

# Our Seniors are . . . Innocent Victims of Casinos



The industry markets heavily to senior citizens, with special discounts on meals and other promotions, including free bus service from senior centers and retirement homes.

*"CASINO GAMBLING OLDER, NOT WISER" / St. Louis Post-Dispatch Editorial*

Women in the oldest age group  
wagered 249% of their monthly income

*"Wager, Gambling at Any Age" / Volume 7 Number 25*

Seniors with a gambling problem are known to stop taking medications, steal money, gamble with credit card money, gamble with money earmarked for utility bills, or even skip meals

*"A helping hand for seniors addicted to gambling" / By JEFF HAYNES / The Call*

*"To create gambling addicts in order to raise state funds is really unethical"*

*Valerie C. Lorenz, Ph.D., Compulsive Gambling Center, Inc. of Maryland*

A massive casino debt led Carol and Skip, a couple in their 60s, to kill themselves  
LEGISLATORS WORRY CASINOS' CREDIT LINES, ATMS BRING TRAGEDY / Chicago Tribune

Gambling grandmother killed herself, embezzled \$272,000  
"A life lost to gambling" / By Grace Schneider / The Courier-Journal

Their parents have been going to the casino every week, they've lost all their savings and they're about to lose their house and they've borrowed from all of the children," said Forman, Council on Compulsive Gambling, some are in wheelchairs, with oxygen containers parked next to them at slot machines, and there was even one on a gurney.  
The Herald News

11 percent (seniors) fit the criteria of at-risk gamblers... And they're more likely to have some type of age-related mental impairment affecting their ability to bet responsibly. Dr. David Oslin, the author of the study, stated.

*Pennsylvania State College of Medicine and the University of Pennsylvania SURVEY*

According to a 2003 council report, anywhere from 13,000 to 83,000 Floridians age 55 and older were pathological or problem gamblers. Bad poker table but it isn't a problem with today's gaming machines. Sun-Sentinel

The National Gambling Institute estimates that 65 percent of the revenue generated by Atlantic City's 12 casinos, about \$4 billion a year, comes from the pockets of people over 60.

## The High Price of Gambling

Those (seniors) who become addicted often show signs of depression, become suicidal, and many turn to alcohol—until they go broke.  
Dr. Patrick Arbore

## Criminal case files involving gambling

Norris, 61, of Ky., pleaded guilty last year to embezzling \$493,180 from the U.S. Postal Service. He gambled frequently at the Caesars casino. The Courier-Journal

A 66 year old grandmother from New York City was sentenced yesterday to 31 months in federal prison and ordered to pay back the nearly \$4.9 million she embezzled from her former employer to feed her gambling habit in Atlantic City.  
phillynews.com.

"When someone who is retired has used up all their finances, they can't just go get another job. They can't go out and start over," said Fowler, Florida Council on Compulsive Gambling. "It's difficult to get them to go to support groups. And if they do go, it's difficult to get them to stay, since they don't feel comfortable talking about the most shameful thing they've ever done," she said.

Florida Casino Watch  
P.O. 1815, Ft. Myers, FL 33957  
For more information on Senior Gambling Victims  
www.casinowatch.org