

## **SCWWZ (proposed) Safety & Inclusion Policy**

Tradition Five states: "Each group has but one primary purpose — to carry its message to the alcoholic who still suffers".

Any person seeking help with a drinking problem is welcome at Serenity Circle.

While Sharing our own Experience, Strength, and Hope can sometimes be triggering or upsetting to some members, we do not restrict any sharing on this basis. No one is guaranteed a space free of uncomfortable, traumatic or unpleasant truths **as they relate to staying sober and helping others to achieve sobriety**, however, our common welfare must always come first.

A.A. membership does not include having to tolerate sexual harassment, threats of violence, financial coercion, or bullying. Nor is pressuring A.A. members into a particular point of view or belief relating to medications, religion and other outside issues acceptable. No one should have to tolerate racial, sexual orientation, gender identity, age or other discrimination when they seek help from A.A.

It is this group's conscience that if any person endangers another individual or disrupts the group's efforts to carry A.A.'s message, the group may ask that person to leave the meeting until they are willing and able to adhere to these standards.

**We do not allow any form of hate speech or intolerance for others' identity or personal beliefs at any time in our meeting space, whether before, during, or after meetings.**

This includes pejorative statements based on any person or group's actual or perceived: Age, Ancestry, Citizenship or immigration status, Color, Creed, Disability, Gender identity, Marital status,

National Origin, Parental status, Political ideology, Race, Religion, Sex, Sexual orientation, Caste, or any other [legally protected class](#).

Serenity Circle strives to safeguard the anonymity of A.A. members and attendees; however, keep in mind that anonymity in A.A. is not a cloak for unsafe and illegal behavior. Addressing such behavior and/or contacting the proper authorities when appropriate, does not go against any A.A. Traditions and is meant to ensure the safety of all in attendance.

The short form of Tradition One states: “Our common welfare should come first; personal recovery depends upon A.A. unity.” Recognizing the importance of group unity, our group strives to create a safe meeting environment in which alcoholics can focus on achieving sobriety.

*(Statement adapted from Service Material from the General Service Office - [Safety Card for A.A. Groups](#), [Safety and A.A. flyer](#), and, [Safety and A.A.: Our Common Welfare](#). Protected class information compiled from [Seattle Anti-Discrimination Law](#).)*