

**Dangers of SA**Posted by workingmyprogram - 18 Mar 2018 23:52

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My Dear Yidden,

?I haven't seen this issue addressed on here and think it's important to mention. Namely, the dangers of SA. I went to SA meetings for years and found that there is a very insidious and unhealthy way that SA as a whole seems to approach what we call taiva. Its seems they attach a lot guilt and shame to sexual desire. They view the struggle against "lust" as some kind of war against ourselves, not recognizing that the sex drive is an inherently holy thing that merely needs to be channeled. It's a very Christian way of looking at human nature, and when exposed to this type of thinking for so long, its very easy for yidden that go to these groups to take on this mentality (which I believe is at odds with the Jewish outlook). In addition, there was more than one occasion that people from program, not necessarily SA though, tried to convert me to Christianity! My own sponsor even tried to convert me! This is a danger that is prevalent whenever Jews are around Christians and are vulnerable and going to them for advice. I believe that combining Christian extremism with the disease of addiction makes for some very unhealthy people (Mel Gibson anyone???), hence my former sponsor. But even WORSE was the following incident: I was at a meeting once and we read from a pamphlet which contained the story of a frum man who was having a hard time getting sober, so he approached Roy K (the founder of SA) for advice. Roy K told him that there was no way that he would be able to get sober if he remained a practicing Jew! Desperate to believe anything, the man stopped becoming frum (lo aleinu). In my mind that's unforgivable, and despite the good that Roy K did, it's all for nought if he took part in taking even a single yid away from torah and mitzvos. So, for anyone in SA, be very careful. SA is like chemotherapy. It may save your life, but the dangers are real and the cure itself can kill you. Definitely don't expose yourself more than necessary, and try to find the answer in Yiddishkeit and the Ribbono Shel Olam. This post is going to make some people angry and uncomfortable, and that's a good thing. We can no longer ignore the elephant in the room.

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Re: Dangers of SA

Posted by stillgoing - 02 May 2018 22:42

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[hashiveinu wrote on 19 Mar 2018 03:07:](#)

ive never been part of an sa group but i have heard more than once about different things about sa which contradict what yiddishkeit stands for. someone once complained to me that he is part of a frum group and if anyone ever mentions anything about yiddishkeit or a vort about the parsha which might help, he is put down. they tell him that the only way sa can work is if

yiddishkeit is seperated from recovery.

how can this be? we are born to believe that all things have a source in the torah, so if this method of recovery doesnt, then how can it be considered the right thing?

im not trying to knock the sa but maybe it doesnt have to be without torah and mussur. maybe for us yidden a modified version should be created...

I guess that friend never joined the CordCall. This week we read from the White Book, The Big Book and The Rebba Reb Meilech! I think only Cords can combine that all.

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