

NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, INC.

P. O. Box 68, Village Station

New York 14, New York

Danny Carlsen
Director

January 2, 1952

Mrs. Dorothy M. Sullivan
5508 Bonner Avenue
North Hollywood, Calif.

Dear Mrs. Sullivan:

Please forgive the delay in answering. I have been ill, and since recuperating have had so many things to do that all correspondence has had to suffer.

Unfortunately, we are temporarily out of the booklet, "Our Way of Life" but additional copies are being printed and will be in our hands in about a week. If you still want a copy, let us know. But, please include postage. We have no funds and find it difficult to meet the many requests for material.

For the present we are enclosing a copy of our Fact Sheet. (This is No. 1 -- made up of the questions most frequently asked us. Sheet No. 2 will soon be ready for reproduction.) I think you'll find these questions and answers informative.


Unfortunately, what you say is true about the prevalence of addiction among so-called "recovered" alcoholics in A.A. Sometimes, alcoholism is the basic problem and sleeping pills or narcotics are used as a "substitute" by the members. But they cannot be practicing members of A.A. and live the program if they fool themselves in this way. I'm not denouncing the addicts. I mean it sincerely when I say that I love them -- they are my brothers and sisters.

Addicts must have their own groups. They can use the A.A. program -- with modifications, as we do. But their groups must be dominated by "addict thinking". They must have the mutual understanding and help that is so necessary in the success of this program. Just as an A.A. member will tell you, "Only another alcoholic can help me," so the addict needs another addict to truly understand and fully help him. One of the things an addict has not yet devised is a way to deceive a fellow addict.

We are currently receiving many letters from addicts who seek help through A.A. and fail to find it. For that reason we believe the weakness lies in the fact that alcoholism and addiction, although basically the same are, after all, different problems and must be handled differently.

Thank you for your interest and for your work, helping to make a better world for such forgotten people as sick addicts. And, best wishes for a Happy New Year.

Cordially,


Daniel Carlsen
Executive Director
NARCOTICS ANONYMOUS, INC.

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Source: C.L.

DC:bd
Encl.