980

Journal of Gambling Behavior (now *Journal of Gambling Studies*) first published

1985

First state-funded outpatient treatment program established in New Jersey

1989

Harrah's Entertainment becomes first commercial casino company to officially address problem gambling

APA revises DSM-III criteria on pathological gambling (DSM-IV)

1994

The Government of Antigua Barbuda passes The Free Trade and Processing Zone Act, 1994. Many online casinos and sports books today operate under licenses granted pursuant to this legislation. Antigua Barbuda continues to be one of the online gambling industries most popular licensing jurisdictions.

1995

First North American Think Tank on Youth Gambling held at Harvard

National Center for Responsible Gaming founded

1996

Missouri Gaming Commission implements nation's first self-exclusion program

The first issue of *The WAGER* was published (fax broadcast). It was created by the late Thomas N. Cummings and Howard J. Shaffer

Harvard Meta-Analysis released

1997

Second federally-funded commission begins study of social and economic impacts of gaming in America

<p>AGA kicks off first annual Responsible Gaming Education Week</p> <p>AGA board of directors adopts voluntary responsible gaming guidelines</p> <p>National Academy of Sciences conducts critical review of scientific literature on pathological gambling</p> <p>Sen. Jon Kyl (R-Ariz.), Congress' foremost opponent to online gambling introduces the Internet Gambling Prohibition Act, designed to make it illegal for any company to offer an online gambling product to US citizens. The bill eventually fails to pass.</p>	<p>1998</p>
<p>New South Wales government issues strict "harm minimization" regulations</p> <p>Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders established at Harvard Medical School</p>	<p>National Center for Responsible Gaming holds first annual conference</p> <p>1999 Federal commission issues final report</p> <p>Australian Productivity Commission issues a report on gaming industry</p>
<p>Institute for Research on Pathological Gambling and Related Disorders established at Harvard Medical School</p>	<p>2000</p> <p>AGA and NCRG produce first issue of Responsible Gaming Quarterly</p>
<p></p>	<p>2001</p> <p>Results of a survey published in PRNewswire (22 March 2001) claims that around 8 million people had already gambled with real money online at that time.</p> <p>McGill University hosted the second Think Tank on Youth Gambling in Montréal, Canada</p>

Comments on this article can be addressed to Debi LaPlante.