

LOTTERY

Ten Myths vs. Real Truth

Myth #1 The Bible has nothing to say against the lottery.

The lottery is a covetous form of stealing, Ex. 20:15, 17, "Thou shalt not steal... Thou shalt not covet..."

The lottery promotes violence, Prov. 15:27, "He that is greedy of gain troubleth his own house..." Also Prov. 21:25-26.

The lottery is contrary to biblical stewardship, Eph. 4:28, "Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labor, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth."

The lottery violates biblical work ethic, 2 Thess. 3:10, "... if any would not work, neither should he eat."

The lottery violates law of love, Matt. 22:34-40.

The lottery exploits poor, Amos 5:6-7, 10-15.

Myth #2 The lottery is harmless family entertainment.

The lottery is a vice, like alcohol, drugs, prostitution.

The lottery has no place for a believer, I Cor. 6:19.

Myth #3 The lottery is a sound method to raise revenue.

Lottery money used as revenue, exploits citizens.

The lottery supplies no more than 3% of state budget needs.

Myth #4 The lottery is a painless source of new revenue.

The lottery is regressive; the poor are hardest hit.

The lottery increases poverty, crime, loss of income, emotional, physical trauma on citizens.

Myth #5 The lottery is a stable source of new revenue.

Lottery revenues decline after initial euphoria.

The lottery industry admits revenues are not stable.

Myth #6 The lottery will stimulate business growth.

Lottery revenue is reallocated business resources.

The lottery eliminates many small businesses.

Myth #7 The lottery will support educational needs.

The lottery provides 1% to 3% of state education needs.

The lottery provides 12 days per year in only 2 states.

Myth #8 The lottery is part of our national heritage.

Because of the corruption they brought, gambling and the lottery were outlawed by the states in the 1800's.

The lottery is a bad decision, don't repeat it.

Myth #9 The lottery will be controlled by the state.

The lottery has brought corruption to states that have it.

Myth #10 The lottery does not contribute to addictions.

The lottery is addictive and increases where legalized.

The lottery, when legalized by states, gains acceptance.

The lottery, when legalized, appeals to teenagers.

Source:

Ethics & Religious Liberties Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention

901 Commerce St., Suite 550

Nashville, TN 37203-3696

Telephone (615)244-2495.