



WORLD SERVICE OFFICE, INC.

P.O. Box 9999

Van Nuys, CA 91409

(818) 780-3951

September 1987

TO: The Fellowship

The following paragraphs of this letter are a reprint from the September report to the Fellowship from the Office. It is being included with this publication to explain the error made with the printing of the blue and white edition of the combined publication of *It Works: How and Why*.

"A serious error has been made with the printing of the blue and white version of *It Works: How and Why*. It is important that we make an amend to the Fellowship for preparing and distributing an incorrect version. If you have received a copy of the blue and white printing of *It Works: How and Why*, do not continue using it. The copy that accompanies this letter is the corrected printing.

To explain what occurred is embarrassing, but nonetheless essential. When we began putting this together following the 1987 World Service Conference, we utilized the file in our main computer storage memory. The material was printed out in the proper format, collated, and sent to the printer for production. Because we assumed that the copy printed out was the only copy of the manuscript that we had, we did not proofread the manuscript before sending it off to the printer. This is an avoidable and inexcusable error. Several members, soon after receiving copies, reported to us that it was different in some respects than the white cover copy they had been reviewing for the last twelve months. We were at first skeptical and asked members' assistance in pinpointing the differences they were finding.

Eventually, after receiving additional input from others, we did examine in extensive detail the material. We discovered in this investigation that the version of the manuscript that had been printed last year in the white cover was not the same version that had been printed in the white and blue cover. In tracing back the origin of this error, we discovered that the approval-form version of the text printed in the white cover had been lost when our main computer memory failed in March of 1986. This occurred after the typeset version had already been dispatched to the printing company, who was at that time printing the white cover edition. When we reconstructed files on our main memory in the computer, unfortunately we retrieved a back-up file which was an earlier version of the material.

Unfortunately, in May of this year when we printed out what we thought was the correct version, we did not remember the computer failure and did not check to make sure it was the correct version. Consequently, the edition currently in circulation is manifestly incorrect with respect to the portion that was distributed last year with a white cover.

The Office is currently reprinting the correct material, and it will be made available without additional costs to all individuals and committees who have already obtained copies of the incorrect material. We are endeavoring to keep the page numbers consistent so that any work an individual may have done on portions of the material where no change will occur, will be easy for the literature committee members to find and utilize.

We have halted distribution of copies of this publication until the corrected version is printed and available. We anticipate the process will

take about three weeks.

I am very truly sorry for the mistake and the delay and the confusion that this will cause the ad-hoc committee on *It Works: How and Why*, and we are doing everything we can to expeditiously provide them with the correct materials.

In Service to N.A.



Robert B. Stone
Office Manager

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**WSC AD HOC COMMITTEE ON *IT WORKS*, THE STEPS
REVIEW AND INPUT INFORMATION AND SAMPLES**

The information below and the attached form are being provided as an aid to literature review committee members desiring to submit input on N.A. literature. Your use of the form and the following suggestions will make our job easier and allow us to work more quickly in compiling all Fellowship input. Thank you.

* * * * *

There are many types of input. We are interested primarily in two types.

- 1) Comments on the manuscripts -- "We feel this concept **IS** adequately addressed"
- 2) Original new material - "We feel this concept **IS NOT** adequately expressed and we'd like to see it say " such and such"

If the input is specific to pages, paragraphs and sentence, use the following abbreviations and samples. If it is of a general nature it can be written (or typed) in regular paragraph (story) form.

Input is, of course, always easiest to review when it is typewritten. If that is not possible, please take care to provide legible handwriting.

Some abbreviations and general rules of thumb:

Page = pg. Paragraph = Par. or the paragraph sign ~~#~~

NOTE: A row of 3 or more periods indicates that there are additional words in the phrase or sentence that are not being typed (or written). This simply alleviates the need to type whole sentences.

An incomplete paragraph (one which ends at the top of a page) should be referred to as par 0, not par 1.

If you do not feel that the items in question can be easily identified by page, paragraph and line, or if you are suggesting substantial changes in several paragraphs, list all suggested changes and then, if desired, submit a typed copy of the section as you would like to see it rewritten.

It is not necessary for you to suggest specific wording or to rewrite the documents. Comments on the conceptual development of the piece are just as important as comments on the specific language. Do not be concerned with including input on misspelling, grammar and punctuation. Final editing will correct all of these types of errors.

SAMPLE

Pg. 8, Par. 3

Delete: "We want to and meetings."

Pg. 26, Par. 3

Object to the word "crazy"

Pg. 30, par. 1, last sent.

add "And those that came before are, hopefully, available to share experience, strength and hope for those who continue to arrive at the doors of N.A. meetings around the world."

Pg. 52, Par. 1

Change "of finding any meaning in the Twelve Steps" to read "Of getting the full benefit in the rest of the Twelve Steps."

Pg. 77, Par. 3

line 2, poorly written

Pg. 100, Par. 3

This is not the place for a discussion of prescription drugs. Simply make clear that all addicts are welcome in N.A.

Pg. 212

Great!!

Pg. 231-232

insert last par. after the 2nd par, then insert par.3 after that and consolidate par. 3 & 4. Summation of rearrangement, in new paragraph order follows:

"If we are new in the program..."

"The term 'trusted servant'..." consolidated with "All the committees, officers,..."

"Our leaders do not govern."

****Pg. 255, Par. 1**

It says the idea is self-explanatory, so why are we explaining it? The notion of service needs more detailed treatment.

****Pg. 261, Par. 3**

Cloudy, needs clarification. -- The important point here is friendship, need to emphasize that. Maybe use an example to highlight the important point. Less emphasis on growth.

****If your input includes statements like these, indicating a desire to have more writing, please feel free to submit specific paragraphs, examples, etc. which you feel would address the need.**



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Re: *It Works: How and Why*

Dear Friend,

Thank you for your recent order for N.A. literature. We are unable to supply you with the publication *It Works: How and Why* as you requested and have enclosed a refund in the amount of 12.⁹⁶. This book was in the category of "approval-form literature," for the period of May 1986 to May 1987. It was brought to the floor of the World Service Conference in 1987 and disapproved. The World Service Conference directed that the book should be placed in the "review and input" category and made available only to registered Narcotics Anonymous literature committees. It is anticipated that, at some point in the future, the World Literature Committee will produce a revised edition and once again submit this book for approval by the Narcotics Anonymous Fellowship.

We hope this information is helpful to you, and we wish you the best in your efforts to carry the message of recovery to still-suffering addicts.

Yours in fellowship,

Danette Creel, Coordinator
World Literature Committee

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revised 7/87