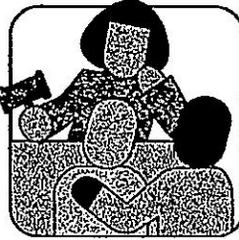


Spanking, Discipline and Punishment in Canada

Christine Flynn, York University



On January 30, 2004 the Supreme Court of Canada ruled that parents can spank or use force on their children provided that it is minimal, reasonable and not the product of frustration. The Canadian Foundation for Children, Youth and the Law sought an amendment to Section 43 of the Criminal Code which states that, "Every school teacher, parent or person standing in the place of a parent is justified in using force by way of correction toward a pupil or child, as the case may be, who is under his care, if the force does not exceed what is reasonable under the circumstances." The group's appeal was based on several arguments: that the law violates the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms and the terms of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child; and that research has demonstrated that physical punishment has no beneficial long term effects, and is in fact associated with long-term risk. In essence, the group was challenging the exemption under the Criminal Code charge of assault that allows children to be harmed in a way that adults cannot be. The Court did however set limits on the use of physical punishment. "Corporal punishment" is outlawed for children under the age of 2 and for teenagers. In addition, the use of objects, and slaps or blows to the head are not allowed. Teachers on the other hand, can no longer use corporal punishment, however they may restrain pupils to gain compliance with their instructions.

Many in North America, as well as abroad still feel that physical punishment should be illegal. For instance, 11 countries have already abolished physical punishment in all settings: Sweden, Finland, Norway, Austria, Denmark, Latvia, Croatia, Israel, Germany, and Iceland. As well, research has shown that few parents believe that physical punishment is effective. In 1988, only 2% of parents surveyed believed that physical punishment was the most effective way to change children's behaviour. And, although these results may be somewhat attributed to socially desirability; studies have shown that most parents believe that physical punishment is unnecessary and harmful. In the case of child

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the ONTABA ANALYST

Ontaba

The Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis

An Affiliate Chapter of The Association for Behavior Analysis International

Caroll Drummond, Editor, Production Manager, Submissions

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From the President's Desk

Rosemary Condillac
RACK Consulting
ONTABA President



I am happy to report that the board of ONTABA is well on the way to meeting our objectives for 2004. As you will see in each committee update, we are looking for volunteers to assist with several strategic directions for ONTABA this year. Please consider making time to be involved in the organization. We are able to take advantage of e-meetings, and teleconferences so please don't let geography interfere with your eagerness to participate.

In January 2004, Sheila Swartz, a newly-elected member-at-large stepped down from the board. The board has appointed Nancy Warren, an instructor-therapist from TPAS, who is currently completing her Master's degree in ABA through the University of Nevada, Reno. Welcome Nancy, and thank you for stepping in so quickly.

You will notice some changes to our committees. We have decided to split the membership & recruitment committee into two separate committees in order to expand our recruitment efforts. We have created an elections committee to focus succession planning. We have also created a webpage task-force, with the goal of unveiling a new webpage at the next AGM. We have put a "pause" on the notion of a communications committee, until we have the other operational aspects rolling. We have accepted the final report from the Education Task Force, and will be developing a plan for implementation of the recommendations.

In addition to the annual conference, we are interested in sponsoring or co-sponsoring some events for our membership who do not live and work within the GTA. Previously, we have co-sponsored events in Kingston. We are interested in expanding this to other parts of the province where ONTABA members are working and living. Please email me at rackconsulting@sympatico.ca if you have ideas for a workshop in your area.

In the next few weeks, look for a special mailing from ONTABA. This mailing will include a call for nominations for members to the Transitional Certification Panel (TCP) that was outlined in the Strategic Plan Document for Certification. Start thinking about who you can nominate to these important positions. In addition to the elected positions from the general membership, we will be appointing some members of the previous certification committee and the current board. We will also be looking for members from the general public who can add to our expertise (e.g., legal, financial), and make sure that we are considering the public interest as we proceed. If you know anyone who might be looking to do some pro-bono work, please pass on their contact information to the board.

In closing, I would like to recognize the hard work and dedication of Caroll Drummond. Caroll has been the editor of the Analyst for many years, and continues to find creative ways to fill the pages with interesting information, and generate funds for the organization. Thank you for another great issue, Caroll.

ONTABA

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2003-2004

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Bill Kirby
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Maurice Feldman
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ONTABA Committee Updates

ONTABA COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Conference Committee:

Conference Chairs: Shiri Bartman and Nancy Warren are the conference co-chairs for the 2004 conference. Anyone wishing to help with the conference please contact Shiri at 416-925-5141 or sbartman@tpas.ca. See inside this issue for Conference 2003: Summary of Participant Evaluation.

Elections Committee Update:

Board Liaison: Dorothy Wemer

For this year's elections (2004) we will be looking for nominations for Treasurer, 3 member-at-large positions, and 1 student representative. Please start thinking about running for a position, or about who you would like to nominate to your board of directors.

We are currently seeking members to sit on the Elections Committee to do succession planning. This committee can meet by e-mail and conference calls so representation from across the province is encouraged and enabled. Please contact Dorothy to volunteer.

Membership Committee:

Board Liaison: Mary McMillan
Chairperson: Amy Barker / Angela Burgess

Total Members for 2004 to date are 139. There are 21 new Members, 105 renewing Members and 13 returning Members.

Of these Members there are 19 Sustaining Members, 98 Full Members, 18 Student Members, 3 Affiliate Members and 1 Member Emeritus (Dr. Larry Williams).

Please note that if your contact information changes, please let us know so that we can forward your ONTABA materials to you.

A reminder: if you are asked by a colleague about membership forms, these are now available on the ONTABA website at www.sl.on.ca/ONTABA

Recruitment Committee:

Board Liaison: Lianne Tackaberry
This committee's activities will focus on attracting new ONTABA members. It would benefit all members to have representation on this committee from across the province. To enhance this effort, meetings will be held via e-mail and conference calls. Please contact Lianne to get involved.

Newsletter Committee:

Board Liaison: James Porter
Editor: Carol Drummond

This is our tenth year of the ONTABA ANALYST! As promised in the last issue, the Conference Committee has provided us with the participant evaluation data from Conference 2003. Thanks to Mary McMillan.

The educational opportunity series featuring schools in Ontario that offer programs in ABA will continue in the next issue of the Analyst. In May, Andrew McNamara, Coordinator of the Behavioural Science Technology Program at George Brown College, will inform readers of their educational program.

Thanks to Christine Flynn, York University, and Brian Carlson and Thomas Appleyard of the Problem Gambling Service at The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Toronto, for their timely articles for our readers.

As always, we encourage you to send in your article submissions and hope to see more authors of posters and presentations from the 2003 ONTABA Conference share their work in the ANALYST in the upcoming year.

Webpage Task Force

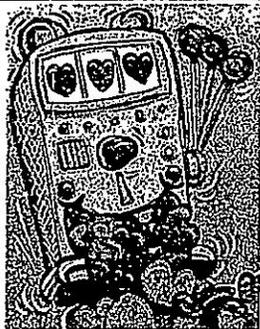
Board Liaison: Katrina MacDonald
Webmaster: Janet Valcourt

We are currently looking for volunteers to join the committee. Our goal is to launch a new webpage at the 2004 ONTABA Conference so this will be a very energized and efficient committee. Please contact Katrina or Janet.

Contact information for Committees and the Task Force are on the back cover page of each issue of the ONTABA Analyst

Problem Gambling in Ontario

Brian Carlson & Thomas Appleyard



Gambling in Ontario has undergone a major transformation in the past decade. Many years after exceptions for some types of gambling were introduced to the Criminal Code of Canada, Casino Windsor became Ontario's first casino in 1994. Ontarians now legally gamble in bingo halls, on the Internet, at casinos or horse tracks or by playing lotteries, scratch tickets, pull-tab tickets or slot machines.

By gambling, people take the chance of losing money or belongings, and winning is decided entirely or mostly randomly. A recent Statistics Canada study (Marshall & Wynne, 2003) found that 75% of adults in Ontario gambled at least once in 2002. The most common form of gambling was purchasing lottery tickets, with 64% of people reporting this activity.

Gambling is a recreational activity for most people; however, many develop serious problems associated with their gambling. The Statistics Canada study reported that 6.5% of people who gamble met or were deemed to be at-risk to meet their criteria for problem gambling. When this criteria is met, gambling negatively affects family members, health, finances and employment, and people often have a great deal of difficulty stopping or curbing their gambling. Anyone can be at risk for problem gambling; however, some people are at higher risk than others. Research suggests that adolescents are much more likely to develop problems with gambling (e.g., Mandal & Doelen, 1999) and males are more likely to gamble excessively (e.g., Wiebe et al., 2001). One of the most salient factors for determining risk of developing gambling problems is the type of game played.

Cognitive Distortions – What are they?

Problem gambling is considered to be a highly cognitive disorder as some people have the distorted belief that they can control the outcome of gambling situations. Many people have their own beliefs, feelings and rituals that have been reinforced throughout their lives. Beliefs such as seeing a black cat as bad luck, not walking under a ladder or touching wood for good luck are common in many societies. Many people who gamble also experience erroneous beliefs and these are referred to as cognitive distortions. People who gamble problematically possess exceptionally powerful belief systems and it is these strong beliefs that contribute to the problems they experience. What appears to be at the core of these beliefs is that gamblers believe they can control or accurately predict the outcomes of events that are governed by chance.

These beliefs vary from person to person and may include:

Magnification of Skill

Players believe that they have exceptional skill at games.

Personalization

Some people believe they can form relationships with games.

Attribution Biases

Linking unrelated events as if they are causal.

Memory Biases

Accurate recollection of winning times with little recognition of losses.

Superstitious Beliefs

Cognitive – Belief that certain states of mind can influence outcomes.

Behavioural – Belief that rituals and actions can influence outcomes.

Talismanic – Possession of certain objects can influence outcomes.

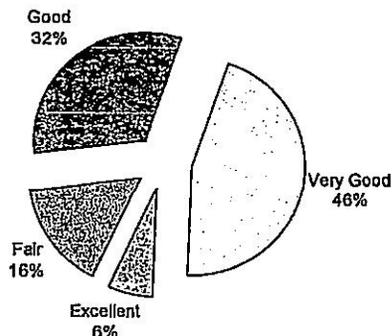
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Conference 2003 : Summary of Participant Evaluation

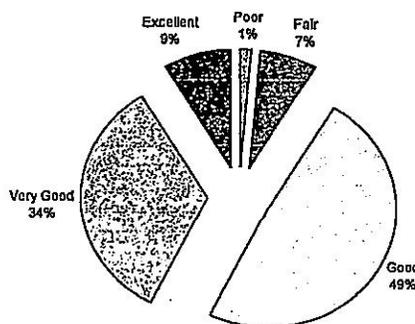
Mary McMillan

The Eleventh Annual Conference was organized by Rosalina De Sa and Kimberly Harris, and the Board Liaison was Shelly Hockley. Their hard work clearly paid off, as the feedback for many aspects of the conference was very positive. The responses from 68 participants are summarized in the graphs below.

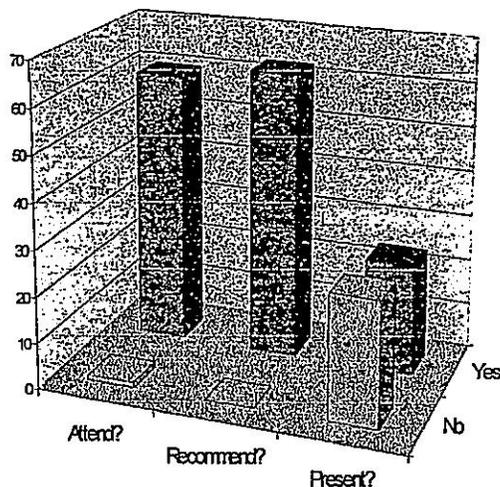
Overall rating



Conference Format



Would you...

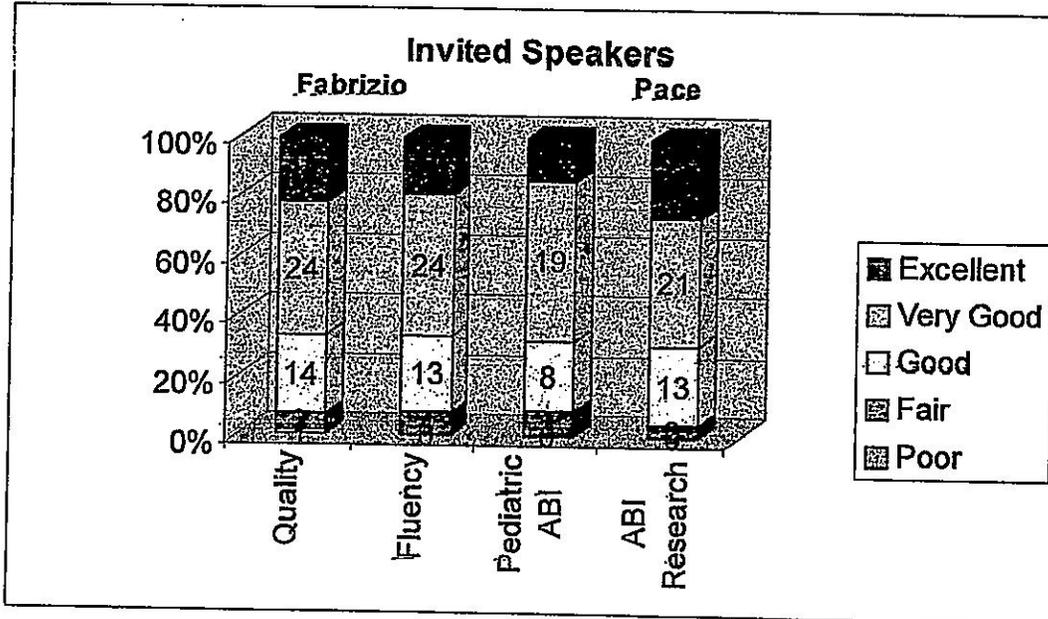


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Conference 2003 Pictures- *Mistaken Identities*

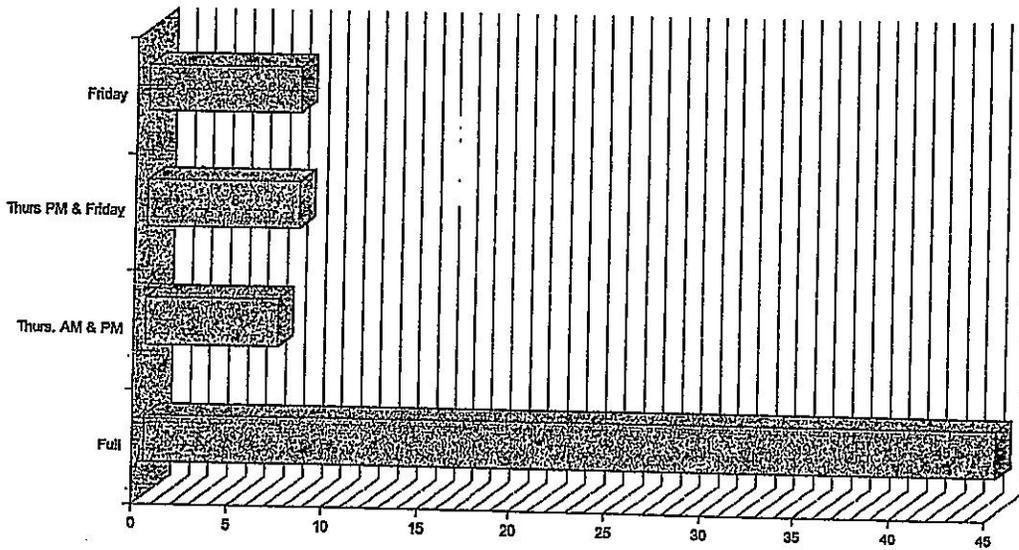


In the previous issue of the ONTABA Analyst I misidentified Len Levin (L) as Michael Fabrizio (R) and regretfully did not publish the picture of Mr. Fabrizio. Thanks to both of you for your Conference 2003 contributions and sorry to both of you for the error. The Editor.



A majority of those who completed evaluations rated the featured speakers – Michael Fabrizio and Dr. Gary Pace as very good or excellent. In addition, feedback for other presentations was consistently positive. The majority of those who responded rated the overall conference and the format as good or very good. Almost all of those who replied indicated that they would attend a future conference and that they would recommend the conference to their colleagues.

Evaluations by Sessions



It was great to see the number of respondents who indicated a willingness to present at future conferences. We hope that, when the call for papers goes out in the near future, those of you who indicated an interest will submit a paper for presentation!

Responses related to location and venue suggested that it would be better to have the conference closer to the hotel and closer to downtown. It was also suggested that there be tables for meals and for note taking.

Feedback regarding sessions and topics included having concurrent sessions; broadening the populations covered to include young offenders, Conduct Disorders, applications of ABA with adults (drinking, social skills, etc.) and seniors with Alzheimer's or dementia. The application of ABA in community settings, Cognitive Behaviour Therapy, concrete steps toward the certification system, research in verbal behaviour and establishing operations were other ideas that were mentioned. These comments will be considered by the planning committee for the 12th Annual Conference this year.

The Conference Committee Co-Chairs for 2004 are Shiri Bartman & Nancy Warren. Anyone wishing to help with the conference please contact Shiri at 416-925-5141 or sbartman@tpas.ca.

Thanks to all the presenters and those who submitted posters. Thanks also to all who attended the conference and took the time to complete the evaluations and share your thoughts. Your feedback is very helpful.

Continued from pg 1 - *Spanking, Discipline and Punishment...*

welfare investigations, child abuse has occurred as the result of inappropriate punishment (e.g., hitting with hand or object) that has led to physical harm, or put the child at substantial risk of harm. In summary, in response to the Supreme Court's recent decision, the Canadian Pediatric Society has recommended that its "physicians strongly discourage disciplinary spanking and all other forms of physical punishment."

What are the long-term risks are associated with physical punishment?

According to the Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare, physical punishment has been linked to several negative developmental outcomes:

- Physical injury
- Impaired parent-child relationships (specifically avoiding the parent)
- Poorer mental health (depression, unhappiness and anxiety, and feelings of hopelessness)
- Weaker moral internalization (less likely to resist temptation, show altruism, or respond empathically)
- Increased aggression (against peers, siblings, and parents)
- Antisocial behaviour (delinquency, bullying, lying, and lack of remorse tend to increase over the long term)
- Poorer adult adjustment (aggression, antisocial and criminal behaviour, and violence against family members) in adulthood
- Greater tolerance of violence

Guidelines for Parents

According to the Canadian Pediatric Society, discipline is about changing the behaviour, not about punishing the child. The Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth was developed by a partnership of Canadian organizations. Based on their research they have suggested several ways in which parents can use rules and limits to promote effective discipline:

- Reinforce desirable behaviour
- Avoid making threats and nagging without consequences
- Apply rules consistently
- Ignore unimportant or irrelevant behaviour (e.g., swinging legs under the table)
- Set reasonable and consistent limits
- State acceptable and appropriate behaviour that is attainable
- Prioritize rules – give safety top priority, then turn to behaviour such as whining, tantrumming
- Know and accept age-appropriate behaviour
- Allow for child's temperament and individuality

There are also some helpful suggestions for applying consequences including:

- Apply consequences as soon as possible
- Do not argue with your child during the correction process
- Make the consequences brief
- Parents should mean what they say and avoid shouting at the child
- Ensure that the child knows the correction is directed at the *behaviour* and *not* the *child*

Unanswered Questions

Many questions and ambiguities still remain. For instance, what does "reasonable" mean? How do we objectively define and measure reasonable force? Certainly like most things in life, there are individual interpretations, diverse cultural values and personal meanings associated with the term "reasonable". Perhaps what is reasonable to one person is inappropriate, too harsh or extreme, or potentially too mild for someone else. These contrasting messages of when hitting is appropriate may be confusing for children. As well, the Supreme Court indicated that physical punishment should not be used as an outcome of parental frustration or anger. However, experience suggests that for some individuals spanking is the direct result of these emotions.

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What issues does this legislation raise for ONTABA Members?

Many ONTABA members work with children with developmental disabilities and other special needs groups. Studies have shown that children with developmental delays are much more likely to experience maltreatment than other children. For instance, studies indicate that as many as 10-25% of children with a developmental disability are likely to experience maltreatment (Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare, 2004). That being said, there are clear differences between the use of punishment in treatment situations and physical abuse. Punishment occurs when behaviour is followed by a consequence that results in a decrease in the future probability of the behaviour. Positive punishment involves the presentation of an aversive stimulus, which is unpleasant to the individual. Positive punishment involves the application of an unpleasant consequence contingent on the performance of an undesirable behaviour. These can include strategies such as: over-correction, positive practice, restitution, contingent exercise, guided compliance, and physical or manual restraint. Practitioners who use these techniques must ensure that the procedure can be carried out without harm to the client and/or therapist/instructor.

As is clear in the ONTABA Standards of Practice, aversive techniques should only be used as a last resort, after less intrusive, positive behavioural support (e.g. differential reinforcement, antecedent manipulations) have not yielded a necessary decrease in serious problem behaviour. One should also consider the function of the behaviour *before* deciding upon treatment, and data should be collected in order to make these decisions regarding treatment. Finally, it is important to address the ethical considerations of using punishment.

Ethical Considerations of Using Punishment (Miltenberger, 2004)

a) Informed Consent

- Only adults can give informed consent. Thus, in the case of children or an adult who cannot give consent, a legal guardian/representative must give consent **before** the procedure is implemented. A person should be fully informed and willing to agree to the procedure. This includes understanding the procedure, the rationale for its use, when it will be used, its intended effects and side effects, and possible alternative treatments.

b) Alternative Treatments

- As previously mentioned, a punishment procedure should not be the first choice in treatment.

c) Recipient Safety

- A punishment procedure should never result in harm to the client. For instance, if using physical guidance, the therapist/instructor should be sure not to harm the client in the process of physically guiding the behaviour.

d) Problem Severity

- There may be times when punishment procedures will need to be considered. Specifically, these procedures should be reserved for severe problem behaviours such as when the problem behaviour threatens the client's well being or others.

e) Implementation Guidelines

- Strict written guidelines are required when using punishment procedures. This ensures that there are no ambiguities about the procedure.

f) Training and Supervision

- All staff, teachers, and any other personnel involved in implementation of the procedure must receive behavioural skills training in the correct use of the procedure (e.g., instructions, modeling, opportunity for rehearsal, feedback). In addition, personnel should only be allowed to implement the procedure when they have demonstrated competence. Ongoing supervision is imperative!

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Continued from pg.8- *Spanking, Discipline and Punishment...*

g) Peer Review

- A peer review panel should evaluate the procedure and approve if it is well designed and justified. The panel should include professionals from the field of behaviour analysis/modification.

h) Accountability: Preventing Misuse and Overuse

- Due to the fact that punishment procedures can be negatively reinforcing because of the termination of the problem behaviour – there is always the risk of misuse. As a result, the data on the problem behaviour and the use of punishment should be frequently reviewed in order to increase accountability.

It is important to be aware of Ontario Child and Family Services Act (CFSA). According to CFSA section 72(1), if a person has reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is or may be in need of protection, the person must promptly report the suspicion and the information upon which it is based to a children's aid society. In addition, the ONTABA Standards of Practice for Behaviour Analysts in Ontario, states that, "the least intrusive/restrictive model should be followed".

Websites

Canadian Pediatric Society

<http://www.cps.ca/english/statements/PP/pp04-01.htm>

Supreme Court Decision

<http://www.lexum.umontreal.ca/csc-scc/en/com/2004/html/04-01-09.2.html>

Centre of Excellence for Child Welfare

<http://www.cecw-cepb.ca>

Joint Statement on Physical Punishment of Children and Youth

<http://www.cheo.on.ca/english/1100.html>

Reporting Child Abuse and Neglect

<http://www.children.gov.on.ca/CS/en/programs/ChildProtection/Publications/repChAbuse.htm>

Continued from pg.4- *Problem Gambling in Ontario*

Gambler's Fallacy

A belief that a loss is not a loss. A belief in the laws of averages that the loss only reinforces that a win is imminent.

There are other types of cognitive distortions experienced when gambling becomes problematic. Some players report that they lose all sense of commitment to other activities and continue to rationalize their behaviour for themselves. They appear to be driven to meet their own needs regardless of the consequences.

Another concern is that players often equate their own self-worth with money. With money there is a feeling of omnipotence and this is reinforced in the manner they are treated when winning. When winning, other players may comment on their apparent skill and good play and the house may offer them complimentary items to entice them to keep playing.

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Approaches to Counselling

As individuals continue to engage in gambling behaviors, the factors mentioned above continue to reinforce these behaviours and in many cases the extent of problems experienced increases. There are several approaches to counselling for problem gambling and these include behavioural therapy, cognitive therapy and solution focus brief therapy. Many counsellors use a multi-faceted strategy when working with people with gambling problems and will integrate components of the above-mentioned approaches. It usually includes components of cognitive restructuring, rebuilding life skills, motivational techniques and helping clients identify and develop appropriate coping strategies for high-risk situations. The approaches will vary from individual to individual as the counsellor assesses other aspects of the person's situation.

At the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health's Problem Gambling Service clients participate in cognitive behavioural therapy or CBT. In an effort to reinforce an internal locus of control counsellors use a Decisional Matrix and the Antecedent – Behaviour – Consequence (ABC) model to help clients understand that they can identify and control their triggers to gambling. In the ABC model clients are encouraged to identify their trigger (Antecedent), their reaction to this trigger (Behaviour) and the negative and positive outcomes of their behaviour (Consequences). The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health has developed an Inventory of Gambling Situations (IGS) to assist clients and counsellors to identify antecedents. It helps develop an individualized profile of gambling behaviour by identifying high-risk situations in the past year that triggered a gambling episode. The client and counsellor can focus relapse prevention efforts more effectively when these situations, feelings and cognitions are identified. More information about this is available on our website at www.camh.net

The Decisional Matrix allows clients to separate their consequences into long-term or short-term and positive or negative. Using this exercise clients are able to see that the negative consequences of their gambling behaviours generally end up as long-term and the positive advantages are short lived.

Resources

The Ontario government funds problem gambling agencies through the Ministry of Health and Long-Term Care. These include the 45 problem gambling services throughout the province that provide individual, family and group counselling to people who gamble excessively or anyone directly affected by problem gambling. Many of these provide counselling by phone. Many of these services also engage in local prevention activities and are available for clinical consultation. The Ontario Problem Gambling Helpline provides free 24-hour anonymous information to people who are experiencing problems with gambling, their family members or professionals that can link people to appropriate services. These may include crisis, problem gambling credit counselling or health services. Their phone number is 1-888-230-3505.

The Problem Gambling Project at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health works with provincial professional systems such as ONTABA to develop training events and materials to support their work in addressing problem gambling. This project can be reached at Problem_GamblingProject@camh.net.

References

Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (2001). Promoting Community Awareness of Problem Gambling Resource Package. Toronto, ON

Mandal, V.P. & Doelen, C.V. (1999). Chasing Lightning: Gambling in Canada. Etobicoke, ON: United Church Publishing House

Marshall, K. & Wynne, H. (2003). Fighting the odds. Perspectives on Labour and Income (4)12 p5-13

Murray, R.D. (2001) (Ed.) Helping the Problem Gambler. Centre for Addiction and Mental Health: Toronto, ON

Getting connected

ABA International Information

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 ABA Email:
mail@abainternational.org
 Phone: (269) 492-9310
 Fax: (269) 492-9316
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 Kalamazoo, MI 49001

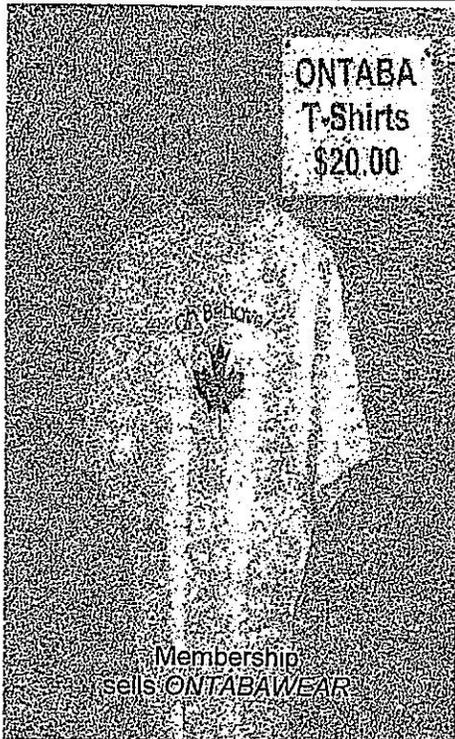
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ONTABA Analyst Submissions

Your newsletter is only as good as your contributions.

The *ONTABA Analyst* is a forum for us to stay connected in many ways. All members are encouraged to submit articles on topics related to behaviour analysis; theoretical, practical or topical issues, perspectives from different regions of the province, jobs or schools, research accounts, news, announcements, your biography, reviews, student practicums, etc.

Article submissions:

We reserve the right to edit without changing the intent of an article, request further editing by the author, publish articles relative to the content of the current Analyst, publish them at a later date with due respect to the timeliness of a given article, or refuse an article. You will be informed of acceptance, rewrite or refusal of an article. Announcements will be published at the discretion of the editor. *ONTABA* will not be held responsible for the views and opinions of *ONTABA Analyst* contributors.

Advertising in the *ONTABA Analyst* is available for a fee payable to *ONTABA* (\$100.00 1/4 pg., \$200.00 1/2 pg., \$300.00 full pg.). Job ads may be posted on the *ONTABA* website for up to 30 days.

Submissions for the next *ONTABA ANALYST*, *Spring Issue* must arrive to Carol Drummond at carolld@sympatico.ca by May 3rd, 2004 for the May 21st, 2004 issue.

Upcoming Conferences and Workshops

International Conferences

- ABA International Conference: May 28-June 1, 2004. Boston, Mass. www.abainternational.org/convention/
- 2nd International ABA Conference: August 12-15, 2004. Campinas, Brazil www.abainternational.org/brazil
- Seventh International Congress on Behavioural Studies: June 22-26, 2004. Engelberg, Switzerland - http://frontpage.auburn.edu/international_congress_on_behaviorism
- 3rd International ABA Conference: November 25-27, 2005. Beijing, China

Ontario Conferences

- Tamara Kasper: March 27. Toronto. www.brookfieldprograms.com
- OADD Conference: April 1-2. Kempenfelt Centre, Barrie. www.oadd.org
- RSIG (OADD): March 31. Kempenfelt Centre, Barrie. www.oadd.org or jweiss1@yorku.ca
- 5th Annual New Haven Conference April 23, 2004. Toronto. www.nhcc.com

Resource Fairs

- Information Fair for Persons with intellectual disabilities living with family or planning to live independently in the community: April 22, 1-7 pm. Surrey Place Centre East Quadrant Office, 10 Milner Business Court, Suite 505, Toronto. Free.
- Mental Health Tune Up Community Resource Fair (sponsored by OPA and CMHA): May 4-5, 10-6 Barbara Frum Atrium, CBC Broadcast Centre, 250 Front Street West, Toronto. Free.



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ONTABA, the Ontario Association for Behaviour Analysis,
is an affiliate Chapter of the Association for Behavior Analysis International.
ONTABA currently has members from professions such as
education, nursing, health care, and psychology.

The objectives of ONTABA are to promote behaviour analysis in the province of Ontario,
to facilitate interactions between professionals engaged in behavioural activities,
to monitor and participate in legal and professional issues related to behaviour analysis,
and to initiate standardized practices and certification of Behaviour Analysts.

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