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This is the sixth volume of *Gender Questions* to be published by Unisa Press since the journal's inception in 2013. The journal is accredited with the South African Department of Higher Education and Training. We would like to welcome Pragna Rugunanan from the University of Johannesburg to the editorial collective. She is joining the experienced team consisting of Deirdre Byrne and Chantelle Gray Van Heerden.

This volume consists of two sections. First, there is a themed section, which focuses on *Families and Patterns of Care* with two interviews and four articles. We would like to thank Marlize Rabe, with Chin-Chun Yi and Zitha Mohamane, as consultants for the themed section.

In South Africa, two significant publications appeared this year, namely *South African Child Gauge 2018: Children, Families and the State* and *State of South Africa's Fathers 2018*. Marlize Rabe interviewed Kath Hall and Tawanda Makusha, respective lead authors of these two publications.

The first three articles from this section flow from a conference held at the University of South Africa on the same topic organised jointly by the Department of Sociology and the Research Family (RC06) group of the International Sociological Association. The first article by Majda Hrženjak and Živa Humer from Slovenia focuses on fathers and how they negotiate employment and fatherhood practices. The second article continues with the fatherhood theme but highlights how divorce affects the intergenerational transfers of elderly men in Russia. The author, Ekaterina Tretyakova, highlights how a lack of intergenerational contact can have dire consequences for divorced fathers in need of care. The last article from the conference is by Anthony Idowu Ajayi and Wilson Akpan and focuses on a specific Nigerian state. The focus here is on child delivery and how families step in as caregivers during times of child delivery in resource-poor settings. The last article in the special section by Sinenhlanhla Chisale and Angela Gubba deals with migrant mothers in South Africa. It highlights how domestic workers use social capital in raising their children and focusing on their children's education despite many obstacles. An

underlying theme to all four articles is that the relationship between the state and families should be strengthened with the aim of taking better care of individual family members.

The second section of the journal is devoted to general articles. This section also contains three articles. In the first, Mikki van Zyl considers black married lesbians' experiences of belonging and safety. Van Zyl's research is published posthumously and with the collaboration of Amanda Gouws and Sarah Gordon, because she passed away unexpectedly towards the end of her doctoral research. The article published here provides an insightful discussion of the ambivalences and difficulties facing people who diverge from the heteropatriarchal norm that dictates that the only acceptable partner for a woman is a man. These women form a marginal community amongst themselves, but experience social and cultural isolation because of their sexual identities, and Van Zyl, Gouws and Gordon's article allows them to articulate their complex social positions. The next article by Jacques Rothmann explores the constitution of space for gay male lecturers and staff members at a South African university. While this may not appear to be vitally important at first glance, space, whether domestic, public, safe or threatening, proves in Rothmann's research to hold diverse and significant meanings for his research population. The final article in the journal addresses a niche area of educational practice, as Hettie van der Merwe explores what makes an excellent female primary school teacher in a resource-deprived environment. The women teachers who form the subject of Van der Merwe's research work in extremely difficult circumstances, where the structural and systemic features of their working lives militate actively against their success. Nevertheless, the research celebrates their resilience under these circumstances and their ability to rise above them in pursuing their educational vocations.

We hope that you will enjoy reading the articles and book review that comprise the 2018 issue of *Gender Questions*.