

**Submission on Gambling Reform and problem gamblers:**

I. I believe that a national cap should now be placed on the number of poker machines in Australia, because:

a. The more poker machine venues there are, the more *normalised* the use of them becomes in any community.

b. The state governments who use them so extensively for funding will *never* have a motivation to cap the number and they will continue to grow in number as will all the associated problems.

c. It is pointless addressing problem gambling while placing more and more enticement venues on every corner.

d. People on the local government level need Federal support to fight the poker machine venue issue because the State government will never stop pushing them onto small communities.

e. Small town by small town is being picked off and forced to spend all their rate income fighting the State Government at VCAT when they don't want the gaming venues.

II. Until such a cap is in place, each small town needs Federal Support at VCAT to fight the State Government forcing these venues on the towns.

Yours faithfully,  
Joyce Sanders