

The Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous

- 1.)* Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.
- 2.)* For our group purpose there is but one ultimate authority—a loving God as He may express Himself in our group conscience. Our leaders are but trusted servants; they do not govern.
- 3.)* The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.
- 4.)* Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.
- 5.)* Each group has but one primary purpose—to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.
- 6.)* An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.
- 7.)* Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.
- 8.)* Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers.
- 9.)* A.A., as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.
- 10.)* Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.
- 11.)* Our public relations policy is based on attraction rather than promotion; we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, and films.
- 12.)* Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our Traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.