

Day: All **Time:** 12:00 PM EDT/EST **Access:** 712-770-4010 **Pin:** 965-990#

Hello, this is _____. I am a sex addict in _____. Let's go ahead and get started.

Welcome to the mixed gender Sexaholics Anonymous Phone Meeting @ 12 Noon EST. This is a closed meeting. Only those desiring their own personal sexual sobriety please. Let's start the meeting with a moment of silence followed by the serenity prayer.

God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference. Thy will not mine be done.

We meet 7 days per week and have adopted the SA White Book suggested format. Please be courteous and mute your phone when you are not speaking. Press *6 to share or silence your line. If there are disruptions or background noise, the moderator may mute the lines. If this occurs, members will need to press *6 to share.

May I have a volunteer to read the *SA Purpose* on page 201 in the *White Book* please?

Sexaholics Anonymous is a fellowship of men and women who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop lusting and become sexually sober. There are no dues or fees for SA membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. SA is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization, or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy; neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sexually sober and help others to achieve sexual sobriety.

May I have a volunteer to read *What is a Sexaholic and What is Sexual Sobriety* on page 202 in the *White Book* please?

We can only speak for ourselves. The specialized nature of Sexaholics Anonymous can best be understood in terms of what we call the sexaholic. The sexaholic has taken himself or herself out of the whole context of what is right or wrong. He or she has lost control, no longer has the power of choice, and it not free to stop. Lust has become an addition. Our situation is like that of the alcoholic who can no longer

tolerate alcohol and must stop drinking altogether but is hooked and cannot stop. So it is with the sexaholic, or sex drunk, who can no longer tolerate lust but cannot stop.

Thus, for the sexaholic, any form of sex with one's self or with partners other than the spouse is progressively addictive and destructive. We also see that lust is the driving force behind our sexual acting out, and true sobriety includes progressive victory over lust. These conclusions were forced upon us in the crucible of our experiences and recovery; we have no other options. But we have found that acceptance of these facts is the key to a happy and joyous freedom we could otherwise never know.

This will and should discourage many inquirers who admit to sexual obsession or compulsion but who simply want to control and enjoy it, much as the alcoholic would like to control and enjoy drinking. Until we had been driven to the point of despair, until we really wanted to stop but could not, we did not give ourselves to this program of recovery. Sexaholics Anonymous is for those who know they have no other option but to stop, and their own enlightened self interest must tell them this.

May I have a volunteer to read *The Problem* on page 203 in the *White Book* please?

Many of us felt inadequate, unworthy, alone and afraid. Our insides never matched what we saw on the outsides of others.

Early on, we came to feel disconnected – from parents, from peers, from ourselves. We tuned out with fantasy and masturbation. We plugged in by drinking in the pictures, the images, and pursuing the objects of our fantasies. We lusted and wanted to be lusted after.

We became true addicts: sex with self, promiscuity, adultery, dependency relationships, and more fantasy. We got it through the eyes; we bought it, we sold it, we traded it, we gave it away. We were addicted to the intrigue, the tease, the forbidden. The only way we knew to be free of it was to do it. "Please connect with me and make me whole!" we cried with outstretched arms. Lusting after the Big Fix, we gave away our power to others.

This produced guilt, self-hatred, remorse, emptiness, and pain, and we were driven ever inward, away from reality, away from love, lost inside ourselves.

Our habit made true intimacy impossible. We could never know real union with another because we were addicted to the unreal. We went for the “chemistry,” the connection that had the magic, because it bypassed intimacy and true union. Fantasy corrupted the real; lust killed love.

First addicts, then love cripples, we took from others to fill up what was lacking in ourselves. Conning ourselves time and again that the next one would save us, we were really losing our lives.

Finally, may I have a volunteer to read *The Solution* on pages 204-5 in the *White Book* please?

We saw that our problem threefold: physical, emotional, and spiritual. Healing had to come about in all three.

The crucial change in attitude began when we admitted we were powerless, that our habit had us whipped. We came to meetings and withdrew from our habit. For some, this meant no sex with themselves or others, including not getting into relationships. For others it also meant “drying out” and not having sex with the spouse for a time to recover from lust.

We discovered that we could stop, that not feeding the hunger didn’t kill us, that sex was indeed optional. There was hope for freedom, and we began to feel alive. Encouraged to continue, we turned more and more away from our isolating obsession with sex and self and turned to God and others.

All this was scary. We couldn’t see the path ahead, except that other had gone that way before. Each new step of surrender felt it would be off the edge into oblivion, but we took it. And instead of killing us, surrender was killing the obsession! We had stepped into the light, into a whole new way of life.

The fellowship gave us monitoring and support to keep us from being overwhelmed, a safe haven where we could finally face ourselves. Instead of covering our feelings

with compulsive sex, we began exposing the roots of our spiritual emptiness and hunger. And the healing began.

As we faced our defects, we became willing to change; surrendering them broke the power they had over us. We began to be more comfortable with ourselves and others for the first time without our "drug."

Forgiving all who had injured us, and without injuring others, we tried to right our wrongs. At each amends more of the dreadful load of guilt dropped from our shoulders, until we could lift our heads, look the world in the eye, and stand free.

We began practicing a positive sobriety, taking the actions of love to improve our relations with others. We were learning how to give; and the measure we gave was the measure we got back. We were finding what none of the substitutes had ever supplied. We were making the real Connection. We were home

MON: The format of this meeting is for a guest speaker to share his/her experience, strength and hope to kick-off the discussion. Speaker meetings are reserved for any SA member who has been sober for 6 months or more to lead the meeting and share what it was like, what happened and what it is like now. We do this to help set the tone on recovery and program. Often this can take 20 minutes or longer leaving less time for everyone to share, so please adjust accordingly. If you would like to speak at this meeting, please send an email to noonaphonemtg@gmail.com so we can put you on the calendar. Let's take a minute to introduce ourselves by first name, even if you don't plan to share, where you are calling from, and state the length of sexual sobriety.

TUES: The format of this meeting is to take turns reading a short section from SA approved literature and then share on the topic. This is a step study meeting and we will be reading on Step XX today. Let's take a minute to introduce ourselves by first name, even if you do not plan to share, where you are calling from, and state your length of sexual sobriety.

WED – SUN: The format of this meeting is to take turns reading a short section from SA approved literature and then share on the topic. Let's take a minute to introduce ourselves by first name, even if you do not plan to share, where you are calling from, and state your length of sexual sobriety. If you would like to suggest a reading and have access to a particular book, feel free to mention that as well.

If this is your first SA Phone Meeting or if you are new to SA, please let us know so we have an opportunity to welcome you to the group. I will begin and we will go around the call. My name is _____, a sex addict in _____. I have been sober since _____. I will pass to the next caller. Has anyone else joined the call?

READ OR SPEAKER SHARES

In participation, we avoid topics that can lead to dissension or distraction. We also avoid explicit sexual descriptions and sexually abusive language. The emphasis is on honesty, recovery and healing – how to apply the 12 Steps and Traditions in our daily lives. No cross talk please. Cross talk means interrupting, giving advice, or criticizing another person's share. It does not mean sharing along similar lines as another member from your own experience, strength and hope. If someone feels another is getting too explicit, they may signify by saying, "my hand is raised," at which point the secretary may consult the group conscience. [ON TUESDAY: Since this is our Tuesday Step Study Meeting, sharing on Step X, the reading about this step we have just heard, or the step you are currently working on would be particularly appropriate.]

The goal is to finish within one hour, giving as many people as possible an opportunity to participate. Please limit sharing to 3 minutes. The secretary or timekeeper will remind you when your time has expired. Please be respectful of the group by acknowledging the timekeeper and closing your share when time is called. Would someone like to volunteer to be the timekeeper for today's meeting? This is a simple way to be of service and is a great help to the secretary.

After the formal part of the meeting has ended, there will be time for fellowship where anyone new to SA may ask questions or obtain an email or phone number for SA, members may connect informally with one another, and those who did not get an opportunity to share during the formal part of the meeting may do so.

Bearing in mind the 5th tradition of the group's purpose being "to carry its message to the sexaholic who still suffers," we invite three of our members with at least 30 days of sobriety to share first. We do this to help set the tone on recovery and program. After that, the call is open to anyone who would like to share. Please wait to be acknowledged by the Secretary before you start sharing to avoid confusion when multiple people check in.

Gentle reminder – please mute your phone when you are not speaking by pressing *6.

Who would like to be our first share today?

SHARES

Is there anyone else that would like to check in, get current or share?

It is time for our 7th tradition, which states, “We have no dues or fees but are self-supporting through our own contributions.” Please visit www.sa.org to make a donation or get further information about SA.

If there is anyone who needs additional help or would like a member to talk to, feel free to stick around after the meeting. If you are looking for a temporary sponsor, you are encouraged to look for one at a face to face meeting. Otherwise, stay on after the call is over. You may also send an email to group email address to request a list of people that have offered to be a temporary sponsor.

If you would like to join our group, would like a copy of the male or female group contact list, or have general questions regarding the group, please send an email to noonsaphoneMTG@gmail.com.

As a reminder, our Monday meeting is a speakers meeting. If you, or anyone you know, has six months of sobriety and is willing to share your experience, strength and hope with the Monday call, please email us so we can schedule a convenient time for you to address Monday’s meeting.

In addition to our speakers meeting on Monday, our Tuesday meeting is a step study meeting. We are currently working on Step ____ (Jan = Step 1, Feb = Step 2, etc.). The rest of our meetings Wednesday through Sunday are book study meetings.

We have a regular Group Conscience meeting on the last Thursday of the month. Our next group conscience meeting is scheduled for _____. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend.

Is there anyone on the call celebrating a sobriety anniversary this week?

Do we have any other announcements for the good of SA?

I would like to thank everyone for sharing and the opportunity to be of service.

Anything you have heard at this meeting is strictly the opinion of the individual participant; the principles of SA are found in our 12 Steps and 12 Traditions. This is an anonymous program.

Please keep the name, address, and phone number of anyone you meet or learn about in SA to yourself. And what we say here, let it stay here. Remember that we never identify ourselves publicly with SA in the press, radio, TV or films. Neither does anyone speak for SA.

Would someone like to read either *a Vision for You* in the *White Book* on page 210 or *Promises* in the *Big Book* on pages 83-84?

Vision for You

We realize we know only a little. God will constantly disclose more to you and to us. Ask Him in your morning meditation what you can do each day for the man who is still sick. The answers will come, if your own house is in order. But obviously you cannot transmit something you haven't got. See to it that your relationship with Him is right, and great events will come to pass for you and countless others. This is the Great Fact for us.

Abandon yourself to God as you understand God. Admit your faults to Him and to your fellows. Clear away the wreckage of your past. Give freely of what you find and join us. We shall be with you in the Fellowship of the Spirit, and you will surely meet some of us as you trudge the Road of Happy Destiny.

May God bless you and keep you – until then.

The Promises

If we are painstaking about this phase of our development, we will be amazed before we are half way through.

- *We are going to know a new freedom and a new happiness.*
- *We will not regret the past, nor wish to shut the door on it.*
- *We will comprehend the word serenity, and we will know peace.*
- *No matter how far down the scale we have gone, we will see how our experience can benefit others.*
- *That feeling of uselessness and self-pity will disappear.*
- *We will lose interest in selfish things and gain insight into our fellows.*
- *Self-seeking will slip away.*
- *Our whole attitude and outlook will change.*
- *Fear of people and economic insecurity will leave us.*
- *We will intuitively know how to handle situations which used to baffle us.*
- *We will suddenly realize that God is doing for us what we could not do for ourselves.*

Are these extravagant promises? We think not. They are being fulfilled among us. Sometimes quickly and sometimes slowly. They will always materialize if we work for them.

Finally, would someone like to volunteer to close with the Lord's Prayer, or a Program Prayer of their choosing, after a moment of silence for those who still suffer?

Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory. Amen.