Karen Ritchard

12 Commitments

- 1. Our common welfare should come first. Personal growth within our marriage depends upon unity.
- 2. For the purpose of our marriage there is but one ultimate authority, a loving Higher Power as expressed through our mutual conscience. Each of us is a trusted servant and neither of us governs.
- 3. The only requirements for our membership in our marriage are a commitment to be in the marriage and a willingness to make it work.
- 4. Each of us is autonomous except in matters affecting our partner, or our family, or the wider community as a whole.
- 5. Our marriage has but one purpose to serve an expression of our Higher Power's love. We do this by practicing the twelve steps ourselves, by encouraging and nurturing each other's growth and by welcoming and loving our friends and families.
- 6. Neither of us should ever endorse, finance or otherwise commit our family to any outside enterprise without prior consultation lest problems of money, pride or ego divert us from our primary spiritual aim.
- 7. Our marriage ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions. Each of us strives to be self-supporting, physically, emotionally and spiritually.
- 8. Our love should remain forever unconditional, but we have the right to ask for what we need.
- 9. Our marriage, as such, ought never be organized but we may temporarily appoint one or the other to special tasks as they suit our interests or talents.
- 10. Outside issues have no place between us. We, as individuals, are free to follow our personal truth, but we must never commit our partner or our marriage to outside controversy.
- 11. Our personal opinions should be communicated communicated openly, honestly, and directly with respect and courtesy. We need always maintain personal humility in all our affairs.
- 12. Anonymity is the spiritual foundation of our marriage ever reminding us to place principles above personalities.