



WORLD SERVICE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BULLETIN

Bulletin 003

Virtual Meetings and The Use of Conference Approved Literature (CAL)

In the face of the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic many face-to-face meeting locations were closed. This led to groups deciding to hold their meetings virtually. Virtual groups that wanted to make readings from the *Nar-Anon Blue Booklet* available to newcomers have typed up copies of the Blue Book pages for display on the screen during the meetings' opening words. Some groups share a member's e-book version on the screen for members to read. Some regions have posted CAL on their websites. However, the fellowship has a policy about using Nar-Anon's copyrighted literature and materials without being given written permission.

Below are excerpts of the Copyright and Trademark Information found on pages 26 and 27 of the *Guide to World Services*.

Nar-Anon conference approved literature (CAL), which includes recovery, service, and outreach literature and materials, is copyrighted and owned by NFGH, Inc. It is expressly prohibited to reproduce, retransmit, or republish copyrighted literature and materials without written permission. Permission will not be granted for substantial reprints of CAL, with the exception of those countries outside the United States holding a duly executed contract with NFGH, Inc.

There are certain exceptions for reproducing or reprinting literature. Outreach literature labeled "This may be photocopied," may be reproduced by local outreach committees for use in their areas and regions. Area or regional committees may use quotes or reprint portions of Nar-Anon CAL that do not exceed 25% of the original piece or do not exceed 25% of a single chapter or section, if taken from a booklet or book. The Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts of Service, Mission and Vision Statements from the Nar-Anon Blue Booklet or world service website may be used in their entirety. These excerpts shall always include proper notation or credit identifying the origin of the quote or reprinted portion. This does not create any legal right or claim to Nar-Anon's CAL.

Whenever a violation of a copyright or trademark comes to the attention of the World Service Board of Trustees, it is the responsibility of the BOT, through its duly appointed representative, to notify the violator. This is necessary in order to avoid invalidation of the copyright and trademark.

The World Service Board of Trustees is aware the groups were not displaying the Blue Book readings to violate our fellowship's policy but trying to share the readings with newcomers as they did in face-to-face meetings. As stated in the policy, groups can share the Twelve Steps, Twelve Traditions, Twelve Concepts of Service, Mission and Vision Statements on the screen. We are asking all virtual groups to adhere to the fellowship's policy.

The Board of Trustees voted unanimously against developing the electronic reading cards that were proposed to us. Here are some options virtual groups can use in place of electronic reading cards:

1. Asking newcomers for mailing address and sending them newcomer's package.
2. Posting in chat the Nar-Anon web address to purchase the literature from Nar-Anon.
3. Posting in chat where Nar-Anon eBooks can be purchased.
4. Ask newcomers for their email address and send information on where to purchase literature.

With all the above suggestions, please be mindful of anonymity in collecting and sending information to newcomers.