

Gambling: Lotteries (1964)

WHEREAS there exists a persistent agitation for the setting up of provincial and national lotteries; and

WHEREAS contrary to the claims of those who promote lotteries, only a small percentage of the money raised through them ever reaches the charities they are supposed to support; and

WHEREAS experience proves that legalized gambling soon degenerates into vicious corruption bringing crime and poverty; and

WHEREAS gambling obscures and misrepresents the true aim of life which is to contribute rather than to possess,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the United Baptist Convention of the Atlantic Provinces record and express its conviction that the licensing of gambling has not been, is not, and never will be a substitute for the proper performance of duty on the part of responsible public officials.
2. That the United Baptist Convention of the Atlantic Provinces is opposed to any proposal through gambling to raise money for charitable purposes and that we repudiate the suggestion that the criminal code be amended to permit the setting up of municipal, provincial or national lotteries under government control.
3. That the United Baptist Convention of the Atlantic Provinces appeal to all service clubs and other organizations not to promote gambling practices such as bingo or any form of lottery no matter how worthy may be the cause for which the money is sought.
4. That we commend the Board of Social Service for alerting us to the dangers of gambling, and public lotteries, and that we urge our churches to study the issues and take such action as seems appropriate; and
5. That we urge the people of our Convention to notify elected officials of these matters.