

22 May 1998

Dear Trustees, Delegates, Committee Chairs, and Intergroups,

As one who is accountable to the fellowship, I am writing to you as a member in a position of trust in the service of SA, one who is also accountable to the fellowship.

I'm sure you've heard about the SA-Net controversy by now and are feeling the repercussions bouncing around. The controversy ripped the SA-Net meeting apart and seems to reflect the larger more covert problem, smoldering for some time now, which has suddenly broken into a wildfire. If this is true, SA may be headed for a major split over the gay issue.

I was asked by some of the SA-Net members coming out of same-sex lust who are threatened by the controversy if I would provide the history of SA's sobriety definition and interpretation of "spouse" and "marriage." They wanted to know the facts about the origins and entire history of our definition, since they were being criticized for defining those terms as "traditional, legal, heterosexual." The result is the enclosed paper, drawn from SA archives based on some twenty exhibits: "Background and History of SA's Sobriety Definition and Interpretation of "Spouse" and "Marriage."

Once I learned more of the controversy and heard the concerns and stories of several of these members coming from same-sex experience into SA recovery, I felt it was time for us to bring the gay issue into the light. "My Appeal to Gays," enclosed, is my own personal vision and hope of resolution to this issue and shows why unbelief in the principles of our Program is our real problem. I urge you to critically read these two papers, the first dealing with the problem; the other the solution.

And I urge you to come out into-the light, regardless of what your position is: No hiding. Let's all come out. Will you? Where do you stand? And what is your personal response to the enclosed papers? I will respect your views, whatever they are, but I and the members who requested this history are asking where you, one of our top trusted servants, stands. No condemnation, no judgement.

If you hold to some view other than what has been SA's historically, are you willing to stand on principle, do so openly, and state and/or defend your position? On the other hand, if you agree with the SA position, are you willing to stand with many others and be counted on that?

Please respond. I enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Sincerely,

asking together for the knowledge of God's will for us and the power to carry that out,

Roy R. Kuljian

P.S. Iris and I will be going to the Newark conference and we look forward to seeing you all there.

encl: Two papers, SASE