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THE MESSENGER

JUNE 2026 Edition

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An A.A. © Newsletter for District 2
Serving Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee Counties

Tradition 6

Short form

An A.A. group ought never endorse, finance or lend the A.A. name to any related facility or outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Long form

Problems of money, property, and authority may easily divert us from our primary spiritual aim. We think, therefore, that any considerable property of genuine use to A.A. should be separately incorporated and managed, thus dividing the material from the spiritual. An A.A. group, as such, should never go into business. Secondary aids to A.A., such as clubs or hospitals which require much property or administration, ought to be incorporated and so set apart that, if necessary, they can be freely discarded by the groups. Hence such facilities ought not to use the A.A. name. Their management should be the sole responsibility of those people who financially support them. For clubs, A.A. managers are usually preferred. But hospitals, as well as other places of recuperation, ought to be well outside A.A.—and medically supervised. While an A.A. group may cooperate with anyone, such cooperation ought never to go so far as affiliation or endorsement, actual or implied. An A.A. group can bind itself to no one.

SMF-131 Traditions Checklist from the A.A. Grapevine.org

1. Should my fellow group members and I go out and raise money to endow several AA beds in our local hospital?
2. Is it good for a group to lease a small building?
3. Are all the officers and members of our local club for AAs familiar with "Guidelines on Clubs" (which is available free from GSO)?
4. Should the secretary of our group serve on the mayor's advisory committee on alcoholism?
5. Some alcoholics will stay around AA only if we have a TV and card room. If this is what is required to carry the message to them, should we have these facilities?



When it comes to our relationship with outside enterprises or facilities, no matter how much good they may be doing, a constructive approach is to “Live and Let Live.” It’s wise for us to stick with staying sober and helping other alcoholics do the same, while allowing those outside the Fellowship the freedom to do what they do best.

What Experience Has Taught Us P-81

JUNE 1994

Doing What We Do Best **BY: BILL H. | NEW YORK, NEW YORK** That is pretty much what the Traditions come down to--an ongoing inventory of the who, why, what, when, and where of groups and of AA as a whole. The Sixth is warning us against a natural tendency to embrace all manner of causes, noble or ignoble. It warns us to be aware of our limitations: AA cannot be everything to everyone. It reminds us to be ever on guard against three major shortcomings: (a) the crusader's ardor, (b) the one-sidedness of the zealot, and (c) perhaps the villain of the piece, the savior complex.

<https://www.aagrapevine.org/magazine>