

**2007 CLUSTER FORUM DISTRICT 6 SKITS:  
PRACTICING THESE PRINCIPLES IN ALL OF OUR AFFAIRS**

*A satire based on Donald Trump's TV show "The Apprentice."*

**Setting:** A Boardroom. *A long table separates the Chair and the remaining actors.*

**The Characters:** Narrator, The Chair / Trump character, Sunday Night Meeting Team Leader: Jodi, Wednesday Night Meeting Team Leader: Sam, Laura, Bob, Tammy, Joan, other members.

*Narrator*

The following is an interpretation of what Alcoholics Anonymous could have become without our 12 Traditions, also referred to as our Principles.

*Theme song?*

We take you to the boardroom – the chairperson will now address the issues of the group conscience.

*Chair / Trump*

Jodi, you were the team leader in charge of setting up the Sunday Night Meeting, correct?

*Jodi*

Yes Mr. Chair.

*Chair*

What happened?

*Jodi*

Well Mr. Chair, we had a group member who consistently disregarded coffee scoop-age procedure – *(interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* Wait – who in the group was assigned to what tasks?

*Jodi*

Bob was assigned to cookie promotion, Tammy was cup distribution, Joan with chair placement and Laura with coffee production.

*Chair*

Now it seems clear the problem stemmed from lack of coffee supply...

*Jodi*

That is correct Mr. Chair.

*Laura*

Mr. Chair, if I may, there was plenty of coffee supplied at the meeting. I was simply doing what I was told as to scoop-age use age.

*Jodi*

That is not true Mr. Chair. It was clearly decided at the strategy briefing on Friday night we would use 15 scoops per 42 cups – Laura did not use all 15 scoops as discussed. I think she maybe used 12 – *(interrupted by Laura)*

*Laura*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* That is not true Mr. Chair!

*Chair*

Well then how do you describe the problem at hand Laura? Let's be real – we ran out of coffee at Sunday's Meeting.

*Laura*

Mr. Chair, there could be a number of reasons as to why we ran out. Increased attendance – *(Interrupted by the Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Laura)* Who was running attendance?

*Laura*

*(With attitude)* Jodi.

*Jodi*

I was Mr. Chair. *(Looking at Laura, annoyed)* but I kept an eye on attendance from the minute we opened the doors and – *(interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* Then where are your numbers?

*Jodi*

It was very hectic that evening Mr. Chair and I did not get an exact count but – *(interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* Then how do you know you aren't to blame for lack of coffee...maybe the attendance was more than you had planned for...

*Laura*

Thank you Mr. Chair.

*Jodi*

Mr. Chair, if the attendance was higher than intended then how did we NOT run out of cups?

*Laura shakes head.*

*Chair*

Hhmm...Tammy you were in charge of cup distribution?

*Tammy*

Yes Mr. Chair.

*Chair*

What is your take on the situation?

*Tammy*

Well Mr. Chair, we did not run out of cups. We had set up a cup estimate from the very beginning and also, a reserve supply.

*Chair*

Did you have to tap into that reserve supply?

*Tammy*

No sir, we did not.

*Chair*

Interesting.

*Laura*

Mr. Chair, we did not have to tap into the reserve because our original cup estimate did not match our 42 cup coffee strategy. In fact, it far surpassed it to be perfectly honest – we had about 65 cups on the table.

*Jodi*

Mr. Chair, the reason for the additional cups on the table is the simple fact that some people don't fill their coffee cups up all the way to the top. We had ample table space – *(interrupted by the Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* Yes, but then again don't you think it a little misleading for the members who, rightfully, were expecting 65 cups of coffee for 65 coffee cups?

*Laura nods her head.*

*Jodi*

Mr. Chair, who knows what other functions those cups may serve – *(interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* Enough. Let's go back to the main issue at hand... coffee ran out at the Sunday Night Meeting. Team Wednesday Night had no problem with coffee to cup ratio. In fact, didn't you have a little extra Sam?

*Sam / Wednesday Night Team Leader*

Yes, sir, we did.

*Chair*

Okay then. Jodi, you may pick one other person from Team Sunday Night to accompany you in the boardroom.

*Jodi*

Laura, Mr. Chair.

*Chair*

Very well. Jodi and Laura will come back to the boardroom along with Sam, the winning service leader for the Wednesday Night Team, to help me make my decision. One of you will be fired from your voluntary service position.

*All members leave the stage except for the Chair and Sam. The Chair motions Sam to come over the other side of the table and join him (the chair) by his side.*

*Chair*

Sam, I'm concerned with both parties to be perfectly honest. Yes, the coffee ran out but I do not have any attendance record from Jodi to shed any light on whether it was just stupidity on Laura's part or poor planning on Jodi's.

*Sam*

Mr. Chair, as team leader for Wednesday Night set – up I, personally, had another group member assigned to the door counting heads and updating me every twelve minutes. We also had a reserve coffee pot on stand by...

*Chair*

Interesting. So you're concerned more with Jodi's leadership ability?

*Sam*

I'm appalled (*dramatically, with a touch of brown nose*) with both sir, however at the end of the day the leader is the leader.

*Chair*

I agree. Let's see what they have to say for themselves. Let's bring them in.

*Jodi and Laura are motioned to return and sit opposite Chair and Sam.*

*Chair*

Laura. (*Pause*) You clearly dropped the ball with the coffee. I have trouble believing that 15 scoops would have run out as quickly as the coffee did on Sunday night.

Jodi. (*Pause*) You were unable to foresee any problems that could have occurred with the task. You could have easily had a reserve pot ready to go and without the attendance records you have put yourself in a foolish position.

*Jodi*

Mr. Chair, although I do not have the exact numbers I know that attendance was not unusually high. I am a leader Mr. Chair. I am organized, efficient - I majored in Public Relations. This task alone I planned and executed chair placement according to speaker location, I was fully stocked with supplies - (*interrupted by Chair*)

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* Yes, that's what makes the situation even worse. You had plenty of coffee available - just not made.

*Sam nods.*

*Laura*

Mr. Chair, if I may, not only was I in charge of the 42 cups of regular coffee but I feel I'm not getting any credit for the decaf that did not run out.

*Chair*

Laura, in the real world we talk about the issue at hand. The decaf issue is not on the table. Don't even get me started on the decaf. No one drinks decaf.

*Jodi*

Mr. Chair, Laura had two jobs this task: Regular and Decaf production. I had multiple responsibilities, 99.9 % of which I executed perfectly as a direct result of my organizational abilities.

*Chair*

Perfectly? In the real world perfectly is a strong word Jodi. You, yourself, just said you executed 99.9 % - that isn't perfectly to me. Is it "perfectly" to you Sam?

*Sam*

No, Mr. Chair, it's not.

*Jodi*

*(Pleading)* Mr. Chair, if I may - *(interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* No you may not. This is difficult for me Jodi because *(pointing to Laura)* Laura was assigned the coffee production *(pointing to Jodi)* but you're making it so much harder on yourself by not knowing attendance and frankly, also with your attitude.

*Jodi*

*(Again, pleading)* Mr. Chair, I know I'd be a wonderful addition to your group. I can multitask, I am an outstanding leader - *(Interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi)* You say you can lead Jodi, but I'm just not seeing your range.

*Jodi*

Mr. Chair, if you could just give me - *(Interrupted by Chair)*

*Chair*

*(Interrupts Jodi) (Looks over at Sam)* Here she goes talking again. Jodi, I can't have a leader on my team that doesn't foresee complications, especially with your attitude.

Jodi, you're fired. *(Pointy, hand signal thing...)*

Laura, I hope you go far in A.A. You both are dismissed.

*Jodi nods her head and both Laura and Jodi stand up and push in there chairs.*

*Laura*

Thank you Mr. Chair.

*Chair nods. Both Jodi and Laura walk off stage. After a brief pause (music?) Jodi walks across stage with a suitcase and exits the other side of the stage. Narrator appears...*

*Narrator*

Thankfully, Alcoholics Anonymous has a set of traditions which apply to the group conscience much in the same matter that the twelve steps apply to the individual. By the grace of God and the pioneers who have journeyed before us, A.A.'s Twelve Traditions provide us with principles to guide us throughout our experiences. However, it will forever be up to the individual and to group to ensure A.A.'s way of life by PRACTICING THESE PRINCIPLES IN ALL OF OUR AFFAIRS.

**THE END.**