



# FAMILIES ANONYMOUS

## ***For Relatives & Friends Concerned about the use of Drugs or Related Behavioural Problems***

FA members are sometimes cautious about undertaking Public Information (PI) work. This pack will give you confidence to "Spread the Word" whilst following the 12 Traditions.

The purpose of PI work is to carry the FA message of comfort and support to suffering families and involved professionals. It is important to remember that the **Traditions of FA should be strictly observed**. We should remain anonymous at the level of press, radio, films, T.V. and any other public or private media. As individuals we safeguard our anonymity but as a group we must be visible. Members who do PI work, either locally or nationally, may need to disclose their names and addresses. This is perfectly in order provided that they are not publicly available.

### **The Traditions most directly connected with PI**

- **Six - co-operation without affiliation**
  - **Seven - self-support**
- **Eight - Families Anonymous should always remain non-professional**
  - **Ten - no opinion on outside issues**
  - **Eleven and Twelve – Anonymity, Attraction not Promotion**

#### **Tradition Six**

Our Family Group ought never endorse, finance, or lend our name to any outside enterprise, lest problems of money, property, and prestige divert us from our primary purpose.

Experience has given us a simple guiding principle; we do co-operate, but we do not affiliate. We want to work with other organisations, but not to be merged with them in the public mind.

#### **Tradition Seven**

Every group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions, is greatly enhanced by the fact that we are free to do what we do best - share a programme of contributions of experience.

Our effectiveness as a Fellowship and our usefulness to other organisations that call on us, means recovery - with no outside obligations.

#### **Tradition Eight**

Families Anonymous Twelfth-step work should remain forever non-professional, but our service centres may employ special workers.

The Tradition asks FA members to stick to what they know best, "Having spent fruitless and frustrating years trying to talk sense", (as we saw it). We do not become authorities on the field of mind-altering substances. We share our recovery programme with love at all times.

#### **Tradition Ten**

Families Anonymous has no opinion on outside issues; hence our name ought never to be drawn into public controversy.

This is very specific, as a Fellowship we have absolutely no opinion on anything. Nobody can speak for FA on any issue at all because FA does not have a point-of-view on outside issues.

#### **Tradition Eleven & Tradition Twelve**

The Anonymity Traditions remind us that our responsibility is to make the FA way of life look attractive, anonymity for the newcomer is also crucial and a professional who refers a newcomer to FA appreciates being given that assurance. We find it helpful to emphasise that our anonymity Tradition means we are a Fellowship of peers, and that we learn to help others without expecting credit or reward. We do not sell - we tell.