

## EDITORIAL

Following the publication of a number of papers from the NZAC/IRTAC Conference in the 1993 volume, we begin this issue with two further articles from recent conferences. Jean Pettifor, President-elect of the Canadian Psychological Association, established warm and memorable connections with our members when she visited us from Canada in May. At NZAC Conference in Dunedin she provided timely challenges to our thinking in the topical area of professional ethics. The first article in this issue is the text of her keynote address.

Next is an article based on a paper that Wendy Drewery and Gerald Monk presented at the NZAC/IRTAC Conference. Their concern to foster ethical practice underlies the authors' consideration in this article of important issues in counsellor education and contemporary practice.

In the last issue we published an article discussing the needs of gay, lesbian and bisexual young people in schools. Another aspect of the theme of counselling with lesbian and gay clients is developed in this issue, with an article that explores the counselling issues and implications of families created by lesbian women and gay men. The first two authors of this article, Thomas Fitzgerald and Vivien Radonsky, are based in the United States, whilst the third author is Hans Everts of New Zealand.

The fourth article in this issue breaks new ground in that it is the first we have published that deals with the experience of bereavement by homicide. In this article Lexie Ridling presents dialogue between herself and Nancye O'Reilly, a member of a therapeutic group for survivors of bereavement by homicide, to communicate to counsellors some of the core aspects of this experience and develop our understanding of the needs of those who find themselves having to cope with this traumatic form of loss. In a forthcoming issue there will be a companion article that will present more about the therapeutic programme itself.

In the last article in this issue, Alison Cleland and Lesley MacKay present their research into the effectiveness of sexuality education programmes in secondary schools. The programme used in this study formed the basis for the recent publication, *Challenges and Change*, now becoming widely used in secondary schools throughout New Zealand.

The roar of at least a portion of the crowd is heard in Letters to the Editor, with two responses to Bob Manthei's article in the last issue, Professional Liability Insurance: Second Thoughts. We also include in this issue reviews of three recently published books of interest to counsellors.

We would encourage more of our readers to respond to issues raised within the Journal and to initiate discussion of current professional concerns, and to suggest recently published books for review or notable people in the field who could be interviewed for the Journal. To echo a timely phrase, this is a period of challenges and change for our profession, exciting developments are happening in professional practice and fascinating areas are being explored in counselling research. Our Journal has a valuable part to play in both reflecting and stimulating this creativity and growth.

Margaret Nelson Agee and Hans Everts