



W O R L D S E R V I C E O F F I C E

8/25/2021

RE: Screen Sharing OA-Owned Material

To Overeaters Anonymous groups and members:

Over the past eighteen months, with the need to meet virtually as a result of the global health emergency, most OA meetings have been meeting using virtual means. Groups are primarily using web-based applications, such as Zoom and MS Teams.

At the World Service Business Conference committee meetings, questions arose from the delegation as to the appropriate use of OA-owned material protected by copyright with regards to online screen sharing or online posting when the OA material is purchased or downloaded for free from oa.org. OA members will appreciate that all OA materials are protected under copyright law, and the copyright is owned by Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. Any unauthorized reproduction and distribution of OA material is considered copyright infringement. The materials that are downloadable for free at oa.org are authorized by Overeaters Anonymous, Inc. to be screen shared during a registered OA group meeting. This includes all files in the Document Library on oa.org, as well as:

- [The Twelve Steps of Overeaters Anonymous](#)
- [The Twelve Traditions of Overeaters Anonymous](#)
- [The Twelve Concepts of OA Service](#)
- [The OA Preamble](#)
- [Our Invitation to You](#)
- [The Fifteen Questions](#)
- [The Tools of Recovery \(abridged\)](#)
- Welcome Home! (Abridged) - found on page nine of the [Suggested Meeting Format](#)
- [The OA Promise](#) (I Put My Hand in Yours)
- [The OA Responsibility Pledge](#)

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Tradition Four states “Each group should be autonomous except in matters affecting other groups or OA as a whole.”

Continuing to take the action of screen sharing purchased OA-owned material without permission affects OA as a whole. While our Steps, Traditions, and Concepts are our governing ideals, following the law is actually a more primary responsibility. This is NOT a topic for group conscience; if your meeting is doing this, it should stop immediately.

Please contact your Region Chair or Trustee if you have any questions.

Thank you for your cooperation,

OA Board of Trustees