

Editorial

New subscribers to this journal will almost certainly wonder why a new publication should start at volume 9. In fact, the journal is not totally new, but has evolved from the Newsletter of the British Association for Behavioural Psychotherapy (B.A.B.P.) via a more substantial bulletin, and then a 20-page journal. This series of mutations arose naturally, with just a little encouragement from the editors, in response to increasing pressure on limited space. During the last 3 years, this pressure has continued. The membership of the B.A.B.P. is increasing by about 20% each year and the pile of acceptable manuscripts awaiting publication has grown at about the same rate. Consequently, with the help of Academic Press, a new international journal was spawned.

The aim of the editors and members of the Editorial Board is to create a lively journal which will keep members of the helping professions in touch with recent advances in the field. Our current list of subscribers includes nurses, social workers, psychiatrists, psychologists, general practitioners and teachers, so that we are particularly interested in receiving jargon-free articles which would be of interest to this broad range of professions. Contributors please note that we are keen to create a readable journal in spite of the well-known inverse relationship between the status of a journal and its readability, so please check your manuscript for gibberish and jargon before submitting. During the Watergate affair the White House press secretary stopped reporters in their tracks with the sentence: "I need time to evaluate and make a judgement in terms of a response". This is the kind of tortuous expression that, by hook or by crook, we hope to avoid. "I need time to think about that" would be a much more acceptable translation.

Contributors should bear in mind our aims (see facing page) and the broad audience that we are already reaching. We are looking for research articles, individual case studies, reviews, commentaries and letters which will be of some interest to members of the helping professions. Now is the time to complete that half-baked article that has been gathering dust in your files. If you have some exciting new results that you want to get into print within the next 6 months, or a single case study that would be of interest to your colleagues, then why not try *Behavioural Psychotherapy*?

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