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October 23, 1983

Dear fellow member,

This draft, entitled the Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions of Narcotics Anonymous is not N.A. conference approved literature. This material is for consideration by the WSC-Literature Subcommittee only. It is not approval literature and should only be distributed amongst literature committees. It is for the purpose of generating input to the World Literature Committee and may be reproduced in small quantities only.

This draft will be reviewed and discussed at the 9th World Literature Conference which will be held in Jamison, Pennsylvania, November 6th-11th, 1983. Please address all inquiries and input to:

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> > In loving service,

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NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

TWELVE STEPS AND TWELVE TRADITIONS

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS



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FIRST DRAFT

(For input and review)

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Our common welfare should come first; personal 2 recovery depends on N.A. unity.

Common welfare is at the top of the list in the 12 tradi-4 tions, because if you can't believe in yourself as an individual, who or what can you believe in? If we break down "common welfare" to its simplest form it means shared happiness, well-being and spiritual prosperity. Common welfare is what is best for the group, 8 not for one individual. Before voting on something, we can first 9 think, "would this hurt the group as a whole, or is it just to fit 10 the needs on one person?" To make sure that there is stability in 11 the group we should be able to disagree but not have to disagreeable. 12 We need to think about the welfare of N.A. first, not just the wel-13 fare of ourselves. Coming to believe that we have a common welfare 14 is not always easy. We have come to this program with our personal 15 welfare foremost in our minds. Most of us had never experienced the 16 kind of attention and personal care that we find in the N.A. pro-17 gram. We are accepted and loved for what we are; instead of "in 18 spite" of what we are. The individual is precious to the group, 19 and the group is precious to the individual. We seek out the people 20 | in N.A. who have the most to offer. We try also to share what we 21 have with those who have nothing to offer. We get involved with 22 service committees in the program. We study ourselves through the 23 Steps, our sponsors and others in the program. We depend on Narco-24 tics Anonymous for our very lives. If N.A. dies, we die. It is up 25 to us to preserve our fellowship so that we will have a place to re-26 cover.

As addicts the self-centered nature we possess impairs 28 pur ability to see beyond ourselves. Any collective consciousness is threatening to us. Only through practicing some sort of "Blind

The Twelve Steps led us to a point of recovery that seemed to make the world change before our eyes, for the better. By practicing the N.A. principles in all our affairs, we attract other addicts to us, addicts we are now capable of helping.

What we have today is the wonderful fact of our recovery and all that it means to us. Each day we live clean awakens us to the freedom we had all along but failed to realize. We succeed now where we had known only failure before. Many of our dreams, forgotten and obscured by our addiction, return and help us regain the sense of wonder and excitement at the miricle of living clean. The old compulsions fade and the habits of mind associated with addiction weaken and are broken. A great many things become possible for us. Since we live clean and grow, we are able to take our place in the world.

