

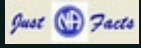


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9/15/2012



The Emperor is naked



and your pants are
on fire!

I was taught that honesty was the antidote to my diseased thinking. Sharing honestly used to be so easy, but it seems to have become much harder the longer I have been clean. Today, honest sharing sometimes feels like I am setting myself up to be gossiped about and slandered, and often what I share has been labeled as promoting “disunity.” It seems as if a member isn’t able to force me to go along with their point of view, they think nothing of by-passing me and communicating directly with members of my home group in an effort to force that change on me.

The Fourth Tradition along with most of the other traditions, is seen as antiquated and only a matter of “opinion.” What a confused mess service in our beloved fellowship has fallen into. I have read e-mails that openly talked about ways to con and manipulate older members with fake offers to “let them be in charge” or offer workshops just to stroke egos to get them to see a different (their) point of view. As they like to say on Facebook, “WTF?”

Am I being overly sensitive like our Basic text tells us? Perhaps. I am looking closely at that possibility. At the same time, I am also looking at the direction our fellowship is headed: governmental regimentation, as found in the SS Project, service board consensus instead of group conscience, obvious lobbying of votes at the WSC, and the selling of costly (but profitable) products to fund “the Office” instead of helping groups get recovery into the hands of the still suffering Addict. This all reads out as money, property and prestige. This is teaching our new and middle-time members that all you must do to get along is to go along. Our predecessors who see the Emperor is naked, and dare to speak up are marginalized and discounted. Popularity is the goal today! Funny, but that so reminds me of high school and peer pressure and just one of the many reasons I used drugs in the first place.

For years I resented the old timers who walked away from NA. I understood the reasons they left, but was angry at their giving up on the program that saved their life. Today, I don’t go a week without wondering if it’s just tilting at windmills to continue sharing spiritual principals and talking about a program of total abstinence. How many newcomers are on suboxone and the “group” calls them clean? How many groups even talk about the Traditions?

How many members think our literature is still written by addicts for addicts and not in closed committee with professional paid writers hired by NAWS? Who really believes the new “Traditions book” is not already written and out floating around the NA social media? And YET no one has screamed FIRE yet! Are we all just going to quietly burn , in “unity?”

If you look around your home group and wonder where all your predecessors went, maybe it’s time to ask if you really ever wanted what they had to offer- more than just a life without drugs – but a new way to live, centered on spiritual principals and not a homework assignment!

<http://www.justnafacts.org/> begin to learn the truth rather than NAWS propaganda

It is time to return SANITY to NA service ... if you have some sanity to share please send it along by email to contact@justnafacts.org

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