Psychology has, from its very beginning, been associated with sexuality. Freud’s radical contributions at the turn of the 19th century promised to make sexuality safe by subjecting it to dispassionate scientific scrutiny, but at the same time also threatened to expose hidden practices and motives that are considered unfit for discussion in civilized company. In putting together this Sexuality Issue of *New Voices* we often felt as if we were re-enacting Freud’s experiences. On the one hand we were gratified by the many contributions we received from young and established researchers that approached sexuality from a strictly neutral, scientific, and often quantitative, perspective. On the other hand we could not help but be fascinated by the contributions that acknowledged and played with the ‘unsafe’, culturally taboo, aspects of sexuality.

While this Sexuality Issue of *New Voices* is hardly the final word on psychology’s potential for making sexuality both safe and dangerous, we are pleased by the wonderful response we received to our call for papers, enabling us to put together a record of how some of our finest young minds are now engaging with questions of gender, identity and sexuality. Thank you to everybody who contributed to this Sexuality Issue, including our language and conceptual editors, Pat Finlay and Caryl Ochse. A special word of thanks to Caretha Laubscher who was involved in conceptualising the Sexuality Issue and was responsible for the book reviews. Caretha also launched and maintained a vibrant facebook page on sexuality and psychology.

The Sexuality Issue starts with a section consisting of articles about sexual behaviour, and conditions relating to sexuality. The first article, by a group of students and lecturers from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, analyses the fascinating practice of ‘grinding’ which can be seen as a public analogue of the types of gendered sexual practices that normally happen behind closed doors. In the next article, two students from the University of Cape Town report on their conversations with young people at a high school in an impoverished Cape Town community. As is the case elsewhere in South Africa, and globally, what emerges from these types of analyses is a potent cocktail of discourses about gender, power, sexual lust and the idea of heterosexual romance.

Complementing these analyses of modern manifestations of dangerous sexuality, Sibusiso Madondo from Unisa reviews reports, across many centuries, of ‘penis captivus’—showing how the condition is continually reproduced in the liminal space between urban myth and medical factuality. Kathy Bond and her colleagues from the University of Sydney expand on conditions associated with the vagina, but do so in a very different academic register, namely that of a careful meta-review of mainly
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quantitative studies.

In the next article Kim Melamed and Mzikazi Nduna of the University of the Witwatersrand turn to the question of HIV and Aids and how it relates to risky sexual behaviour among young adults in Johannesburg. The final article by Alta van Dyk of Unisa takes up this theme, relating it to the vexed question of antiretroviral adherence.

The Sexuality Issue also includes three articles on a special thematic focus area, namely that of transgender issues. These articles approach the challenges and opportunities inherent in transgender identity from a variety of perspectives, suggesting a number of ways in which psychology can constructively engage with the transgender community. The international literature on transgender issues in psychology remains limited, and in South Africa very little academic work has been done on the topic. We are therefore very pleased to include this thematic focus section in the Sexuality Issue and are confident that it will function as a resource for researchers for many years to come.

For the first time *New Voices* includes two journal reviews, both reviews of recent issues of *Agenda* – probably the pre-eminent South African journal focused on gender and sexuality. We urge you to read the reviews and to let them lead you into reading past and upcoming issues of *Agenda*.

Our book reviews section (edited by Caretha Laubscher) contains reviews of two quite disparate books – an academic text on terrorism and sexual violence (reviewed by Peace Kiguwa) and *Fifty Shades of Grey* the titillating publishing sensation aimed at female readers (reviewed by Nicola Themistocleous and Franco Visser). We also include two film reviews, the first about *Shame* (a recent popular movie about sexual addiction), and the second, a meta review about the presence (and absence) of penises in the movies.

We conclude the Sexuality Issue with two ‘reflections’. Khulukazi Soldati-Kahimbaara and Brian Sibeko describe their impressions of Gay Pride 2012; and, finally, Jennifer Graham playfully reflects on sexuality, romance, and spirituality.

We are happy to present you with this issue of *New Voices* which, we hope, shows just how far we have come since Freud’s pioneering work, and how thoroughly we nevertheless remain stuck in the political, gender, and sexual impasses that he struggled with more than a century ago.

*New Voices* is dedicated to developing young scholars in our discipline while at the same time showcasing fresh new ideas. We therefore encourage you to continue submitting articles and other contributions to the journal, and to attend and present at the upcoming Southern African Students’ Psychology Conference.