

Mon, 12 Mar 2007 (Comments from Florida)

**Questionnaire**  
**2006 4<sup>th</sup> edition Blue Book**

1. Do the language and tone of the book feel welcoming to you, whatever your 12-Step affiliation may be? If not, what is missing?

*No opinion*

2. Is the treatment of the topics balanced? If anything is given too much or too little emphasis, please specify what that is.

*No opinion*

3. Is there anything in this revised Blue Book you find offensive? What would you like in place of this if anything?

*In the Step, there is this nonsense about using the same pencil/pen etc. Please, please get rid of it. It is totally codependent. There is no 12 step precedent for that and it does nothing to create a model for a HEALTHY relationship. In healthy relationships, we are responsible for ourselves first and the relationship second. If we are healthy adults, we choose our own tools and make commitments with our partner for how and when to reveal our work to them, our Higher Power and others in the Fifth Step.*

*Incidentally, the couple who wrote this for the first book had not finished the Steps as of the writing and have since divorced*

4. Please tell us of changes from previous editions you like and don't like.

*No opinion*

5. Has there been anything significant in your couple's recovery, particularly of a spiritual nature, that is not mentioned somewhere in the Blue Book?

*Many, many things.*

6. Do you have a practice or "Tool" not described in the Blue Book?

*Yes*

7. Has there been anything in your meeting's success that is not mentioned in the Traditions in the Blue Book such as socializing outside meetings or other meeting practices?

*No opinion*

8. In what ways could the spirituality of the program be better expressed?

*RCA seems to leave out the notion of open mindedness and willingness and settle for work toward honesty thereby hitting only one out of three. Healthy relationships must allow and encourage individual change and risk and a healthy organization must do the same. The result is that there is almost no flexibility for growth as an organization and long term active membership is a rare commodity.*

9. In what ways could the RCA Blue Book better support your meeting or help you start a new meeting?

*No opinion*

10. Some RCA members want the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Blue Book available. Would you purchase the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Blue Book in preference to this 4<sup>th</sup> edition if you could do it over? Would you use both? Is there a place for the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition if it meets AA guidelines?

*No opinion other than leadership must take a stand and go with what is best, take good council from elders in the program, and leave "feelings" out of it. Multiple editions are just fine when there is the luxury of ample funds and ready market. That does not seem like the RCA that I experience.*

11. Should the stories be retained if the couple has split up? Would you write your couple's story? Should real names be or not be included in the stories?

*If the stories are retained, they MUST be identified as written by a failed couple.*

12. Is the writing in the Blue Book consistent with and supportive of RCA and its traditions?

*The traditions were "lifted" from AA. RCA has never really explored it's own traditions other than it's traditional for RCA to take from AA.*

13. Do you find the grammar, person, and tense of the Blue Book clear, comfortable, and without gender discrimination?

*No opinion*

14. What would you like to see added to the Blue Book? Why?

15. What would you like to see deleted from the Blue Book? Why?

*The fourth step stuff mentioned in the third question*