

The 12 Traditions

- 1. Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on AA unity.**
- 2. For our group purpose there is 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 AA membership is a desire to stop drinking.**
- 4. Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or AA as a whole.**
- 5. Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers.**
- 6. An AA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the AA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.**
- 7. Every AA 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. AA, as such ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committee's directly responsible to those they serve.**
- 10. Alcoholics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence the AA name ought never be drawn into 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.**