

WOMEN AND GAMBLING IN CANADA

Sylvia Kairouz, PhD

Eva Monson, PhD

Nicole Arsenault, MA candidate

Research Chair on Gambling
Department of Sociology and Anthropology
Concordia University

11th European Conference on Gambling Studies and Policy Issues

Lisbon, Portugal

September 15th, 2016

CONTEXT

- A gender gap in gambling behaviours
- In North America, men have reported higher lifetime¹ past-year², and past-week³ rates of gambling **participation**
- Men report gambling more **frequently**⁴ and higher **expenditures**⁵

1. LaBrie, R. A., Shaffer, H. J., LaPlante, D. A., & Wechsler, H. (2003), 2. Huang, J., Jacobs, D. F., Derevensky, J. L., Gupta, R., & Paskus, T. S. (2007), Martin et al., (2010), 3. Ellenbogen, Jacobs, Derevensky, Gupta & Parkus, (2008), 4. Martin et al., (2010), 5. Williams & Volberg (2013), 6. Mark & Lesieur (1992), Volberg (2003), 7. Afifi, Cox, Martens, Sareen & Enns (2010), Albanese et al., (2011)

CONTEXT

- Gambling research focus on the experiences of men⁶
- Study on gambling behaviors of women is sparse⁷

6. Mark & Lesieur (1992), Volberg (2003), 7. Afifi, Cox, Martens, Sareen & Enns (2010), Albanese et al., (2011)

OBJECTIVES

- To offer a comparative gender-based analysis of gambling patterns in Canada
- To develop and understanding of the complex relationships between gender, gambling patterns, and gambling context



POKER, GENDER & THE ROLE OF SETTINGS: A CASE STUDY FROM QUÉBEC

THE ROLE OF CONTEXT/SETTING

- “Experience of play varies according to a set of contextual coordinates that relate to the spatial organization and the social integration of the site where the activity is played.” (Reith, 1999)
- Moving beyond individual and towards contextual factors can elucidate the role of gender in gambling behaviors
 - E.g., poker occurs within a socially interactive environment historically dominated by men

POKER, GENDER, & SETTINGS

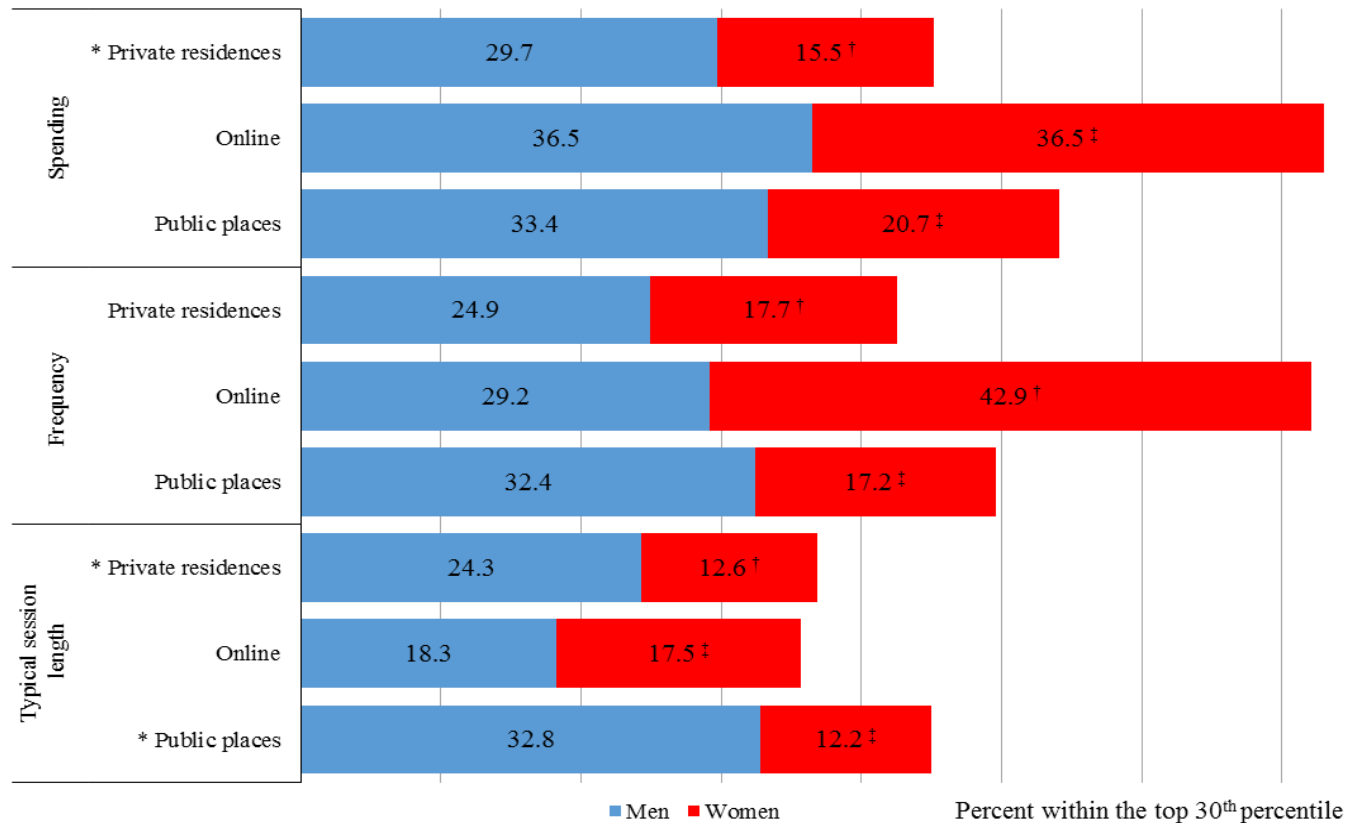
- It could be hypothesized that men and women report different gambling patterns *because* they gamble in different settings
- There has been a substantial increase in the number of women poker players in recent years¹; this increase has been concentrated online²
- Social barriers continue to exist for women who play non-virtual poker³

1. Kairouz, Paradis, & Monson, 2015; Afif et al., 2010a; 2. Abbott et al., 2013; Volberg 2003; 3. Abarbanel & Bernhard, 2012

ENHJEU-QUÉBEC METHODS

- Québec Gambling Survey
 - 2 cross-sectional waves (2009 and 2012)
 - Representative sample of Québec adult population
 - Response rates = 55% (2009) and 43% (2012)
 - Sample sizes = 11,888 (2009) and 12,008 (2012)

GENDER COMPARISON OF POKER GAMBLING PATTERNS BY LOCATION

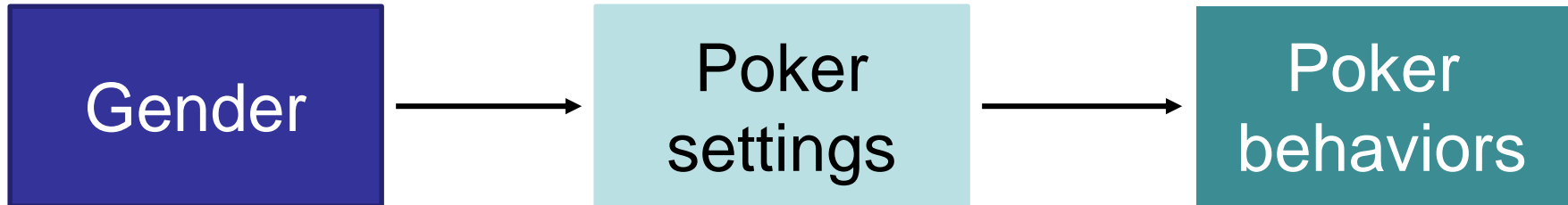


1. Data were derived from the Quebec Gambling Survey (ENHJEU-Q; 2009 and 2012 combined).
2. Significance in gender differences: * $p \leq .05$; ** $p \leq .01$; *** $p \leq .001$.
3. Public places = bars and casinos

ENHJEU METHODS

- University Students Gambling Survey 2008
 - Representative sample of 2,139 undergraduate university students
 - 3 Montreal universities and 2 affiliated schools
 - Response rate = 41%

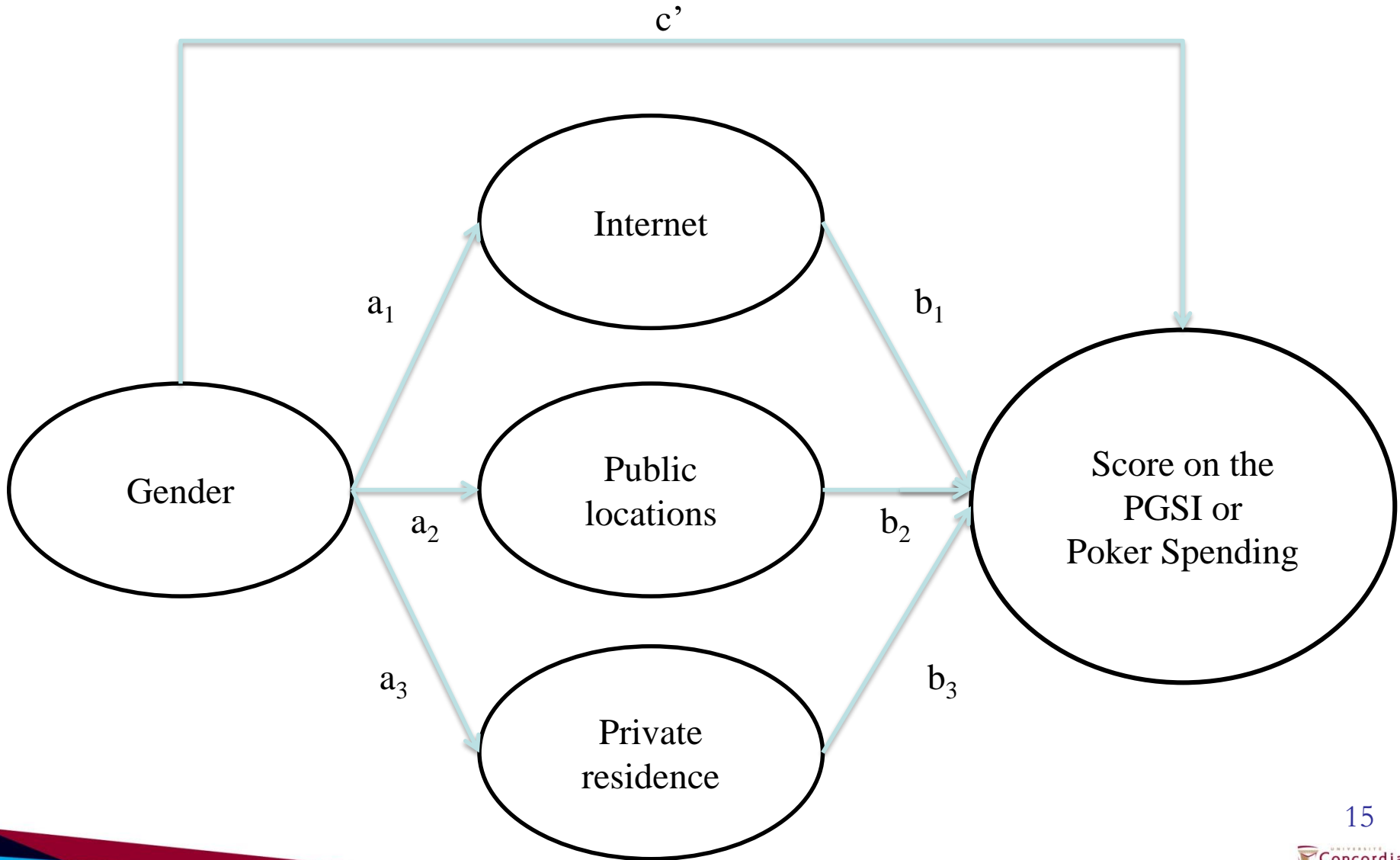
RESEARCH HYPOTHESIS



It is through the settings in which college male and female gamblers play poker that gender is related to poker behaviors.

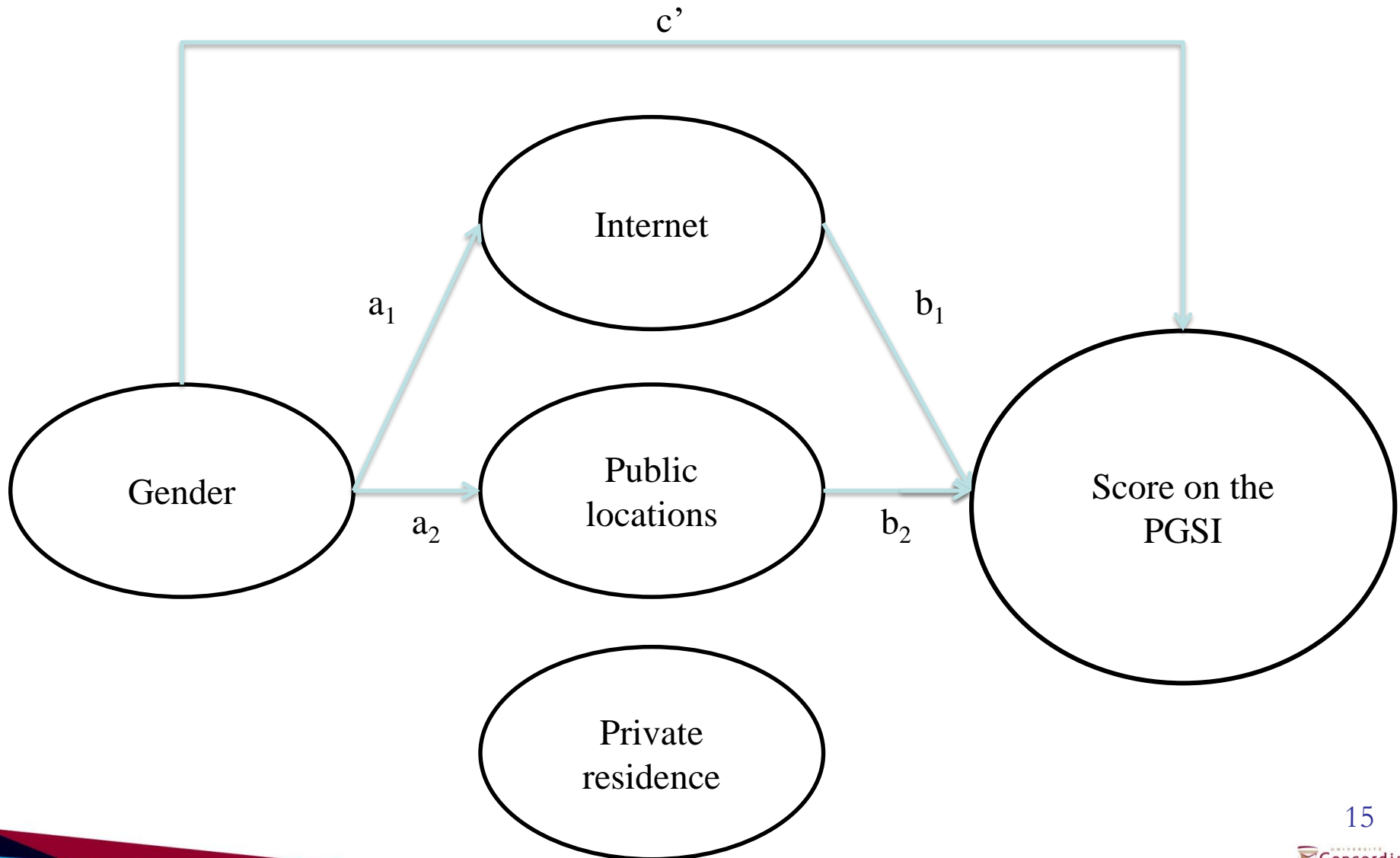
GENDER, SETTING, SPENDING & PROBLEMS

Mediation model – Gender, locations, and poker expenditures and problems



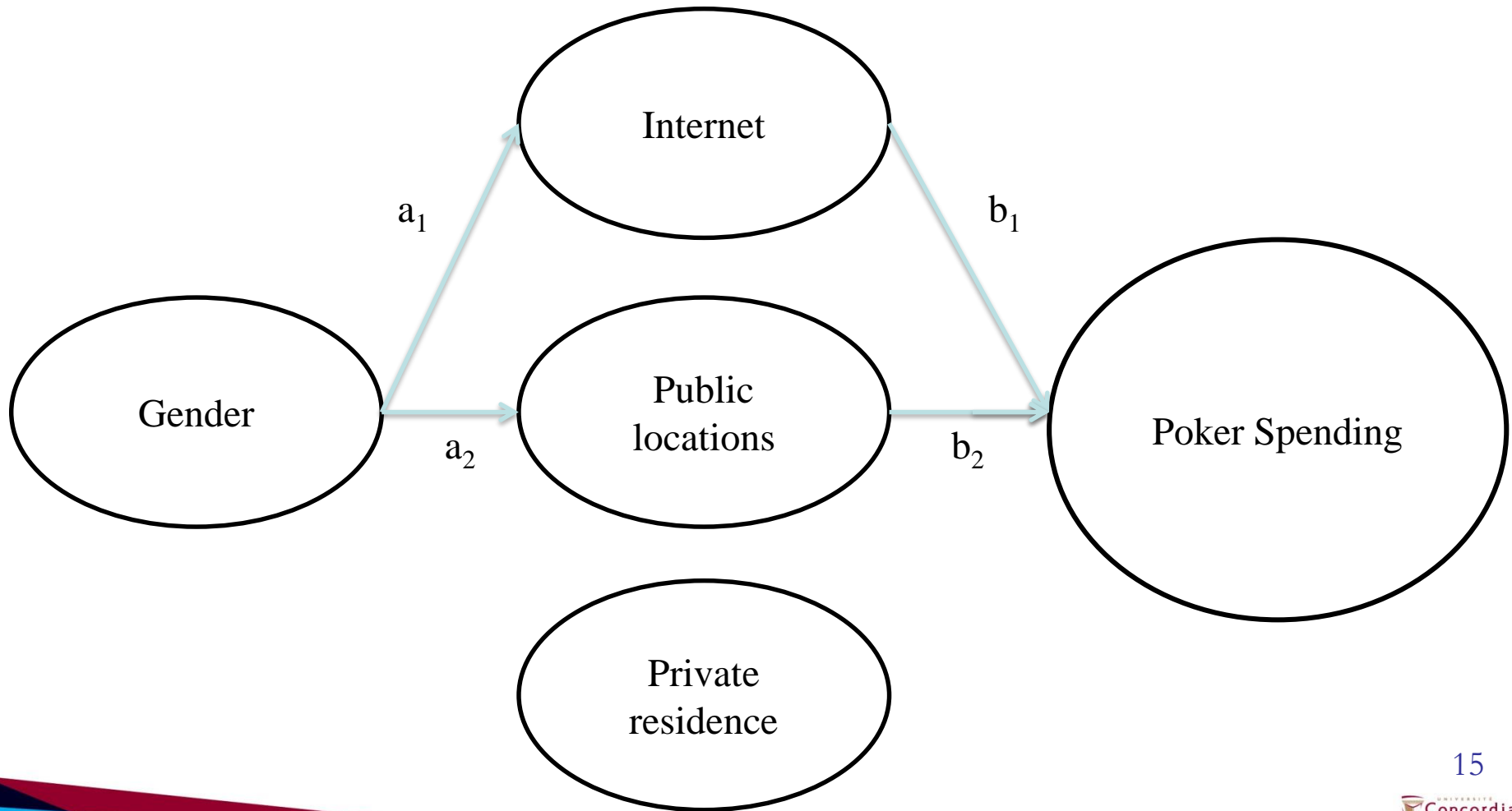
GENDER, SETTING & PROBLEMS

Mediation model – Gender, locations, and poker expenditures and problems



GENDER, SETTING, & SPENDING

Mediation model – Gender, locations, and poker expenditures and problems



RESULTS

- Playing poker in public locations and online emerged as mediators of past-year poker spending and gambling problems
- Results suggested that gender alone does not explain disparities in gambling patterns
 - Rather, through increased occurrence of gambling in certain locations (i.e., public, and online), male gender is related to increased risky gambling behaviours and poker spending
 - Gender alone does not influence poker gambling
 - The settings where students gamble on poker, given their gender, need closer consideration

CONCLUSIONS (1)

- Contextualizing gambling patterns across locations is important when looking at the relationship between gender and gambling;;
- The locations represent a level of risk for excessive patterns of gambling and gambling problems;
- Prevention should factor in the setting as a significant level of intervention

CONCLUSIONS (2)

- We must move away from using male gambling patterns as a benchmark
- Need for more Canadian data about women's gambling as well as policy and services specific to women gamblers' needs

CONCORDIA.CA

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION
MERCI POUR VOTRE ATTENTION

REFERENCES

- Abarbanel, B. L., & Bernhard, B. J. (2012). Chicks with decks: The female lived experience in poker. *International Gambling Studies*, 12(3), 367-385. doi:10.1080/14459795.2012.680900
- Abbott, M., Binde, P., Hodgins, D., Korn, D., Pereira, A., Volberg, R., & Williams, R. (2013). Conceptual Framework of Harmful Gambling: An International Collaboration. Guelph, ON: The Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre (OPGRC). Retrieved from: http://greo.ca/sites/default/files/documents/conceptual_framework_04022013.pdf
- Afifi, T.O., Cox, B.J., Martens, P. J., Sareen, J., & Enns, M. W. (2010a). The relation between types and frequency of gambling activities and problem gambling among women in Canada. *Canadian Journal of Psychiatry*, 55(1), 21-28.
- Albanese, P., Busch, J., Evans, C., Ralkowski-Ham, A., Meredith, N., Stark, S. ... & Zahlan, N. (2011). Examination of the associations between problem gambling and various demographic variables among women in Ontario. Ottawa, ON: Ontario Problem Gambling
- Ellenbogen, S., Jacobs, D., Derevensky, J., Gupta, R., & Paskus, T. (2008). Gambling behavior among college student-athletes. *Journal of Applied Sport Psychology*, 20, 349-362. doi: 10.1080/10413200802056685
- Huang, J., Jacobs, D. F., Derevensky, J. L., Gupta, R., & Paskus, T. S. (2007). A national study on gambling among US college student-athletes. *Journal of American College Health*, 56(2), 93-99. doi:10.3200/JACH.56.2.93-100
- Kairouz, S., Paradis, C., Nadeau, L., Hamel, D., & Robillard, C. (2015). Patterns and trends in gambling participation in the Québec population between 2009 and 2012. *Canadian Journal of Public Health*, 106(3), 115-120. doi: 10.17269/cjph.106.4854
- Kairouz, S., Paradis, C., & Monson, E. (2015a). Does context matter? A multilevel analysis of gambling settings among undergraduates. *Addiction Research & Theory*. Advance online publication. doi: 10.3109/16066359.2015.1059826

REFERENCES

- LaBrie, R. A., Shaffer, H. J., LaPlante, D. A., & Wechsler, H. (2003). Correlates of college student gambling in the United States. *Journal of American College Health*, 52(2), 53-62. doi: 10.1080/07448480309595725
- Mark, M. E., & Lesieur, H. R. (1992). A feminist critique of problem gambling research. *British Journal of Addiction*, 87, 549–565.
- Marshall, K., & Wynne, H. (2004). Against the odds: A profile of at-risk and problem gamblers. *Health*, 84(2), 237-241.
- Martin, R. J., Usdan, S., Nelson, S., Umstatted, M. R., LaPlante, D., Perko, M., & Shaffer, H. (2010). Using the theory of planned behavior to predict gambling behavior. *Psychology of Addictive Behaviors*, 24(1), 89. doi: 10.1037/a0018452
- Statistics Canada (2002). Canadian Community Health Survey, Mental Health and Well-being 2002. (Catalogue no. 82-617-X). Retrieved from: <http://www.statcan.gc.ca/pub/82-617-x/pdf/4200078-eng.pdf>
- Volberg, R. A. (2003). Has there been a “feminization” of gambling and problem gambling in the United States? *Electronic Journal of Gambling Issues*, (8). doi:10.4309/jgi.2003.8.7
- Williams, R. J., & Volberg, R. A. (2013). *Gambling and problem gambling in Ontario*. Guelph, OM: Ontario Problem Gambling Research Centre & Ontario Ministry of Health and Long Term Care. Retrieved from <https://www.uleth.ca/dspace/handle/10133/3378>

IMAGE SOURCE:

<http://www.eldoradocountyweather.com/canada/AirQuality/air-quality-maps/images/canadamap.jpg>