

Review of: "[Review] Criminology review of the crime of gambling case in Batam City"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Overall a very good article on an important issue. However, there are a few issues I would like to note.

- In the introduction I would of liked to of first seen a discussion about gambling and the importance of the topic in Indonesia. Gambling is not mentioned until paragraph five, as initially the introduction talks about the law and crime in Indonesia. It would be good to start off with the problem around gambling in Indonesia, then speak generally about the law in the country.
- Coming from Australia, I find it interesting that gambling is illegal in Indonesia as here in Australia and several other countries it is legal and regulated. Perhaps have a few sentences providing the context of gambling laws in Indonesia compared to some other countries.
- Overall I found the methodology chapter very good, good description of what the article aims to do. The analysis section was also very good.
- I felt that in some parts the expression was a little unclear, or could be improved a little so it sounded more academic. Occasionally phrasing was used which felt a little awkward, such as saying the community is "very disrupted" from gambling. In other instances, there are more suitable words. For example often the word "circles" is used when referring to certain categories, eg "circles of everyday life" or "gambling spreading to all circles of society", I think a more appropriate word there would be "aspects"
- Regarding the above note, occasionally the writing seemed a little too informal, such as saying "gambling must be stopped." This seems a little informal for academic writing. Instead, after presenting the appropriate research a better phrase might be "this research suggests that gambling is harmful to the community and that strategies need to be implemented to minimise future harm".
- On my note above about jurisdictions where gambling is legal and regulated, I would be interested to see a paragraph highlighting the differences in a country that has illegal gambling such as Indonesia versus a country that has legal gambling. Does legal gambling promote more harm with advertising? Also, from a criminology perspective, legal gambling can open up issues for criminals such as money laundering and loan sharking, which is interesting as I imagine if a country bans gambling it would be hard to launder money through gambling.
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- Overall a very good article and I recommend it is published, but a few amendments are recommended as indicated above.

