

COMMENTARIES ON THE TWELVE TRADITIONS OF SCA

Tradition 9:

“SCA, as such, ought never be organized; but we may create service boards or committees directly responsible to those they serve.”

SCA is not organized in the sense of a top-down structure. Instead, only necessary service structures are created, and they do not give directions to members of SCA. Service boards and committees exist to serve SCA, not to govern it. Intergroups are voluntary associations of local SCA meetings that work together on common projects. Each intergroup is directly responsible to the groups that it serves. Representatives from the groups guide intergroups -- not the other way around. Likewise, any service committees formed by an intergroup are directly responsible to that intergroup.

In time, after SCA had grown to include meetings in several locations, the need arose for an umbrella service board to coordinate between the SCA groups and intergroups and be responsible for such things as maintaining a uniform, fellowship-wide body of approved literature. SCA's International Service Organization was therefore created. The International Service Organization of SCA is a service body intended to further the recovery of those who suffer from sexual compulsion, and aims to serve as the Trusted Servant of the SCA Fellowship. ISO is directly responsible to the intergroups and groups that belong to and support it.

SCA members serving in intergroups and in ISO should be viewed as “trusted servants.” This means they should be trusted to make decisions without constantly consulting the groups. Like the groups, intergroups and ISO use their own group conscience process in making decisions. Ultimate authority in SCA lies in a loving God as may be expressed in our group conscience. Groups should use this authority prudently and with restraint.

(Extract from “The Twelve Traditions of Sexual Compulsives Anonymous” © SCA-ISO)