

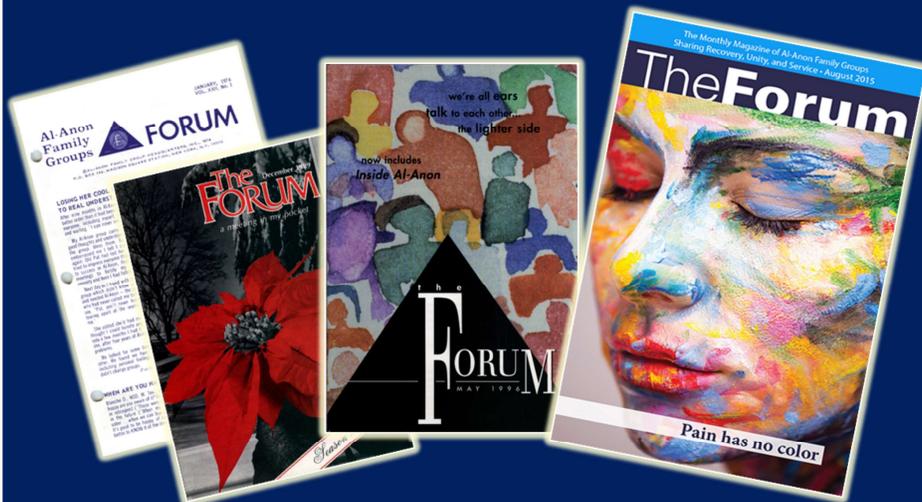
The World Service Conference makes the group conscience available and effective for all Al-Anon. It is the practical means by which the group conscience can speak; it is the voice of world Al-Anon and the guarantee that our world services shall continue to carry on under all conditions

- The Conference protects Al-Anon and Alateen against a service breakdown. 2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), p. 139 
- It makes for unity and enables our fellowship to act *as a whole* upon important matters. 2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), p. 139
- The final decision-making body is the World Service Conference. 2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), p. 139 
- The Group Representative (GR) is the first link in the chain that leads to the World Service Conference. 2014-2017 Al-Anon/Alateen Service Manual (P-24/27), p. 141



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Through the years, *The Forum* has been a vital part of recovery, and members refer to it often.



Through the years, *The Forum* became a vital part of recovery, as reflected by the large number of subscriptions. There were almost 64,000 subscriptions in 1989.

Up until 1978, groups received a complimentary copy each month.

In 1978, group mailings were discontinued, since many members were subscribers.

In 2006, group complimentary copies were reinstated to give more visibility to the magazine.

In March 2016, group mailings were discontinued, as budget would not allow it's continuation. cost was \$100,000 to give away

Forum sales are up 45% since we discontinued the free ones as many groups are ordering a subscription to replace it.

The Forum does not generate any revenue for the WSO. The subscriptions only cover the cost of printing and postage, which makes it revenue-neutral. The subscriptions do not cover staff costs of processing 1,200 submissions per year, editing, proofing, and design.



Readers responding to our surveys continue to state that *The Forum* is a vital part of their recovery.

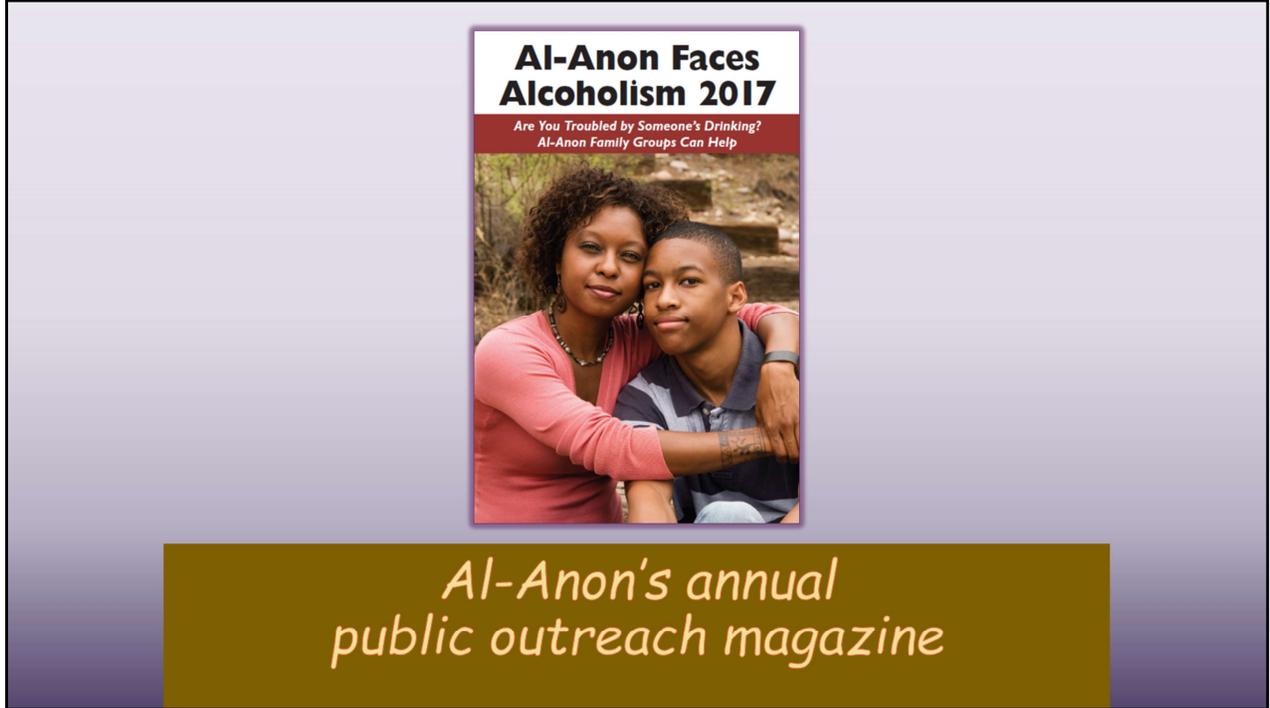
Yet subscriptions have decreased by 6,000 since 2010. With only just over 18,000 subscriptions, less than 10% of the fellowship reads *The Forum*.

We have gone from a high of 64,000 subscriptions in 1989 to 18,000 today. We still need to do better. All groups should consider ordering the Forum if they have the money. It is only \$11 a year.

**What does
The Forum
mean to you?**

**How do we ensure
that *The Forum*
continues to be
a vital part of
Al-Anon recovery?**

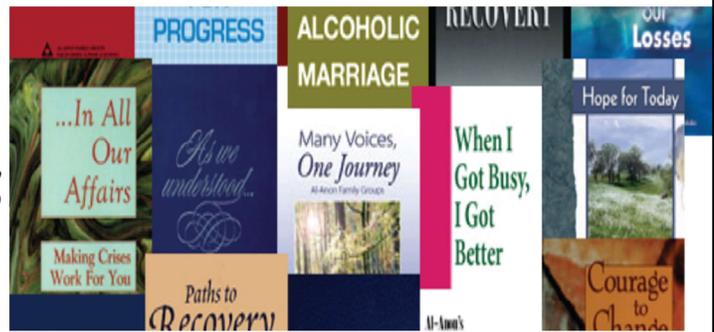
Read screen. Please take this to your groups. Etc. etc.



Al-Anon Faces Alcoholism is our most comprehensive public outreach tool designed to create an awareness of the benefits of family recovery among **professionals** and potential Al-Anon and Alateen members. Please share these with your clergy, doctors, counselors and others, don't leave them just sit at the group meeting.

Please go back to your Area and thank everyone who is using *AFA* to put the Twelfth Step into action!

Working Titles



- ❖ New Daily Reader
- ❖ Intimacy in Alcoholic Relationships
- ❖ Parents & Grandparents of Young Problem Drinkers

WSO needs your sharings for these three new pieces, you may submit your sharings on line, by mail or at a workshop. Sharings at Forum Writing Workshops may be considered for another piece if WSO feels it is a good fit. Please, look for the sharing sheets for each piece. Let's do our part, sharing our experience, strength and hope with the world wide fellowship of Al-Anon.

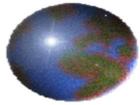
PRAYER FOR TODAY

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred,.....

O, Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled,.....



Members of the fellowship brought this piece to the literature Committee thinking it was too religious. The Literature Committee did Knowledge Based Decision Making on this and reached a unanimous consensus to recommend removal of the “Prayer for Today” from the “Just for Today” Bookmark and Wallet Card, as well as from “How Al-Anon Works”, and they also decided to bring it to us the world service conference to have a discussion on the floor. I went to the mic and said that although this is a great prayer, I feel it is religious. After much discussion on the floor, the conference decided to send it back the literature committee for more review. We were definitely not ready to make a decision one way or another.

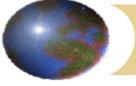


What is bias?

And what does it have to do with welcoming various communities, cultures, and beliefs in Al-Anon?

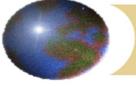
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This is from a presentation on “Acceptance of Communities and Beliefs” and I would like to share this small part on Bias.

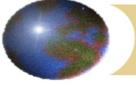


Bias is:

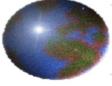
- ✦ Partiality
- ✦ Prejudice
- ✦ Unfair preference for or dislike of something



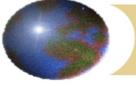
*I see myself as
welcoming and
open-minded, but...*



- ✦ I only ask someone I know to lead the meeting.
- ✦ I only talk to my friends before and after the meeting.
- ✦ I wouldn't want to meet in a jail or a mental facility.
- ✦ I wouldn't meet in a mosque or synagogue.

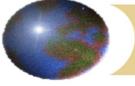


- ✦ I insist that we close with the Lord's Prayer.
- ✦ I insist that we do not close with a prayer.
- ✦ I don't like poor grammar when someone shares.
- ✦ I insist on saying how long I have been in Al-Anon.

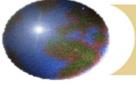


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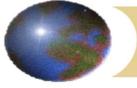
- ✦ I don't want to sit by a homeless person.
- ✦ I don't like sitting by someone who has not cleaned up.
- ✦ I don't like the passive/aggressive sharings of some members.
- ✦ I cross my arms to keep people at a distance.



*Everyone is welcome,
but...*



- ✦ We meet in a church.
- ✦ We have steep stairs to navigate.
- ✦ This is a men's only, or women's only, or an LGBT only meeting.
- ✦ We don't allow small children; they are too disruptive.



- ✦ Teenagers are difficult to deal with.
- ✦ Members of other Twelve Step programs are not welcome.
- ✦ We ask, "Are you looking for an A.A. meeting?"
- ✦ We are a Step meeting, we do not talk about the Traditions or Concepts!

**Go to lunch
see you after when
I will have more
information**

