

12 Concepts of OA and Corresponding Spiritual Principles

One. **Unity** The Twelve Concepts of OA Service are as follows: The ultimate responsibility and authority for OA world services reside in the collective conscience of our whole Fellowship.

Two. **Conscience.** The OA groups have delegated to the World Service Business Conference the active Maintenance of our world services: thus, the World Service Business Conference is the voice, authority and effective conscience of OA as a whole

Three. **Trust.** The Right of Decision, based on trust, makes effective leadership possible.

Four. **Equality.** The Right of Participation ensures equality of opportunity for all in the decision making process.

Five. **Consideration.** Individuals have the right of appeal and petition in order to ensure that their opinions and personal grievances will be carefully considered.

Six. **Responsibility.** The World Service Business Conference has entrusted the Board of Trustees with the primary responsibility for the administration of Overeaters Anonymous.

Seven. **Balance.** The Board of Trustees has legal rights and responsibilities accorded to them by OA Bylaws Subpart A; the rights and responsibilities of the World Service Business Conference are accorded to it by Tradition and by OA Bylaws Subpart B.

Eight. **Delegation.** The Board of Trustees has delegated to its Executive Committee the responsibility to administer the OA World Service Office.

Nine. **Ability.** Able, trusted servants, together with sound and appropriate methods of choosing them, are indispensable for effective functioning at all service levels.

Ten. **Clarity.** Service responsibility is balanced by carefully defined service authority; therefore, duplication of efforts is avoided.

Eleven. **Humility.** Trustee administration of the World Service Office should always be assisted by the best standing committees, executives, staffs and consultants.

Twelve. The spiritual foundation for OA service ensures that:

- a. **Selflessness.** no OA committee or service body shall ever become the seat of perilous wealth or power
- b. **Realism.** Sufficient operating funds, plus an ample reserve, shall be OA's prudent financial principle;
- c. **Representation.** no OA member shall ever be placed in a position of unqualified authority; all important decisions shall be reached by discussion, vote, and, whenever possible, by substantial unanimity;
- d. **Dialogue.** no service action shall ever be personally punitive or an incitement to public controversy;
- e. **Compassion.** and no OA service committee or service board shall ever perform acts of government,
- f. **Respect.** and each shall always remain democratic in thought and action.