
New Zealand Journal of Psychology

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Editor's Introduction

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

Prelude to this issue: Volume 53, issue 1 presents six articles. We've 'curated' them into this issue as they are somewhat thematic. Specifically, they all have relevance to mental health. Further to that, three share a focus on men. Cooney and colleagues discuss DBT for men with anger problems; Watson and colleagues describe the role that meaning in life might play in the relationship between hopelessness and social connectedness, important pieces of one of the influential theories of suicide, and; Rudd and Treharne present qualitative analysis of interviews with young men about their mental health, and how masculinity and social relationships fit into that picture. The first two articles address a second sub-theme: psychologists' experiences during the Covid-19 pandemic. Variava and colleagues dig into psychologists' compassion and burnout in mid-to-late 2021. Readers may wish to consider this alongside Blayney and Kercher's qualitative investigation of psychologist burnout, conducted around the same time, and published in the April 2023 issue of NZJP. Finally, Van Kessel and colleagues discuss psychologists' experience of teletherapy during Covid.

Upcoming special 'issue' on Racism and Psychology: At the time of writing, the guest editors of this special issue are working with 15 manuscripts. Looks like it's going to be a big one.

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 an already-lengthy process. 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 [here](#).

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.

Remembering Jim Liu: The publication of this issue follows close on the heels of the passing of Professor James Liu, most recently at Massey University since 2015, but prior to that at VUW, following his arrival in Aotearoa in the mid-1990s. Jim immersed himself in our culture, and his research and teaching were shaped heavily by his personal relationships with people representing the diversity of Aotearoa. He was instrumental in the establishment of the Asian Association of Social Psychology, the establishment of the Centre for Cross-Cultural Research at VUW, and a variety of other local and international initiatives. Jim was a charismatic classroom teacher (and presenter). I remember Taking for his second-year social psychology course and seeing him take his tape deck into classes to open lectures on social activism with the Indigo Girls, illustrate course material with his own personal experiences, and even sing the 'Star Spangled Banner' at a particularly memorable staff debate. He was also a prolific researcher, with publications in the most prestigious journals in social psychology, and cross-cultural psychology, in particular. And he also frequented the pages of NZJP, typically in collaboration with his postgraduate students. The eight papers co-authored in this manner have been collectively cited 417 times according to Google Scholar. Our thoughts are with Jim's family, and the students he leaves behind.

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CONTENTS

Compassion and Burnout in Psychologists During the COVID-19 Pandemic in Aotearoa	<i>Rushaina Variava, Rosie Dobson, Meihana Douglas, and Lisa Reynolds</i>	4
Delivering Videocall Therapy During COVID-19: Counselling Psychologists' Experience	<i>Kirsten Van Kessel, Cherry Kura, Elizabeth du Preez, and Ties Coomber</i>	10
Dialectical Behaviour Therapy (DBT) skills for men with anger problems in Aotearoa	<i>Emily Cooney, Nick Mooney, and Paul Ryan</i>	21
Meaning in life moderates the relationship between social connectedness and hopelessness	<i>Lara J. Watson, Taylor-Jane Cox, Damian Scarf, and Seth C. Harty</i>	29
"Last year, I had an absolute mental breakdown [...] and I only got better due to my family and friends": A qualitative study on the role of masculine norms and social relationships for young men's mental health	<i>Keita Rudd and Gareth Treharne</i>	39
Exploring the well-being of a Korean immigrant family caring for their elderly parent with an enduring mental illness	<i>Mina Aelyn Lee and Richard Fletcher</i>	49