

To: The fellowship

From: Mary Jensen, Chairperson
World Service Conference Literature Committee

Date: December 7, 1992

Re: *It Works: How and Why*, approval form

Today we are sending you the approval draft of *It Works: How and Why*. This is an overwhelming moment for the literature committee, as I believe that it is for the fellowship as a whole. We have all worked over, prayed over, and surrendered over this book.

We believe that the quality of these drafts has been positively affected by the input that both we and the trustees received from you. The primarily conceptual input you provided us with was extremely helpful toward improving the review draft material. We hope that you grew in recovery as we did during your participation in improving the *It Works* drafts.

So that you can gage this approval form with the purposes that have guided our work, I would like to restate those purposes here.

Steps: The purpose of this book is to invite members to engage in a journey of recovery and to serve as a resource in gaining a personal understanding of the spiritual principles in the Twelve Steps of Narcotics Anonymous. This book will explore the spiritual principles in each step and how we experience them in our lives. The steps will be presented in a manner that will encompass the diversity of our fellowship. We believe that this purpose is reflective of the spiritual awakening described in our Twelfth Step.

Traditions: The Traditions portion of *It Works: How and Why* shall serve as a resource for NA groups and the individual member. The book seeks to: explore the spiritual principles within the traditions; engage members with the spirit--not the law--of the traditions; and provide a basis for thought and discussion about the traditions. This portion of the book is not meant to fulfill every need for every group or every member, rather it is to be a book that will generate discussion and allow for local interpretation of the practical application of the principles contained in the traditions.

It will be an exciting moment when the motion to approve *It Works: How and Why* comes to the conference floor. Regardless of the outcome, all of us who worked on and reviewed these steps and traditions have had a rewarding

challenge in interpreting what our conscience is in regard to working and living the principles of NA recovery. As a result of listening to and hearing the various voices within NA, we have a greater awareness of our diverse strength as a fellowship.

As we complete our work on this book, we thank all the members who contributed to it--our reviewers, the Steps and Traditions Ad Hoc's, the trustees, the staff team, the fellowship, all the members who submitted source material years ago, and all the literature committees who preceded us and who provided a foundation for the work. We all clearly love our steps. We hope that our work has been able to capture that love and the spiritual nature of recovery. Additional copies of this final draft are available through the World Service Office. The item number is #1150 and the cost is \$8.80 plus shipping and handling.

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