

What is the role of parents in youth gambling?

We surveyed 1,185 parents and caregivers of teenagers (aged 12 to 17 years) to understand parents' attitudes and behaviours towards teenage gambling and what works to prevent harm.

2 of 3 parents who gambled did so with their teenager



This increases the teenagers' risk of gambling harm.

Parents most commonly gambled with their teenagers on:



Scratchies



Keno



Online betting



Informal betting



Fantasy sports betting

Parental behaviour affects teen gambling risks

Behaviours that **increase risk** include:



Gambling with a teenager present.
(1 in 5 parents)



Letting a teenager use their online gambling account, or giving a teenager money to gamble.
(1 in 10 parents)



Talking about gambling wins with a teenager.
(1 in 3 parents)



Asking a teen to pick 'lucky numbers' in Keno or lotteries.
(1 in 3 parents)

Parental views shape teen gambling risks

Views that **increase risk** include:

"Gambling is a good way to relieve boredom."
(1 in 6 parents)

"Gambling can be profitable if you know the game."
(1 in 4 parents)

"It is ok for teenagers to play gambling games online if it is not for money."
(1 in 3 parents)

"It is ok for teenagers to gamble occasionally."
(1 in 5 parents)



What parents can do to help

- Be a good role model.
- Do not gamble around your teen or help them gamble.
- Have a conversation about the risks associated with gambling.
- Supervise your teen, particularly online.

Based on Dittman, Gossner, Hing, Rockloff, Browne, Russell & Lole. (2022). The Role of Parents in Youth Gambling. Office of Responsible Gambling. Visit gambleaware.nsw.gov.au for information about supporting young people and to read more about our research.