## Handout 8

## Negative-Positive Self-Talk\*

Rewrite the following negative statements so they read as positive statements.

- 1. Something must be wrong with me; I can't do anything right.
- 2. There is nothing I can do to change my life.
- 3. I must stay prepared by always expecting the worst.
- 4. Other people and other situations are to blame for my hardships.
- 5. I always feel like a failure.
- 6. If I let others know me, they might not like me.
- 7. I will never forgive them for what they did to me.
- 8. I am either the best or the worst; there is no in-between.
- 9. Playing and having fun are a waste of time because life is too full of problems.
- 10. Changing the people around me will fix how I feel inside.
- 11. If I can get others to like me, I'll feel better about myself.
- 12. Things have to be perfect for me to be happy, and nothing I ever do is good enough.

<sup>\*</sup> Credit: Bryan E. Robinson, adaptation of "Core Beliefs of Addictive Thinking," from *Heal Your Self-Esteem: Recovery from Addictive Thinking.* Copyright © 1991 by Brian E. Robinson. Used with permission of Health Communications, Inc., www.hcibooks.com.