

Gambling from a public health perspective – lessons from tobacco control for the reform of gambling regulation

Monash University is hosting a conference in Melbourne, 10th February 2012 to help support continued efforts to reform gambling regulation.

Recent well-funded campaigns opposing the proposed reforms have succeeded in stalling promised significant advances in poker machines regulation in Australia. There is much to be learnt from this experience and work is needed to revive meaningful reform. A number of leading public health researchers and gambling reform advocates will participate in the conference and workshops, which will focus academic, political and advocacy expertise on issues confronting gambling reform.

Three concurrent workshop sessions will provide opportunities for those interested in advocating for gambling reform to participate in the development of new ways to progress this issue:

1. **Research:** What is the role of researchers in supporting this? How do we ensure research is conducted away from the influence of those with vested interests in gambling?
2. **Advocacy:** What is the role of various groups interested in public health in supporting gambling reform? How can different community groups work together to advocate for gambling reform?
3. **Policy:** What should prevention-focussed gambling reform look like? Why is gambling regulation reform necessary?

This conference will provide a valuable networking opportunity for a broad group of social and public health interests. Those wanting to engage with the current debate and discussions or those keen to learn more about the reform process in an environment where the only vested interest is promoting public health and wellbeing should attend.

Date: Friday February 10th, 2012

Venue: Monash Law Chambers, 555 Lonsdale Street, Melbourne

Cost: Free

1:30-1:45pm **Welcome – Professor Rob Moodie**

1:45-2:30 pm **Keynote address – Dr Charles Livingstone**

2:30-3:30 pm **Workshop sessions (select either research or advocacy or policy)**

3:30-4:00 pm **Break and afternoon tea**

4:00-4:20 pm **Talkback panel – facilitated by Professor Helen Keleher**

4:20-4:45pm **Summary of discussions and actions – Professor Rob Moodie**

Please register your attendance and workshop preference by emailing Darshini.Ayton@monash.edu (please advise of any dietary requirements)

RSVP: Friday Feb 2nd 5pm

Professor Rob Moodie – Conference facilitator



Rob Moodie is Professor in Public Health at the Melbourne School of Population Health. He first worked in refugee health care in the Sudan and later for Congress, the Aboriginal community controlled health service in Central Australia. He was the inaugural Director of Country Support for UNAIDS in Geneva from 1995-98, and was CEO of VicHealth from 1998-2007. From 2007-2012 he was the inaugural Chair of Global Health at the Nossal Institute. He chaired the National Preventative Health Taskforce from 2008-2011 and was a member of the Commission on AIDS in the Pacific. He chairs the technical advisory panel of Avahan, the Gates Foundation's HIV prevention program in India. He has particular interests in non-communicable diseases and HIV/AIDS and teaches a number of courses here and in Mozambique on public health leadership and health promotion. He has co-edited and co-authored 4 books including Promoting Mental Health, Hands on Health Promotion and his latest, Recipes for a Great Life written with Gabriel Gate.

Dr Charles Livingstone - Keynote



Charles Livingstone is a Senior Lecturer and Deputy Head of the Department of Health Social Science at Monash University. He has researched and published numerous articles in the field of gambling studies over the last 14 years, as well as researching and publishing in health financing and public health issues more generally. He was a member of the Australian Government's Ministerial Expert Advisory Group on Gambling (2010-11) and made a number of substantial submissions to the Australian Parliament's Joint Select Committee on Gambling (2010-11), the Senate Committee on Community Affairs Inquiry into Poker Machine legislation (2008), and to the Australian Government's Productivity Commission Inquiries into Gambling (1999 and 2009-10). His qualifications include PhD in Social Theory and Master of Economics degrees.

Professor Helen Keleher - Keynote



Professor Helen Keleher is the President of the Public Health Association of Australia and a public health social scientist at the School of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Monash University. She holds a Joint Chair in Health Equity with Inner South Community Health Service. She is editor and author of several books on the determinants of health, health promotion and health systems, and dozens of journal articles and book chapters. From 2005-8 she was a member of the Women and Gender Equity Knowledge Network of the Commission on the Social Determinants of Health.