

Fifty-Two Questions About The Traditions

General

1. What is the purpose of the Traditions?
2. Are Traditions meant to be worked, the same way we work the Steps?
3. What are "the ties that bind us together" and "those that would tear us apart"?
4. What is meant by "true spiritual principles are never in conflict" and how does this relate to the Traditions?

Tradition One

"Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends on NA unity."

5. What is "unity" and how is it the "Practical Foundation" of our Traditions?
6. Should we place "Our common welfare" before personal welfare? Why?
7. What are the most common causes of disunity within NA?
8. How does personal recovery depend on NA 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."

9. How does the HP we found when we began working Step Two relate to Tradition Two?
10. What is "Group conscience," and how it be measured?
11. Is "Group conscience" always right?
12. What is a "Trusted servant" and how do they serve, and whom do they serve?

Tradition Three

"The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop using."

13. What is "a desire to stop using"?
14. How can we tell if someone has a "desire to stop using"?
15. What are some of the common ways we destroy membership and how can we avoid them?
16. What are some of the privileges and responsibilities of NA membership?

Tradition Four

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

17. What is "autonomy" and why isn't it a license to do anything we want?
18. What sorts of things "affect other groups or NA as a whole"?
19. How can we use "Autonomy" to further the "Primary Purpose" of our groups?
20. How can we avoid misusing the "Principle of Autonomy"?

Tradition Five

"Each group has but one primary purpose - to carry the message to the addict who still suffers."

21. Why is our "Primary Purpose" important and why does it need to be defined in our Traditions?
22. What is the difference between my purpose as a member and the purpose of a "NA Group"?

23. Do "NA Groups" have other purposes than "to carry the message" and, if so what are they?
24. Whose responsibility is it to fulfill and maintain our "Primary Purpose"?

Tradition Six

"An NA group ought never endorse, finance, or lend the NA name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, or prestige divert us from our primary purpose."

25. What are the specific meanings of "endorse, finance, or lend the NA name"?
26. How could these actions lead to "problems of money, property, or prestige"?
27. What are related facilities and outside enterprises?
28. How do Service Boards, Service Committees, conventions, etc. relate to this tradition?

Tradition Seven

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

29. What are there ways (other than financial) that I can help us be "Fully self-supporting"?
30. What is the "Principle of self-sacrifice" and how does it relate to this Tradition?
31. Why shouldn't NA accept contributions from anyone?
32. How does this Tradition relate to the "Principle of Anonymity"?

Tradition Eight

"Narcotics Anonymous should remain forever nonprofessional, but our service centers may employ special workers."

33. What is a "Professional" and does professionalism contradict the "Principle of Autonomy"?
34. What is a "Special Worker," are they responsible to "Group Conscience" and, if so, how?
35. Is a "Special Worker" an employee of NA, who hires them, and how do they get paid?
36. What is a "Service Center" and, can they function without "Special Workers"?

Tradition Nine

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

37. What are "NA", "NA as such", "NA as a whole" and the "Fellowship of NA"?
38. Is the Service Structure of NA part of "NA as such" and how does it relate to this Tradition?
39. Can we create anything other than "Service Boards and Committees" and, if so, how?
40. Who do our "Service Boards and Committees" serve and what does direct responsibility mean?

Tradition Ten

"Narcotics Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues, hence, the NA name ought never be drawn into public controversy."

41. What is an "Outside Issue"?
42. When does an NA member's opinion get mistaken for NA's opinion?
43. How could the NA name be drawn into public controversy and what would be the effect on NA?
44. How do we deal with "Internal 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."

45. What are "Attraction" and "Promotion"?
46. How does the "Personal Anonymity" of this Tradition differ from "Anonymity" in the next?
47. What are "Public Relations" and what are our public relations policies?
48. Does this Tradition separate us from society and, if so, how?

Tradition Twelve

"Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of all our traditions, ever reminding us to place, principles before personalities."

49. What is the "Principle of Anonymity"?
50. Specifically, how is anonymity the "Spiritual Foundation" of each of our Traditions?
51. Is there a difference between "Public Anonymity" and "Anonymity" within NA?
52. Why is our tendency to focus on personalities a problem and how does it violate this Tradition?