

Poker machines are no good for families:

? About 293,000 people have a significant gambling problem in Australia and about 85% of problem gamblers use poker machines;

? About 52% of problem gamblers said they had borrowed money and not paid it back, 36% said they had sold property to raise money to bet and 43% said they sometimes went without food to pay for their addiction. One in four suffered divorce or separation and one in 10 had seriously contemplated suicide;

? On average around seven other people are affected by a severe problem gambler's behaviour. That's around 2 million Australians;

? More than 50% of regular poker machine users are problem gamblers or at risk of becoming problem gamblers.

I support the Family First Bill

Christina Naylor