

Choosing a Group Name Policy-Feedback Discussion

Questions for Discussion

1. **Tradition Three:** The relatives of alcoholics, when gathered together for mutual aid, may call themselves an Al-Anon Family Group, provided that as a group they have no other affiliation. The only requirement for membership is that there be a problem of alcoholism in a relative or friend”.

Do identifiers, such as men, women, parents etc. in group names uphold this tradition?
Why or Why not?

2. **Tradition Four:** “Every group should be autonomous, except in matters affecting another group or Al-Anon or AA as a whole.”

How might identifiers in group names affect Al-Anon as a whole?

3. **Tradition One:** “Our common welfare should come first personal progress for the greatest number depends on unity.”

Do Identifiers in group names create unity and allow for personal progress for the greatest number? Why or Why not?

4. **Tradition Five:** “Each Al-Anon Family Group has but one purpose: to help the families of alcoholics, We do this by practicing the Twelve Steps of AA ourselves, by encouraging and understanding our alcoholic relatives and by welcoming and giving comfort to families of alcoholics.”

How does your group welcome and give comfort to families of alcoholics?

5. If your group has an identifier in your name, have you ever turned anyone away from your meeting because they do not meet the identifier in your name?

How could/would you welcome anyone affected by someone’s drinking whether they meet the identifier in your group name or not?

6. The 2025 motion that was passed stated allows group names to continue to include identifiers such as those currently listed on page 28 of the 2022-2025 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27) v4(a) including “men, women, parents, adult children, young adults, other gender identification/sexual orientation, etc. *with the understanding* that in keeping with Traditions Three and Five the groups will welcome anyone affected by someone else’s drinking” until the 2026 World Service Conference to allow WSC Structure Areas to discuss the implementation of the 2024 WSC -approved “Choosing a Group’s Name” Policy

Do you believe the actions taken uphold Tradition Three? How?

Over the next few months please consider using a portion of your group business meetings (group conscience) to discuss at least one of the questions below. Be sure to take notes so your Group Representative can bring your group’s feedback to your DR for further discussion at the AWSC.