

THE TWELVE TRADITIONS

(The Short Form)

Our A.A. experience has taught us that....

Tradition One

Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.

Tradition Two

**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.**

Tradition Three

The only requirement for A.A. membership is a desire to stop drinking.

Tradition Four

**Each group should be autonomous
except in matters affecting other groups or A.A. as a whole.**

Tradition Five

**Each group has but one primary purpose—
to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.**

Tradition Six

**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.**

Tradition Seven

Every A.A. group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions.

Tradition Eight

**Alcoholics Anonymous should remain forever non-professional,
but our service centers may employ special workers.**

Tradition Nine

**A.A., as such, ought never be organized;
but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.**

Tradition Ten

**Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues;
hence the A.A. name ought never be drawn into public controversy.**

Tradition Eleven

**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.**

Tradition Twelve

**Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions,
ever reminding us
to place Principles before Personalities.**