



From the Editor

Dear colleagues,

Welcome to the first issue of 2021. Contributions in this March issue come from authors based in Pakistan, Kenya and the U.S. The articles present diverse topics of debate related to gender, education, colonialism, post-colonialisms, and democracy in higher institutions. Furthermore, “In Conversation with Prudence L. Carter” provides inspiring reflections about interdisciplinarity, the role of sociology to solve social problems, and ideas about how young sociologists could develop their future works, among others.

The first paper by Sara Rizvi Jafree of the Department of Sociology at the Forman Christian College University (Pakistan) addresses a crucial topic in the current pandemic context and beyond: the situation of girls’ education in Pakistan. The author argues about the relevance of improving region-specific and cultural interventions addressed to improve girls’ enrolment in schools in the country, providing specific actions to this aim.

The contribution by Stephen Mburu (Kenya) examines the perceptions, issues and opportunities resulting from colonialism and post-colonialism in African states. Through the analysis of the main arguments of the Eurocentric and Afrocentric schools of thought, the paper seeks intervention on the way forward by urging them to assume more accountability and responsibility in enhancing improved governance and better conditions for the Africans.

The democratic crisis in Indian higher technical education institutions is at the core of Mudit Kumar contribution, which includes reference to sexual harassment and suicide cases. The paper reviews the progress in India concerning the universities and institutes, with a focus on the need to democratize higher education and to ensure freedom of speech for students, discussing the conflict between the social structures of faculty, students and law.

The final contribution is a conversation with Prudence L. Carter, Dean of the Graduate School of Education at Berkeley. Before, she was Professor of Sociology (by courtesy) at Stanford University and

Associate Professor of Sociology at Harvard University. The reader will find inspiring reflections about how sociology can contribute to solve social problems in collaboration with other disciplines, the role of the sociological associations to tell global and universal stories considering the particularities and the uniqueness of social contexts and ideas about how young sociologists could develop their future works.

Following the excellent and inspiring work of the previous editor Dr. Kelvin E.Y. Low, *eSymposium* will continue publishing different categories of contributions that have sociological value and interest to an international community of social scientists, while expanding sociological knowledge to society at large to bring sociology beyond academic audiences. With this commitment, my special thanks to the ISA publications committee for their support to further expand the presence of *eSymposium* to society, and my special appreciation to Dr. Kelvin E.Y. Low for sharing and facilitating the handover.

I would like to invite sociologists from all over the world and in different stages of their careers, to send their proposals for publication in *eSymposium*. If you have proposals, suggestions, works in progress or other ideas, do not hesitate to share them with me and I will be very pleased to provide feedback.

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