

Anonymity and the Media

Why Tradition 11 is important

Following on from a recent anonymity break ,we wanted to take the opportunity to remind the fellowship about the importance of Tradition 11.

Below is the letter AA sends to media outlets .This may help handle any questions from media. Alternatively you can contact the General Service Office (GSO) at anytime and someone will help you navigate Tradition 11 at the level of press, radio and TV.

Anonymity and Privacy Policy of Alcoholics Anonymous Inc.

For many years, we in AA have appreciated the support received from those who have respected the anonymity of people who attend AA meetings. This has assisted in saving countless lives of people who may be afraid to seek help for fear of being identified. Also, AA does not want to be judged on the personality of one well-known member who may encourage some, but discourage others from seeking help.

Anonymity lies at the heart of our Fellowship and assures our members that their recovery will be private. Often, the active alcoholic will avoid any source of help which might reveal his or her identity. We respectfully ask for co-operation in protecting the anonymity of people who attend or may attend our meetings at the public level. We ask for co-operation in protecting this anonymity, even if broken willingly by our members, at the public level. We ask that when presenting AA members or anybody who attends one of our meetings that you use first names only and that you do not use pictures in which their faces may be recognised. We would suggest that individual members can mention that they are in 'recovery' rather than that they attend AA meetings.

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