



The ACA Twelve Traditions

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

The Twelve Traditions are reprinted and adapted from the original Twelve Traditions of Alcoholics Anonymous and are used with the permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc.

Adult Children of Alcoholics®/Dysfunctional Families World Service Organization, Inc.

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