

Argeny

It seems odd after taking gambling out of the Clubs that now Riverboat Gambling is alright. We went to a Riverboat that has gambling thinking it would be like Las Vegas or Atlantic City. It was not. The slot machines start at 25 cents and go up to \$5.00. To get the odds one puts in two or more tokens. When a person gets a roll of quarters, or what ever they want they do not give money in exchange, just tokens Using non money (tokens) makes a person feel different than if they see real money going into the machines. Then there are the blackjack and poker tables. They start at \$10.00 which we found only one table then there are the \$15.00 and \$25.00 tables. There is not any entertainment at these casinos, just gambling. Of course to get more money a person can use one of the numerous credit card machines that are available. Saw one women playing the machines with her credit card in her hand. There is not any food to be gotten at a reasonable price, or any price. Who is going to take the responsibility when family wages are spent and children will go hungary and unkept? How much will this increase our taxes, State and City. There certainly will be more divorces, suicides and disruption of family values, more people on Welfare because of divorces. Will need more police for protection as there will be more thefts due to loss of wages due to gambling. Who pays for this-we the citizens and believe me we who are on a set income or raising a family cannot afford this. It also would take money away from the State Lottery which helps Senior Citizens. They will have to bring in their own people to work the tables and repair the machines as there are not any people in Erie capable of taking over that type of responsibility. The ramps will have to be policed 24 hours a day-gambling is a 24 hour business-so people will not get mugged or robbed when they go back to their cars.

Riverboat gambling would not be an asset it would be a deficit to the people and the City of Erie.