

Moving Closer to a Second Edition of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text

May 2024

There is exciting news about the progress of the Second Edition of the Basic Text. This summer, 40 years after the First Edition was published, the Conference will have a chance to approve the draft of a second edition. This is truly a milestone for the Fellowship.

The feedback received at the 2023 ABM influenced the 50th-Anniversary Basic Text Subcommittee (BTS)'s efforts in further refining the draft, pushing it closer to completion. Notably, our founder collaborated with the subcommittee – editing his story in Chapters One and Two, while the founder's wife contributed by reviewing and editing Chapter Three. Additionally, a preface for the Second Edition, complementing the original preface authored four decades ago, was crafted by our founder. Twelve new stories have been edited and selected for inclusion along with eight of the stories from the First Edition. These tasks underscore the commitment of the 50BTS to inclusivity and accessibility.

Since the last update in November 2023, the biggest task has been creating a Motion to be included in the 2024 ABM Agenda: "To approve the complete draft of the Second Edition of the Basic Text, [...]to be published for the 50th anniversary of S.L.A.A. in 2026. Conference members are asked to decide whether the draft carries the "message of hope and recovery truthfully enough to be the [Second Edition of the] basic text of Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous, capable of helping those still suffering from this illness." (*Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous*, First Edition, p. viii.)" The draft will be accompanied by "A Brief History of the Basic Text and the 50th-Anniversary Basic Text Project" and tracked edits of the text. This has been a monumental, but exciting, undertaking.

How can you help make this Second Edition a reality? One way is to read the proposed draft of the Second Edition of the S.L.A.A. Basic Text. An individual member or intergroup can request a copy of the draft from the Timeline Mandate Work Group at tmwg50bts@gmail.com.

Sharing, reading, and discussing the draft with fellow members or at local meetings is encouraged. Once the draft has been read, you can share your thoughts with your intergroup or your delegate to the 2024 ABM. This information will then be shared with the Conference members, who will be voting on the motion to approve the draft in August 2024. Please note that at this time the Conference is not seeking feedback on

specific edits; rather, the question to consider is, “Does the draft carry the message truthfully enough to be our Basic Text?”

Members are encouraged to read the eight original stories and twelve new stories to see if they reflect the current manifestations of sex and love addiction, are more inclusive, and reflect the diversity of our Fellowship. At this time, there are additional stories being edited and reviewed that may be included in the draft attached to the 2024 ABM Agenda Third Version, so stay tuned.

S.L.A.A. members can get more information by visiting the [50BT webpage](#), reading the FWS Newsletter for updates, and checking out the 50BT-related articles in *theJournal*.

Lastly, those who worked on this project and were privy to the collaboration between the founder of S.L.A.A. and the 50BTS were so inspired by the phone and email conversations that were had that the 50BTS wanted to share with members some of this correspondence. It is hoped that you are equally as inspired as members of the 50BTS were. You can read an article about the collaboration of the founder on this project that Sharon S., a member of this subcommittee, wrote for *theJournal*, [“Humbled by His Humility: Conversations with The Founder”](#) or read the redacted emails in an article that will be available in the July-August 2024 ABM issue of *theJournal*.

There is still more work to be done, but the responsibility of moving closer to having a second edition of the Basic Text is shifting to the membership. It is our hope that all members read the draft and answer the question: “Does the draft carry the message truthfully enough to be our Basic Text?” as our founder and members of S.L.A.A. did in 1986. In the meantime, the 50BTS will continue to keep the membership informed.