

Vietnamese-Australian electronic gaming machine (EGM) gamblers' views on luck and winning: Universal and culture-specific gambling beliefs

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The current paper examines cultural influence on Vietnamese-Australian gamblers' beliefs. Twenty electronic gaming machine gamblers from Vietnamese-Australian background participated in qualitative in-depth interview exploring their beliefs on the chance of winning, understanding of luck and winning, and gambling strategies. This paper compares interviews of Vietnamese casino gamblers with those of poker machine gamblers from the same cultural background. The findings suggest that poker machine gamblers also hold both universal and culture-specific views to explain their gambling outcomes. An example of a universal schema is a notion that the economic hardship experienced so far increases a chance of gambling success. In contrast, a belief that gambling outcomes depends on gamblers' action in the past (karma or Quả báo) is uniquely Vietnamese. The discussion also includes implications on problem gambling counselling and cognitive-behavioural therapy.

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