

## Editorial

This fourth edition of the Queensland Journal of Guidance and Counselling may well be the last edition. This is not necessarily a sad occasion, as it marks the growth of the Journal from an uncertain beginning four years ago to the emergence of a truly national journal of guidance and counselling issues in 1991 - all going well. As helping professionals we know the benefits associated with growth, but we should also understand the related costs and need for the involvement of others in the growing process. You can assist in the growth of the Journal by encouraging individuals and institutions to subscribe, and by encouraging contributions from colleagues. In the past, articles from England, New Zealand, New South Wales and Victoria have been published, as well as articles from Queensland authors - from within guidance and counselling circles and outside.

This year's "bumper" edition has a balanced affective/cognitive split, with all articles having practical relevance to field personnel. The first article by Kym Dickinson and Barry Tainton discusses the validity and usefulness of a scale developed by Kym to measure adolescent beliefs and expectations about what makes an adult intimate relationship successful. Carol Penn and Peter Stephens report on the use of a social competency program based on Ollendick's work. The evaluation, carried out over a two-year period, provides support for the involvement of guidance officers in programs rather than individual casework only. Rosalie Gannon, a Victorian guidance officer, compared the effectiveness of three different approaches to pastoral care in secondary schools and identified the features that distinguish the most successful school. She concluded that, in order to meet the non-academic needs of students, schools must make a commitment to the provision of a full-time student welfare coordinator, supported by a strong team approach to pastoral issues.

Michael Fry evaluated the effectiveness of Rational-Emotive Therapy (RET) in enhancing the self-esteem of adolescent males. He concluded RET is useful and appropriate for use in adolescent counselling, and consequently should be included as part of school counsellor training. Liz Knox reviewed the history of cross-cultural counselling in Australia and discussed implications for guidance officers working in Queensland schools. This article is also relevant for counsellors outside school settings. Juanita Muller surveyed the prevalence and nature of behaviour problems in State primary schools in Queensland's largest education region. The study identified specific types of problems, and provided general prevalence estimates on which regional education policies relating to adjustment difficulties could be based.

Robyn Gillies demonstrated in her study that learning disabled children can be taught specific cognitive training strategies to assist their spelling, and that these skills can generalise to spelling situations outside the original training program. She also showed that reciprocal gains occurred when learning disabled children work cooperatively with other low progress spellers. The article by Jupp, Svenson and Reed suggests that some students may provide an efficient and effective resource for professionals in the treatment of functional articulation problems of other students. Given the short supply of professionals in this area, more students may be able to receive assistance otherwise unavailable.

I hope you enjoy these papers, and I look forward to next year with enthusiasm.

John Carroll