

Codebook for “Observations of the first GameSense-branded responsible gambling centre in a US casino”

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Study description: Casino operators are launching responsible gambling information centers in venues across North America. These centers are designed to provide a place where casino customers can get information about gambling and resources for help with potential gambling problems. The launch of the first such center in the USA—the GameSense Info Center, located at Plainridge Park Casino, in Massachusetts— provided an opportunity to achieve three goals: (1) document the center’s reach among casino patrons, (2) generate a comprehensive description of services provided, and (3) explore the potential for a dose–response relationship between center exposure and gambling beliefs and behavior. We achieved these goals by documenting services provided and surveying consecutive center visitors. Program staff reported engaging directly with approximately 1% of daily patrons. About 70% of their interactions were casual in nature. During conversations that did move beyond a casual nature, program staff typically provided information about responsible gambling. Finally, among a sample of patrons who repeatedly engaged with program staff at the most involved level (N = 129), those with relatively little program exposure were more likely to hold an accurate gambling belief but less likely to report having set time limits on their casino visits. In conclusion, we did not observe support for the notion that using an on-site information center to teach patrons about important gambling concepts is associated with more responsible gambling behavior.

We prepared the dataset in SPSS Version 25.

See below for codebooks of included variables.

Wave 1 Checklist dataset

variable	label	n	min	max	notes
StartDate	StartDate	5659	12/1/15	5/31/16	
Interaction_Type	What type of interaction was this?	5659	1	4	1 = Simple, 2 = Instructive, 3 = Demonstration, 4 = Exchange
SimplePatrons	How many patrons were involved in this interaction?	3930	1	5	
InstructPatrons	How many patrons were involved in this interaction?	703	1	22	
InstructTopic1	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	690	1	1	provided information about responsible gambling (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic2	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	119	1	1	provide information about PlayMyWay (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic3	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	11	1	1	provided information about the Helpline (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic4	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	2	1	1	provided a referral for treatment for problem gambling (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic5	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	1	1	1	provided self-help resources (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic6	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	75	1	1	provided information about gambling consequences (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic7	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	75	1	1	provided information about voluntary self-exclusion (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic8	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	4	1	1	provided information about help for someone else (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic9	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	1	1	1	provided information about credit suspension (1 = endorsed)
InstructTopic10	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	0			provided information about marketing restriction (1 = endorsed)

Wave 1 Checklist dataset, continued					
variable	label	n	min	max	notes
InstructTopic11	What was the topic of this Instructive interaction? (check all that apply) I...	102	1	1	other
InstructTopicOther	Other (please specify)	5659	.	.	
DemoPatrons	How many patrons were involved in this interaction?	64	1	22	
DemoReason1	What was the reason for this Demonstration interaction? (check all that apply)	44	1	1	showed patron how to use the kiosk (1 = endorsed)
DemoReason2	What was the reason for this Demonstration interaction? (check all that apply)	21	1	1	performed a demonstration (1 = endorsed)
DemoDemo	I performed a demonstration (which one?)	5659	.	.	which demonstration
ExchangePatrons	How many patrons were involved in this interaction?	894	1	5	
ExchangeAction1	What did you do? (check all that apply)	183	1	1	provided written information (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction2	What did you do? (check all that apply)	836	1	1	provided information or advice verbally (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction3	What did you do? (check all that apply)	3	1	1	handed the patron(s) off to someone else who could help (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction4	What did you do? (check all that apply)	2	1	1	handed the patron(s) off to someone in Customer Service (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction5	What did you do? (check all that apply)	0			enrolled the patron(s) in Play Management (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction6	What did you do? (check all that apply)	44	1	1	enrolled the patron in voluntary self-exclusion (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction7	What did you do? (check all that apply)	1	1	1	dis-enrolled the patron(s) from voluntary self-exclusion (1 = endorsed)
ExchangeAction8	What did you do? (check all that apply)	16	1	1	other

Wave 2 Checklist dataset					
variable	label	n	min	max	notes
StartDate	StartDate	7879	8/8/16	2/7/17	
IntrxnType	What type of interaction was this?	7878	1	4	1 = Simple, 2 = Instructive, 3 = Demonstration, 4 = Exchange
SimplePatrons	How many visitors were involved in this interaction?	5716	0	5	1=1, 2=2, 3=3, 4=4, 5=5, 6=more than 5
SimplePatronsOver5	More than 5 (please specify)	63	6	40	only used if more than 5 patrons
InstructPatrons	How many visitors were involved in this interaction?	1188	0	5	1=1, 2=2, 3=3, 4=4, 5=5, 6=more than 5
InstructPatronsOver5	More than 5 (please specify)	3	6	9	
InstructTopic1	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	143	1	1	provided information about responsible gambling; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic2	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	1165	1	1	provided information about PlayMyWay; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic3	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	2	1	1	provided information about the Gambling Helpline; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic4	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	0	.	.	provided a referral for treatment for problem gambling; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic5	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	0	.	.	provided self-help resources; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic6	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	3	1	1	provided information about voluntary self-exclusion; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic7	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	0	.	.	provided information about help for someone else; 1=endorsed
InstructTopic8	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	14	1	1	other; 1=endorsed
DemoPatrons	How many visitors were involved in this interaction?	143	0	5	1=1, 2=2, 3=3, 4=4, 5=5, 6=more than 5
DemoPatronsOver5	More than 5 (please specify)	5	6	35	only used if more than 5 patrons
DemoReason1	What did you do? (check all that apply)	127	1	1	showed patron how to use the kiosk (1 = endorsed)
DemoReason2	What did you do? (check all that apply)	17	1	1	performed a demonstration (1 = endorsed)
DemoDemo	I performed a demonstration (which one?)	7879	.	.	which demonstration

Wave 2 Checklist dataset, continued					
ExchangePatrons	How many visitors were involved in this interaction?	766	0	5	1=1, 2=2, 3=3, 4=4, 5=5, 6=more than 5
ExchangePatronsOver5	More than 5 (please specify)	1	8	8	only used if more than 5 patrons
ExchangeTopic1	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	613	1	1	provided information about responsible gambling; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic2	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	535	1	1	provided information about PlayMyWay; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic3	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	247	1	1	enrolled the visitor(s) in PlayMyWay; 1 = endorsed
ExchangeTopic4	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	6	1	1	dis-enrolled the visitor(s) from PlayMyWay; 1 = endorsed
ExchangeTopic5	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	8	1	1	provided information about the Gambling Helpline; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic6	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	2	1	1	provided a referral for treatment for problem gambling; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic7	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	2	1	1	provided self-help resources; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic8	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	0	.	.	handed the visitor(s) off to someone in customer service; 1 = endorsed
ExchangeTopic9	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	30	1	1	provided information about voluntary self-exclusion; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic10	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	30	1	1	enrolled the visitor(s) in voluntary self-exclusion; 1 = endorsed
ExchangeTopic11	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	10	1	1	dis-enrolled the visitor(s) from voluntary self-exclusion; 1 = endorsed
ExchangeTopic12	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	4	1	1	provided information about help for someone else; 1=endorsed
ExchangeTopic13	What did you do? (check all that apply) I...	46	1	1	other; 1=endorsed

Wave 1 Patron survey dataset

variable	label	n	min	max	note
code	Participant code	492	1	492	
Survey_Version	Survey version	492	1	3	
Learn_strategies	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	122	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_PM	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	42	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_howgamblingworks	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	77	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_referral	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	7	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_problems	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	8	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_legalfinancial	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	7	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_VSE	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	6	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_none	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	3	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_other	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply)	3	1	1	1 = endorsed
Learn_other_what	Did you learn about any of the following during your conversation with the GameSense Advisor? (click all that apply) Other (please specify)	492	.	.	
Share_strategies	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	122	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_PM	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	40	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_howgamblingworks	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	78	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_referral	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	5	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_PG	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	8	1	1	1 = endorsed

Wave 1 Patron survey dataset, continued

variable	label	n	min	max	note
Share_legalfinancial	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	4	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_VSE	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	7	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_none	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	2	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_other	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply)	10	1	1	1 = endorsed
Share_other_what	Did the GameSense Advisor share information about any of the following with you? (click all that apply) Other (please specify)	492	.	.	
Problems_money	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	12	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_social	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	11	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_work	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	3	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_legal	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	4	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_physical	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	3	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_mental	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	1	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_cheated	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	3	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_other	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	4	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_other_what	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling?	87	1	1	1 = endorsed
Problems_other_what_text	Have you ever had any of these problems with your gambling? Other (please specify)	492	.	.	
Sum_gambling_problems	sum of Problems_money, Problems_social, Problems_work, Problems_legal, Problems_physical, Problems_mental, Problems_other (manually entered 0 for people with missing data for all of these)	171	0	3	

Wave 2 Repeat Patron survey dataset

variable	label	n	min	max	note
Code	Participant code	129	1	129	
Male	I am a (pick one) (no one picked "other")	125	0	1	0 = female, 1 = male
Race	In terms of race, I identify as (pick one)	125	1	6	1 = White/Caucasian, 2 = Black/African American, 3 = American Indian/Alaska Native, 4 = Asian, 5 = Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander, 6 = two or more races
Hispanic.Latino	In terms of ethnicity, I identify as (pick one)	98	0	1	0 = not Hispanic/Latino, 1 = Hispanic/Latino
Age	My age is	128	21	91	
Interactions_converted	How many interactions have you had with a GameSense Advisor? (text responses converted to missing)	120	2	200	Text responses converted to missing
Exposure_group	Tertiary split on Interactions_converted	120	1	3	1 = low, 2 = medium, 3 = high
Talked_curious	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	38	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_howgamblingworks	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	63	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_strategies	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	79	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_PMW	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	31	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_gamblingproblem	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	3	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_raffle	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	20	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_none	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	2	1	1	1 = endorsed
Talked_other	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	0	.	.	
Talked_other_what	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because: I had another concern or question. (Which one?)	129	.	.	
Talked_curious_coded	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Talked_howgambling_code d	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Talked_strategies_coded	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Talked_PMY_coded	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Talked_problem_coded	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Talked_raffle_coded	Today, I talked to a GameSense Advisor because:	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed

Wave 2 Repeat Patron survey dataset, continued					
variable	label	n	min	max	note
Before_sought_info	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	70	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_thought_changing	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	50	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_sought_help	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	15	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_spent_less	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	34	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_spent_more	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	2	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_none	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	4	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_strategy_fun	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	5	1	1	1 = endorsed
Before_strategy_what	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following? I used a strategy to keep gambling fun. Please specify which strategy:	129	.	.	
Before_sought_info_coded	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Before_thought_changing_coded	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Before_sought_help_coded	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed

Wave 2 Repeat Patron survey dataset, continued					
variable	label	n	min	max	note
Before_spent_less_coded	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Before_spent_more_coded	Before today, you had a conversation with a GameSense Advisor. After that earlier conversation, did you do any of the following?	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Lose_control	If you felt you were starting to lose control over your gambling, would you feel comfortable asking a GSA for help?	124	1	3	1 = Yes, 2 = No, 3 = Not sure
Lose_control_dichotomous	If you felt you were starting to lose control over your gambling, would you feel comfortable asking a GSA for help?	124	0	1	0 = no or not sure, 1 = yes
Likely_outcome	On any given slot machine play, which outcome is most likely?	125	1	5	1 = A small win, 2 = A medium win, 3 = A big win, 4 = A loss, 5 = It depends on what's happened before
Likely_outcome_scored	On any given slot machine play, which outcome is most likely?	125	0	1	1 = correct, 0 = incorrect
Strategies_winlimit	Which of these responsible gambling strategies have you used in the past year?	18	1	1	1 = endorsed
Strategies_losslimit	Which of these responsible gambling strategies have you used in the past year?	78	1	1	1 = endorsed
Strategies_timelimit	Which of these responsible gambling strategies have you used in the past year?	30	1	1	1 = endorsed
Strategies_winlimit_coded	Which of these responsible gambling strategies have you used in the past year? win limit	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Strategies_losslimit_coded	Which of these responsible gambling strategies have you used in the past year? loss limit	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
Strategies_timelimit_coded	Which of these responsible gambling strategies have you used in the past year? time limit	129	0	1	1 = endorsed, 0 = not endorsed
PMY_purpose	What is the purpose of PlayMyWay?	125	1	2	1 = To put a limit on how much people can gamble, 2 = To help players monitor their gambling, 3 = To teach players how slot machines work, 4 = I'm not sure
PMY_purpose_scored	What is the purpose of PlayMyWay?	125	0	1	1 = correct, 0 = incorrect