



ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS WORLD SERVICES, INC.  
475 RIVERSIDE DRIVE, NEW YORK, NY 10115 (212) 870-3400

(Between 119th and 120th Streets)

July 17, 1998

COPY

Please direct all communications to:

GRAND CENTRAL STATION  
P.O. BOX 459  
NEW YORK, NY 10163  
FAX# 212-870-3003

██████████, Chair  
Board of Directors  
CEA-HOW, Inc.  
P.O. Box 2506  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

Dear ██████████

Thank you for your letter, dated July 9, 1998, in which you clarify the context in which you intend to reprint/adapt the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, and the Twelve Concepts for use in your newly incorporated program, entitled Compulsive Eaters Anonymous-HOW, Inc.

Perusing through the material, I observed that you have also adapted the A.A. Preamble. The Preamble is the property of the A.A. Grapevine. You may request permission from them by writing to: ██████████, A.A. Grapevine, P.O. Box 1980, Grand Central Station, New York, NY 10163-1980.

While we don't mind sharing and permitting the adaptation of some of the materials which A.A. has developed (principally, the Steps, the Traditions, and, on occasion, the Concepts), we do have certain requirements before granting permission. Some of the materials you have developed, prior to obtaining permission, will have to be revised to meet these conditions. The most sought-after A.A. materials for reprint and/or adaptation - for example, the Steps - are so closely connected with A.A. that even simple word substitutions are significant. Our Traditions require that we avoid any implication of a relationship to, or an affiliation with, a non-A.A. entity. Since you are seeking to adapt our Traditions, I can only assume that you are similarly concerned about the potential for implied affiliation or endorsement.

You should also note that we do not permit the adaptation of text material. Generally speaking, our policy permits the adaptation of the Twelve Steps and the Twelve Traditions, the latter in short form, with word substitutions such as you suggested. However, when it comes to other A.A. materials, we do not feel that it is appropriate to grant permission to reprint such materials with the mere substitution of some other concern, addiction, compulsion, or what have you, where the words such as alcoholics, alcoholism, and the like, appear in the original. To illustrate with an extreme example, we would find it unacceptable to reproduce the book, *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions*, with the substitution of co-dependency, or eating disorders, etc., where the words such as alcohol,

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alcoholics, alcoholism, etc., appear in the original. Such a work would not be a mere adaptation; and the resulting piece would be confusing to the reader, especially, one who has had an opportunity to read the original version of the book published by Alcoholics Anonymous. Additionally, to permit "adaptation" of portions of text material would tend to dilute the credibility of such material. As may be the case with some of your own literature, A.A. material derives chiefly from experience, and, therefore, possesses an unerring sense of authenticity and sincerity. If the very same material were to be published with the aforementioned word substitutions, depending on which fellowship was publishing it, anyone having occasion to read two or more of these versions would have good reason to doubt the integrity of any of them. Therefore, we cannot grant permission regarding text material (such as your adaptation of portions of Chapter 4 of *Alcoholics Anonymous*), other than the short form of the Traditions and the Steps, where word-substitutions have been made.

Regarding the Steps, Traditions and the Concepts, we request that they be reprinted first in a series, unaltered and unseparated, followed by a credit line/disclaimer. You may then adapt the excerpts as you have indicated in your enclosed material. The credit line/disclaimer should state:

The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts are reprinted and adapted with permission of Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. Permission to reprint and adapt this material does not mean that A.A. is in any way affiliated with this program. A.A. is a program of recovery from alcoholism only - use of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and Twelve Concepts in connection with programs and activities which are patterned after A.A., but which address other problems, or in any other non-A.A. context, does not imply otherwise.

If you agree to the above, we will have no objection to your use of the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions and the Concepts as described. Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation.

~~Yours in service~~

Signature Removed in the  
Interest of Anonymity

██████████  
Services Director  
██████████

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