

EXPLORING THE INFLUENCE OF ONLINE GAMBLING ON CRIME RATES IN BARANGAY COMMONWEALTH QUEZON CITY.

ABSTRACT

AUTHORS

Keeven Inferido
Banjo Miranda
John Ragel
Mharbong Revilla
Edwin Saladaga

RESEARCH ADVISER

Eduardo E. Villaruel, MSCJ

AFFILIATION

Bestlink College of the
Philippines

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Criminology

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This study aims to explore the influence of online gambling on crime rates among residents of Barangay Commonwealth, Quezon City. The research seeks to understand how factors such as anonymity, lack of regulation, and accessibility of online gambling platforms contribute to criminal behavior within the community. By identifying these connections, the study intends to inform local authorities and stakeholders about the risks associated with online gambling and its potential impact on public safety. This study utilizes a descriptive quantitative research design. A purposive sampling technique was employed to select 50 residents of Barangay Commonwealth as respondents. Prior to data collection, permission was secured from the research adviser. Respondents were invited to answer a structured questionnaire distributed via Google Forms. The questionnaire focused on key aspects of online gambling, including accessibility, regulatory gaps, and social consequences. Data were analyzed using weighted mean and percentage techniques, with findings organized and interpreted based on the study's problem statements. The results revealed consistently high agreement among respondents regarding the relationship between online gambling and crime-related factors. Specifically, the average weighted mean scores were: Anonymity (3.56), Lack of Regulation (3.48), Easy Access (3.72), Financial Strain (3.58), and Social Isolation (3.76), all interpreted as "Strongly Agree." These findings indicate a significant perceived link between online gambling and the rise in criminal activity in the barangay, with respondents recognizing it as a growing community concern. The findings suggest that online gambling contributes to an increased risk of criminal behavior, particularly among vulnerable individuals in the community. The study highlights the importance of awareness campaigns targeting youth and families to prevent gambling-related issues. Criminologists may use these insights to better understand the behavioral patterns associated with gambling-related offenses. Furthermore, parents and educators are encouraged to promote responsible online behavior and guide young individuals in avoiding exposure to harmful gambling content. The study also calls for improved regulation and monitoring of online gambling platforms to protect communities from its adverse effects.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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