INTRODUCTION TO THE PRICING POLICY MOTION

Presented by Al E., Trustee

A Fellowship Grounded in Truth

One of the hallmarks of our Fellowship is its deep commitment to **TRUTH**—truth about our families of origin, and equally, truth about our current realities, including our financial situation.

In alignment with this principle, it's essential we acknowledge a persistent financial imbalance that does not align with our spiritual foundation.

The 7th Tradition: Where We Stand

Our Bylaws are clear:
[ARTICLE VII, 3.] *"ACA WSO shall be primarily supported by the voluntary contributions of its members."*

However, our current numbers tell a different story:

- **Fact #1:** 7th Tradition donations account for **only 20%** of the total income—far below the 51% target outlined in the Bylaws.
- **Fact #2:** Approximately half or 10% of our total income comes from individuals 7th Tradition contributions and 10% is from Groups/IG's/Regions

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Understanding the Gap

Several factors likely contribute to this shortfall:

- Many members are "double or triple winners," contributing to multiple 12-Step programs.
- A portion of our Fellowship resides outside the U.S., where average wages and economic conditions differ greatly.
- Members face a variety of personal financial challenges, such as rising insurance, medical, and housing costs, that may not be visible on a large scale but significantly affect giving.
- Some members are simply unaware of the importance of 7th Tradition contributions in sustaining our operations.

Filling the Gap with Literature Sales

Given this reality, **Fact #3** must be acknowledged:
Approximately **80% of ACA WSO's budget** is currently funded through the **sale of ACA literature**.

This was not the Board's ideal outcome; it is merely filling in the financial gap [see Fact #1 and #2 above] that, if left vacant, would compromise critical, world-wide Fellowship literature needs.

A Dual Responsibility

The Board carries two essential responsibilities:

1. **A Spiritual Responsibility**
   To carry the message to the adult child who still suffers. Tradition 5 guides us to operate globally—now reaching members in over 70 countries and publishing in more than 33 languages.

2. **A Fiduciary Responsibility**
   We have a fiduciary duty to the fellowship to act in its best interest with integrity and transparency. We also have a responsibility to manage the resources wisely and meet legal responsibilities of the nonprofit organization, so ACA can thrive for years to come.

Simply put: **Cash flow from literature sales is essential to maintaining our global purpose.**

A Thoughtful Pricing Policy

In light of these facts, the Board has developed a **Pricing Policy Statement** for review by the Delegates.

No one welcomes price increases. But they are sometimes necessary. We approached this challenge with a strong desire to honor our spiritual principles while responding to business realities.

Business Realities Rooted in Spiritual Intent

Though business matters may seem separate, they serve our spiritual purpose: carrying the message to Adult Children around the world.

We are committed to honoring our Concepts and Traditions while recognizing the importance of flexibility in navigating today's complex challenges. The Board and WSO must continuously adapt to evolving circumstances and rising costs, always with the fellowship's best interests at heart.

The Board must manage legal and business duties with care, balancing spiritual principles with the practical needs of running a nonprofit. The Concepts support this by offering guidance while allowing flexibility to adapt and serve effectively. Managing finances and distributing literature responsibly is part of the trust given to WSO to ensure our message continues to reach those still suffering.

Why Pricing Adjustments Could Not Wait

A petition was submitted suggesting we delay pricing adjustments until after the ABC. While this idea has an initial appeal, it was estimated that we would have an estimated **$72,000 budget shortfall** in the current year. Delaying until 2026 would have doubled the projected deficit to **$144,000**.

Either outcome would be **inconsistent with the Board's fiduciary obligations**.

Instead, in a spirit of gentle stewardship, the Board provided a **two-month notice** before implementing pricing changes. This approach reduced the budget to a **more manageable amount**—a balanced decision reflecting both care and responsibility.

In Closing

I truly believe this Program, as supported by the literature, offers one of the most valuable and affordable lifetime paths to self-improvement. The path forward calls for both honesty and responsibility—qualities that have long defined our Fellowship.

From a financial standpoint, it may only be rivaled by exercise—but in terms of its impact on the heart, mind, and soul, it stands alone as a transformative journey toward healing and wholeness.

Recognizing both our spiritual calling and fiduciary duty, the Board has thoughtfully developed a Pricing Policy that seeks to balance care for the individual member with stewardship of the Fellowship's global needs. This policy is not a departure from our principles—it is a practical expression of them.

With this context and commitment in mind, we now present the **Proposed Pricing Policy Motion** for your consideration.

Motion: We move to approve the following ACA Literature and Products Pricing Policy Statement:

> To ensure the sustainability of ACA WSO's essential services and operations by responsibly adjusting pricing in accordance with inflation and other cost-related factors; and
>
> To uphold ACA's primary purpose—carrying the message to adult children who still suffer—by maintaining affordable and accessible literature through discounted initiatives and a variety of supportive programs.

Background:
As part of the Board's ongoing fiduciary responsibility to the fellowship, we propose that the Conference (ABC/QDM) approve the following ACA Literature and Products Pricing Policy

Statement. This policy outlines the guiding principles for pricing ACA literature and related products, aiming to balance spiritual values with practical business needs.

The intent is to ensure that ACA's operations remain financially viable while our literature remains within reach for those who need it most. The Board remains committed to transparency with the Conference and welcomes delegate feedback as this policy continues to be refined and developed.

Results of ABC Global Online Vote (May 18)

We move to approve the following ACA Literature and Products Pricing Policy Statement: To ensure the sustainability of ACA WSO's essential services and operations by responsibly adjusting pricing in accordance with inflation and other cost-related factors; and To uphold ACA's primary purpose—carrying the message to adult children who still suffer—by maintaining affordable and accessible literature through discounted initiatives and a variety of supportive programs

PLURALITY 89.0 votes tallied and 4 abstentions

I am in favor	60.00 votes 67.42%
I am opposed	29.00 votes 32.58%

I am in favor wins with 67.42% of the votes which meets the requirement of the most votes.

Motion Pending Minority Opinion at next Conference Business meeting.

REFERENCE: 2024 7th Tradition Donations by Segment