

# UNLV Problem Gambling 101:

## What's *Diversion* Got To Do With It ?

10/22/2015

Denise F. Quirk, M.A.

# Objectives

- 2015 view of problem gambling
- Discovering the gambler among your clients
- Gambling assessment and tools
- Finding the right Level of Care (LOC) and placement



# Denise F. Quirk, M.A.



- ✓ CEO & Clinical Director, RPGC
- ✓ Private Practice: Red Hawk Counseling, '92
- ✓ DUI, Anger Mgmt, Parenting, LifeStar Network Porn/Sex Addict Tx, Family Specialty
- ✓ Evals for Pub. Def., Probation
- ✓ Instructor, Univ. Nevada, Reno
- ✓ CAS 439/639 *Exploring Gambling Behaviors*
- ✓ GPPC co-author
- ✓ ACPG Chair
- ✓ Former Board of Examiners Member
- ✓ [dqrpqc@gmail.com](mailto:dqrpqc@gmail.com)
- ✓ (775) 284-7275

# Nevada Gambling Diversion

- Crimes committed in furtherance of a Gambling Problem
- No Violence
- Sanctions ordered by Court which are strict and severe
- Felony can be expunged
- Treatment works
- Addicts are treatable
- Restitution is paid
- Rehabilitation is possible
- If not taken seriously, the addict will put him/herself back in prison

# Problem Gambling is about PEOPLE

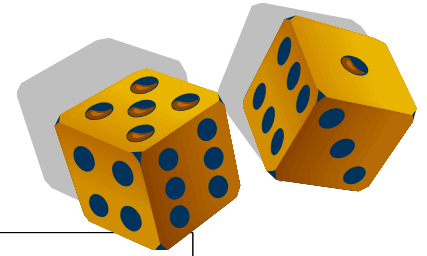
*... the people with the disorder*

*... the people who care about them*

*... and the people they can become when offered the opportunity and the resources to recover.*

**1 - 800 - 522 - 4700**

**Problem Gamblers HelpLine**



# When is gambling *really* a problem?



# Gambling, Defined

## *American Psychiatric Association*

“Gambling involves risking something of value in the hopes of obtaining something of greater value.”

- *APA, DSM-5*

## **Gamblers Anonymous: 12-Step Groups**

“Any betting or wagering, for self or others, whether for money or not, no matter how slight or insignificant, where the outcome is uncertain or depends upon chance or “skill.”

- *Gamblers Anonymous*

# Money is Not the Drug



- ACTION is the drug for problem gamblers
- The action is what alters their moods
- Money just makes the “high” sweeter
- No money = temporary quit, or criminal behavior



# Can You Spot the Problem Gambler?



# Gambling Disorder

## DSM-5 Diagnostic Criteria:

### F63.0

- ❖ Preoccupation
- ❖ Increasing \$\$
- ❖ Loss of control
- ❖ Restless/irritable
- ❖ Escape
- ❖ Chasing losses
- ❖ Lying
- ❖ Lost relationships
- ❖ Bailouts

# Casino Crime

“Biker Bandit” Anthony Carleo

PROTAGONISTAS POR ORDEN ALFABÉTICO  
**GEORGE CLOONEY**  
**MATT DAMON**  
**ANDY GARCIA**  
**BRAD PITT**  
**Y JULIA ROBERTS**  
3 Casinos.

WELCOME  
TO Fabulous  
LAS VEGAS  
NEVADA



- **“Local”**
- **\$1.5 million in chips**
- **Heavy gambling & losses**
- **Bankruptcy**
- **Problem gambling**
- **Oxycodone abuse**
- **Staying at the Casino/Hotel on comps**
- **3-11yrs Bellagio;  
6-16yrs Suncoast**





# Risk of Violence



# Robbery

Then



Now



# Illegal acts to support gambling





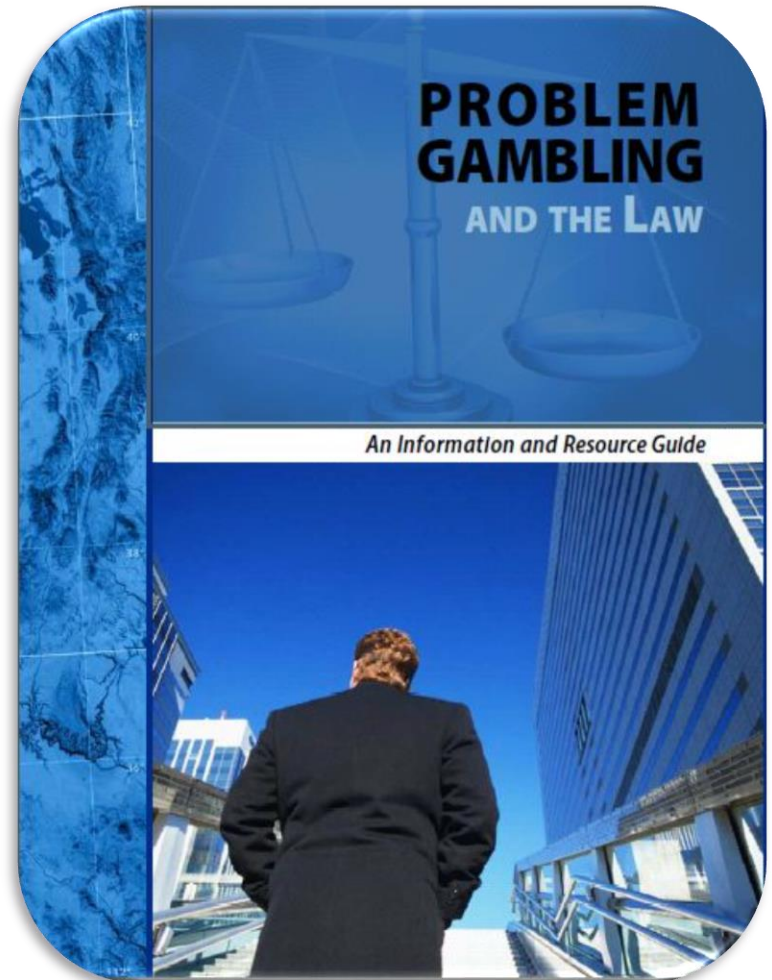
# Joe Conforte at NSP "Bull Pen"



# Legal Guidance



Judge Mark Ferrell, New York





# What Works? The Five “R’s”

(Paul Ashe, Esq., Florida Council on Problem Gambling)

- ✓ Remorse
- ✓ Repentance
- ✓ Restitution
- ✓ Rehabilitation *and*
- ✓ Recovery

# Smarter Questions = The Rest of the Story

**“So, where did you get your DUI?”**

**“In the parking lot of the casino”**



# Who Can (**BEST**) Screen, Assess, Treat **G.D.**?

- Screen
  - Anyone, including You, with proper tools
  - Health technicians, Office Managers, Family
- Assess and Evaluate
  - **Certified Problem Gambling Counselors (CPGC's)**
- Diagnose/Treat
  - Licensed or Certified Professional Health Care Personnel: Clinicians with Gambling Training
  - Interns Supervised by Licensed/Certified Supervisors
  - **CPGC, CPGC-I**; MD, PhD, RN, MFT, LCSW, CPC

# Problem Gambling Screening

## Lie-Bet Questionnaire

1. Have you ever felt the need to **bet** more and more money?
2. Have you ever had to **lie** to people important to you about how much you gambled?

## Brief Biosocial Gambling Screen BBGS

1. During the past 12 months, have you become **restless, irritable or anxious** when trying to stop/cut down on gambling?
2. During the past 12 months, have you tried to **keep your family or friends from knowing** how much you gambled?
3. During the past 12 months, did you have such financial trouble as a result of your gambling that you had to get **help with living expenses** from family, friends or welfare?

Johnson, E.E., Hamer, R., Nora, R.M., Tan, B., Eisenstein, N. & Englehart, C. (1988). The Lie/Bet Questionnaire for Screening Pathological Gamblers. *Psychological Reports*, 80, 83-88.

# SRAD Screening Tools

## Gambling Disorder

- Lie-Bet (2q)
- BBGS (3q)
- NODS-CLiP (3q)
- DSM diagnostic criteria (9/10q)
- SOGS (16q/20) (Adol/SP)
- NODS (17qx2)
- GA 20 questions
- MAGS (31q)

## ATOD

- CAGE
- FAST
- MAST
- DAST
- AUDIT
- SASSI-3
- CCSM-1& 2

# Responsible Gambling: “Do You Have FAT ABS?”

- **F**requency
- **A**mount
- **T**ime
- **A**lcohol use (none)
- **B**uddy system (like scuba)
- **S**igns



# **Warning Signs?** (Hint: See WTFS trifold)

- Sneaking, Hiding or Lying about gambling
- Change in school or relationship performance because of gambling
- Borrowing money to gamble
- Chasing losses
- Trying to control, cut down or stop without success
- Trying to escape worry or trouble by gambling

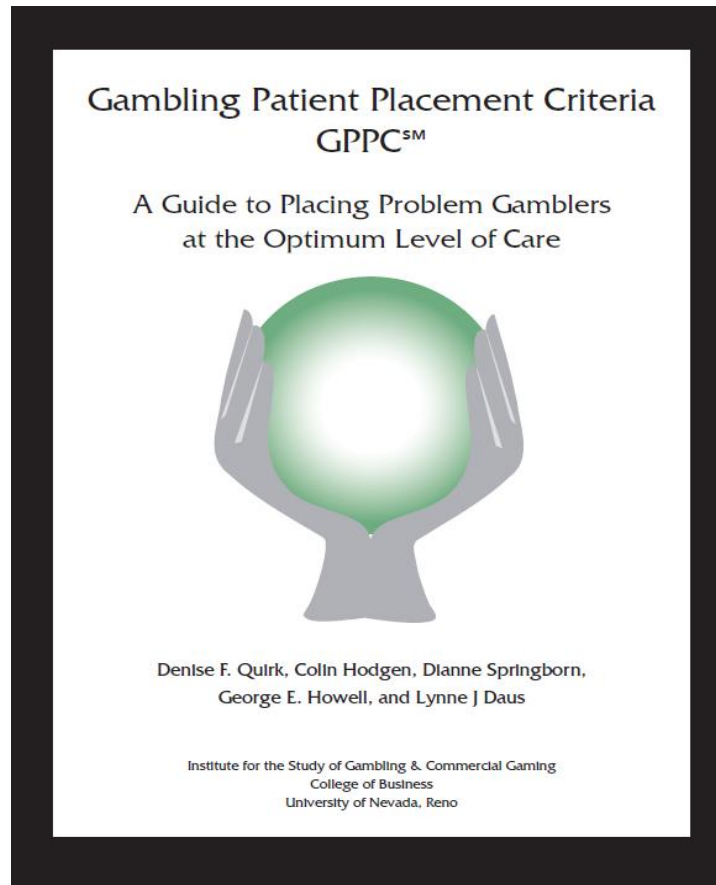
# **ASSESSMENT, defined:**

**“Those procedures by which a clinician evaluates an individual’s strengths, resources, preferences, limitations, problems and needs, and determines priorities so that an individualized treatment plan can be developed.”**

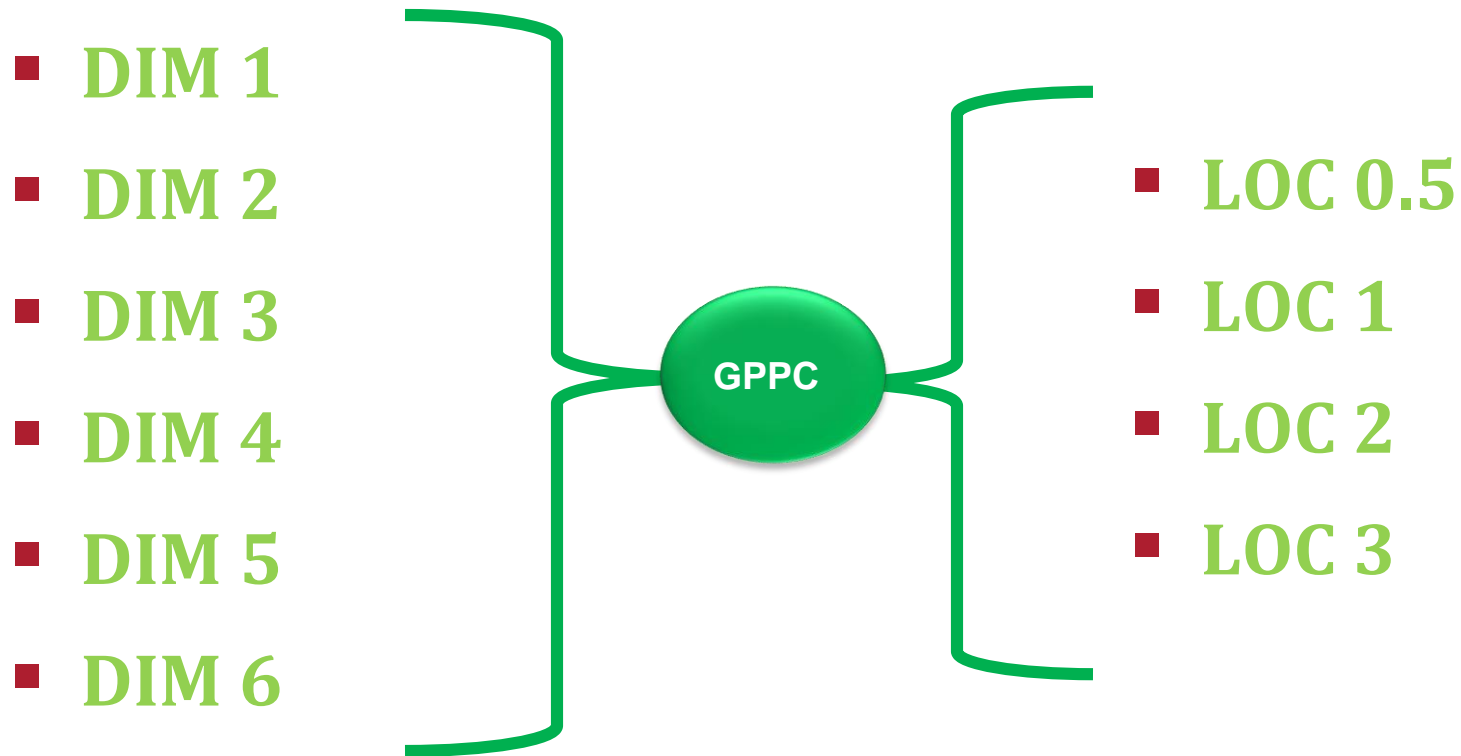
***(The ASAM Criteria, 2013, p. 413)***



# The GPPC®: A Modern Screening and Assessment Tool



# The GPPC<sup>®</sup> Process



# The GPPC Form

- Demographics
- Dimensional Criteria with Severity Level
- Driving Dimensions
- Vulnerabilities/Strengths
- Suicidality/Threat to Self & Others
- Assessment Instruments & Results
- Reports Made / Consents Given
- Disposition/Follow-up/Appt/Reinterview
- Provisional Tx Plan & Discharge Criteria

# Dimensional Criteria

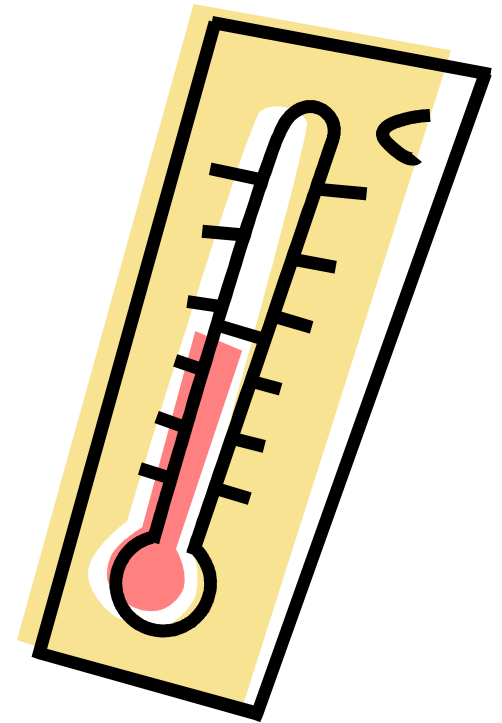
1. Frequency/Intensity/Duration  
of the Disorder
2. Biomedical Conditions / Complications
3. Cognitive/Behavioral/Emotional Conditions
4. Readiness to Change
5. History/Potential of  
Relapse/Continued Problem
6. Recovery/Living Environment

# Severity Scale

High– Significant Impediment to Treatment

Moderate – Moderate Symptoms

Low – No significant impairment  
or distress



# Our Working Hypothesis

- 3 or more Dimensions rated High
  - May suggest Residential or Inpatient care
- 2 Dimensions rated High
  - May suggest Intensive Outpatient care
- Any Dimension rated High
  - May suggest Outpatient care
- Levels of care (LOC) have varying levels of intensity

# 2015 Nevada DHHS Problem Gambling Treatment Grantee Levels of Service

Grantee	Outpatient (primary)	Outpatient	IOP (primary)	IOP	Residential (primary)	Residential
LV Problem Gambling Center		X	X			
Reno Problem Gambling Center		X	X			
Bristlecone		X		X	X	
Pathways	X			X		
New Frontier		X	X			X

# Nevada Gambling Treatment Providers

- **Outpatient:** Reno Problem Gambling Center (RPGC); RENEGADE Counseling (Reno); Bristlecone Family Resources (Reno, GATE Program); New Frontier Treatment Center (Fallon); Problem Gambling Center (LV); Pathways (LV)
- **Evaluations:** RPGC; PGC (LV), Pathways (LV), RENEGADE (Reno); Aloha (Reno); Lynne Daus Evaluations (Reno); Bristlecone (Reno); New Frontier Treatment Center (Fallon); Red Hawk Counseling (Reno)
- **Intensive Outpatient:** RPGC (Reno); Bristlecone (Reno); New Frontier (Reno); Problem Gambling Center (LV); Pathways (LV)
- **Residential:** Bristlecone (Reno); New Frontier (Fallon)



# Issues, Resources

- Luck vs Skill
  - Predominant factor test
  - Any chance test
- Fantasy Sports
  - \$20B est. by 2020
  - 56M participants (current)
- UIGEA – Unlawful Internet Gambling Enforcement Act (2006)
- Gambling and the Law<sup>®</sup> - I. Nelson Rose, J.D.  
[www.gamblingandthelaw.com](http://www.gamblingandthelaw.com)

# What Else Helps?

- Gamblers Anonymous
- Gam-Anon
- Counseling
- Medicine
- Faith & Alternative Therapies
- Work
- [www.nevadacouncil.org](http://www.nevadacouncil.org)



# Call the Experts



**775.284.5335**

**Reno Problem Gambling Center**

Denise F. Quirk, M.A.

[dqrpgc@gmail.com](mailto:dqrpgc@gmail.com)

# Thank You UNLV!

