

Topic- AA MISCONCEPTIONS- obstacles to discovering a "Solution that will solve ALL my problems"

Objective- Utilize our basic text to verify the "legitimacy" of many concepts/instructions verbally passed along in meetings and generally accepted as truths in contemporary AA.

Summary: If an alcoholic's only hope is a spiritual experience as is repeatedly stated in the textbook, then it stands to reason that what we say and what we present to others still suffering (sober or drinking) from untreated alcoholism either leads them towards our "common solution" or creates obstacles that may prevent them from ever obtaining it.

If they are blocked from obtaining it and they are alcoholic, "the time and place will come when they will drink (use) again". If they use again they will eventually end up "locked up, die or go permanently insane." That indicates that what we say to those still suffering can actually have the power to kill them, even if done unintentionally out of sheer ignorance. We don't want others to learn and repeat information that may kill someone.

Additionally, the sufferer may walk away after a relapse (better defined as a suicide attempt since for us "to drink is to die") thinking that he really tried AA and becomes "convinced" that AA doesn't work for them when the tragic truth is that they never had a chance to experience what AA really has to offer, because the common solution was never properly presented to them. Seems to me to be an important topic of concern.