A bioethics whose reflection focuses only on issues related to the limits and borders of life, concerned almost exclusively about individual ethical questions, does not meet the current needs of public health. Dealing with facts and situations that occur in our Latin American reality is necessary today, and intervention bioethics, a theoretical-conceptual elaboration of Brazilian thinkers, is dedicated to this, proposing a politicization of moral questions so as to be adequate to the exclusion context of the Southern hemisphere countries. This is the theme of the paper “Por uma Vida não Colonizada: diálogo entre bioética de intervenção e colonialidade” (For a not colonized life: Dialogue between Intervention Bioethics and Coloniality), which opens this issue of Revista Saúde e Sociedade, analyzing the theme of coloniality in light of intervention bioethics, examining critically the concept of the coloniality of the Eurocentered way of interpreting power relations.

In addition, this issue offers a series of important papers that approach the relations between the phenomenon of globalization, health and culture, inter- and transdisciplinary research and vulnerable populations, a remarkable object of public health. Other papers deal with relevant questions such as drug use to enhance cognitive development in healthy people, urban violence, workers’ health. The themes environment and work, forms of action of social control, women’s contraception and dental practice complete this issue.

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In behalf of the Editorial Board