

Position statement on “Regulation of Soccer Gambling”

Education Convergence 2003

1. Hong Kong, as a special region of China as well as an international city in Asia, should embrace such core values as integrity, justice and progressiveness with which Hong Kong can continue to extend its spirit and thus win global recognition. “Regulation of soccer gambling” would surely promote a social climate that runs against these positive core values.
2. Human resources are the most significant and invaluable attribute of Hong Kong’s continuous development and success. “Regulation of Soccer gambling” would have negative impact upon the growth of our youth, thus severely hampering the quality of future human asset in Hong Kong.
3. In agreement with education reforms, physical education has been recognized as one of the key learning areas of formal curriculum in Hong Kong school system, which has won applause of the public. However, sport activities especially football and basketball, due to the “Regulation of Soccer Gambling”, would be adversely affected by the negative practices.
4. It is defended that the “Regulation of Soccer Gambling” would effectively suppress illegal soccer gambling activities. However, this misconception undermines Hong Kong police force’s long-standing and well-established goodwill as well as their efficiency.
5. Legislative council members bear high expectations from Hong Kong people. However, after “Regulation of Soccer Gambling”, they have the right to participate in soccer gambling activities. This will definitely create embarrassment and distrust. They would set bad examples for our youngsters to follow.
6. Soccer matches take place in different countries all over the globe. Gambling addicts could be waiting round the clock for the match results. This would have negative effects on family life and interpersonal relationships.
7. To nurture newspaper reading habit of our students, schools promote newspaper reading among students. However, newspapers, in the wake of the regulation concerned, will be preoccupied with columns of soccer gambling information which would make schools’ effort come to naught.