

# worldonline gamblinglawreport

**FEATURED ARTICLE**  
**12/08**



cecile park publishing

Head Office UK Cecile Park Publishing Limited, 17 The Timber Yard, Drysdale Street, London N1 6ND  
tel +44 (0)20 7012 1380 fax +44 (0)20 7729 6093 info@e-comlaw.com  
[www.e-comlaw.com](http://www.e-comlaw.com)

# Opinion

## US: division on addictions creates data repository

In a move to make addiction research more open and accessible, the Division on Addictions at the Cambridge Health Alliance, a teaching affiliate of Harvard Medical School, has created a data repository called 'The Transparency Project'. This data repository allows scientists from around the world to engage in a free exchange of data from privately-funded research. Open access to information from research supported by private interests will promote evidence from this resource to take its place alongside that from government sponsored research. Ultimately, to the benefit of health providers as well as to political and legal decision-makers deciding on complex addiction-related issues, the Transparency Project will enhance confidence in scientific findings.

Politicians, judges, and regulators face difficult decisions when confronted with issues involving human behaviors, such as concerns about gambling addiction. The scientific community can offer guidance to the often heated discussion that usually surrounds matters of addiction. However, limited access to important addiction-related data could impede the amount of guidance science can provide. The newly launched 'Transparency Project' is the first ever publicly available data repository for privately-funded research datasets that are addiction-related (e.g., relating to gambling, alcohol, shopping, illicit drugs, etc.). It promotes transparency for privately-funded science, the exchange of quality-reviewed data, and lists publications based on the different datasets. Consequently, The Transparency Project constitutes an important dynamic source of information for scientists and stakeholders who rely on up-to-date scientific research.

There is increasing agreement that scientific information should be available broadly to both the scientific community and the general public. In the United States, for example, researchers must make publicly-funded scientific datasets freely available to others. Policy makers believe that greater access to scientific information will provide other scientists with the opportunity to extend existing research and speed the process of improving the public's health. Convinced of this belief, the Division on Addictions has created 'The Transparency Project', making privately-funded datasets (e.g., foundation-funded and industry-funded) openly accessible for the first time. The availability will help foster global rapid growth in knowledge related to addictive behavior and advance the process of finding answers to public health concerns.

To ensure privacy and high scientific standards, the datasets, created by addiction researchers working throughout the world, are de-identified to the level required by the US Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. To protect human subjects, an institutional board of

review must have approved the study methods. To ensure quality, the datasets must have an associated peer-reviewed publication.

Private sources are very important for research. Private sources finance about twice the research sponsored by public sources. However, some privately-funded research has come under criticism. For example, misconduct by the tobacco industry has created an atmosphere of skepticism and mistrust related to private funding sources in general. As documented, these concerns are not unwarranted. However, the misdeeds of some should not preclude the many private sources from contributing to the advancement of science. On the contrary, because some private sources provide both opportunity and exposure to potential objects of addiction, the public expects these private sources to provide funding for high quality programs of scientific investigation. The Transparency Project expressly recognizes the need to meet these concerns and increases accessibility and scrutiny to privately-funded data.

US President Obama has called for the development of more public-private partnerships in the conduct of research activities. Under the condition that scientific independence is ensured, these partnerships hold a strong potential to advance science and public health. They also take into account scarce public resources that are under increasing pressure for allocation. As public-private partnerships emerge and further evolve, the research community must assure full transparency to protect the credibility of scientific findings. With this benchmark in mind, the Division on Addictions invites the community of stakeholders to utilize The Transparency Project, participate in the development of public-private research partnerships, and advance our collective knowledge about addiction. The Transparency Project provides the opportunity to work together to alleviate the burdens caused by addictive behaviors.

---

**Howard J. Shaffer** PhD

**Debi A. LaPlante** PhD

**Y. Evelyn Chao** PhD

**Simon Planzer** Attorney at Law, MLaw, M.A

**Richard A. LaBrie** PhD

**Sarah E. Nelson** PhD

Division on Addictions, Cambridge Health Alliance, Harvard Medical School

[info@thetransparencyproject.org](mailto:info@thetransparencyproject.org)

---



# cecile park publishing

Head Office UK Cecile Park Publishing Limited, 17 The Timber Yard, Drysdale Street, London N1 6ND  
tel +44 (0)20 7012 1380 fax +44 (0)20 7729 6093 info@e-comlaw.com  
[www.e-comlaw.com](http://www.e-comlaw.com)

Registered number 2676976 Registered address 141 Wardour Street, London W1F 0UT VAT registration 577806103

## e-commerce law & policy

Many leading companies, including Amazon, BT, eBay, FSA, Orange, Vodafone, Standard Life, and Microsoft have subscribed to ECLP to aid them in solving the business and legal issues they face online.

ECLP, was nominated in 2000 and again in 2004 for the British & Irish Association of Law Librarian's Legal Publication of the Year.

**A twelve month subscription is £420 (overseas £440) for twelve issues and includes single user access to our online database.**

## e-commerce law reports

You can now find in one place all the key cases, with analysis and comment, that affect online, mobile and interactive business. ECLR tracks cases and regulatory adjudications from around the world.

Leading organisations, including Clifford Chance, Herbert Smith, Baker & McKenzie, Hammonds, Coudert Brothers, Orange and Royal Mail are subscribers.

**A twelve month subscription is £420 (overseas £440) for six issues and includes single user access to our online database.**

## data protection law & policy

You can now find in one place the most practical analysis, and advice, on how to address the many problems - and some opportunities - thrown up by data protection and freedom of information legislation.

DPLP's monthly reports update an online archive, which is an invaluable research tool for all those who are involved in data protection. Data acquisition, SMS marketing, subject access, Freedom of Information, data retention, use of CCTV, data sharing and data transfer abroad are all subjects that have featured recently. Leading organisations, including the Office of the Information Commissioner, Allen & Overy, Hammonds, Lovells, BT, Orange, West Berkshire Council, McCann Fitzgerald, Devon County Council and Experian are subscribers.

**A twelve month subscription is £390 (public sector £285, overseas £410) for twelve issues and includes single user access to our online database.**

## world online gambling law report

You can now find in one place analysis of the key legal, financial and regulatory issues facing all those involved in online gambling and practical advice on how to address them. The monthly reports update an online archive, which is an invaluable research tool for all those involved in online gambling.

Poker, payment systems, white labelling, jurisdiction, betting exchanges, regulation, testing, interactive TV and mobile gaming are all subjects that have featured in WOGLR recently.

Leading organisations, including Ladbrokes, William Hill, Coral, Sportingbet, BskyB, DCMS, PMU, Orange and Clifford Chance are subscribers.

**A twelve month subscription is £520 (overseas £540) for twelve issues and includes single user access to our online database.**

## world sports law report

WSLR tracks the latest developments from insolvency rules in football, to EU Competition policy on the sale of media rights, to doping and probity. The monthly reports update an online archive, which is an invaluable research tool for all involved in sport.

Database rights, sponsorship, guerilla marketing, the Court of Arbitration in Sport, sports agents, image rights, jurisdiction, domain names, ticketing and privacy are subjects that have featured in WSLR recently.

Leading organisations, including the England & Wales Cricket Board, the British Horse Board, Hammonds, Fladgate Fielder, Clarke Willmott and Skadden Arps Meagre & Flom are subscribers.

**A twelve month subscription is £520 (overseas £540) for twelve issues and includes single user access to our online database.**

- Please enrol me as a subscriber to **e-commerce law & policy** at £420 (overseas £440)
- Please enrol me as a subscriber to **e-commerce law reports** at £320 (overseas £440)
- Please enrol me as a subscriber to **data protection law & policy** at £390 (public sector £285, overseas £410)
- Please enrol me as a subscriber to **world online gambling law report** at £520 (overseas £540)
- Please enrol me as a subscriber to **world sports law report** at £520 (overseas £540)

**All subscriptions last for one year. You will be contacted at the end of that period to renew your subscription.**

Name

Job Title

Department  Company

Address

Address

City  State

Country  Postcode

Telephone  Fax

Email

**1** Please **invoice me**  Purchase order number

Signature  Date

**2** I enclose a **cheque** for the amount of

made payable to 'Cecile Park Publishing Limited'

**3** Please debit my **credit card**  VISA  MASTERCARD

Card No.  Expiry Date

Signature  Date

VAT No. (if ordering from an EC country)

Periodically we may allow companies, whose products or services might be of interest, to send you information. Please tick here if you would like to hear from other companies about products or services that may add value to your subscription.

priority order form

FAX +44 (0)20 7729 6093

CALL +44 (0)20 7012 1380

EMAIL [dan.towse@e-comlaw.com](mailto:dan.towse@e-comlaw.com)

ONLINE [www.e-comlaw.com](http://www.e-comlaw.com)

POST Cecile Park Publishing 17 The Timber Yard, Drysdale Street, London N1 6ND