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Editorial

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Welcome to the second issue of the Journal of Applied Psychology and Social Science (APASS). The aim of APASS is to provide a forum for post-graduate students to publish their work; this may be primary or secondary research, opinions piece or commentaries. This new online journal is designed to offer postgraduates and staff the opportunity to disseminate their work and share good practice. It gives a forum to advancing research and research based activities across the sector whilst also helping to promote the employability of the students on our courses.

We received very positive feedback from our first edition and hope this second edition further demonstrates some of the excellent work our staff and students are undertaking. This is especially encouraging at a time when the university is seeking research degree awarding power (RDAP) and looking towards the next REF. We are proud that with this journal, we can showcase some of this research excellence and highlight the growing research community that is developing at the University.

The first paper presented involves a discussion of the different theoretical approaches to death anxiety. Dr Mark Hoelterhoff presents an interesting and critical review of how the topic has been approached in the literature including a comparison of approaches such as sociological, Freudian and cognitive behavioural.

The second paper involves a review and commentary on ethical standards in police supervision of those in custody. Rachel O'Donovan analyses the role of police officers in some key case studies around death in custody. She further presents a new way of supervision that addresses issue presented within these cases.

The third paper presented involved a critical analysis around vulnerability of witnesses requiring special measures within the Criminal Justice System. Rob Ewin explores, through a series of case studies, the issues that arise around vulnerability and intimidation from a socio-legal perspective.

Our fourth paper involves a piece of primary research exploring perceptions of perpetrators and victims of intimate partner violence. Leanza van der Westhuizen reports findings from a vignette based study that also explores sex differences and how perceptions affect whether people would intervene in this situation.

Our final paper also involves a piece of primary research exploring the role of social media in relationships, specifically focusing on the concept of being "Facebook official". Henna Mistry reports findings from a mixed method study and explores the effect of age and gender and how they affect perceptions of the influence of social media on relationship satisfaction.

I hope you enjoy this second edition of APASS and that you will consider submitting to the journal for a future edition. All papers submitted to the journal are peer reviewed anonymously so I would like to end on a note of thanks to our team of reviewers who have kindly given their time to support the creation of this second edition