

Editors' note

Issue 6(1) is the second special issue of *Language, context and text: The social semiotic forum*. It reflects, in part, the work of ASFLA Inc. Semiotics of Peace, Compassion and Empathy – Special Interest Group, which offers regular webinars on the topic. The editors are Dr Elizabeth Thomson, University of Wollongong, who is the convenor of the Special Interest Group, Dr Awni Etaywe, Charles Darwin University, Dr Ingrid Wijeyewardene, University of New England and Ms Penny Wheeler, Australian National University. We thank them for their work in selecting, arranging and editing these papers.

Following an initial exploratory paper, which examines the three terms central to their work, members of the group report on work thematically related to these terms, work which is attractively diverse in its foci: from Thai resistance movements, to vegan discourse, to activism in the non-violent discourse of resistance and activism on behalf of a severely intellectually disabled person, to an empathetic union, to acknowledging dispossession of unceded land and much more. This work we believe to be genuinely pioneering, in attempting to open up whole new fields of enquiry within systemic functional linguistics.

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