Editorial

This first issue of 2021, comes in the wake of the strangest year in recent history for everyone, including our academic research community. Many readers participated in the journal's online international conference in December 2020, which explored the impact of Covid-19 on children's rights research. We were delighted with the rich, diverse and thought-provoking range of papers presented by early career and more established scholars alike. Those papers will be published as a special issue (Issue 29-2) in the early summer and in a special collection to be published by Brill later in the year.

For now, we would like to acknowledge the immense impact on many of our academic colleagues and authors. Everyone's research has been impacted in some way, but we know that this does not fall equally. Those who are caring for young children, who are home-schooling or who have other caring responsibilities have found this year particularly challenging. We, as editors, active researchers, teachers, parents and carers, empathise as we struggle to balance these additional burdens. Our heartfelt sympathy also goes out to those who have been ill or have experienced bereavement. We understand when authors tell us that they cannot get revisions to us within the usual time-scale or reviewers cannot take on reviews or take longer to do them; and we greatly appreciate the patience and understanding of those who have submitted articles for consideration as we await those reviews. We are also conscious of the longer-term impacts on research progress, especially for women, and are actively looking at how this may play out in terms of our submissions and publication profile. As we have done in our annual special issues, we encourage experienced and well-resourced scholars to reach out to early career researchers and to those

who have more limited capacity – because of their personal circumstances or less resourced research environment.

Please note that the Journal is now full for 2021. Papers submitted and accepted now will most likely be published in 2022.

Laura Lundy and Helen Stalford

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