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The possibilities for adult literacy and numeracy learning occur in all environments and in many ways. This means that the editors are pleased to accept papers from a range of theoretical perspectives and research approaches, from researchers and practitioners emerging from differing epistemological positions. Articles published in previous issues reflect the diverse sites and orientations where literacy and numeracy practitioners work both with people with English-speaking language backgrounds and those with language backgrounds other than English. Research sites have included workplaces, prisons, communities, higher education, vocational and adult education, adult ESL, Indigenous populations and virtual environments.

Literacy and numeracy are thus understood here as socio-cultural phenomena, the successful acquisition of which moves beyond test and survey results or conventional education and training settings. Relevant terms that may help potential contributors determine if this is the journal for them include adult basic education, adult and community education, workplace language, literacy and numeracy, academic language, literacy and numeracy, online literacies and critical literacy and numeracy.

Because adult literacy and numeracy are emerging as a relatively new focus for research and academic interest internationally, the editors actively encourage submissions from post-graduate research students in the kinds of areas indicated above. Finally, in recognition that adult literacy and numeracy are controversial and are engaged with the politics of equity, participation and social justice, the editors offer the opportunity, through the Refractions section of the journal, for contributors to publish more rhetorical and controversial pieces likely to interest our readers. Refractions papers are not normally submitted to external review. Responses to Refractions pieces are also welcomed.

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References in the text should give the author’s name and year of publication (with page numbers if necessary) in the following style: ‘Co-production can be defined as the “degree of overlap between two sets of participants – regular producers and consumers”. The resultant overlap represents a joint production of outcomes’ (Brudney and England 1983, cited in Wirth 1991:79).

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