

EXHIBIT "K"



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

January 17, 1991

Ad Hoc Committee
United Kansas City Area
P.O. Box 410187
Kansas City, MO 64141

Dear Ad Hoc Committee Members,

I have received your letter of December 15, 1990. I will forward it, along with my response, on to the WSO Board of Directors for their review.

We thank you for sharing your solutions with us and have forwarded your ideas on to other areas who are experiencing similar controversy.

The issue of the "altered version of the basic text" has been a long and stressful road for the Board of Directors to travel. The foremost task of the World Service Office is to handle the publishing and distributing of our basic text for the fellowship. This includes holding the copyrights in a fiduciary capacity. Generally, this is a simple process. When our properties are infringed, we respond promptly and in most cases have diverted the infringement in its early stages. Failure to respond promptly when we are officially aware of infringement constitutes endorsement in the legal arena. If we failed to protect our rights in this case, this would set a precedent for others to do the same citing the precedent set in this case. I want to express that while the issues do need to be brought before the fellowship, the infringement must be stopped before we can proceed to do that.

The process of copyright protection is, in most cases, a simple and straightforward process. It becomes more complex when the infringers are members and differences exist in the manner in which various editions of our basic text have been approved. In order for us to evaluate the issues, we have had to separate them from the actual infringement and evaluate them individually. We are certain that you also crossed this bridge in your review of the issues.

Throughout this difficulty, we have continually offered ways of settling this through the fellowship, however the infringers have refused all offers. We appealed to them to stop the infringement, whereupon we would take the surrounding issues to the World Service Conference. It wasn't until January 4, 1991, did the parties come to an agreement in federal court. This has been done through a permanent injunction and with the understanding that the Board of Directors will present issues to the fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report*. In doing this, our copyrights are protected and we can now move ahead to resolve our internal problems. It is the feeling of the Board of Directors that this is necessary for our common welfare.

As of January 4, 1991 all litigation in this case has concluded. We will be sending a formal announcement of this settlement out to all regions, areas, and members as soon as possible. It is our hope that your region will devote some of its time to the affirmations and motions in the *Conference Agenda Report* which reflect these issues. We feel strongly that the issues surrounding our basic text and its price must be settled by our membership so we can return to a unified approach to carrying our message of recovery. We are optimistic that this will move us toward that approach within the spirit of our traditions.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stu Tooredman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors

ST/cs

cc: WSO Board of Directors
United Kansas City ASC
Mid-America RSC

JAN 7 1991

Ad Hoc Committee, UKCA
P. O. Box 410187
Kansas City, MO 64141

December 15, 1990

Stuart Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors
World Service Office, Inc.
Narcotics Anonymous
P. O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Dear Stuart:

We are writting in reference to the "altered version of the Basic Text" or the Baby Blue as it is commonly refered to. This Ad Hoc Committee was formed by the United Kansas City Area (UKCA) in order to convey the Area's concerns regarding this unapproved literature. This proved to be a challenging undertaking with an ever expanding scope as discussion continued. We will attempt to communicate our experiences, concerns beliefs and hopes to you.

Upon receiving the letter dated June 20, 1990 from the Board of Trustees addressed to the Fellowship at large a series of events began to unfold in the UKCA. Some people in the Area took the "suggestions" offered in this letter and others choose to pursue other avenues, many began asking questions. One group within this area decided at their group conscience to make the Baby Blue available, free of charge to newcomers. Their reasoning for this was a difference in cost of \$ 6.50 per book. This is a somewhat small group with very limited resources and a State run treatment center two blocks away. They did not give Basic Texts away but they kept disappearing nonetheless. As a result of this decision individuals from another group (not "the" Group) came to an open meeting and brought their feelings (mostly negative) out for discussion during the meeting. The disunity that resulted touched the newcomers that attended, one of which left in tears. We as a committee feel that this was an inappropriate way and time to broach this topic.

At the next ASC this group shared that it was distributing the Baby Blue. Much discussion ensued with some of it centered on a solution to the problem of a group not being able to afford literature for newcomers, but the situation was not resolved. The discussion was extremely long, resolved very little, exposed a lack of information and many opinions, yet was necessary nonetheless. It was productive in that some information was exchanged, emotions were vented and some heads came out of the sand. The legalities were explained, the traditions defined as they pertain to this controversy and many underlieing issues resulting in the printing of the Baby Blue were brought to light.

The group distributing the Baby Blue held a business meeting shortly thereafter. A lot of good ideas and feelings were exchanged in the appropriate setting, that being a business meeting and not a recovery meeting. The Regional Chairperson and the Area Service Representative attended with the intension of sharing information. After much discussion, some confussion, understanding and a desire to avoid controversy the group decided to distribute only Conference approved literature.

The present situation is that several groups have donated Basic Texts to the group previously described, some amends have been made and accepted but some tensions still exist. For some, opinions are vacillating, others are firmly entrenched in their beliefs and many are still confused. Many issues have been brought to light (re: "the 39 specific concerns" from letter dated 10/12/90 by Chairperson, WSO Board of Directors) and questions are being asked. This committee believes that some of these questions/issues are valid and deserving of a Fellowship wide response if not action in the near future. Many believe the situation was handled poorly from the outset. The service structure at the World level responded to almost every action of the parties responsible for the printing of the Baby Blue which did little more than add credibility to their cause and to further polarize members of the Fellowship. It seems as though World Service was very defensive and acted out of fear. Fear of what, we are not sure and it is not productive to speculate. We believe if we do certain things, act and react in a spiritual manner that "we have nothing to fear." This applies to personal affairs, occupational affairs, and World Service affairs as well. Evidence of utilizing spiritual principles in this affair is lacking. This has caused a lack of faith in the judgement and focus of World Service. This situation should have been settled long ago and without the involvement of the Fellowship at large.

The effect on the Fellowship in the United Kansas City Area and its members has been varied. Some are apathetic about the situation and of course service matters in general, yet even they are not untouched by the rippling effect of this controversy and the resultant lack of unity. Of those who are active in and/or concerned with service and World issues the reactions vary from unyielding faith and support in the actions of World Service to anger, distrust, dismay and disenchantment with the Narcotics Anonymous Fellowship.

Some say that Narcotics Anonymous is in its darkest hour, we do not believe this to be true. If our service structure chooses to look for the opportunities for growth and change which could result from the present state of affairs then the Fellowship will be better equipped to focus on its primary purpose and experience the growth that God wills for the Fellowship. Many vehicles to facilitate this progress have already been drafted for consideration (ie: Budget Review and Utilization Committee, A Guide to Service, and the list goes on and on), it is our hope that action is taken in this direction. It is also our hope that receipts from literature sales are not used to persecute (not to be read as prosecute) members of our Fellowship. We further hope that sufficient legal action is pursued to protect our copyright but that punitive damages (fines or imprisonment) not be sought. Finally, it is our hope that this issue be resolved in an expeditious and spiritual fashion and that love, spirituality and recovery again become the focus of this fellowship.

Yours in love and recovery,

Ad Hoc Committee, UKCA



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

January 17, 1991

Abbie Jackson
P.O. Box 564
West Falmouth, MA 02574

Dear Abbie,

I have received your letter of December 21, 1990 and will forward a copy of it, along with my response, on to the WSO Board of Directors for their review.

I'd like to address your statement, "Why don't you simply put Dave out of business by producing paperback recovery texts that groups could afford to buy?" It is important to understand that the World Service Office does not have the authority to develop a new literature project without conference approval. We will produce whatever the fellowship directs us to produce. Some of the considerations in producing a text such as you describe are: Will the sales of the lower cost text be sufficient to provide the fellowship with the same services? Do we want to reduce services in order to provide this book? In the past the *White Booklet* has been the "lower cost" literature handed out to newcomers. Groups and individuals have taken on the responsibility to provide or buy texts for newcomers. Does the fellowship desire to change that? The Board of Directors feels that these issues should be decided by the fellowship, not any of the boards. We are confident that this issue will be discussed in detail at the next World Service Conference.

You asked which group conscience we took before committing fellowship funds to take a member of our fellowship to court. The group conscience of the WSC Literature committee and the groups as a whole in 1982 when the copyrights were assigned in trust to the World Service Office. Assignment of copyrights in trust requires that the administrators of the trust protect the property from all infringement on behalf of the beneficiaries. We are asking for the fellowship to re-affirm WSO's role as the fiduciary trust in the *Conference Agenda Report* so the fellowship can once again assign those copyrights to the World Service Office or to whomever they wish. I hope that your group will participate in this conscience.

All meetings of the World Service Conference have been on the west coast because the office is located there, making it both financially feasible and logistically sound because the staff resides there and the office equipment is accessible. We recently presented to the WSC Administrative Committee that perhaps we could better serve our worldwide fellowship by rotating the WSC. As a result the Administrative Committee has put forth a motion in the *Conference Agenda Report* for fellowship consideration that will allow the annual meeting of the World Service

Conference to rotate if the motion is adopted. Again, this is a decision that must be made by the World Service Conference.

Yes, it is true that a region gets only one vote, regardless of its size or the amount of groups. My feelings on this are the same as yours, but again, this is a decision that must be made by the World Service Conference. It is not within the authority of the World Service Office to modify or change the way business is conducted in Narcotics Anonymous.

The law firm of Wagner and Middlebrook is our copyright attorney and act on our behalf under what is referred to as "attorney-client privilege." We are not attorneys and are not able to represent ourselves, nor is it appropriate for us to do so. This is why attorney-client privilege exists. Wagner and Middlebrook does not have a list of fellowship names, it is retained by us. The names were provided for the mailing on their letterhead as a legal appeal on our behalf. We always send out communication with first and last names unless we are only provided with a first name.

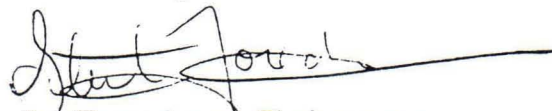
No. It is not true that we hire non-addict professional writers to write our literature. We do hire skilled staff as special workers but they are all addicts and all of their work is reviewed by established trusted servant review panels. All review panel members are addicts. Final approval of any N.A. literature is done by the fellowship prior to production.

Yes, there are non-addict trustees. This is a provision in the *Temporary Working Guide to our Service Structure* which is approved by the fellowship. If you would like further information about the Board of Trustees, I would suggest that you write to them directly.

No. It is not true that we are more interested in the product than the process. I'm not entirely certain what your meaning is when you make this statement, but if you mean to imply that we compromise the process in order to get the product, you are mistaken. We are concerned with the quality of the product and strive to ensure that the best possible product is available to the addict who still suffers.

I have provided you, as a beneficiary of the charitable trust, all information requested within the confines of the trust developed by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. The response has been entered into the permanent record of WSO, Inc. as a response in relation to our fiduciary duties. I only regret it couldn't be as a fellow addict and trusted servant.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stu Tooredman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors

ST/cs

cc: WSO Board of Directors

P.O. Box 564
West Falmouth, MA 02574
December 28, 1990

Mr. Stu Tooredman
Mr. George Hollahan
World Service Office, Inc.
Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Gentlemen:

As a beneficiary of the Charitable Trust of the World Service Office, I would like to know a few things.

I have read much of your rhetoric about the printing of the Baby Blue text, and I understand that you believe you are acting in my best interests by taking Grateful Dave to court for printing these texts. What we need here is some inexpensive copies of **any** edition of the Basic Text. As a newcomer last year, I paid \$8.50 for a copy of the Fifth Edition, which I gave away on a commitment to the Barnstable County jail a month or so ago. I gave my own book away because we had nothing else to give. My home group is not in a financial position to give away \$8 books, nor am I. Now all I have to read is - you guessed it - a Baby Blue. And, it is better than nothing.

Why don't you simply put Dave out of business by producing paperback recovery texts that groups could afford to buy?

Which group conscience did you take before you committed Fellowship funds to take a member or our fellowship to court? My group was not asked about this matter.

Why are most of the World Conferences on the West Coast? Did your addictions leave you with enough money to travel across the country? Mine didn't.

Is it true that each region only gets one vote, although one region may contain 20 groups and another may contain 200? Why can't we base our WSC composition directly on group population like the American House of Representatives?

Is it true that you had your law firm send the "Cease and Desist" letter of July 10, 1990 to people's first and last names and addresses? What happened to the Twelfth Tradition? I certainly do not give you permission to let Ms. Wagner-Middlebrook know I'm an addict.

Is it true that you have hired professional, non-addicts to write our literature? What happened to "the therapeutic value of one addict helping another is without parallel"? Or did you rewrite that without group conscience too?

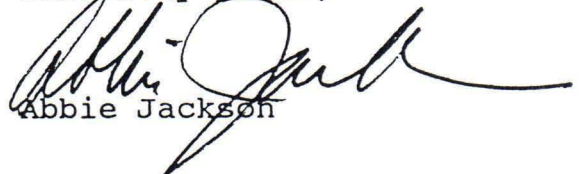
Is it true that there are non-addicts on the Board of Trustees?

Is it true that you are now more interested in "the product, not the process"? If so, how do I become a part of the creation and maintenance of my fellowship's literature?

I would like the courtesy of an individual response. I am not interested in receiving any of your mass mailings or previously released information.

Your full and timely response to my solicitation of information is greatly appreciated. If I receive no response from you, as a beneficiary of the trust which you administer, I will consider your failure to respond as a breach of your fiduciary duties.

Sincerely yours,



Abbie Jackson

cc: Grateful Dave
1110 East Palmer Street
Philadelphia, PA 19125



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

January 17, 1991

Indiana Regional Service Conference
Attn: Mitchell Peters
P.O. Box 871
Indianapolis, IN 46206

Dear IRSC Members,

I have received your letter of December 28, 1990 and will forward a copy of it, along with my response, on to the WSO Board of Directors.

The issue of litigation relating to the printing and distribution of the basic text has been a long and stressful road for the Board of Directors. Your letter speaks of your region being uninformed and/or misinformed. We have made it a practice to supply any and all information surrounding this matter. If there is any information which you have not received, we will be pleased to supply you with it.

Our legal council in both California and Philadelphia have advised us to pursue the path we have. We have asked over and over again; is there another way for Narcotics Anonymous to protect its copyrights. The answer has been simple: Either protect them or lose them. Our attorneys further informed us that, as administrators of a trust, we are responsible to protect all properties under our administration. This fact would apply to anyone who holds our copyrights, whether the holder is the Board of Trustees, the areas, the groups, or the members. The World Service Office was created for this purpose to have a way of responding to infringers of N.A.'s property. Thus making publishing and copyright protection the WSO's primary function.

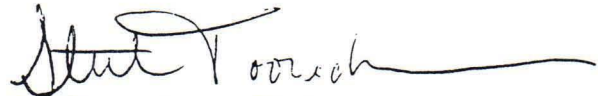
The problem becomes more complex when the infringers are members and differences exist in the way the various versions of the basic text were approved. In order for us to evaluate this, we have had to separate the issues and evaluate them individually. You must have crossed the bridge in your review of this matter.

Throughout this problem, we have continually offered ways of settling this through the fellowship, however the infringers have refused all offers. We appealed to them to stop the infringement, whereupon we would take the surrounding issues to the World Service Conference. It wasn't until January 4, 1991, did the parties come to an agreement in federal court. This has been done through a permanent injunction and with the understanding that the Board of Directors will present issues to the fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report*. In doing this, our copyrights are

protected and we can now move ahead to resolve our internal problems. It is the feeling of the Board of Directors that this is necessary for our common welfare.

As of January 4, 1991 all litigation in this case has concluded. We will be sending a formal announcement of this settlement out to all regions, areas, and members as soon as possible. It is our hope that your region will devote some of its time to the affirmations and motions in the *Conference Agenda Report* which reflect these issues. We feel strongly that the issues surrounding our basic text and its price must be settled by our membership so we can return to a unified approach to carrying our message of recovery. We are optimistic that this will move us toward that approach within the spirit of our traditions.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stu Tooredman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors

ST/cs

cc: WSO Board of Directors



December 28, 1990

Mr. Stu Tooredman
 Chairperson, WSO Board of Directors
 P.O. Box 9999
 Van Nuys, California 91409

Dear Stu:

I am writing on behalf of the Indiana Regional Service Conference in response to your correspondence dated September 20, 1990. Pursuant to your request for "guidance and support" in regards to the "illegal printing and distribution" of the basic text, the IRSC has discussed the issue extensively at the last two regional meetings. This entire situation, including the initiation of litigation by the WSO, has caused substantial controversy in our region, and apparently throughout the fellowship. The IRSC is in somewhat of a quandry over this issue, due primarily to the fact that we are uninformed and/or misinformed. Accordingly, the IRSC recommends that the WSO expend no further funds toward the current copyright litigation, until further information is available to the fellowship, provided further however that the WSO continue to finance an investigation of other ways to protect our copyright. One suggestion was to employ a copyright attorney to provide the fellowship as a whole with reliable information concerning who actually owns our symbol, trademark, basic text, etc. However, it appears that this is the precise subject of the current litigation.

We recognize the sensitive nature of this situation, having debated the matter ourselves. There are no easy solutions. However, we have absolute faith in our higher power, together with the 12 steps and 12 traditions of Narcotics Anonymous. Accordingly, any solution will ultimately come from the fellowship as a whole, through the principles of our recovery.

In loving fellowship and service,



MITCHELL A. PETERS
IRSC Vice-Chairperson

MAP/jld

cc: Ed Duquette, Chairperson
WSC Administrative Committee

cc: Jack Bernstein, Chairperson
World Service Board of Trustees



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

January 17, 1991

Kim & Richard Barnes
1815 Verano Street
Sacramento, CA 95838

Dear Kim and Richard,

I have received your letter of December 30, 1990 and have passed it on to the Board of Directors for their review. I would like to take this opportunity to respond to your questions on their behalf.

A) We are not aware of a meeting in Hollywood who printed their own *White Booklet*. For commemorative purposes, individuals did print the original version of the white book which by all standards is unusable in a meeting. In addition, the original version of the white book was never copyrighted.

The material produced in in Columbia is in the process of being copyrighted by WSO and is a collection of translated work from our conference approved literature. We have recently learned of this translation effort and have filed for copyright protection in Columbia. This would not be considered an altered version of the basic text because only segments have been translated. This practice is common in developing countries where we have not been previously involved. It therefore requires our continuing commitment to ensure accuracy and protection. We are hopeful that Columbia will soon join the World Service Conference as a participant.

B) No. The Board of Directors did not remove the Fourth and Ninth Traditions. I believe you are referring to their removal in the First Edition of our basic text. This was action was recommended by the Board of Trustees at the time. Yes, it did distort the printed message. That is why the World Service Conference acted to replace the removed language, and then subsequently asked the fellowship, who then removed it again.

C) This is correct in some respects. We could produce a less expensive book, but on the other hand, we could be substantially affected by the reduced income should the sales fail to produce the same revenue. In any event, the decision to produce a new literature product is not within the responsibilities of the World Service Office. The board feels strongly, that while pricing is within their responsibility, the issue of providing a partial basic text for less money is an issue the membership needs to decide for itself. In the past, the fellowship has approached this by considering the *White Booklet* the initial handout to newcomers. Generally,

the passing on of the basic text has been the responsibility of individual members except in the case of institutionalized addicts. We are confident that this issue will be brought before the fellowship at this year's World Service Conference.

D) Expenses for translation projects are accounted for in various expense categories in the financial reports. This is the reason a separate accounting was pulled out of those categories and detailed on the page you were referring to in the WSO report. Some of the categories where translation expenses will appear include cost of merchandise, accounting and legal, postage and shipping, contract labor, salaries, travel, and supplies. The Commemorative Edition was produced to acknowledge the sale of the 1,000,000th copy of the Basic Text. There was no prestige meant to be attached to it. It was simply a way of acknowledging our success and providing an opportunity for members to contribute directly to our efforts to translate our written message into non-English languages.

E) I asked for support on the actions being taken, not for a "group conscience." The task of copyright protection is clearly the responsibility of the WSO Board of Directors as holders of the copyrights. My requests over the last four months related to the information and actions we have taken or intended to take. We have received both support and criticism of our actions. Regardless, the fact remains that should we fail to protect the fellowship's properties, we would fail to be responsible to those we serve. Our actions are well within the Twelve Traditions.

F) The World Service Office is not designed to provide philosophical understandings to the fellowship unless it relates to the identified tasks of the World Service Office. Requests of this nature should be addressed to the Board of Trustees.

G) The French Edition of the basic text costs \$2.23 per copy to produce in addition to the associated cost of goods. The elimination of Book II in production makes the text almost half the size of the English basic text. The pricing of the French text was designed in such a way as to enable the French fellowship to pay at a rate equivalent to the U.S. fellowship. We hope this will recoup translation costs and provide additional revenue to provide services such as assisting translation efforts in other countries.

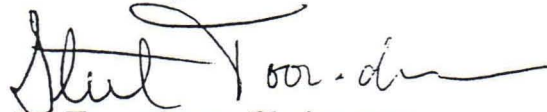
H) The World Service Office will send literature to anyone requesting it from an institutional setting on behalf of the WSC H&I Committee who has a fund established for this purpose. In the case of the Susanville Men's Fire Camp, they either did not represent the request correctly or there was an error. The WSC H&I budget is limited in how many basic texts they can provide to any one institution. The normal practice, when multiple requests are received from an institution, is to contact the chaplain or counselor at that institution and arrange to have several copies placed in the institution's library. I will be happy to look into the problem for you, but I will need the individual's name who made the request in order to trace the correspondence.

I) The World Service Office office is required to pursue all infringers of N.A.'s copyrights and until the infringement stops, we are bound to protect fellowship properties. Our offers to bring the issues before the fellowship, with the expected cessation of the infringement, were declined until January 4, 1991. On that day, in federal court, we settled the case with Dave based on the court's issuance of a permanent injunction and an agreement by the board to bring issues before the fellowship. This agreement protects us and allows us to move ahead to solve our

internal problems. The Board of Directors feels that it is in the fellowship's best interest for the issues to be settled within the fellowship, however, we must also ensure that N.A.'s copyrights are protected.

I have provided you, as a beneficiary of the charitable trust, all information requested within the confines of the trust developed by the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous. The response has been entered into the permanent record of WSO, Inc. as a response in relation to our fiduciary duties. I only regret it couldn't be as a fellow addict and trusted servant.

In fellowship,

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Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors

ST/cs

cc: WSO Board of Directors



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

February 1, 1991

Indiana Regional Service Conference
c/o Mitchell Peters
1123 West 52nd Drive #F21
Merrillville, IN 46410

Dear IRSC Members,

I have received your letter of December 28, 1990 and will forward a copy of it, along with my response, on to the WSO Board of Directors.

The issue of litigation relating to the printing and distribution of the basic text has been a long and stressful road for the Board of Directors. Your letter speaks of your region being uninformed and/or misinformed. We have made it a practice to supply any and all information surrounding this matter. If there is any information which you have not received, we will be pleased to supply you with it.

Our legal council in both California and Philadelphia have advised us to pursue the path we have. We have asked over and over again; is there another way for Narcotics Anonymous to protect its copyrights. The answer has been simple: Either protect them or lose them. Our attorneys further informed us that, as administrators of a trust, we are responsible to protect all properties under our administration. This fact would apply to anyone who holds our copyrights, whether the holder is the Board of Trustees, the areas, the groups, or the members. The World Service Office was created for this purpose to have a way of responding to infringers of N.A.'s property. Thus making publishing and copyright protection the WSO's primary function.

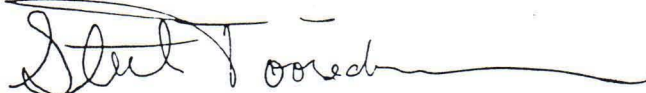
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Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors

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cc: WSO Board of Directors



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

January 17, 1991

Indiana Regional Service Conference

~~Attn: Mitchell Peters~~

~~P.O. Box 871~~

~~Indianapolis, IN 46206~~

1123 W. 52nd Dr. # F21

Merrillville, IN 46410

Dear IRSC Members,

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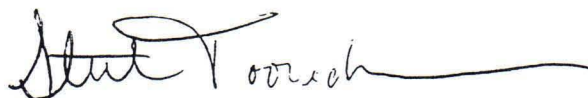
The problem becomes more complex when the infringers are members and differences exist in the way the various versions of the basic text were approved. In order for us to evaluate this, we have had to separate the issues and evaluate them individually. You must have crossed the bridge in your review of this matter.

Throughout this problem, we have continually offered ways of settling this through the fellowship, however the infringers have refused all offers. We appealed to them to stop the infringement, whereupon we would take the surrounding issues to the World Service Conference. It wasn't until January 4, 1991, did the parties come to an agreement in federal court. This has been done through a permanent injunction and with the understanding that the Board of Directors will present issues to the fellowship in the *Conference Agenda Report*. In doing this, our copyrights are

protected and we can now move ahead to resolve our internal problems. It is the feeling of the Board of Directors that this is necessary for our common welfare.

As of January 4, 1991 all litigation in this case has concluded. We will be sending a formal announcement of this settlement out to all regions, areas, and members as soon as possible. It is our hope that your region will devote some of its time to the affirmations and motions in the *Conference Agenda Report* which reflect these issues. We feel strongly that the issues surrounding our basic text and its price must be settled by our membership so we can return to a unified approach to carrying our message of recovery. We are optimistic that this will move us toward that approach within the spirit of our traditions.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stu Tooredman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stu Tooredman, Chairperson
WSO Board of Directors

ST/cs

cc: WSO Board of Directors



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

May 13, 1991

Chattahoochee/Flint Rivers ASC
P.O. Box 12333
Columbus, Ga. 31907

Dear Friends,

First, let me apologize profusely for the delay in responding to your letter. I am not sure at this moment of how your letter was routed but it did not appear on my desk until today. I am sorry but occasionally it does happen.

The concerns addressed in your first letter, signed by Thomas R., are shared by us all and provided the impetus for putting forth motions 13, 14, and 15 in the 1991 Conference Agenda Report. (As you may know by now all three motions did not receive majority support from WSC participants. However, the Conference did provide for the production of an Introductory Guide containing various approved I.P.'s and chapters from our Basic Text. The actual content is now being considered by all Regional Literature Committees who will forward their recommendations by August. This guide will be priced at \$2.00--\$2.50.)

Your second letter, dated January 16, 1991, displays your dedication to providing a comparison for your members. Since the Basic Text was originally approved there have been over 1,100 changes made between the First and Fifth Editions. A majority of these changes occurred between the Third Edition, Revised, and the Fifth Edition. Documentation of all the changes made to the Basic Text was sent out to all registered areas and regions in February.

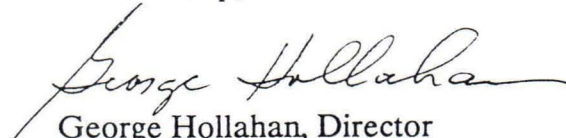
The Fourth and Ninth Traditions poll was done immediately following WSC 1984. It was a decision made at a time when the fellowship was much smaller, and the deadline was extended an extra two weeks. By today's standard and size of the fellowship it does seem to be a very short time, but the decision was accepted and has remained unchallenged. A copy of that poll is included for your information.

The spiritual integrity which we have mentioned in our correspondence was not meant to refer to those specific passages only. It more refers to our written message in general. If for instance we did not have some measure of insurance that our literature remain intact as we approve it, then the N.A. written message you have in Georgia may be significantly different than the one members read in Florida or Alabama. All because a member or a group decided that they did not like what was printed and changed it before you got here. It is not our position as the WSO to make those decisions about what appears in our literature but rather to protect and insure that the message that is approved is what appears in our literature.

I find that your lack of confidence is very disheartening for me personally. We do care and care an awful lot. I know that it is sometimes hard not to perceive the

WSO as this "big, giant, unfeeling corporation," but our primary purpose is to serve the fellowship as best we can. In order to do that effectively we need your support. We are listening and we have heard you and thank you for the time and effort you have spent.

In fellowship,


George Hollahan, Director
WSO Fellowship Services

GH/cs

Enc: 1984 WSC Poll Report

May 13, 1991

Chattahooche/Flint Rivers ASC
P.O. Box 12333
Columbus, Ga. 31907

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In fellowship,

George Hollahan, Director
WSO Fellowship Services

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CIRCULATION SHEET

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: CEPSW DATE: 4.15

ROUTE TO: George, Sig, Lantos, Anthony

SPECIFIC NOTES/PAGE NUMBERS: pg 1234: FY1

ROUTE TO: _____

SPECIFIC NOTES/PAGE NUMBERS: _____

ROUTE TO: _____

SPECIFIC NOTES/PAGE NUMBERS: _____

OTHER: _____

RETURN TO GROUP SERVICES WHEN FINISHED

Deb M.

Chattahoochee / Flint Rivers Area Service Committee
P.O. Box 12333
Columbus, Ga. 31907
1-800-347-5304

World Service Office Inc.
Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, Ca. 91409

Dear Friends,

The intent of this is to inform you of this area's conscience regarding the so-called "Baby Blue Text".

It is also the purpose of this letter to voice our concerns for the current state of unity in N.A. as a whole. This letter was drafted by an ad-hoc committee of this area formed specifically to address these issues. The disunity and controversy, which has made itself apparent of late, is of utmost concern to us as members of Narcotics Anonymous. We feel that our service structure has failed us, and we have failed it, due to our own lack of input and our apathetic attitudes toward service in general.

This breakdown has occurred because we have chosen to push our traditions aside. We have apparently lost sight of our primary purpose, which is to carry the message of recovery through spiritual principals, to the still-suffering addict.

We feel that the only spiritual solution must come from within our Fellowship, provided we practice the spiritual principals as they are set down in our steps and traditions. We have extensively reviewed and considered all information available to us. We have heard both sides' arguments, and have reached these conclusions: we feel that the basic text should undergo a formal fellowship review and input, and any legal action be suspended pending the completion of said review. We would like to see, in addition to our basic text with personal stories, a condensed version without the stories, at a price that is competitive to the price being charged for the unauthorized printings. This would allow our Groups' H. & I. and 12th step efforts to more effectively reach the addicts who might otherwise suffer and die from the hell we call addiction.

We, as a fellowship, have spent far too much time and money that should have been spent trying to reach out to our brothers and sisters who must live to use, and use to live. How many have died as a result of the time and money we have wasted fighting amongst ourselves?

The message of recovery from addiction is not what has been questioned here. It works! The problems we see are the power struggles taking place between our service boards & committees, the vehicle by which decisions are made that enable us to function as a united fellowship. Our traditions are very explicit as to how our fellowship should work. We are deeply saddened and concerned that we have failed the traditions that our predecessors so painstakingly set into motion and handed down to us. As members, our input is paramount; the very lifeblood of the fellowship we call home. Change has proved itself a necessary ingredient of our success. Let's make our changes. What we are doing is not working satisfactorily. It's time to listen to a concerned membership. We're not a minority anymore.

On behalf of this committee, with love

Thomas R.

Chattahoochee / Flint Rivers Area Service Committee
P.O. Box 12333
Columbus, Ga. 31907

MEMORANDUM

TO: WSO-BOD, WSBOT, WSC, The Fellowship
FROM: Chattahoochee/ Flint Rivers Area Service Committee
DATE: January 16, 1991
SUBJECT: "Illegal" printing & distribution of altered Basic Text

We have recently recieved copies of correspondence between WSO and some of the members of our fellowship allegedly responsible for the "illegal" reproduction and distribution of the third edition, revised, basic text. We requested this information from WSO some time ago but thus far have not received any of it. We were able to get it elsewhere though. Our first assertion is that upon casual observation, it is sometimes difficult to distinguish fact from propaganda. In our humble opinion, we are not receiving correct and true information from either side. A document, entitled "Comments on N.A. Service", concerning world level service structures, has been drafted by one "Grateful" member from Philadelphia, Pa. This thesis has raised a flurry of questions and discontent among the Fellowship-at-large in that it contains many allegations as to WSO-BOD, BOT, and WSC's attitude toward the concept of group conscience. Not having been personally involved in service at the world level, We can neither confirm nor deny the arguments pesented by this "Grateful" member, however we have procured a copy of the so-called "Baby Blue Text", and have researched the differences between it and our current "Conference Approved" Fifth Edition Basic Text.

These are the deletions refered to in the letter from Stuart Tooredman to the fellowship, that was read during our September ASC. In this comparative essay deletions from the original text are underlined. Additions to the original as presented in the Fifth Edition Basic Text are CAPITALIZED. The changes are as follows:

1)

A) "Baby Blue", 4th tradition, paragraph 2 : "One might ask, 'Are we truly autonomous? What about our service committees, our offices, activities, and all other things that go on in N.A.?' The answer is that these things are not N.A. They are services we utilize to help us in our recovery and to further the primary purpose of our groups. Narcotics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women; addicts meeting in groups and using a given set of spiritual principles to find freedom from addiction and a new way to live. All else is not N.A. Those things we mentioned are the results of members caring enough to reach out and offer their help and experience so that our road might be easier. Whether we choose to utilize these services is up to the group."

B) 5th Edition, 4th tradition, paragraph 2 : "One might ask, 'Are we truly autonomous? Don't we have service committees, offices, activities, HOT LINES, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES in N.A.?' They are services we use to help us in our recovery and to further the primary purpose of our groups. Narcotics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women; addicts meeting in groups and using a given set of spiritual principles to find freedom from addiction and a new way to live. All else is not N.A. Those things we mentioned are the results of members caring enough to reach out and offer their help and experience so that our road might be easier. Whether we choose to utilize these services is up to the group."

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2)

A) "Baby Blue", 4th tradition, paragraph 3 : "Meetings vary widely in format from group to group."

B) 5th Edition, 4th tradition, paragraph 3 : "MEETING FORMATS VARY WIDELY from group to group."

3)

A) "Baby Blue", 4th tradition, paragraph 4 : "Despite the type or format a group uses for its meetings, the function of a group is always the same;"

B) 5th Edition, 4th tradition, paragraph 4 : "WHATEVER the type or format a group uses for its meetings, the function of a group is always the same;"

4)

A) "Baby Blue", 4th tradition, paragraph 5 : "We say that for N.A., autonomy is more than this. It gives our groups the freedom to act upon their own to establish their atmosphere of recovery, serve their members, and fulfill their primary purpose."

B) 5th Edition, 4th tradition, paragraph 5 : "AUTONOMY gives our groups the freedom to act upon their own to establish their atmosphere of recovery, serve their members, and fulfill their primary purpose."

5)

A) "Baby Blue", 9th tradition, paragraph 1 : "For the purpose of this Tradition, 'organized' means having management and control."

B) 5th Edition, 9th tradition, paragraph 1 : "IN THIS Tradition, 'organized' means having management and control."

6)

A) "Baby Blue", 9th tradition, paragraph 2 : "The Ninth Tradition goes on to define the nature of the things we can do to help N.A. It says that we may create service boards or committees to serve the needs of the Fellowship. None of them has the power to rule, censor, decide, or dictate. They exist solely to serve the Fellowship, but they are not a part of Narcotics Anonymous. This is the nature of our service structure as it has evolved and been defined in the N.A. service manual."

B) 5th Edition, 9th tradition, paragraph 2 : "The Ninth Tradition goes on to define the nature of the things we can do to help N.A. It says that we may create service boards or committees to serve the needs of the Fellowship. They exist solely to serve the Fellowship. This is the nature of our service structure as it has evolved and been defined in the N.A. service manual."



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

May 14, 1991

Gary Ross, Chairperson
Southern Maine ASC
P.O. Box 5309, Station A
Portland, Maine 04101

Dear ASC Members,

Thank you for your letter of May 1, 1991. I hope the following information clears up some of the hearsay and rumors floating around your area.

The answers to your questions can be quite complex when you consider the various legalities of the situation. I want to stay away from that approach as it is difficult for most of us to understand completely.

No one in your region has specifically been charged with the responsibility of acting as an agent of the WSO, to report or uncover groups using the baby blue. From time to time we have received communication from members in your region about the subject and have subsequently requested more information. The information is simply used to assess the current situation and not to necessarily build a case against members or groups. Only in extreme circumstances, such as production and distribution, does it become necessary to take further action.

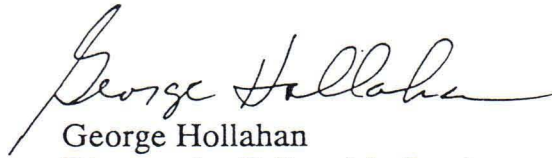
The WSO has never removed a group or meeting from its registration information for any reason, except when we have been notified that the group or meeting is no longer in existence. That is not a matter for our consideration.

As you have described the situation in your letter, the WSO has no intention of taking further action against your group or individual members of your group. We would only be forced into taking action if we had verified information that the group or its members were producing and distributing the baby blue or other unauthorized reproductions of N.A.'s copyrighted literature.

We cannot officially comment on your possession or use of the baby blues as it would compromise our responsibility for protecting the copyright. We would rather that decision prevail on your group's conscience. A statement adopted by the WSC is included for your information. The Conference also approved the production of an "Introductory Guide", which will be a compilation of Conference Approved literature. The price is expected to be \$2.00--\$2.50, and the contents will be based on the recommendations from Regional Literature Committees. We expect to have this new product in our inventory by mid-September.

Again, we thank you for your concern and hope that information provided will help you in efforts to carry the message.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "George Hollahan". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

George Hollahan
Director for Fellowship Services

GH/cs

Enc: Report from Ad-Hoc Committee

Gary Ross, Chairperson
Southern Maine Area of
Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 5309, Station A
Portland, ME 04101

May 1, 1991

Stuart Tooredman, Chairperson
World Service Office, Inc.
Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Dear Trusted Servant:

At the Area Service meeting of the Southern Maine Area of Narcotics Anonymous on April 27, 1991 the following motion was brought to the floor and passed by a vote of 6-0-2:

That ASC send a letter to World to support the Live For Today secretary in his request for a response from World regarding the Baby Blue controversy. Letters follow.
Concept - To support the group.

I am therefore writing to ask you to afford the Live For Today group the courtesy of a reply to the letter they sent you on April 4, 1991 (copy enclosed). Gene Paul feels his letter to you was an effort in good faith to work toward unity between World and the Live For Today group, and that he deserves the feedback he requested. We agree on the Area level, as shown by the vote taken by our GSRs. Please take a moment to address his concerns, the eyes of Southern Maine are upon you.

Sincerely,



Gary Ross
Chairperson,
Southern Maine Area
Narcotics Anonymous



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS

P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409
(818) 780-3951

March 27, 1991

Gene P.
RFD 5 Box 2510
Brunswick, ME 04101

Dear Trusted Servant:

It has recently come to our attention that you may now or recently have been involved in the distribution of a version of the Basic Text, which has been referred to as the "baby blue text".

The World Service Office recently concluded a court case which involved a member of the fellowship and this particular version of the text. The result of the court case was that the individual agreed to no longer have any involvement of any kind with this activity. As a result of that commitment we agreed to place several items before the fellowship that address this situation.

It is our sincere belief that the fellowship will express itself through the World Service Conference in April on these matters. However, the conference's action notwithstanding our responsibility to protect the fellowship's property, until the fellowship tells us not to, is not abated. The issues that have been raised by this entire controversy have divided us, addict against addict, which is in conflict with the principle of our common welfare coming first.

In some instances when we have sent communications to groups we have heard the response that the group is autonomous and may elect to do whatever it chooses as outlined in our traditions. Unfortunately the part of that tradition that we often overlook is the later part which speaks to the possible effect on other groups or N.A. as a whole. This situation has proven itself to be one that tears us apart. The example that we set for the newcomer in an atmosphere of disunity is that there is something other than freedom from active addiction that takes place in our groups. We understand that a group may think themselves to be in keeping with their responsibility to carry the message by engaging in this activity; however, the potential impact to N.A. as a whole needs to be considered.

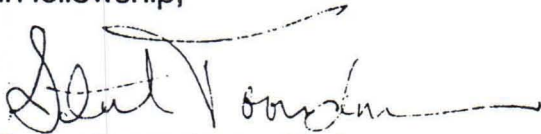
We sincerely believe that our common welfare as a fellowship comes first which is a large part of the reason we sought settlement in the recent legal case. The continuing disunity that this situation was perpetuating on our fellowship transgresses our fundamental principle of unity and needs to be curtailed. We have left the decisions about this issue to the fellowship as a whole to decide and sincerely request that your group do the same.

We ask that if you have in fact been involved in this activity that you stop. Despite our diverse views on this subject the distribution of these books at this time continues the disunity and perpetuates controversy. As identified in our traditions the primary purpose of our groups is to carry the message of recovery to the addict who still suffers , not to embroil the newcomer in our political disputes, which has been one of the results of this entire situation. The fellowship will decide what or who is right or wrong ultimately, and until that happens we ask that your group refrain from any further distribution.

We realize that sometimes it is difficult to gather an understanding of who is right in matters of this kind and this letter does not seek to place blame on any individual or group of individuals. It merely suggests that we all allow our process of service to determine what course we take as a fellowship and not an individual or group of individuals.

We have confidence that after considering all of these things as well as the acceptance of our basic principle of unity that your group will cease any future activity and trust as we must, that the fellowship will resolve this matter.

In fellowship,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Stuart Tooredman", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Stuart Tooredman, Chairperson
World Service Office
Board of Directors

AE/mn

Gene Paul
RFD 5, Box 2510
Brunswick, ME 04011

April 4, 1991

Stuart Tooredman, Chairperson
World Service Office, Inc.
Narcotics Anonymous
P.O. Box 9999
Van Nuys, CA 91409

Dear Trusted Servant:

Thank you for your communication of 3/27/91. Our group has long awaited some kind of suggested guidelines from the world level of our fellowship on this matter.

We are a small Step and Tradition Group of from six to sixteen addicts. At the Southern Maine Area Service meeting back in November we made public a statement in line with Tradition #1 to support WSO in their effort to protect our copyright.

As a group we also admitted to be wrestling with our individual consciences knowing that our primary purpose was to carry the message.

We, along with other groups in our area, made a decision to purchase 20 copies of the Baby Blue. Our group was the only one here to actually receive them before the court decision was reached. We bought the books to use at our Step meeting and to give to addicts unable to afford a recovery text. After the court decision we elected not to distribute them, but felt that we may be able to use them in the meeting itself seeing as we already had them in our possession.

The most disturbing aspect of this whole situation is the manner in which our possession of these books "came to your attention" as you put it. Not only were they not in use, they were put away in a trunk pending further clarification of Group Conscience in this matter. An addict who claims to be working on WSO's direct orders went into the group trunk for the sole purpose of "busting" us.

I would at this time ask you to clarify a few aspects of this situation for us. The rumors and hearsay have caused a great deal of distress to addicts on our group level. First, have you or anyone else at the WSO directly or indirectly requested that the Alternate RSR for the New England Region of Narcotics Anonymous or any other addicts by any means necessary uncover and report any groups or individuals who have possession of these Baby Blues? Second, is it your intention as we have been told to remove any such groups or individuals from registration in Narcotics Anonymous, thereby not allowing us to vote on the matter with the rest of the fellowship? Third, is it your intention to hold individuals from our groups "accountable" for possession of these books, up to and including prosecution? Please help us to understand your position clearly. We are indeed grateful to you for communicating with us directly rather than allowing the imperfections of the addict in the communication chain to distort and/or pervert the messages of the WSO BOD. I pray that this communication can continue.

Please let us know as well what the board's thoughts are on our desire to make use of the books we have in our possession until such time as the Fellowship approves and the WSO supplies us with a less expensive text to use. The outlay of \$20.00 may not seem like a lot at the world level, but it is to us.

God knows how this issue has split us and allowed disease to rush in. Please, for all our sakes let us come together, one trusted servant to another. Let us all pray for knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry it out.

In loving service,

Gene Paul, Secretary
Live For Today Group
Registration #GHE ACZ

GP/tp