

### Proposal 3

- Literature Committee Chair Input:
  - We contacted the owner of Tony A's steps to publish his material, and we were denied and were told legal action will be taken against us if it is used. We have an open literature policy so any meeting that wants to use Tony's book "Laundry List" may do so. More in-depth report on this information is available on the ComLine.

Short presentation given by a member of the proposing group:

- Our intention was to make all this information available to all of WSO and this is now mute based on Christine's input. For future motions, folks are not clear where Tony A's steps are with ACA in terms of endorsement and recovery. Many are using his steps for recovery instead of the ACA yellow workbook. Do we use both, or which one first? This is not clear.
- Parliamentarian - What I hear her saying, in order for a new motion for next year, there needs to be clarity.

#### Discussion Points

- I'm uncomfortable with saying that Tony A. is the founder when it was a group of Alateens that founded it. That group let him copyright those steps, so let us build our own steps.
- I would stay away from anything that will lead to financial or legal issues. I also understand it is totally up to me which literature I use for my recovery.
- Our literature already includes what we're legally allowed to incorporate. Our literature is already working hard to produce new literature. These resources are already available. I don't think Tony A. would sanction spending our time, energy and money in this way, but would prefer us working toward building more of our own literature.
- I am unclear about copyright law, I know we can not use the book yet where is the line as to what we can use - clarification would help us.
- My question is, "written or spoken words"; I'm not certain as to whether there are any recordings of his voice that ACA owns and could use. If so, that would open up another line of being able to use Tony A.s materials.
- When we revisit this next year, Tony A is deceased so maybe we can just reference his information.
- I agree with this proposal because ACA wouldn't exist without ACA; we would be an alanon group without him. I understand he didn't want to be a poster person for ACA; he gave us what he could. IF there is some member who has experience with him, and can write about him, and that is not copyrighted.
- I will try to answer questions that come up - there is a chapter in the BRB with an interview with Tony A. At the 2017 ABC there was a proposal to make his

steps the ACA steps and this was voted down. His spouse has made clear that if we use anything from his book, we will be sued.

- This is unnecessary and premature. I don't know if we are not allowed to use his material in perpetuity. I believe when his wife dies we would be allowed to use it. I don't support considering this.
- In a 12 step someone can rise to prominence and get more than they deserve. I believe Tony A. stepped back and I am concerned about how much effort is on this one man. I hope we focus on what materials we do have and things that help us recover.
- To promote Tony A. any more is not necessary as this material is already available.
- One talk that Tony gave on YouTube, he said that the BRB can cause harm for ACA's so this is of concern. I wish there was more clarity on this.
- I support the development of steps within our literature rather than writing about steps written by another person.

### Poll #1

## Proposal 3 - 2022

### Adult Children of Alcoholics and Dysfunctional Families

July 23, 2022 at 12:00pm – July 23, 2022 at 12:03pm

(GMT-05:00) EASTERN TIME (US & CANADA)

Completed Administrator Closed Early

52 ballots submitted of 135 eligible voters (2 opened) – 39%  
0 notices queued

We propose that the ACA draft "Founder Tony A's Guide to Lifelong Recovery" based on the written and spoken words of ACA founder Tony A. The book will familiarize readers with his practices for working the twelve ACA steps. It will invite members to learn about and reflect upon their own experiences in light of Tony A's insights. The book's topics, readings, and questions will be structured for use at meetings and to promote fruitful sharing. PLURALITY

I support the spirit of the Ballot Proposal and would like a Motion to be crafted for approval at the ABC 4 votes (7.8%)

More information is needed. I prefer a motion to be crafted to initiate an in-depth study that will report to a future ABC 2 votes (3.9%)

I would like a motion to be crafted to delegate this matter to the ACA World Service Board for assessment and possible action that could be taken before the next ABC 4 votes (7.8%)

**I do not support the Ballot Proposal in any form 41 votes (80.4%)**

**I do not support the Ballot Proposal in any form wins with 80.4% of the vote.**

51 votes tallied and 1  
abstention

Based on the above vote, this proposal will not move forward.