

Proposal 2022 – 5 Submitted by: WEB0580

Issue: Create an ad-hoc committee to explore changing the fellowships name, logo, acronym, and any other identifying marks to include dysfunctional families. This group would meet for a year and then report results during the 2023 ABC committee reports. If the work results in a recommendation, it will appear on the 2023 ABC agenda. (If not ready by the 2023 ABC, then the report and potential recommendation will appear on the 2024 ABC agenda)

Main Discussion Points

- Our group likes this proposal with one caveat: to have one representative from the Publishing Committee so they can see if any literature needs to be changed, etc.
- My group is requesting that we aim for retroactive editing.
- A lot of effort was put into branding of ACA - why would we have to change all this. I think it would be a step backward.
- This was made clear: A lot of people feel like they don't belong because of the wording today and not identifying with an alcoholic family. It would be good to understand what we could do.
- This conversation would be better and inclusive if we were using knowledge based decision making.
- I support an ad-hoc committee to discuss this with the fellowship. It could plant a seed and bring clarity to the future. For instance, foster and adoption may not identify with alcoholism.
- I represent people who identify with trauma survivors that need to be articulated. Why not identify with being trauma survivors rather than alcohol or substance abuse, etc.
- My group supports this measure. Dysfunction is a more relatable word and can be more inclusive.
- We suggest for the committee to have a representation from Finance to assess how much it would cost to change things - books, etc. so this is evaluated and considered in the ad-hoc committee.
- I support the motion because I believe that dysfunctionality and trauma far outnumber the number of alcoholics around the world. It is limiting the scope of the ACA program, potentially 50,000 more .. .95% of the world.
- I support this since language is important, especially welcoming language since it provides for inclusion. "Dry drunk" is another phrase that can be considered. 38 years ago we were talking about adding dysfunctional, so I support this.
- I wonder if there's a way to keep the ACA branding and use a different word than dysfunctional because "dys" means less than functional or "a-functional" is an alternative. In summary, consider other words.

- I support the proposal since words are very powerful and have meaning as we discussed in our group. Support removing “alcoholics.”
- I support as written. It's deliberative. I believe many of these ideas would come up during the discussions to implement. Each of the discussions I've been in have been supported unanimously.
- I support this. In the country I represent, sister Alanon is territorial. People often don't recognize the alcoholism in their family until after having done ACA work. I would never have been able to do that if I had been in Alanon only. Language matters.
- I support the spirit of motion. The word “dysfunctional” is not well known. “Dys” is associated with abnormal, bad, painful, difficult, illness. When I write about this, I include many words to describe dysfunction so people understand what it is.
- I support the idea of this because it speaks to trauma, which includes in racial or sexual discrimination, or bullying. Broadening to include the realities is positive.

Results of Voting by Delegates on this Proposal:

- To put forward online to all the worldwide delegates this motion:
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