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## EDITORIAL

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This year has been eventful with many milestones to consider. There have been lows and highs. The inhumane acts perpetrated continuously against innocent people resulting in their death in various parts of the continent still defy logic and understanding. The Social Work Indaba held in Durban in March was crucial in dealing with issues that are relevant to the Social Work profession. A couple of those recommendations have been identified in a previous issue earlier this year. The Ministerial Committee to Review the Implementation of the White Paper for Social Welfare presented its preliminary research findings and policy proposals at a National Summit in September 2015. A range of stakeholders were invited. The research findings, policy proposals and inputs will be outlined in a draft report in March 2016.

Prof Leila Patel at the University of Johannesburg's Centre for Social Development in Africa (CSDA) was awarded the National Research Foundation's (NRF) South African Research Chairs Initiative (SARCHi) Chair of Welfare and Social Development. The purpose of this award is to increase scientific research capacity. This is an outstanding achievement for the welfare sector, and in particular the academy.

I take my leave of this journal after six years. It has been a privilege to serve as editor. I believe that this journal will grow from strength to strength and fulfil the purpose of making a contribution to practice and research in social welfare and social development.

The articles in this issue span a range of social development areas from social work education, child protection, educational tools regarding online safety practices, substance use, alcohol use disorder and the coping strategies of mental health workers.

**Keet's** article argues that universities are able to collaboratively engage in productive spaces for social work students to develop as active citizens who are able to contribute to social transformation. In order for students to develop the ability to engage more inclusively with social reality, they are required to engage with their own worldviews through a process of critical inquiry. The author believes that the research findings may be able to contribute towards deliberations on curriculum design that facilitate non-discriminatory social work practice.

The purpose of **Matthias's** article is to explore the tensions that exist around confidentiality in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) processes. A major weakness in the ADR framework in the Act is a failure to provide appropriate coverage on the crucial aspect of confidentiality. This article discusses how best to enable effective child protection ADR by creating an appropriate confidentiality framework.

**Symington and Coetzee's** psycho-educational strategy, in the form of a website, was designed to educate adolescents in schools with regard to online safety practices. The study employed a mixed methodology. Adolescents were given the opportunity to explore the website in order to evaluate it as an effective educational tool for promoting online safety. The findings reveal that schools, educators and parents could use the psycho-educational strategy to educate adolescents about internet safety.

The aim of **Geyer, Le Roux and Hall's** study was to explore adolescents' experiences of exposure to substance use in their social environment, other than the home. The study employed a qualitative approach with 40 adolescents purposively selected from the city of Tshwane. Key findings revealed that exposure to substance use are highly prevalent amongst adolescents in the Tshwane Metropole and could be normalised in their social reality.

The aim of **Barnaschone and Grobler's** study was (i) to explore the biographical (age, race, level of education and marital status) predictors of treatment outcomes for alcohol use disorder and (ii) to investigate the role of motivation to change as a predictor of treatment outcomes for this disorder. This study demonstrates that a significant relationship exists between age, motivational aspects (introjection and amotivation) and treatment outcomes.

**Keyter and Roos's** study explored the coping strategies of mental health workers (MHWs) who are dealing continuously with traumatised children (younger than 18) and their families/caregivers. The findings revealed that intrapersonal coping is facilitated by awareness of self, challenges and achievements, and by retrospective reflection, utilisation of resources, flexibility, positive virtues and protection of professional and personal boundaries. The study revealed that coping with continuous trauma requires facilitation on different levels.

*Jean Triegaardt*  
*Editor*