



SEXAHOLICS ANONYMOUS

SA Meeting Participation Statement

“Sexaholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and *women* [emphasis added] who share their experience, strength, and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover.” (SA 201)

“The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop lusting and become sexually sober.” (SA 209)

SA is a fellowship open to anyone who fulfills its single requirement for membership, as stated in SA’s Third Tradition. The long form of AA’s Tradition Three (AA 563) makes it clear that in the spirit of this Tradition, SA meetings will have no additional requirements for membership beyond that stated in the Tradition.

Our group experience has shown that meetings which are exclusive to men only, women only, single only, married only, same-sex attracted only, a specific religion or occupation only, etc. tend to be contrary to the SA solution. The design for recovery is the same for all. Our White Book clearly explains that,

“Considering what we are, reason might seem to indicate that we segregate to ‘protect’ ourselves or so that we might have greater freedom ‘expressing our unique problems and concerns.’ We have found the very opposite to be true: In the long run, it has proven better for us to be together.” (SA 178)

When initially looking at Tradition 4,

“Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or Sexaholics Anonymous as a whole.” (SA 209)

it might appear on the surface that a men's-only group, for example, might be acting autonomously and not affecting SA as a whole. Experience shows the opposite is true. Having meetings that are exclusive to a specific group can give the wrong impression to newcomers. Let us keep our doors open to anyone and everyone who needs our help.

This spirit of inclusivity is fundamental to the identity of an SA group. Part III of our White Book contains a short but powerful essay on the importance of this principle (“*Mixed Meetings*,” SA 178-179).

A group that is exclusive on the basis of gender, sexual identification, religious belief, or any other criterion seriously impairs its ability to carry the message of recovery to the still suffering sexaholic.

“I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere reaches out for help, I want the hand of SA always to be there. And for that: I am responsible.”