

WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Sub-committee Study

Introduction:

On February 15, 1982 at a regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meeting, a letter sent to the World Service Board alleging violations of the Traditions was discussed. After much debate, it was decided by the Board to conduct a study of the relationship between the World Service Office and the Fellowship. It was further decided to use this opportunity to study the World Service Board of Trustees' relationship to the Fellowship. A sub-committee was formed for this purpose.

On February 19, 1982, a letter to the Fellowship requesting input went out via "The World Service Fellowship Report." Input was received over a period of six weeks or more. The following pages contain ALL input received. A certain amount of editing was done in the interest of producing a concise and readable report. All opinions, thoughts and feelings appearing in this report are those of the contributing member.

As servants of the Fellowship, we have tried to the best of our ability to accurately report what we have received. The originals of all input have been kept.

Much of the material we have received has been disturbing and the compiling of this study has been extremely painful to us. It is our hope that this World Service Conference, with the help of a Loving God as we understand him, can provide some solutions.

WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
Sub-Committee Report

- 1.) Member feels very strongly that the W.S.O. should become a sub-committee of the W.S.C. in the manner described in the proposed Third edition of the Manual.
- 2.) A letter had been sent to the World Service Board of Trustees at P.O. Box 622, Sun Valley, CA 91352. The envelope had been opened, taped back shut, and marked, "Return to sender - wrong address" and "refused". The sender had mailed an intact envelope, yet he received it back as described.
- 3.) One member submitted a copy of a letter from Sydney, Australia. The letter mainly dealt with introducing themselves as N.A. members and informing "N.A. Friends" of the existence of N.A. meetings in Sydney. The writer also requested literature and guidance. One part of the letter reads as follows: "This letter was originally sent some three months ago now, to the postal address in the little white book obviously the wrong address. Garth has been receiving mail from the states so hopefully I have the correct address."
- 4.) Part of one member's input consisted of questions.  
 "Why will the W.S.O. not publish the W.S.C.-approved Literature Committee Handbook? Why was the W.S.O. an outside issue at W.S.C.'81? Who is paying for the phone calls made by the President of the W.S.O. Board of Directors concerning proposed literature which would remove 'power' from some individuals? Why was the charter of W.S.O. made unavailable?"  
 This member believes that the Office needs to become totally answerable to the Fellowship. He believes that, at this time, the Fellowship has no control over the organization that holds the copy-rights on all of our literature.
- 5.) A member feels that the source of the current controversy, dis-unity and dissension throughout the Fellowship is the World Service Office. It is this member's belief that World Service Office, Inc., through its Board Members and Manager, has consistently violated the First, Second, Sixth, Ninth and Twelfth Traditions.

<u>Tradition</u>	---	<u>Violation</u>
First	.....	W.S.O. is not united with the Fellowship as a whole.
Second	.....	Who provides the group conscience that governs the W.S.O. It doesn't appear to be the Fellowship.
Sixth	.....	The W.S.O. is a self-stated outside issue, yet they use the name Narcotics Anonymous.
Ninth	.....	The W.S.O. does not appear to be directly responsible to those they serve - the Fellowship.
Twelfth	.....	Principles before personalities. doesn't seem to apply to W.S.O.

## 5.)CONT.

This member has had numerous experiences with the World Service Office, all negative.

- A)Requests for W.S.O. Board meeting minutes - denied. Reason for denial was that the minutes were confidential for the eyes of Board Members only.
- B)Many messages were left at the World Service Office - they were not returned.
- C)Was called by a W.S.O. Board Member and informed by that person that he would never be allowed in the front door of the Office and that he would never again serve on a World Level.
- D)On one occasion, this member did get a phone call directly through to the Office, but he was hung up on after the person answering the phone found out who he was, though not after this member was told that, "as soon as you people get clean and honest, we will talk to you."
- E)This member called the Office at one time to volunteer his services. He was told that the Office needed no help.
- F)A request for a literature front for this member's area was denied. The reason for denial was that it was against the policy of the W.S.O. to front literature to any Area or Region.
- G)This member has been consistently denied access to the Office location.
- H)This member's requests for the bylaws and to attend a Board meeting were both denied.

6.) One member's input stated that the W.S.O. suffers from the lack of Guidelines and Fellowship "Group Conscience." This member suggests potential solutions as follows:

- A)Include "W.S.O. Inc." as a sub-committee to the W.S.C.
- B)Establish a "Board of Advisors," directly responsible to those they serve, through the W.S.C.
- C)~~Appoint~~ an "Ad hoc" Committee which would develop solutions to the W.S.O. problem to be voted on by mail within 90 days of the W.S.C.

7.) Member suggests that both the W.S.C. and the W.S.O. should be audited by a professional and independent firm to provide financial accountability to the Fellowship.

8.)A A member submitted input which lists his personal experience, as W.S.C. Literature Sub-committee Chairman, with the World Service Office.

- A)Before 1979, this member contacted the World Service Office to request the address of the Literature Sub-committee. The Office would not provide that address. This member was told that the Literature Sub-committee's interest was only in changing the existing literature and that they were out of line in their ideas of service.
- B)At the 1979 World Service Conference, five (5) pamphlets were approved to be sent out to the Fellowship for review. The motion that passed did not give these pamphlets final approval of the Conference. These pamphlets were
  - 1) So You Love An Addict
  - 2) We Made A Decision
  - 3) Another Look
  - 4) For The Newcomer
  - 5) Getting Realer

The first three pamphlets were revisions of existing literature. The remaining two pamphlets were new pieces of literature.

## 8.)CONT.

- C)As Chairman of the Literature Sub-Committee, this member turned the material for these pamphlets over to the Office with the understanding that they would be sent out within the month. After a month had passed and the pamphlets had not come out, this member contacted the Office. After six months, he was told that the material had been lost. Four months later, he was told that the material had been found, but that it could not be sent out as the deadline for new material to be out had already passed. At that time, this member requested copies of the material. To date, this member has not received the material.
- D)At the 1980 World Service Conference, this member was told that it was the Literature Sub-Committee's responsibility to distribute literature for review.
- E)Also at the 1980 W.S.C., the "Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees" and revisions to the pamphlet "Another Look" were presented. Both of these pieces were approved by that Conference.
- F)The "Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees" never appeared on any W.S.O. order forms. At some point, this W.S.C.-approved piece of literature ceased to be available from W.S.O.
- G)During the compilation of the review form of the basic text-February, 1981- requests were made of W.S.O. as follows:
- 1) To reprint "Another Look" in the basic text.
  - 2) Addresses of registered Areas and Regions.
  - 3) Copies of any recovery material from the Office archives.
- No material was ever received by the Literature Sub-Committee from the World Service Office.

This member feels that the most basic reason for the problem that exists today is the fact that the World Service Office is no longer administrated by the Board of Trustees. This member believes that returning to a system which worked well in the past may be a solution. An alternative may be to make the W.S.O. a sub-committee of the W.S.C.

- 9.) Under the system set down in the proposed Third edition of the Service Manual, the World Service Office would draw on the combined support of all of the States and Regions within the Fellowship. The service needs of the Fellowship would be met by a group of elected, trusted servants. W.S.O. Inc. would exist only to serve the needs of the Fellowship.

This member feels that if no changes occur and the Book is approved, then W.S.O. Inc., through C.A.R.E.N.A., would handle the publication and also the resulting monies. The Fellowship would not have any real say on how the Office functions. In time, the problems of communication and competitiveness would grow. It is hoped that the needed changes can occur now before any real damage is done.

- 10.) One member did some research in the Copyright and Patent Office in Washington, D.C. He researched some names and discovered that none of them hold any registered copyrights. The names are as follows:

- A) Narcotics Anonymous
- B) N.A.
- C) World Service Office, (Inc.)
- D) W.S.O. (Inc.)
- E) C.A.R.E.N.A.

## 10.)CONT.

This member also checked to see if anyone holds registered copyrights on any piece of our literature. He discovered that noone holds registered copyrights on the following pieces of literature:

- A) Narcotics Anonymous
- B) Who, What, How and Why
- C) The Group
- D) So You Love An Addict/For Those We Love And Others
- E) Another Look
- F) Recovery And Relapse
- G) The Service Manual of Narcotics Anonymous/The N.A. Tree
- H) The Handbook For N.A. Literature Committees
- I) The Public Information Kit

This member talked to an employee of the Copyright and Patent Office and was told that a piece of literature was protected by copyright law as long as it contained three things:

- A) A "C" in a circle.
- B) The date first published.
- C) The publisher's name.

This member was also told that a publisher has 28 years from the date of publication to formally register the copyright. That we are protected by copyright law is a good thing, but this member feels that he has been deceived by various comments made by spokesmen of the World Service Office.

A) During the 1980 World Service Conference, the comment was made that "'Another Look' is not only a man's personal story but it is copyrighted material and therefore it cannot be changed." The fact that a piece of literature is copyrighted, registered or not, does not prevent that piece from being revised. The copyrights which C.A.R.E.N.A. holds, unregistered, are easily updated as there are no forms to fill out. (1980 W.S.C. minutes, page 19, lines 22 & 23)

B) When the pamphlet "We Made A Decision" was brought up at the 1981 W.S.C., the question was asked, "Why is it no longer available?" The answer given by the spokesman of W.S.O. was, "Several years ago some members submitted what was claimed to be original N.A. material. What we have seen as #4, "We Made A Decision" and printed was found to be plagiarized from another Fellowship. It was only by chance that the W.S.O. had not copyrighted this material and had not been faced with a lawsuit of violation of copyright laws. W.S.O. Inc. withdrew the material." (1981 W.S.C. minutes, page 26, lines 1-7)

C) In addition, this member found out that someone in the name of Narcotics Anonymous had requested reprint permission of the pamphlet "This Is A.A." from the A.A. General Service Office before 1977 and that permission was denied. Yet, whoever made that request still submitted this piece of literature "We Made A Decision" which is a direct plagiarism from "This Is A.A." On the front of former I.P.#4 there is the phrase "reprinted from the pamphlet This Is N.A." This pamphlet was in print for almost five (5) years before it was discontinued, and this member still sees it in meetings.

## 10.)CONT.

D)Also in 1981 at the W.S.C., an input concerning copyright procedures was answered as follows: "Copyright procedure are standard United States Copyright forms for N.A. material and that approved by the Conference. Copyrights are in the publisher's name, C.A.R.E.N.A., a subsidiary of the World Service Office, Inc." (1981 W.S.C. minutes, page 25, lines 24-28)

The criteria mentioned above which afford us protection under copyright law also obligates us to abide by those same laws. Therefore, during the almost five years which "We Made A Decision" was in print, we were constantly open to a lawsuit of copyright infringement/plagiarism, contrary to the World Service Office's statement.

If, by chance, World Service Office did not register a copyright on "We Made A Decision" in the almost five years it was in print, then has the W.S.O. also, by chance, not registered the copyrights on all of our literature. It appears so.

Until this member researched the copyright issue, he was under the impression that Narcotics Anonymous, through our World Service Office, holds valid, registered copyrights on all our literature; yet he has come to the conclusion that indeed we do not. This member could have reasonably been able to accept the truth, which is that we do not hold any registered copyrights. But, instead of the truth, the Fellowship was led to believe that the W.S.O. was taking care of business, protecting our literature, holding valid copyrights. That the World Service Office should deceive the Fellowship in this manner is deplorable.

This member feels that all of W.S.C.-approved literature should be registered properly with the Copyright and Patent Office in Washington, D.C.

- 11.) One member obtained a copy of the 1978-1979 Literature Committee's presentation to the World Service Conference in 1979. A major part of that package was the proposed Third edition of the Service Manual. A carried motion at that Conference gave W.S.C.-approval to the Service Manual. When this member compared the "approved" Service Manual to the one currently in print, he came upon some major discrepancies. Changes occurred in the printing which were not authorized by any World Service Conference. The major discrepancies are noted here.

APPROVED 1979

(Page 17, last paragraph, lines 6-18)

The ~~RSR~~ is the fellowship's link with the World Service Branches of the N.A. service structure (i.e., with the World Service Office, the World Service Board, and the World Service Conference). He provides two-way communication between these service levels and the various Areas within his region and the region as a whole; he receives minutes from the business meetings of the World Service Office and the World Service Board, and he reports

NOW IN PRINT

(Page 18, RSR, lines 7-13)

"The RSR is the fellowship's link with the World Service Branches of the N.A. structure (i.e., with the World Service Office Inc., the World Service Board, and the World Service Conference). The RSR provides two-way communication between these service levels and the various Areas within their region and the region as a whole;

11.)CONT.

APPROVED 1979  
(Pg. 17, last paragraph, lines 6-18)  
CONT.

thereon at each regular RSC meeting. He attends all RSC meetings and as many ASC meetings as possible. If he cannot attend a particular ASC meeting, he supplies that Area's ASR with his report on the World Service Branches, so that each Area can remain fully informed on the activities of all levels of N.A. service."

APPROVED 1979  
(Page 19, 6th Paragraph, 1st Sentence)  
"Another major function of the W.S.O. is the  
  
publication and distribution of literature."

APPROVED 1979  
(Page 20, last paragraph, 1st sentence)  
"Our office is administrated by our World Service Board and acts upon the directives of our World Service Conference."

APPROVED 1979  
(Page 21, paragraphs 3 and 4)  
"The WSB is responsible for the administration of our World Service Office. In this capacity they strive to increase the effectiveness of its many functions and coordinate its activities. In order to perform this function and others, the WSB utilizes a sub-committee system similar to that used by our ASC's and RSC's; the main difference is the committees are usually set up to deal with specific needs and are disbanded when their job is done. The standing committees of the World Service Board include: public relations, literature, institutional, World Service Office, and World Service Conference."

NOW IN PRINT  
(Page 18, RSR, lines 7-13)  
CONT.

they attend all RSC meetings and as many ASC meetings as possible."

NOW IN PRINT  
(Page 19, 1st sentence of that page)  
"Another major function of W.S.O. Inc. is the compilation, preparation, publication and distribution of literature."

NOW IN PRINT  
(Page 22, 2nd paragraph, 1st sentence)  
"Our office is administered by our World Service Office, Inc. Board and acts upon the directives of our World Service Conferencee."

NOW IN PRINT  
(Page 22, bottom of page after "other responsibilities.")

11.)CONT.

APPROVED 1979

(Page 21, paragraphs 3 and 4)

These committees meet throughout the year and are composed of Trustees, members, and an occasional non-addict.

Committee members are selected on a 'what they have to offer' basis and each brings special skills or experience relevant to the committee function."

APPROVED 1979

(Page 25-25, Section VII)

- "VII. In order that we may better serve, we utilize a sub-committee system between the meetings of the Board.
- A. Our 'Trustee Committees' are of two (2) basic types.
1. Standing.
  2. Temporary.
- B. The Standing Committees include:
1. Literature.
  2. Public Relations.
  3. Institutional.
  4. World Service Office (WSO)
  5. World Service Conference (WSC)
- C. Our Temporary Committees are established as the need arises and exist so long as the need exists.
- D. Trustee Committees are chaired by a Trustee who has been selected because of his or her experience in a specific area. Other members of these committees include other Trustees, members of the fellowship, or non-addicts as appointed by the committee chairman.
- E. Minutes of all sub-committee meetings are taken and copies of these minutes are maintained by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees and by the World Service Office (WSO). These minutes are not published and distributed; however, any member of the fellowship may, upon request, receive a copy from the World Service Office (WSO) by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope."

NOW IN PRINT

(Page 22, bottom of page after "other responsibilities."

NOW IN PRINT

(Page 29, Section VII)

- "VII. In order that we may better serve, we utilize a sub-committee system between the meetings of the Board.
- A. Our Temporary Committees are established as the need arises and exist so long as the need exists.
- B. Trustee Committees are chaired by a Trustee who has been selected because of his or her experience in a specific area. Other members of these committees include other Trustees, members of the fellowship, or non-addicts as appointed by the committee chairman.
- C. Minutes of all sub-committee meetings are taken and copies of these minutes are maintained by the Secretary of the Board of Trustees and by the World Service Office (WSO). These minutes are not published and distributed; however, any member of the fellowship may, upon request, receive a copy from the World Service Office (WSO) by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope."

## 11.)CONT.

This member also noted some deletions and subtle changes from what was approved in 1979 and what is now in print.

- A)The introduction from the First and Second editions of the Service Manual (N.A. Tree) were to be included in the Third edition. They are not.
- B)Preamble to the Twelve Traditions was approved to be included; in the current edition, it is not present.
- C)The diagram of the Service Structure is not as approved. Subtle changes have been made in the World Level Services.

There were various single word and phrase changes throughout the Manual. They have been noted, but left out of this report as they were considered by this member to be minor. This member does believe that it is necessary to note that more unauthorized revisions were made on this piece of literature, other than those already noted.

This member sees a remarkable similarity between the Service Manual which was approved in 1979 and the revisions proposed in the green book this year, i.e. W.S.O. being a sub-committee, W.S.O. bylaws and minutes being made available, and administration of the Office by members nominated at the World Service Conference. When this member first noted the discrepancies between the two manuals, supposedly identical, he was both surprised and disturbed that in the last three years, no one had noticed the unauthorized revisions. He believes that had the Third edition been printed as it was approved, we might have averted the problems that now stem from non-communication and almost total separation.

In any case, this member feels that these experiences with unauthorized revisions on our literature show us that a definite need exists for the overseeing of the World Service Office operations, especially where it concerns the integrity of our literature.

- 12.)A A copy of a letter sent to our World Service Office from Alcoholics Anonymous World Services, Inc. was received by this Trustee committee. The letter was dated March 15, 1982. Excerpts of that letter are as follows:

"In looking over our files on your Fellowship, we find that it has been over ten years since you have submitted your request to reprint the Twelve Traditions, Twelve Steps and the Preamble, which are A.A. copyrighted material."

"We are dismayed, however, that in the materials from N.A. which we have in our files, nowhere do we see any credit line, indicating that permission to use this material for adaptation was granted by A.A. World Services, Inc. This endangers A.A. copyrights."

"Therefore, before presenting your request to the Board, we ask that you please include the appropriate credit line when using the Steps and Traditions and Preamble, or other quotes for which you have been granted permission."

At one point, this member accidentally picked up a copy of the book, "Young, Sober and Free," and found the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous printed in that book. Below the N.A. Steps was a credit line, "reprinted with permission from World Service Organization." This member would like to know why the World Service Office gave permission to reprint the Twelve Steps to Hazelden when they did not have current reprint permission from Alcoholics Anonymous. That action left us open to lawsuit from either Hazelden or Alcoholics Anonymous or both.

During his research, this member has tried to keep a sense of humor, but it became increasingly difficult to do so. The 'comedy of errors' which prevails throughout the research is an obscenity to the mind.

13.) Member enthusiastically applauds World Service Office for doing an excellent job this past year.

14.) Member believes that we are trying to change too much, too fast, and that if we concentrated some of this energy into supporting what we already have, we would do much better. He believes that we need to be careful in changing the structure or else we will find ourselves in deep difficulty. Member believes that the World Service Office is a functioning entity. Many seem to be quick to complain and criticize, but few actually help to see that it runs. Member thinks that the W.S.O. could do much better with support than complete change.

15.) A copy of a letter mailed to the W.S.O. in August of 1981 was submitted to this committee. This letter deals with questions concerning various World Service Office policy. The author has never received any response to this letter.

16.) One member submitted an input with his objections to one member of the World Service Office Board of Directors on the basis of actions taken by this Board Member. This member sees these actions as unethical and irresponsible behavior.

17.) One member quoted his experience with the World Service Office. In November of 1980, this member ordered 600 white books, and was sent only 300. The member was billed for the entire 600. The remaining 300 were not sent until February of 1982. This member's experience with bulk orders with the W.S.O. in the majority of cases, was that they received the order within one week, but that new groups ordering starter kits sometimes had to wait six to nine months for their order.

This member also feels that the W.S.O. is in violation of the First, Second and Ninth Traditions.

18d) The Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees" was approved in 1980 at the World Service Conference. During the 1981 W.S.C., it was brought up that the Handbook was unavailable from the World Service Office. The response to this from the World Service Office was that, "The Handbook is available from the World Literature Conference. We are not a literature writing organization, although it sometimes seems that way. Our main purpose is to carry the message of recovery to the addict seeking recovery. Not to develop a literature publishing company." (1981 W.S.C. minutes, page 26, lines 8-13)

Yet, the spokesman for the World Service Office previously said in response to a question asking how new literature was printed was "Literature input goes to the World Literature Committee, or to the W.S.O. Inc. or to the Voice. The Voice is our small periodical. Here at the World Service Office, it is reviewed by our literature committee, printed in one of the issues, or kept for future use." (1981 W.S.C. minutes, page 25, lines 35-42)

It has already been brought out in this report about the changes in the Service Manual, specifically the addition of the responsibilities of compilation and preparation of literature to the duties of the World Service Office. But, this member feels that the Office is saying only what will suit them, i.e. they are not a literature writing organization when faced with requests for the Handbook for N.A. Literature Committees," but they are when faced with a request for a place to send literature input. In addition, the W.S.C. Literature Committee is not set up to publish and sell N.A. material; that is the responsibility of our Office. Also, the Handbook is copyrighted by C.A.R.E.N.A. and this member is unaware of the W.S.C. Literature Committee being granted reprint permission, even if this were within our guidelines.

20.) In 1978 at the World Service Conference, a recommendation was approved concerning the procedure for reviewing and distributing literature. It provided that the Literature Committee would compile and write the literature. It would then be sent to the World Service Board for research on copyright, not rewrite. After that, it would be turned over to the World Service Office for distribution throughout the Fellowship for review, again not for rewrite. These pieces of literature would bear a stamp making it clear that this is new literature and is subject to approval at the next World Service Conference.

At the 1979 World Service Conference, five pamphlets were approved for distribution throughout the Fellowship for review. This material was turned over to the World Service Office to be distributed, as per 1978 W.S.C.-approved guidelines.

At the 1980 W.S.C., the Literature Committee was informed that it was their responsibility to distribute literature for approval.

The literature never did get distributed. This member looked into each of the five pamphlets and pertinent facts have been noted.

- A) "Another Look" -1. Revisions proposed by '78-'79 W.S.C Literature Committee.  
 2. Motion carried to approve for distribution-1979 W.S.C.  
 3. Not distributed-1979-1980.  
 4. Revisions (different from abovementioned) proposed and approved by motion-'80 W.S.C.  
 5. In print as approved.

Present status- "Approved"

- B) "We Made A Decision" -1. Revisions proposed by '78-'79 W.S.C. Literature Committee.  
 2. Motion carried to approve for distribution-1979 W.S.C.  
 3. Not distributed as revised-1979-1981.  
 4. 1981-disclosed that it was plagiarized.  
 5. To date-pamphlet no longer sold by W.S.O.

Present status- "Abolished for reason of plagiarism."

- C) "For The Newcomer" -1. Proposed new literature by '78-'79 W.S.C. Literature Committee.  
 2. Motion carried to approve for distribution-1979 W.S.C.  
 3. Not distributed-1979-present.

Present status- "Unapproved"

- D) "Getting Reals" -1. Proposed new literature by '78-'79 W.S.C. Literature Committee.  
 2. Motion carried to approve for distribution-1979 W.S.C.  
 3. Not distributed-1979-present.  
 4. This member discovered that much of this pamphlet is plagiarized from the A.A. Big Book, Chapter 5.

Present status- "Unapproved"

21.)CONT.

- E) "So You Love An Addict" -1. '78-'79 W.S.C. Literature Committee revisions to title, changed to "For Our Loved Ones And Others" and the insertion of a non-endorsement statement.
2. 197?-Title changed to "For Those We Love And Others"
3. 1979- present-non-endorsement statement not included.
- Present status- "Unapproved"

The need definitely exists for a center to distribute new literature. This center must follow the directives of the World Service Conference. This member does not think that the place for this lies within the Literature Committee. It does not have the resources available to the World Service Office.

- 22.) This member noted on the back of the pamphlet "We Made A Decision" there appeared a list of three additional pamphlets available for sale from the World Service Office: A)"Power and Principles"  
B)"A Friend Indeed-Sponsorship"  
C)"Symbol of Service"

To this member's knowledge no one outside of the World Service Office has ever seen these pamphlets, yet at one time they were supposedly available for sale. The Fellowship is desperately in need of recovery material. This member asks why they were not turned over to the Literature Committee whose responsibility is to write, compile and review literature.

What happened to these pamphlets?!?!

- 23.) This member feels that one source for our current problems is the duplication of efforts between the World Service Office and the W.S.C. Literature Committee. Both of these sections of our service structure have at this time provisions for compiling, preparing, editing, printing and distribution of literature, newsletters and meeting lists. This member believes that there needs to be a distinction made between these two sections. He suggests that the Literature Committee compile, edit and prepare literature for approval, and the World Service Office publish and distribute all literature, approved or for review, to the Fellowship. This suggestion includes the policy that the Literature Committee no longer print for distribution or sale, nor hold any copyrights, pro-forma or otherwise.

- 24.) This member was angry when he saw and read the Starter Kits being sent out by the World Service Office. He considers the validity of the information provided as questionable at best, and outright violations of the Traditions at worst. These parts are enclosed in questionmarks ("?").

1) "Reading of the Twelve Traditions of NA.?(if time permits)?"

Member believes that the Traditions are a very important part of our program. "....So freedom for the groups spring from our Traditions." The Traditions are to the Group as the Steps are to the member.

24.)CONT.

2) Third page of the Starter Kit.

- ? "B. A newcomer may come to their first meeting altho' still using, afterwards come clean.
- C. We do have one must that applies to everyone at our meetings; NO DRUGS OR OUTFITS on your person. This is for the protection of our Fellowship and our group."?

We have no musts in N.A. and this is clearly stated in our literature; this concept of our Fifth Tradition is contradicted in this statement. This member can understand and appreciate what the Office is trying to say, but he has some problems with how it is being said. These are our starter kits and they are often the first contact received by a new group. Such a statement as above is misleading to the new group and not at all conducive to their survival.

3) Fourth page of the Starter Kit.

- "4. Altho' you may start a meeting in a private residence, we have found it unwise to remain there long. Meetings in public places are much more successful. The following organizations may have a place suitable for meetings since most have facilities suited to our needs: churches (all denominations), Y.M.C.A., Salvation Army, V.F.W., etc. ?Check with your local Alcoholics Anonymous Central Office, they can be very helpful to you.?"

Has not the Fellowship of Narcotics Anonymous grown to the point where we can lean on each other for support, rather than depending on Alcoholics Anonymous? We are not A.A. and are not affiliated with them.

4) Fifth page of the Starter Kit.

- "g. If there are any other N.A. groups in your general area, contact them for mutual support and form an ?intergroup or local General Service Organization? (see "THE N.A. SERVICE MANUAL"). Your voice in N.A. affairs will be strengthened and local problems will be more successfully dealt with."

Narcotics Anonymous has its own service terms, so let's use them! Again we are not A.A. and are not affiliated with them!

5) Eighth page of the Starter Kit.

- ? "5. Much needed contributions from groups, areas or regions should also be sent to the above address for the support of N.A. worldwide."?

How appropriate is it for a Starter Kit to contain a statement directed towards the solicitation of funds for W.S.O.? The address referred to in this quote is the address of the World Service Office, and the only address listed in this Starter Kit is the W.S.O. address. Further, the cover letter of this Starter Kit gives the illusion that the World Service Office is Narcotics Anonymous. This is an outside issue by the Office's own statement; yet, they are using the name of Narcotics Anonymous and soliciting funds for themselves from N.A.

Member suggests that the World Service Office either become a part of us or cease using our name for their own ends.

24.) CONT.

- 6) Fifteenth page of the Starter Kit.  
?" NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS FELLOWSHIP

To whom it may concern: \_\_\_\_\_  
has been in attendance at the following meeting:

<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SECRETARY OR LEADER"?"</u>
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To this member's knowledge, it is not the policy of Narcotics Anonymous to verify a member's attendance at an N.A. meeting.

There are many other problems with this Starter Kit, but only those which were totally nauseating to this member have been noted. This member recommends that a major rewrite be done on this and that it be subject to World Service Conference approval.

This is but another thing indicating that our Office is in desperate need of guidance.

- 25.) It has been brought to one member's attention that a group in Alabama who wrote for a Group Registration Form, received a pledge to sign, to wit: If you enthusiastically support the W.S.O., sign here. This member has no problem with the Office finding out if a group supports them or not, but sending something like this to a brand new group is pretty underhanded. The Group was obviously new if it was writing to register with the World Service Office. Deceit, underhandedness, propaganda, is this the appropriate actions of the service arm of a spiritual Fellowship? Is this what this member has to look forward to in his own recovery?"

- 26.) One member did some research in the Los Angeles County Clerk's Office. He found that a 'Fictitious Business Name Statement' which provides that

"The following person(s) is(are) doing business as:

- 1) World Service Office
- 2) Narcotics Anonymous"

"The full name of registrant:

World Service Office, Inc."

This member would like to know if the World Service Office, Inc. can do business as Narcotics Anonymous.

- 27.) One member called the published address of the W.S.C. Literature Committee requesting that his orders for the existing literature be processed through them as it was taking six to eight weeks for their prepaid orders to be processed by World Service Office, Inc.

- 28.) A member would like to express his appreciation of the set-up he saw recently for the processing of literature orders at the Office. The mechanics established for this purpose are an asset to them as well as to us. Through personal experience, this member respects the work being done in the area of distribution. This member suggests that we do not destroy this foundation in the area of distribution.

29.) One member suggests that the World Service Board look into incorporating themselves and merging with or absorbing any other service corporations providing services which affect N.A. as a whole.

- 30.) One member suggested alternatives to the present W.S.O. problem.
- A) Method be established for the Fellowship to elect and/or discharge members of the Board of Directors of the World Service Office, Inc.
  - B) That the World Service Office, Inc. be administrated by a Fellowship affirmed World Service Board of Trustees.
  - C) That a cooperative administration be established between the W.S.B. and W.S.O. personnel.

This member further suggests that the World Service Office perform the following functions:

- A) To be a contact and distribution center responsive to the needs of the Fellowship and to work closely with all W.S.C. Sub-Committees.
- B) Publish World Service Conference Approved material exactly as approved.
- C) Become accountable to Narcotics Anonymous for both activities and monies through quarterly reports to all Regions.

31.) One member suggested that at some future time that these functions be established and operated by the World Service Office:

- A) Watts Line-an 800 number.
- B) Following day mail and literature ofder service.
- C) Catalogues of all archive material to be sent to all RSR's, ASR's and CSR's quarterly.
- D) A quarterly updated World Directory.

With these ideals, our Office could function as a service center promoting unity and furthering our primary prupose.

Input concerning the Board of Trustees

- 1.) Member questions the policy which allows the members of the Board of Trustees to vote at the World Service Conference. This member would like the Trustees to retain their participant status without voting rights.
- 2.) Member believes that the Trustees should continue to select their members under the present system.
- 3.) Member believes that there be a time limit established for the terms of office for the Trustees.
- 4.) Member believes that the W.S.B. should have one combined vote at the World Service Conference. He also would like a provision for impeachment of a Trustee. This member also suggests that a provision be established in the Service Manual that the Trustees have final say as to Tradition violations. He would like to see the Board expanded to twenty members:
  - A) No more from California.
  - B) A minimum of five non-addicts.
  - C) Five year terms.
  - D) Members from different geographical areas.
- 5.) Member feels that the W.S.B. has acted in the best interests of our Fellowship.
- 6.) Member proposes that the World Service Board not vote at the W.S.C., but that they retain their participant status. Also, that the W.S.B., upon a 4/5's vote may call an emergency W.S.C. Conference. This member proposes that the Fellowship be divided into regions with a Trustee from each. He feels that the nomination and election procedure for Trustees remain as it is, but that each year  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the Trustees be affirmed by the World Service Conference alternately. This member also suggests that the W.S.B. create standing committees to deal with the administration, publishing and copyright control on our literature, and another to deal with literature writing cooperating with the W.S.C. Literature Sub-committee.
- 7.) This member is very grateful to be regularly informed about the meetings of the Board of Trustees and the actions of same through regular distribution of their meeting minutes. However, the language of these minutes is quite vague and inexplicit. We are led to believe that the very limited activity of our W.S.B. is also vague and unspecific. World Service Board minutes need to become exact and specific so that we can all learn more about the Traditions. It also seems that the very small amount of W.S.B. work indicates that this vast resource is being wasted. This member feels that by informing the Fellowship of their functional capabilities, our W.S.B. would become a force for unity in N.A. Trustees, please tell us what you can do and how we may put you to work!
- 8.) This member was informed early in 1981 that our Service Manual was changed from the form approved by the W.S.C. According to this member's information, page 22 was approved to read that "our office(WSO) is administrated by our World Service Board(Trustees). W.S.O. is now administrated by a self-appointed Board of Directors. If this information is true, then why has our Board of Trustees allowed this situation to develop and continue? Why has our W.S.B. allowed the blatant Tradition violations to go on at W.S.O.? It would seem that as guardians of our Traditions, our Board of Trustees should begin immediately to administer our World Service Office and correct the effects of the most far-reaching Tradition violations in N.A. history.

9.) Member would like the Board of Trustees to elect no more members from California and no one but the best possible choices. He also suggests that the possibility of waiting a few years before reaching a full compliment of Trustees to allow members from other regions to become qualified and be nominated. This member would also like yearly affirmations of the Trustees.

10.) Member suggests some ideals for the Board of Trustees:

1. By 4/5's vote of all Trustees, they may veto any decision, policy, motion or resolution made by W.S.C. which will adversely affect the Fellowship.
2. May propose motions, resolutions, nominations, etc. to Conference; address questions on the floor of the Conference, etc. but not vote on any issues.
3. By 4/5's vote of all Trustees, they may call an emergency W.S.C.
4. That the Board be composed of
  - a) existing Board
  - b) one member from each "District" of N.A.
  - c) No less than 15% and no more than 33% non-addicts.

That new members must be nominated and qualify by current procedure. Minimum number of members to be twelve. That the Board move as expediently as feasible to reduce and then eliminate preponderance of members from any one region.

5. That for the purposes of Trustee selection, the Fellowship be divided into the following districts:
  - N.E. - New England, NY, NJ, PA
  - Mid East - MD, D.C., DL, WV, VA, NC, SC
  - S.E. - CA, FL, Puerto Rico and etc.
  - Mid South - TN, AL, MS, LA
  - E. Central - OH, KY, IN, IL, MI
  - W. Central - WS, MN, IO, ND, SD, NB, MONT, WY
  - S.W. - MO, OR, WA, AK
  - E. Canada - Ontario, Quebec, etc.
  - W. Canada - British Columbia, etc.
6. That Trusteeship be re-affirmed every 2 years -  $\frac{1}{2}$  each year. That Trusteeship be limited to four consecutive terms.
7. That the Board create standing sub-committees as follows:
  - A) Publishing and copyright to cooperatively with W.S.C sub-committee for the same purposes, administer publishing and copyright control for all N.A. material.
  - B) Literature writing to cooperatively with W.S.C. sub-committee for the same purpose, comprise "Final Edit" team for "Approval literature.

Member believes that these additions and/or changes would enhance the dignity, stature and effectiveness of the W.S.B.

Additional Input received for purposes of verification:

- 1.) Complete W.S.O. Starter Kit.
- 2.) 1978 - 1981 minutes
- 3.) 1979 W.S.C. Tapes of final Literature report.
- 4.) 1981 W.S.C. Tapes.
- 5.) Statements from 1979 Literature Committee members.
- 6.) Copy of letter from A.A. World Services, Inc. to N.A.W.S.O.
- 7.) Copies of letters from W.S.C. Literature Committee to the W.S.O.
- 8.) Copy of Conference approved Service Manual of 1979, initialed by 1979 Literature Committee Chairman where approved changes were made.
- 9.) Copy of 1979 Literature packet, presented to that year's Conference.
- 10.) Notes of all changes made to the '79 packet, including pamphlets.
- 11.) "We Made A Decision"
- 12.) "This is A.A."
- 13.) "This is N.A."
- 14.) Certified copy of 'Fictitious Business Name Statement'
- 15.) A 1979 World Service Conference packet which contains materials from the 1978 W.S.C.
- 16.) Correspondence from S.C.R.S.C. to W.S.O. and W.S.O. to S.C.R.S.C.