

Letter from the Editor
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I would like to welcome the readers of the *Journal of Theoretical and Philosophical Criminology* to our first special edition of the journal. The make-up and structure of these editions will feature a single article, which will be either specifically solicited by this publication or will be an article submitted by an author or authors wishing to contribute an article for possible consideration in the special edition series of the *jtpcrim*. Included will be a group of scholars who will provide commentary on the issues presented by the authors of the featured article. The authors of the featured article will then be given the opportunity to respond to those commentaries in the next regular edition of the journal published in either January or July. Though this inaugural special edition is being published now, no specific publication schedule has yet been determined for any subsequent editions. If anyone has any interest in providing a featured article for future special editions of the journal, please contact me at david.polizzi@indstate.edu.

Our initial special edition will explore the issues of the incarcerated mentally ill, solitary confinement and cruel and unusual punishment as defined by the 8th amendment of the United States Constitution. The featured article was written by Heather Bersot and Bruce Arrigo and is titled, *Inmate Mental Health, Solitary Confinement, and Cruel and Unusual Punishment: An Ethical and Justice Policy Inquiry*. I am also happy to include in this edition of *jtpcrim* a distinguished group of commentators whose work is likely well known to both scholars and students alike in the field of criminology, criminal justice and offender treatment. They are, Annalise Acorn, Terry Kupers, Lois Presser and Beth Easterling and Tony Ward.

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I hope this new edition of the journal is well received and I look forward to hearing your option on the future development of this series. Please keep in mind that the next regular edition of the journal will be published January, 2011.

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