

Casino Gambling: Is it a Good Bet for Florida's Future?

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The question of whether casino gambling should be legalized in Florida is arguably the most critical debate the state has experienced in its 150-year history. Because it would substantially change the nature and image of Florida, this decision could have long-term affect on the economic and social wellbeing of Floridians. This study finds that, although there is generally an absence of empirical data regarding the impact large-scale gambling operations would have on Florida, there is sufficient evidence that casinos would cause more crime, worsen the problem of gambling addiction, and hurt (not help) Florida's economy. The evidence available suggests that, at least at present, casino gambling is a very bad bet for Florida's future.