

PRELIMINARY STATEMENTS OF AADAP
PHILOSOPHY, POLICIES, PRINCIPLES OF UNITY

The following is a brief and rough outline of the policy task force meeting of Monday, May 21. We (AADAP) are primarily a drug treatment program and our responsibility will be to treat Asian American drug abusers. However, we feel that the drug problem is not an isolated problem from other social problems (i.e., unemployment, racism, poverty, war, etc.) but a symptom or reflection of deeper contradictions within American society and its institutions.

There are many specific reasons for people to use drugs, but generally the lack of a feeling of human dignity (self-respect, self-worth, pride, identity) seems to be a primary reason why many Asian Americans resort to drugs. The causes for this feeling are many: insensitive schools stressing competition above meaningful education about our lives and history; industries more concerned about profit than human lives and values (General Motors, Ely Lilly, Dow Chemical, etc.); media and advertisers which perpetuate racist stereotypes to sell their products, and other manifestations (indications) of a system which stresses making more and more money.

*To counter profit-oriented institutions, we stress education and re-education, a collective workstyle, realistic expectations (we are not going to be 100% successful nor are we the final answer to the drug problem) and a building of human dignity in our lives and our work.

The following page is a beginning outline of many of the points which we feel are necessary to insure a together program. It is not final, but a beginning towards the development of a thorough and consistent working philosophy.

CAUSES

Lack of human dignity
 Fills social needs & acceptance
 Rebellion

 Society as exists
 Alienation
 Lack of expression
 Parent/family struggles

NEEDS

Human dignity
 Social
 Expansion potential

 Job development
 Referral program
 Education/awareness
 Tribalism-identity-community
 Family structure

PERSPECTIVE

Human dignity balanced w/ ~~humility & respect~~
 Unify existing drug programs
 Not the final answer to drug problem or 100%
 successful
 Re-education
 Development of skills towards self-determinat
 Multi-national
 Collective workstyle
 Works towards developing independent base
 Work with other oppressed segments of society

NOTE: These are just a few of the points which need to be defined, elaborated and developed into a consistent statement of goals, policies and priorities for AADAP.