

Most drug and alcohol treatment is based, in part, on attendance at 12-step meetings, such as Alcoholics Anonymous (A.A.) or Narcotics Anonymous (N.A.). This is fraudulent practice, treating the religious definition of addiction as "spiritual disease". Then the treatment to include the "powerless" concept of step one. Then on and on about "surrender our will and our lives to the care of God.." Former Oregon Governor Kulongoski agreed that that is fraudulent.

These are the opposite of the helping professions' ethics, to empower individuals. Of course the spirituality of religions is a method of overcoming addiction. The denials the steps comprise religion is how those became a 'state religion' for millions. This using religious arguments to deny religiousness.

Those arguments concerning the 12-step method of addiction recovery, are: "It's spiritual but not religious", "It's God as you understand God", and "Your higher power can be anything". Please search for Griffin v. Coughlin, Warner v. Orange Co. Dpt. of Probation, and Cox v. Miller. A.A. and N.A. were "unequivocally religious", "deeply religious", "intensely religious", and that they try to win converts-proselytizing.

As it stands, treatment is harmful. The lengthiest versions of A.A.'s own official "Triennial Membership Surveys" show about 3% one-year abstinent outcomes, 2/3 of whom were sober when first coming to A.A. Much better is Rational Recovery, which has no steps, neither meetings.

Very conservatively, over 250,000 people are dead over the decades, with A.A. or N.A. as a strong contributing factor. The situation is awful; and with unstoppable, non-Christian evangelizing, proselytizing. Treatment was a nineteen billion dollar a year industry, years ago. If major drug dealers want among the least effective drug treatment, then they have that..

THE 12 STEPS (The 'We' is silent in all but the first step,)

1. We admitted we were powerless over alcohol [our addiction, our dual diagnosis]-that our lives had become unmanageable.
2. Came to believe that a Power greater than ourselves could restore us to sanity.
3. Made a decision to turn our will and our lives over to the care of God *as we understood Him*.
4. Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves.
5. Admitted to God, to ourselves, and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.
6. Were entirely ready to have God remove all these defects of character.
7. Humbly asked Him to remove our shortcomings.
8. Made a list of all persons we had harmed, and became willing to make amends to them all.
9. Made direct amends to such people wherever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.
10. Continued to take personal inventory, and when we were wrong promptly admitted it.
11. Sought through prayer and meditation to increase our conscious contact with God *as we understood Him*, praying only for knowledge of His will for us and the power to carry that out.
12. Having had a spiritual awakening as a result of these Steps, we tried to carry this message to alcoholics [addicts] [to those who still suffer from the effects of dual diagnosis], and to practice these principles in all our affairs.

PROBABLE FELONIES AND OTHER LIKELY CRIMES USING ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS (A.A.), NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS (N.A.), OR GAMBLERS ANONYMOUS (G.A.) IN ADDICTION COUNSELING:

These include 10 separate frauds, 4 child abuses, 2 medical malpractices, 3 constitutional violations, 4 conspiracies, 1 coercion, and 1 organized crime.

1. The first fraud is salary, yet not informing clients that the 12-step method of addiction recovery as in A.A., N.A., or G.A. is religion. Members and other supporters of these groups very often deny religiousness as a spiritual and religious doctrine. Or for money. Or for power. Therefore, counselors must so inform clients.

2. Related is treating something other than the diagnosis of chemical dependency or other addiction. That is, counselors ‘treat’ the unique 12-step religious definition of addiction as “spiritual disease”, not the disorder itself. Of course religion is a method for overcoming addiction.

But this spiritual disease concept is neither secular nor found in any other widely known religion. The uniqueness partly defines the Steps as a religion. Thus treatment is misrepresented. Accepting money through intentional misrepresentation defines fraud.

3. Step 2 is faith healing. It is illegal for government health insurance to pay for faith healing. Such is a private matter. Step 12 *is* proselytizing, non-Christian evangelizing; That is, the winning of converts.

4. Crime four is separate fraud of only recommending a stepping group, rather than the counselor actually stepping the client, because the effect is often fraudulent due to intent. Effect in law, in the matter, subsumes intention. This can be a crime, even with good intentions.

5. Similar is that even if the counselor does not Step the client, the recommendation for any higher level of treatment, as in residential facilities, or hospital-type treatment, nearly always includes Stepping. Legal action, such as providing information on self-recovery, is not deeply hidden.

6. Another crime is “suggesting” a 12-step group for its “support”, rather than for its religion, because the steps will be advanced. Twelve-steppers ask that judgment be upon their good intentions rather than the results. Often fraud, this is a legalism because the support includes Stepping. If not fraud, it can yet be illegal.

7. Referencing secular groups might be fraud if the intention is to advance A.A.-N.A.-G.A.

8. With capacity to correct, or even terminate the employment of, a counselor who advances 12-stepping, yet not to do so, is participation in those crimes.

9. Conspiracy to deny religious liberty seems criminal; not only a civil matter.

10. Conspiring amongst each other to commit the first fraud is another crime.

11. Conspiracy, fraudulently, to define addiction as, and to treat addiction as, spiritual disease, is criminal. Conspiracies are separate crimes from other crimes.

12. Counselors illegally conspire together to have addicted people associate with each other. An example would be allowing prisoners to believe twelve step meetings are required, knowing that coercion is illegal. Deceit herein, as in this deceit of silence if such is done, is a form of coercion, an illegal form of force.

13. The massive denials of religious freedom, everywhere the steps are used, are also often frauds.

14. Violation of the constitutional right of freedom of association, as freedom not to associate with addicts, is a crime. Freedom of association is a constitutional First Amendment right. This law may not be explicit; it is a law nevertheless. The Ninth Amendment may also apply.
15. The encouragement to confess, via prison meetings or at prison sponsored 12-step meetings, apparently goes against the Fifth Amendment. Step Five *is* confession; and conformity or death is official.
16. Requiring or recommending a 12-step group to minors is always psychological child abuse—drugs available after N.A. meetings, cult tactics as in attendance for life, and deceitfulness.
17. A crime of medical malpractice can be where we have physician oversight—again treating other than the diagnosis. Another malpractice crime may be faith healing as medicine.
18. Twelve-stepping addiction counseling contributes to suicide or to attempted suicide. The false denials that it is religious contribute to suicides. Violating not harming the client, a first counseling tenet, is often against the law. Over 250,000 suicides, conservatively, may be from 12-stepping over the decades. Again, this is a quite conservative number that is likely exceeded.
19. Increasing the availability of drugs through N.A. use, regardless of intentions, may be illegal.
20. Professional 12-stepping appears as if it were organized crime. The spirit includes self-righteously competing to prevail, advancing twelve stepping sociopathically, lacking many ethics.
21. The unfortunate norm of deceitfulness from counselors, including but not limited to outright lying, is more fraud because the counselor receives a salary, so is wrongly taking money through misrepresentation, which is the definition of fraud.
22. The norm of religious discrimination in hiring is often illegal.
23. An official A.A. survey showed that about one percent sobered up in it; under three percent achieved five years sober. About two percent were sober when first coming to A.A. (see the longest versions of its own official Triennial Membership Surveys). The so-called twelve-step method of addiction “recovery” is a miserably failed methodology. The so-called “best practices” in counseling might be written into law.
24. Like cults do, A.A. and company invent their own definitions for words. The word “recovery” thereby means, as their members say, “working the steps”. They do not mean simple abstinence. If done intentionally, this is criminal.

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