

- (4) **Misuse of Tobacco or Marijuana and Abuse of Medical, Illicit, or Addictive Drugs:** Elders should use good judgment in weighing the circumstances and extent of the wrongdoing so as to determine whether a judicial committee should be formed. For example, one or two elders may handle matters by means of counsel if a Christian abused an addictive drug or smoked cigarettes *on one or two occasions and the matter is not widely known*. The coordinator of the body of elders should be informed. However, a judicial committee is required for a *practice* of abusing addictive drugs, including betel nut, marijuana, and tobacco. (2 Cor. 7:1; *wO6 7/15 pp. 30-31; lvs pp. 110-117*) If a medical doctor authorizes and/or prescribes marijuana for a medical problem, a Christian may choose to make use of this form of treatment. Although no judicial action would be taken, if an issue arises in the congregation, the elders will need to determine whether the individual can be viewed as exemplary. The proper use of addictive drugs under medical supervision, such as for pain management, would not require judicial review. When questions arise, consult with the Service Department.
- (5) **Extreme Physical Uncleaness:** (Deut. 23:12-14; 2 Cor. 7:1; *lvs pp. 108-110*) Every effort should be made to help the offender see the need to keep his body and place of residence clean. Before judicial action would be considered, the elders would need to be certain that the uncleanness is pronounced and offensive, bringing much reproach upon Jehovah's good name and his people in the community. Appropriate counsel should be given. If this is not heeded, then a warning talk may be necessary. (See 12:77-80.) If there is blatant, willful disregard of the counsel given and extremely offensive