



Trade &
Investment

Office of Liquor, Gaming & Racing



Multi-language DVD to help address problem gambling

A new DVD to address problem gambling from a community perspective has been released in five languages: Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Italian and Vietnamese.

Featuring community members, the free *What's Gambling Really Costing You?* DVD highlights the fact that gambling problems can affect people from any cultural background and provides information about free counselling services and support materials available in-language.

Part of the NSW Government's Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) Problem Gambling Awareness Campaign, the DVD includes interviews with counsellors, doctors and community leaders and emphasises there is no shame in having a problem or seeking professional help.

Launched as part of Responsible Gambling Awareness Week (14-20 May), the *What's Gambling Really Costing You?* DVD appeals to CALD communities by dispelling some of the superstitions surrounding gambling and promoting the free, confidential help available in a range of languages.

In 2010 the NSW Government launched a problem gambling awareness campaign in Arabic, Chinese, Greek, Vietnamese and Italian in partnership with the NSW Multicultural Health Communication Service as part of a \$2.4 million, three-year early intervention and prevention strategy.

Members of culturally diverse communities with gambling problems are encouraged to take that all-important first step and seek help from a range of high quality NSW Government-funded counselling services.

Through the Responsible Gambling Fund, the NSW Government funds the Arab Council Australia at Bankstown, Auburn Asian Welfare Centre at Lidcombe, Co.As.It (the Italian Association of Assistance) at Leichhardt, Newtown's Greek Welfare Centre, the Vietnamese Community in Australia at Cabramatta and the Statewide Multicultural Problem Gambling Service based at North Parramatta, to provide treatment and support for problem gamblers and family and friends affected by problem gambling.

Co.As.It Counsellor Elisabetta Panzironi was involved in the production of the *What's Gambling Really Costing You?* DVD and welcomes it as a valuable resource to assist Italian people with gambling issues.

"Unfortunately stigma and shame related to gambling problems are still dominant issues within the Italian community," says Ms Panzironi. "Too many people are still resistant to seeking professional help when affected by such a severe problem. This DVD has been created to educate and help the Italian community to overcome gambling problems. It aims to encourage people to seek professional help while confidentiality is respected and maintained."

Free Italian DVDs are available by contacting the Co.As.It on (02) 9564 0744 or in person at the centre located Norton Business Centre, Level 1 -Suite 3, 55 Norton Street, Leichhardt NSW.

If you or someone you know show signs of a gambling problem, free help is available. Co.As.It. has professionals that speak Italian and English. They have experience in problem gambling, and operate under a strict code of confidentiality. Family and friends affected by problem gambling are also welcome.

This DVD is also available online at www.youtube.com/gamblinghangover.

For free confidential help 24 hours a day visit www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au or call 1800 858 858.

Is gambling a problem for you
or someone you know?

1800 858 858
www.gamblinghelp.nsw.gov.au

