

Module III

Area 9 AMIAS Training Conflict Resolution and Problem Solving

Conflict

Conflicts with AMIAS

Alateens in difficult situations (“Tough Stuff”)

Interactions with parents

Anonymity

Technology

Dealing with Conflict

- Conflict can occur in any group, and dealing with it can make the group and the individuals involved stronger.
- See K-70 Using Al-Anon Principles to Resolve Conflict
- Take a moment for AMIAS to describe conflicts they may have experienced.



Conflict between Alateens and an AMIAS

- An open discussion in the group may be helpful. All parties practice the Twelfth Tradition by placing principles above personalities.
 - The AMIAS the Alateens are having difficulty with may be asked to leave the room as long as there is another AMIAS present.
 - The group might ask the District Representative (DR), Alateen Coordinator, or another trusted servant to participate in the discussion. An impartial party may provide a new perspective.
 - The DR or Alateen Coordinator may also help the group take a group inventory.
 - In order to resolve the conflict, the AMIAS may step down for a time.
-

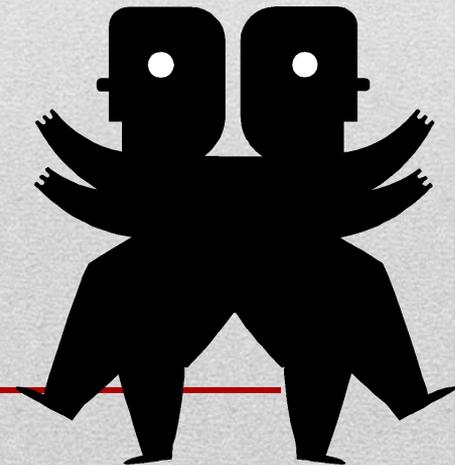
Conflict between Alateen Group Sponsors

Some conflicts are personal in nature:

- Personality conflicts
- Differences in style of recovery
- Dominating the group and other AMIASes

Use your resources:

Talk to your DR, Alateen Coordinator,
other trusted servants



AMIAS

in conflict with the Area

Some conflicts are with the Area Alateen Process:

- Use of the Alateen name requires compliance with the Area Alateen Safety and Behavioral Requirements.
This is not optional.
 - The Area Requirements define the qualifications for Alateen Group Sponsor.
 - Any questions regarding certification can start with the Area Alateen Process Person
 - The Area Alateen Coordinator, Alateen Process Person, and Delegate work together for Area Process issues.
-

Alateens and Difficult Situations

**Topics teens bring up could
be:**

- Having an incarcerated parent or sibling
- Peer pressure
- Abuse or neglect
- Sex & sexuality
- Suicide





Difficult Situations

When you encounter tough stuff

- What can an AMIAS do?
 - **Let the child talk about it.** Encourage members to find their own solutions.
 - **Suggest a meeting topic** to engage the group in general discussion on living with violence or anger.
 - **Know your local laws**, especially regarding mandatory reporting. Keep a list of community resources to provide to Alateens if needed.
 - Talk to other AMIAS, Alateen Coordinator, AAPP and your Service Sponsor. Share your concerns without violating the Alateen's anonymity.
-

Difficult Situations

Detaching from things you hear in Alateen

- Alateens may share family matters that are disturbing. Remember they are only sharing one side of the story. It is important that the Alateen Group Sponsor not place themselves between the child and the parent.
 - The Alateen Group Sponsors' or AMIAS' role is not to “fix” each Alateen's problems.
 - Alateen Group Sponsors and AMIAS need to keep their focus on their own recovery, and not let others' problems become overwhelming.
-

Difficult Situations

Avoiding Sponsor burnout



Alateen Group Sponsors need to take steps to avoid burnout, as Alateen sponsorship can be stressful and emotionally draining.

- Attend additional Al-Anon meetings.
 - Reach out to Al-Anon Members and Area trusted servants
 - Use your personal and service Sponsors.
 - Put your emotional and spiritual needs first.
 - Take a break from sponsoring.
-

Interacting with Parents

When parents ask questions

- Alateen recovery is about learning to keep the focus on oneself, just as Al-Anon members do.
 - The Alateen Group Sponsor and the other Alateens are bound by our Tradition of anonymity. In the same way, we respect parents' confidentiality and do not share what they say with the Alateen member.
 - Never come between a child and their parent, or undermine the parent's authority. The Alateen Group Sponsor only has responsibility for the child while the child is in the Alateen meeting or event. The parent's decisions must be adhered to—whether you agree with them or not.
-

Anonymity



- It is important to discuss the meaning of anonymity and confidentiality with the Alateen group (Traditions Eleven and Twelve).
 - Alateens and AMIAS need to understand the importance of “Whom you see here, what you hear here, when you leave here, let it stay here.”
 - AMIAS protect Alateen confidences when talking with others.
-

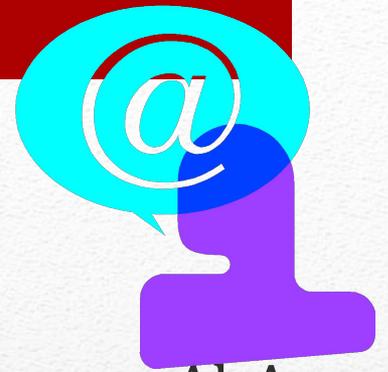


Anonymity Challenges of technology

Anonymity On-line

“Tradition Eleven gives a specific guideline: ‘we need always maintain personal anonymity at the level of press, radio, films, and TV. **It is Al-Anon/Alateen policy to interpret Tradition Eleven to include the Internet as well as all forms of evolving public media.** Personal anonymity in the media guards the fellowship from the Al-Anon/ Alateen member who may be tempted to seek public recognition.”

2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), page 91



Anonymity

Challenges of technology

- “On any Web site accessible to the public, whether an Al-Anon site or not, full names, phone numbers, or other identifying information are not posted, if they are identified as belonging to an Al-Anon/Alateen member.”

Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual

- Alateen identifying information is never posted on the Internet.
 - Any contacts for an Alateen event posted online should be Area-certified AMIAS.
 - Discuss other social media with the teens and facilitate a meeting topic on using the Traditions
-

Financial Challenges



- It is the goal of every Al-Anon/Alateen group to be “fully self-supporting” (Tradition Seven).
 - Within Al-Anon/Alateen, members and groups help each other to attain the goal of self support.
 - Discussion of Tradition Seven in the Alateen group is helpful.
-

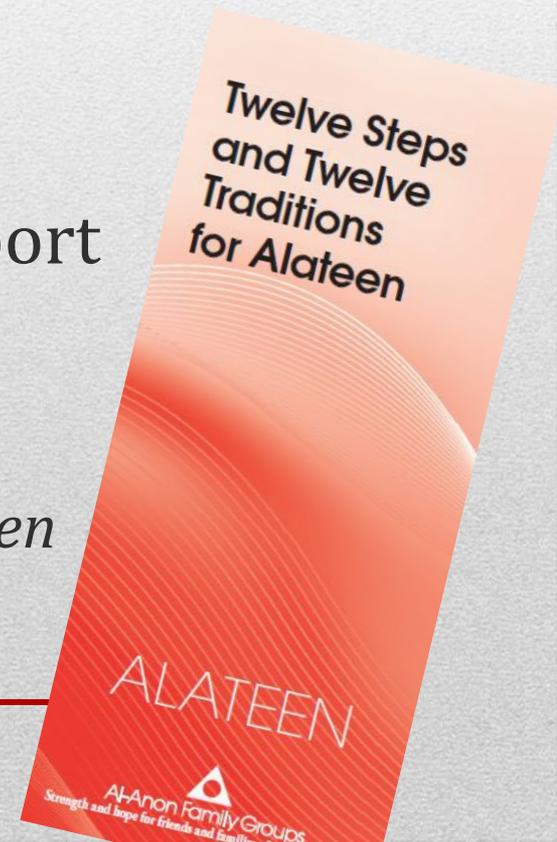
Applying the Traditions in Alateen meetings/events and in Alateen service

Study of the Traditions can:

- Help solve problems
- Help the Alateens to understand the principles of anonymity and self-support

Alateen CAL Resources:

- *Alateen—Hope for Children of Alcoholics* (B-3)
- *Twelve Steps and Twelve Traditions for Alateen* (P-18)



questions?

comments?

suggestions?

