

APB Working Group - Monthly Report January 2020

Chair:	Karin S.
Vice Chair:	Erin D.
Secretary:	Josh W.
Mission Statement (approved 6/2/2019):	<p>1. To provide education and resources for members, groups, intergroups, and newcomers to address predatory behaviors within the ACA fellowship.</p> <p>2. To create safe spaces for open discussions about Predatory Behavior in the fellowship.</p>
Information about APB working group	https://acawso.org/category/apb/
APB tent card final draft (as approved by WSO Board on 10/3/2019)	<p>https://adultchildren.org/free-literature-english-translated/</p> <p>detailed announcement posted here: https://acawso.org/2020/01/25/addressing-predatory-behavior-tent-card/</p>
To contact the working group:	apb@acawso.org

Last monthly APB call:	1/26/2019
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Next 3 meetings		
Sun, 2/23, 2 pm EST	Sun, 3/22, 2 pm EST	Sunday, 4/26, 2 pm EST
ZOOM Join URL: https://zoom.us/j/857810290		

Active Projects:	
APB Tent Card	<p>The ACA Commitment to Addressing Predatory Behavior is published at https://adultchildren.org/free-literature-english-translated/. A detailed announcement is posted here: https://acawso.org/2020/01/25/addressing-predatory-behavior-tent-card/. Thank you to Charlie H. and the Literature Committee for bringing this to completion!</p> <p>The literature evaluation subcommittee is coordinating the feedback process and has already gathered first responses. The APB working group has been invited to participate in the review of and response to feedback received and is currently seeking a volunteer to serve as liaison to the literature evaluation subcommittee for this purpose.</p>

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<p>Prioritizing Discussion about APB Organizational Relationship with WSO</p>	<p>Based on feedback received from members in monthly working group calls, in forum discussions on Slack, and in the fellowship-wide townhall calls, several topics were identified that need to be addressed as part of the broader topic of meeting safety, but don't necessarily qualify as predatory behavior. These topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Behavior occurring outside of meetings that has an impact on safety in meetings, such as inappropriate use of meeting contact list● Safety concerns in untraditional environments, such as phone or other virtual meetings; how does use of phone conferencing or online technology impact members' concerns about safety?● Problematic behavior of fellowship members in positions of service at broader levels of the fellowship beyond local meetings, such as Intergroup, Region, etc. What recourse do members have if affected by a member who is not part of their local meeting? <p>● How does the fellowship handle requests from members to participate in fellowship events such as the ABC/AWC, once they have been asked to leave their local meeting due to inappropriate behavior?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Members' behavior in WSO committees● Use of gossip/slander to engage in 'victim blaming' when a member tries to address problematic behavior within the fellowship. <p>While the reading on Tradition 9 in the BRB (p.533-535) discourages formation of safety committees in ACA meetings to avoid the temptation of trying to impose an exaggerated degree of organization on the fellowship to meet the safety needs of individual members, the APB working group has come to the conclusion that accounts of such issues are so prevalent fellowship-wide that a concerted effort to address them seems warranted.</p> <p>Based on our work on the much narrower topic of predatory behavior, we would like to suggest a multi-pronged approach to dealing with broader safety concerns across the fellowship:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Raise awareness of Traditions & Concepts and their role of keeping the fellowship safe, when practiced holistically● Explore strategies for effective communication in times of conflict and educate fellowship members on how to implement these techniques● Examine the notions of authority and perceived authority members bring to their involvement in ACA and provide education on healthy forms and expressions of authority that may occur within the group conscience process of the fellowship. [continued next page]
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Prioritizing Discussion about APB Organizational Relationship with WSO, contd.	Based on these reflections, the APB working group is currently reviewing its original mission statement and considering expanding the scope of its activities to include addressing fellowship safety as a broader matter. As of January 2020, the working group is exploring the possibility of submitting a motion to the ACA WSO Board to formalize its status as a Committee for Fellowship Safety.
Self Check Inventories	No updates for the month of January.

Questions from Members	
Numbers of Member Inquiries:	2
Issues Raised:	request for update about APB tent card
	question about announcing outside events at ACA meetings