



### Perils of betting on the future

Betting markets now exist for the outcome of elections, reality TV shows and even criminal trials - is there anything you can't punt on? Jason Chess, Wiggin's gaming partner, considers the current position.

A sense of ethics is just about all that stands between Paddy Power and an offering on an event involving human tragedy says Chess. "In the UK the ambit of events you can legally offer bets on is wide."

"The definition of a bet is an unascertained future event, so while it would be in appallingly bad taste to offer a market on Madeleine McCann, as long as it does not defame anyone, it wouldn't be illegal."

See "Perils of betting on the future" The Guardian, 10 December 2007 for further details.