

# DO WE CARE ABOUT THE TWELVE TRADITIONS?

There's not a lot of talk in SLAA about the 12 Traditions... However, they are VITALLY IMPORTANT to the health and survival of this and every other 12 Step fellowship! (If you've never studied the traditions, how they came to be, and why they are so important, please consider picking up a copy of the AA 12 & 12.)

Right now, there is a new SLAA meeting that is currently in violation of many of the Traditions. Here is the meeting listing, followed by a brief analysis of what the relevant Traditions have to say...

SUNDAY					
10:00 AM	Los Angeles	AT Center, 1773 Griffith Park Blvd., 90026 (Statement of Safety for People of Color Meetings: This Meeting is for People of Color Only. For our group purpose, People of Color are defined as people of Native American Heritage, African descent, Latina/Latino/Latinx, Chicana/o/x, Asian/Pacific Islander, or People of Color from the Middle East, or anyone of Mixed Racial Heritage including one or more of the above. For anyone who does not fall into any of those categories, we ask if you are in need of a meeting, please seek one of the nearly 50+ in the LA County area. We hope you find an appropriate meeting and keep coming back to the program.)	SLAA People of Color – Los Angeles. Exploring intersections of Racism and Sex and Love Addiction	<a href="#">map</a>	9/C/SP/L

**TRADITION 1 - Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon SLAA unity.**

This meeting's description expressly excludes certain groups. But our first tradition tells us that all of our recovery depends upon UNITY. In order for the individual to get and stay sober, we must be united. If we are seeking to strengthen SLAA and increase diversity, we ought to be striving for inclusiveness, not division.

**TRADITION 5 - Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the sex and love addict who still suffers.**

This is our ONLY purpose. There are many worthwhile topics that we could focus on in our meetings, but the early AAs found that including outside issues only leads to dilution of the message. In order for the program to remain effective, it MUST have singleness of purpose. A SLAA meeting is not the place to tackle other topics, no matter how worthy.

**TRADITION 10 - SLAA has no opinion on outside issues; hence the SLAA name ought never to be drawn into public controversy.**

Another key to the longevity and success of the 12 Step programs is a steadfast avoidance of involvement in ANY outside issues or controversy. Regardless of how important a certain outside issue may seem, we simply cannot attach the SLAA name to it.

**TRADITION 4 - Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or SLAA as a whole.**

Yes, when it comes right down to it, every group is autonomous. This means they get to do whatever the heck they want, as long as it doesn't harm any other group or the fellowship as a whole. Meetings are free to violate as many of the Traditions as they want. Our intergroup doesn't get to tell them what to do.

However, given that this meeting IS in violation of so many of the Traditions that are so vital to keeping our program alive, our intergroup cannot sanction it by listing it in our meeting directory.

**SUGGESTION: NO MEETING THAT VIOLATES THE TWELVE TRADITIONS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE SLAA LOS ANGELES MEETING DIRECTORY. (ON THE OTHER HAND, IF THIS MEETING CHOOSES TO COMPLY WITH THE TRADITIONS, IT SHOULD ABSOLUTELY BE LISTED. )**