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We all know what gambling is. It is the chance of getting a cash quickly, or lose cash quickly. Minnesota as a state has very few forms of gambling legal. Minnesota should stay this way because gambling is a very addictive past time. It will also forever change the way we see sports, and online gambling is dangerous.

Gambling is a very addictive past time. Lia Nower, a professor and director of the Center for Gambling Studies and the Addiction Counselor Training Certificate Program at Rutgers University School of Social Work, says, "the more acceptable and accessible gambling is, the more people will gamble." In Minnesota, the only forms of gambling that are legal are charitable gambling like pull-tabs, paddlewheels, tipboards, bingo, raffles, pari-mutuel betting on horse races, and tribal betting. We are currently ranked 30 for gambling addiction in the US. With it becoming legal, we will see a massive increase to gambling advertisement. This will cause an increase of people gambling, and end up being addicted. About 2% of adults, roughly six million people, have a gambling problem in a given year across the US. Half of those adults have a serve problem with gambling, and most of those gamblers are not getting the help they need.

Gambling will change how people view sports. People will start watching sports only to see if they won their bet instead of caring about the game. It can also cause players to throw the game in favor of someone's bet. In 1919, New York Giants stars Hal Chase and Heinie Zimmerman were both blacklisted for bribing teammates to throw game. That is only one of the cases of bribery to throw games during the time it was legal to bet on sports. This could also happen to college sports, and the college athletes could be exploited. Even if we legalize it, the

NCAA will most likely oppose us, and not have games in the state. In 2009, when Delaware tried to legalize sports betting, the NCAA threatened to move any postseason games out of the state.

Online gambling is a dangerous form of gambling because you don't know who is on the other end. In Minnesota, online sports betting and online casinos that take your money and offer prizes via the web are illegal. When you send money, you are giving your personal financial and banking information to unknown people that may or may not be licensed or regulated. If they would take your money, there is no recourse for it. There are a few concerns with online gambling and fraud. People could be using multiple accounts on some of these gambling sites to increase their chances of winning, or you could have the others in the game throw the match for you. Some gambling sites could have a sign-in bonus to promote returning customers, and people can abuse that system.

All forms of gambling should not be legalized in Minnesota. It is a very addictive past time, it will change how we view sports, and the dangers of online gambling. If you or anyone one you know is addicted to gambling, please help them through it. Gambling addiction can be a serious problem. There are quite a few websites out there that could help you and or them though the process.

Works Cited

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