

NOTE BY THE GUEST EDITOR

Like so many other spheres of life Christian Ethics could also not escape the tremendous influence of the process of political transformation in the South African society during the last few years. The most obvious indication of this influence is the change of subject matter of articles written in the field of Christian Ethics that took place. As little as ten years ago such articles dealt almost entirely with ethical issues, related to apartheid and the liberation struggle. Very few Christian ethicists allowed themselves the luxury of writing on ethical issues of a more universal nature.

The process of political transformation has, without any doubt, brought about a broadening of the scope of articles written in the field of Christian Ethics. Christian ethicists have started to link up with the broad spectrum of current debates on ethical issues, in amongst others, international journals. What is especially conspicuous is that much more attention is now given to fundamental issues such as the use of the Bible in ethics and the reappraisal of virtue ethics. Articles on specific ethical issues within the South African society still abound. The completely new situation in society has, however, contributed to a shift away from articles on apartheid and the liberation struggle to an emphasis on ethical issues that relate to the reconstruction of the South African society.

Two issues of Scriptura (this one and a follow up in 1998) are used to provide a picture of "Current issues in Christian Ethics in South Africa" and the reflection of major role-players in the academic field of Christian Ethics on these issues.

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