Participation of Australians in online poker Submission 20

From:

To: Committee, EC (SEN)
Subject: enquiry into online poker
Date: Saturday, 8 July 2017 2:52:52 PM

To whom it may concern,

This is to add my voice to those who are enjoying playing poker online and are disturbed by the possibility that it could be banned.

I am a 75 year old man still working 5 days a week and happy to do so. One of my little pleasures in life is to play poker in the evening, I find the occupation to have a therapeutic effect as it demands decision making, attention, and sharpness of mind, all things that in my case can slow down the eventual onset of alzheimer.

Playing the game cost me very little, as I never spend more than \$11 per tournament, this gives me 6 or 7 hrs of play time. Often I go very deep into the game, sometimes even winning, when this happens it is a happy day as I know i have outclassed participants which are young enough to be my grandchildren, obviously they will never know that.

I accept that things enjoyable can become addictive, in my opinion addiction to poker would be negligible as it demands skills that can only be honed over a long period of time. Real gamblers/addicts are the ones that need a very quick outcome, the sort one gets from playing Pokies, roulette or Bacara

I do hope online Poker is not barred, as it would deprive many of low cost entairtainment.

Gilbert A Alessandra