

**WHOSE LIFE IS IT ANYWAY?**Divanise Suruagy Correia¹ Carlos Dornels Freire de Souza²

Our earthly civilization has reached a high level when it comes to technology, scientific knowledge, and the great challenges of human intelligence. Outward progress is easily seen in developed countries. Despite all this, we reached the end of the year with a global health threat born in China that soon became a frightening and deadly pandemic.

The dreaded "*Disease-X*" has finally shown up and, more than that, unveiled the 21st century. We decided to write this editorial four-handedly, at a time of transition in editorial management, with the current editor and the future editor-in-chief of Portal Journal: Health and Society working together. We are seeking to put into practice the solidarity and integration that is so necessary in these times. Millions of lives are being claimed and many others are experiencing pain and suffering as a result of an agent that has threatened, and continues to threaten, the lives of millions of humans.

Much has been described and said about the current Coronavirus, and much remains to be discovered, especially regarding its biological and social dynamics. The pandemic brought several discussions not only in relation to health, but also to social and economic issues. Simple preventive measures, such as hand and utensil hygiene and not crowding people, are disseminated daily as forms of prevention that can be adopted by all citizens. We ask: All of them really? The social-sanitary reality in Brazil (not only limited to our country but also to all places where basic sanitation is poor or non-existent) has shown the difficulty of this simple prevention. How do you wash your hands where there is not enough water available?

Meanwhile, researchers are scrambling to find vaccines to fight the virus worldwide. The world epidemiological situation has shown that we now live in a globalized world, not only technologically.

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This COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) pandemic has been demonstrating the fragility of human beings in the face of SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes the disease) while revealing the need for greater fraternity and solidarity among creatures to survive the current chaos. There is an urgent need to agree on values of ethics and justice, especially regarding the need to value the principles of human dignity. On the last day of 2020 (December 31), there were more than 56,000 new cases of the disease in Brazil and 1074 deaths. This in a single day. Since February 26, 2020, the date of the first confirmed case in Brazil, by the end of last year we had accumulated more than seven million ill people and 194,000 lives lost.

Whose life is it anyway?

How many of these deaths are the responsibility of the virus and how many are the result of political action or omission? In this issue, we also publish other topics besides COVID-19, since other diseases and illnesses have not disappeared to make way for the Coronavirus. Keeping our integrating character between Health and society, we bring several themes about Health and Education.

Thus, the reader will be able to get up to date on: Constructionist Paradigm and Active Methodologies in Health Education; Health Promotion for Teachers in Public Schools; Internships in Pharmacy; Newborn Care; Human Papillomavirus Detection; Cervical Cancer; Syphilis during Pregnancy; and Tuberculosis and HIV..

We wish you all a happy and healthy 2021!