

Round Table Topic: Literature

Date: 3-??-2019

Moderator: Not identified **Secretary:** Not identified

Identified Topics:

1. **Are we effectively carrying the message through literature?** Having workshops for Groups on literature displays. Pamphlet shared by AA San Diego Group to help Group literature representative, as it was noticed GSO didn't have any available (contact district2area8aa@gmail.com). Is Area connecting with young people and all members, and are new members being directed to the literature rack. Literature racks reflect membership. Bringing literature to the forefront at recovery meetings, including the process of development of pamphlets. Is it up to the Group to determine what is in the rack? The Literature Committee should coordinate with other Standing Committee chairs, such as Cooperation with the Professional Community so they have access to professionals. It's a good idea to highlight different pamphlets at regular Group meetings. How is literature integrated into our regular Group meetings and how can home Groups do more? It is up to individual AAs to study available literature.

2. **What proposed changes to the Big Book should we have in the 5th Edition?** Stories need to connect with new members, changing demographics, and members under the age of 25. Herbert Spencer quote – retraction and attribution. Adding the 12 Concepts? Already in the 4th Edition. Dr. Bob's story to be included in the first part of the text. Revise the edition to be gender neutral. 12 Steps, 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts in 12 chapters. How does literature sales and the decline in membership effect our choices of a 5th Edition and revisions? The Chapter to the Agnostics should be rewritten to remove God or a new book.

3. **Is there a need for a 5th Edition?** Is a new edition cost effective and are the stories repetitive? We need to change to cover unique lifestyles and focus on commonalities so newcomers will identify. Does a new edition help with new growth of the Fellowship? Need a new pamphlet for young people.

4. **Considered request for pamphlet revision in AA Group pamphlet.** Do you feel safe in AA meetings? Members need to be treated with respect. Yellow card – Safety in AA Meetings. Safety measures are being implemented.

5. Can AA literature be more attractive to newcomers? AA looks too religious. Need an AA pamphlet for agnostics. One-on-one personal communication helps. The newcomer is not interested in AA literature. We should present literature in terms of Unity, Service, and Recovery. Literature should be close to the door. Everyone has their own experience with literature. If a person is ready, they will get the message through members and literature. There should be audio versions of pamphlets, and digital formats. Literature needs to be kept simple. Service materials need to be more attractive to newcomers.