

Julie Thompson

From: Lauren Jones <campaigns@good.do>
Sent: Thursday, 13 October 2016 9:28 AM
To: fgm
Subject: Submission to the Joint Select Committee on Future Gaming Markets

Dear Members of the Committee,

I'm sure you've been sent numerous statistics regarding the use of pokies around the state, and I imagine that to you these statistics represent numbers, not human beings. I cannot fathom why else pokies are still functioning in Tasmania. I'm 20 years old, and have lived in Glenorchy – Tasmania's "pokies capital" – my whole life. I'm a psychology and behavioural neuroscience major. I have a good understanding of the underlying psychological and neurological processes of addiction. The pokies are constructed to exploit these processes. I find it deplorable that the leaders and policy makers of our state are standing by and letting this exploitation continue, particularly when aware of the extreme effects on our community's most vulnerable and contributes to the cycle of crime and poverty. 20% of the world's gaming machine's are in Australia – let's exclude ourselves from that statistic.

I'm passionate about the people of Tasmania. I'm passionate about caring for the community I've grown up in. I don't want children of future generations to go without because their parents have lost everything to gambling. The costs of pokie machines to our community are just too high for them to continue. You're gambling with people's lives. Please, be compassionate for the people you're supposed to be representing, and ban the pokies.

Please feel welcome to refer to the following peer-reviewed journal articles other perspectives on this issue you may not have considered:

Barrett, J., & Veal, J. (2013). 'Pokie machines ruined my brother': Gambling-associated harm from a New Zealand policy perspective. *Journal Of Applied Law And Policy*, (2013), 12.

How the pokie\$ got me. (2015). *Big Issue Australia*, (498)

Torres, C. A. (2013). Gambling-Machines and the Automation of Desire. *Platform: Journal of Media & Communication*, 5(1), 34.

Nuske, E. M., Holdsworth, L., & Breen, H. (2016). Significant life events and social connectedness in Australian women's gambling experiences. *Nordic Studies On Alcohol & Drugs / Nordisk Alkohol- & Narkotikatidskrift*, 33(1), 7. doi:10.1515/nsad-2016-0002

Yours sincerely, Lauren Jones

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Please reply to Lauren Jones at l.jones@anglicare-tas.org.au.

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