New Zealand Journal of Psychology

EDITOR

Marc Wilson

School of Psychology Victoria University of Wellington

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Editor's Introduction

An introduction to this issue, foreshadowing a special 'issue', and advice for authors.

Prelude to this issue: Volume 51, issue 3 presents five articles. They include case studies (e.g., Pine & Bruckner), an 'evaluation' study (Hond-Flavell and colleagues), a survey of lived experience of mental health recovery among people who teach into psychology courses (Sen Gupta and Taylor) and two studies drawing from the New Zealand Attitudes and Values Study. As well as highlighting diversity of perspectives and subject matter, I want to specifically comment on the work of Hond-Flavell and colleagues, and Satherley and colleagues. Very different projects, but two that I am extremely happy to present here because they symbolise something I consider a vital role of the Journal.

Below I remind prospective authors of our requirement to establish the relevance of submitted manuscripts to our context in Aotearoa New Zealand. It seems to me this implies that research that holds a mirror to our context is important for us, and both of the highlighted works do this. They are also the products of highly productive research teams – Satherley working from the longitudinal NZAVS, and Hond-Flavell from a team that intersects with another amazing ongoing project hosted at the National Centre for Lifecourse Research. Both these teams have published recently in the Journal, hinting at their productivity but also the relevance of their work for this particular journal. I highlight this to signal that I am explicitly interested in work that says important things about our context – both descriptive and also grounded in the kind of theory that is relevant irrespective of the context. While I can imagine both of the highlighted works being published in international journals, they speak most directly particularly to research, practitioners, and lay-people in Aotearoa.

Advice to authors: Consistent with the imperative of the Journal, *any* submission must clearly articulate relevance in the context of Aotearoa New Zealand. The majority of desk rejections handled by NZJP are rejected for failing to make this case. Additionally, general attention to APA format is desirable – we're happy to convert manuscripts into the NZJP format but it is easier to do so if it is already most of the way there! Additionally, we insist that authors provide de-identified manuscripts, consistent with our historical commitment to 'blind' review. I reserve the right to bounce manuscripts back if this has not been done, and that adds delays to what can be a lengthy process in a pandemic-affected reviewing and publishing world. I appreciate that sometime 'blind' review isn't really blind, as in the case of studies that might explicitly draw from the NZAVS or Centre for Lifecourse Research – folks can guess who likely co-authors are, but I still appreciate authors attention to this requirement. Information about the Journal, and general author guidelines can be found <u>here</u>.

Additionally, the Covid-19 pandemic has dramatically affected the ways that academics work, and this can be seen in much greater difficulty securing reviews (for example, we have experienced significantly more declines of review invitations compared to pre-Covid times). Feel free to suggest reviewers with appropriate expertise (while being aware of conflicts of interest) and we will draw off that list when supplementing the invitations we extend.

Upcoming special 'issue' on Environmental Psychology: Over the coming months we will be posting the accepted submissions for this issue, before they are combined into a single volume. Keep an eye out.

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