**Methods:**

The purpose of this research study was to determine how knowledge of sports, experience as a sports spectator, and confidence level are associated with likelihood to engage in sports betting? A pilot-test cross-sectional online survey was given to twenty three high school students in grades 11 and 12. A consent letter was provided to ensure it was anonymous and voluntary. The survey consisted of eight multiple choice questions and took approximately three minute for participants to answer. Subjects were recruited from a random population on facebook. Since the survey was posted via a social networking site rather than sent to individual subjects, the response rate was unable to be calculated. The participants demographic information is included in Table 1 below:

 *Table 1: Demographic Characteristics of Participants*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Demographic Characteristic** | **Percentage of Population *(n=23)*** |
| Male | 35% (n = 8) |
| Female | 65% (n = 15) |
| Hispanic or Latino | 61% (n = 14) |
| African American | 26% (n = 6) |
| Asian | 9% (n = 2) |
| White | 4% (n = 1) |
| 17-18 | 48% (n = 11) |
| 15-16 | 52% (n = 12) |

A 2x2 table was calculated with the questions listed below. Relative risk was calculated between frequency of watching basketball and likelihood to bet. Participants who reported they watch sports once per week or many times per week were considered to have the hypothesized risk factor for sports betting.

**Risk Factor Question:** How often do you watch college basketball games during the season?

* + Never
	Rarely
	+ A few times per month
	+ Once per week
	+ Many times per week

**Outcome Question:** Did you enter a pool or bet against one or more people (with money involved) for the NCAA men’s basketball tournament?

* + Yes
	+ No

**Results:**

Survey data was analyzed in order to determine how knowledge of sports, experience as a sports spectator, and confidence level are associated with likelihood to engage in sports betting.

A summary of participant responses for each question are listed in Table 2 below.

*Table 2: Participant responses for five multiple-choice questions related to knowledge, experience, confidence, and sports betting.*

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Response 1** | **Response 2** | **Response 3** |
| **Q1. Worries about organ donation** | **Yes: 20% (n=3)** | **No: 80% (n=18)** |  |
| **Q2. Have you sexual health education before?** | **Yes** | **No**  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |

*(3-5 sentence analysis of any significant findings.)*

In order to study the relationship between exposure to watching sports and likelihood to bet, the 2x2 relative risk analysis was performed using the results in Table 3 below.

*Table 3: 2x2 contingency table for experience watching sports and sports betting*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |

 *(SHOW RR CALCULATION EQUATION)*

The relative risk calculation of 1.03 showed that there was no significant relationship between experience watching games and likelihood to bet on sports, at least within this small pilot test sample population. (Continue with a short analysis of this result, ~2-3 sentences).

**Literature Review:** *(Example of one paragraph)*

Researchers have become more interested in decision-making and risk analysis in the past decade as sports betting online has been on the rise. In a study by Charles Barkley (2013), college students were given scenarios related to betting and asked questions regarding their hypothetical actions and confidence level. Researchers sought to determine how the type of choices given are associated with confidence level and determined that when given simple choices, subjects ranked their confidence level higher, even when the odds were the same. This study shows that people often take risks in sports betting based on the choices they perceive they are making, regardless of experience level or knowledge of sports. Therefore, the pilot test data showing that no relationship existed between experience level and likelihood to bet are supported by this study, since the type of choice being made seems to be a more significant predictor of betting behavior.