



International Journal of Research Publication and Reviews

Journal homepage: www.ijrpr.com ISSN 2582-7421

Peer pressure and the longing for more money the reason for betting among youth; A case of Akheri ward at Arumeru District Arusha Tanzania.

Qamara Rose

Tengeru Institute of Community Development, Arusha Tanzania

ABSTRACT:

The overall objective of this study was to assess youth reasons for youth participation in football betting and its impact on the community. Through questionnaires and interviews, the findings show that youth participate in betting for various reasons; financial desire, desire for more money without working, poverty. It was discovered that peer pressure and longing for more money were the leading reasons for betting in the study area. Moreover, laziness to engage in other productive activities and school absenteeism are the consequences of sports betting in the study areas.

I recommend that the government should regulate betting by having specific timing of opening of the betting places. Also, the youths should be motivated to come up with creative ideas which should be enhanced to create self-employment for the youth and help to curb involvement in football betting to earn income.

Keywords: sport betting, peer pressure, youth, financial desires

Betting Activities Worldwide

Gambling has been legalized in many countries in the world since the 1970s (Aragay et al. 2021). However, it is believed to bring mental health issues if not regulated. The main issue around gambling is the failure of antigambling laws and the more questions around it (Volberg, 2018).

Betting has been conducted in Europe, Asia, North America, and Oceania, (Wheaton, 2019). Despite the lack of research in some countries, research demonstrates that worldwide youth are more involved in sports betting than other categories of societies (Binde, 2020).

Betting Activities in Africa

The betting industry in many parts of Africa such as South Africa, and Kenya, is coupled with weak regulatory environments (Bitanihirwe et al. 2022). Young people are increasingly exposed to betting practices in Africa (Clark, 2019). A recent survey evaluated betting activities in Kenya, Uganda, South Africa, Ghana, Nigeria, and Tanzania for over 3,879 people aged between 17 and 35 and found that 54% of people in SSA have engaged in some form of betting activity (Ssewanyana, & Bitanihirwe, 2018). A variety of gambling practices in East Africa include playing cards, lottery, bingo, and sports betting specific to the country's practices (Abdi et al 2015). Kenya is proposed to be the country with the highest number of people who had previously participated in betting or betting at 76% followed by Uganda at 57% while Ghana had the lowest number at 42% (Ssewanyana, & Bitanihirwe, 2018)

However, those involved are not aware of the potential undesirable effects of gambling such as poor physical health, disturbed family relationships, poor academic performance, and risks of mood disorders and suicides among young (Moreira et al 2023). Whether gambling is legal or illegal has been seen as a profitable industry (Bitanihirwe et al. 2022).

Brief History of Betting in Tanzania

- In Tanzania, betting activities have been practiced even before the establishment of formal betting stations. In 1985, the government introduced a new economic reform that saw the lottery as the one significant gaming activity in the country by then the defunct National

* Corresponding author. Tel.: +255759738703

E-mail address: roseqamara@gmail.com

Lotteries, (GAMING BOARD). Gaming was previously regulated under the Pools and Lotteries Act, of 1967 and the National Lotteries Act, of 1974.

- In 2003, the government decided that it needed to regulate this sector more effectively with the enactment of the Gaming Act of Tanzania established the body, the Gaming Board of Tanzania to oversee the betting industry, issue licenses to operators and collect taxes from betting premises.
- The country has built a reputation of being a pioneer in the field of betting on the African continent, though, all the most common forms of betting are legal in the country including sports betting, casino, etc. In 2012 internet betting came into place and the first being in operation in 2013.
- According to the Tanzania Gaming Board (TGB), sports betting has been the leading betting since 2018, and they were 2,684 betting stations at the moment, most of them situated in Dar es Salaam and other major cities.

The Problem and objectives of the study

Betting activities are increasing daily among large numbers of youth in Tanzania. A recent study shows that in Tanzania 95% of youth in universities and higher learning institutions especially male is involved in betting (Mfinanga et al. 2020). It has been observed that betting activities are usually the highest popular football leagues around the world such as the English Premier League, Spain's La Liga, and the German Bundesliga are ongoing. This is because of the love for foreign football leagues and high poverty and unemployment levels, thousands of people across Tanzania are increasingly turning to betting. Some of the companies that offer sports betting services in Tanzania include Premier Bet, SupaBets, M-Bet, Mkeka Bet, Wasafi Bet, 1Xbet, 22Bet, Sporty Bet, Meridian Bet, Gal Sport, 10 Bet, Princess Bet, Biko Sports, Betway, Betika, Gwala Bet and other firms (Stanek, 2019). At some point, members of parliament warned the government that this could become a national crisis (Sareen, 2016). In Akheri ward betting activities are among one of the activities youths involve themselves in. This study examines the reasons for youth participation in sports betting and the associated risks and later provides recommendation.

Significance of the Study

The study intends to show the negative effects of betting among youth, and later provide recommendation to the relevant authorities. It also intends to create awareness among the communities in the study area.

Scope of the Study

This study was conducted at the Akheri ward in Arumeru district. The sample size used was 263 respondents including men, women, and youth. This research was conducted for three weeks.

Research Design

The researchers used descriptive survey design solely quantitative.

Study Population

According to the 2012 census in a national statistical data a population was about a total population of people who live in Akheri ward is about 13,699 in which female are about 7089 and male are about 6610 in categories of three villages of Akheri its population is about 2,005, Patandi its population is about 6,830 and Nguruma its population is about 4,864.

Sample and sampling Techniques

Sample Size

Formula

$$\text{Sample size} = \frac{n = Z^2 \times N(1 - P)}{e^2}$$

Whereas

- N – Represent population size
- p - Represent standard of deviation
- e - Represent marginal of errors

Therefore:

$$n = \frac{1.96^2 \times 13,699(1 - 0.5)}{e^2}$$

$$\frac{10^2 \times 3.8416 \times 13,699(0.5)}{100} \times 0.5$$

$$\frac{26313.0392}{100} = 263$$

Table 1 Distribution table of respondents in the ward

S/No	Respondents	Number of respondents
1.	Youth	128
2.	Community member	90
3.	Betting office/s	44
4.	Community Development officer	1
	Total	263

Sampling procedure

Researcher used purposive sampling (community development officer, betting officers/offices). Simple random sampling was used to identify community members and youth.

Data Collection Methods

In this study researcher used questionnaires and interviews to gather data from the respondents

Data analysis

Data collected from the field were analyzed, presented and interpreted through a statistical package for social science (SPSS)

RESULTS**Demographic characteristics of the respondents**

This part presents age, sex, marital status, education level and occupation of the respondents who involved to the study.

Age of the respondents

Table 2 Age of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percent
Lower than 18 years	35	13.3
19-25	66	25.1
26-35	76	28.9
Above 36 years	86	32.7
Total	263	100.0

*Sex of respondents***Table 3 Sex of respondents**

Response	Frequency	Percent
Female	80	30.4
Male	183	69.6
Total	263	100.0

Marital status of the respondents

Response	Frequency	Percent
Married	45	17.1
Single	79	30.0
Widow/widower	73	27.8
Separated or divorced	66	25.1
Total	263	100.0

Education level of respondents

Response	Frequency	Percent
Primary level	49	18.6
Secondary level	76	28.9
College and university	68	25.9
Non-formal education	70	26.6
Total	263	100.0

Findings based on the specific objective of the study

The findings from this part have the aim of presents what was obtained from respondents based on the specific objectives of the study as it aims to meet the general objectives of the study. Researcher started by wanting to understand the understanding of respondents on the sport betting and the findings are represented in table

Table 4 Respondent's understanding on the sport betting

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	95	36.1
Yes	168	63.9
Total	263	100.0

Understanding of the respondents on the meaning of sport betting specifically on football.

Researcher wanted to understand the understanding of respondents on the meaning of the sport betting so as to understand their awareness on sport betting

Table 5 Understanding of the respondents on the meaning of sport betting (football).

Response	Frequency	Percent
Is a gambling game	43	16.3
Is a process of gambling about results of matches	84	31.9
Is the process of predict results of match	72	27.4
Is a process of making a probability of something to occur	64	24.3
Total	263	100.0

These insights shed light on the diverse perspectives and knowledge levels within the surveyed population regarding football betting. Understanding these different viewpoints can be valuable for establishing educational programs, or customized interventions aimed at helping accountable and informed engagement with football betting.

The factors influencing people participation on sport(football) betting

Response	Frequency	Percent
Financial desire	43	16.3
Desire of money without working	56	21.3
Poverty	31	11.8
Lack of capital for self-employment	29	11.0
Lack of employment opportunities	46	17.5
Peer pressure from their friends	58	22.1
Total	263	100.0

This finding will enable policymakers, educators, and relevant stakeholders to design effective strategies to regulate sport betting and provide alternative livelihood opportunities eventually reducing the impacts among the youth.

Table 9 The impacts of people participation in football betting

Response	Frequency	Percent
Alcoholism	28	10.6
School absenteeism	40	15.2
Destruction of mindset	29	11.0
Loss of money	34	12.9
Increase of poverty	29	11.0
Lack of self-independency to the peoples	27	10.3
Laziness to the peoples in engaging on self-employment	44	16.7
Lack of participation of community members in community development activities	32	12.2
Total	263	100.0

Conclusion

It shows sports betting is popular as many people are aware of it. Sports betting can provide entertainment, recreational opportunities, and income however it can also contribute to negative outcomes such as laziness among the youth in the community if not regulated. Therefore, it is recommended that those activities are regulated from the ward level by creating by-laws for easy monitoring instead of relying on the national policy and regulations.

References :

1. Abdi, T. A., Ruiter, R. A., & Adal, T. A. (2015). Personal, social and environmental risk factors of problematic gambling among high school adolescents in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. *Journal of gambling studies*, 31, 59-72.
2. Aragay, N., Pijuan, L., Cabestany, À., Ramos-Grille, I., Garrido, G., Vallès, V., & Jovell-Fernández, E. (2021). Current addiction in youth: online sports betting. *Frontiers in psychiatry*, 11, 590554
3. Binde, P. (2020) BETTING Advertising: Critical Research Review. Report prepared for the Responsible, betting Trust, London. Available: http://www.responsiblebettingtrust.org.uk/user_uploads/binde_rgt_report_BETTING_advertisin_2014_final_color_115p.pdf
4. Bitanahirwe, B. K., Adebisi, T., Bunn, C., Ssewanyana, D., Darby, P., & Kitchin, P. (2022). Gambling in Sub-Saharan Africa: traditional forms and emerging technologies. *Current Addiction Reports*, 9(4), 373-384.
5. CLARK, C. & WALKER, D. M. 2019. Are gamblers more likely to commit crimes? An empirical analysis of a nationally representative survey of US young adults. *International BETTING Studies*, 9, 119-134.
6. Mfinanga, F. A., Mroso, R., & Bushibura, S. E. (2020). Sports betting practices among higher learning institutions students in Tanzania. *Int J Latest Eng Manag Res*, 5(5), 1-9.
7. Moreira, D., Azeredo, A., & Dias, P. (2023). Risk factors for gambling disorder: a systematic review. *Journal of gambling studies*, 39(2), 483-511.
8. Ssewanyana, D., & Bitanahirwe, B. (2018). Problem gambling among young people in sub-Saharan Africa. *Frontiers in public health*, 6, 329189.