

COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ANTI GAMBLING LAW: A PROPOSAL

ABSTRACT

AUTHORS

Armand Ambrosio
Mark Adrian Cruz
Josh Bryan Cusay
Andri Germono
Jade Samillano

RESEARCH ADVISER

Gemenelle Agsoy

AFFILIATION

Bestlink College of the
Philippines

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This study investigates the enforcement of Presidential Decree 1602 in Barangay Gulod, Quezon City, as a means of curbing illegal gambling. Despite the presence of anti-gambling laws, underground betting and online platforms persist, creating financial strain, family conflict, and community disorder. Guided by the Cyber-Routine Activity Theory, the research situates illegal gambling within the broader context of digital deviance, emphasizing the convergence of motivated offenders, suitable targets, and the absence of capable guardians. A quantitative research design was employed, involving 50 purposively selected respondents: 10 barangay officials, 10 law enforcers, and 30 residents. Data were gathered through validated questionnaires, interviews, and focus group discussions, then analyzed using frequency distribution, percentage, weighted mean, and ranking. Findings revealed that PD 1602 has been moderately effective in reducing illegal gambling. Enforcement efforts were hindered by limited manpower, inadequate training, and insufficient resources, particularly in addressing online gambling. Community awareness campaigns showed positive outcomes, yet gaps remained in sustained education and outreach. Collaborative efforts among barangay officials, police, and national agencies were present but inconsistent, limiting long-term effectiveness. The study concludes that punitive measures alone are insufficient. A comprehensive approach—combining enforcement, preventive education, and inter-agency collaboration—is essential for sustainable reduction of illegal gambling and the promotion of community safety. Practical recommendations are offered for policymakers, law enforcers, and local officials, while the study also serves as a reference for future criminological research.

RECOMMENDED CITATION

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