

Message from the Editor

Welcome to the June 2020 issue of *Language, Discourse & Society*, the journal of the [Research Committee 25 \(RC 25\)](#) of the [International Sociological Association](#). Unfortunately, the world is still contending with the coronavirus pandemic and we are now witnessing this pandemic enter a new phase that some parts of the world are experiencing as worse than earlier phases. This length of this pandemic crisis has undoubtedly had an impact on production here at *LD&S*. We are grateful for the development of vaccines and look forward to a return to some type of normalness.

This thematic issue titled, “Language Studies in a Decolonial Interpretative Key,” takes on the topic of the relationship between the decolonial turn and sociolinguistics, sociology of language, and discourse studies. Organized by guest editor Viviane de Melo Resende, of the University of Brazilia, Brazil, the articles in this collection examine, among other things, the “onto-metaphysics” of language itself; the ethics, ontology, epistemology of the research methods and techniques used to study an element of language; and the relationship between language practices, inequality, and social space in a post-colonial society. Below are some of the highlights.

Carl Mika, Vanessa Andreotti, Garrick Cooper, Cash Ahenakew and Denise Silva present in “The Ontological Differences Between Wording and Worlding The World,” an examination of Māori language that serves as the foundation for an original philosophy of language that they describe as another “onto-metaphysical orientation.” This extremely original research portends for future explorations exciting developments that may allow us to leave behind the foundational categorizing of the world that emerged and grew from the science of colonialism and the colonizers. In the orientation of their philosophy of language, the researchers do not conflate being and knowing and as such they decenter humanity, one of the main constitutive constructions of Eurocentric modernity.

In “Defusing Master Narratives: Decolonial, Insurgent, Gentle Moves in a Con-Text of Teacher Education and Educational Research,” Maria Marta Yedaide and Luis Gabriel Porta Vázquez use a meta-analysis of quantitative research approaches to reveal the oppressive ontology of the colonial-era master narratives the traditional research techniques work in service of and how these research approaches implicate pedagogy. The authors reveal how critical, decolonial, and queer approaches and “practices” in research make room for “defusing” traditional or conservative master narratives.

Rodolfo Soriano-Núñez’s “Migration and (De)Colonization in the Mexican Government Migration Policies, 2018-19,” in the non-thematic section, describes the fragility of narratives of sovereignty in former colonial spaces. Soriano-Núñez accomplishes this through a phenomenological examination of historical as well as the socio-economic and political forces that shaped the Mexican government’s recent migration policies.

The pieces in this volume represent work in three languages, English, French, and Spanish. They also present empirical material from seven nations: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Mexico, New Zealand; Poland, Portugal, and the United States are represented in the book reviews.

I share the hope from the guest editor’s brief that the articles included here allow for new conceptualizations of decoloniality itself.

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I would like to thank all editorial contributors for their support of *LD&S*. In addition, I would like to thank Stéphanie Cassilde, Viviane de Melo Resende, Maud Mazaniello-Chézol, Laura Odasso, and Dasharah Green for their work and constant contributions toward the publication of this issue.

I encourage readers to also take a look at the upcoming Call for Papers for the December 2021 issue, this thematic volume will address the Covid-19 pandemic.

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