

The Twelve Traditions

- 1. Our common welfare should come first, personal recovery depends upon AA. 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 film.**
- 12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place principles before personalities.**

(from Pages 562 of “The Big Book” ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS, 4th Edition)