FROM THE EDITOR



THE Magistracy, Police, Crime Prevention, Forensic Physchiatry. The focus for the first four issues of CJM were fairly safe, but this one is different. Women and Crime takes us into rather more controversial territory.

We have tried here not to reproduce well-worn analyses of feminist criminology but have given space to issues which are 'on the fringe'. Chris Tchaikovsky on Tattooing (page 14), Penny Green on the way third world economic deprivation produces 'mules' to carry drugs (page 10/11) and last but not least Kate Painter on Marital Rape (page 18/19). I hear competing voices raised in protest: She tattooed herself, that's her problem/it was the system that made her do it so the system should clean up its dirty work; drugs couriers know what they're up to and deserve everything they get when they' re caught/they' re just trying to raise cash to feed their kids; a wife is a man's possession/marital rape is the grossest and most private manifestation of the exploitation of women. Where do I stand; where do you stand? And then there's Tina who tells her story to Mary Eaton (page 13/14) 'They come in and "room spin" - turn your room over and I'd just laugh'. Inspite of the highest prison population in Europe the remaining 99% of us don't know what its like to wake up day after day in a cell. (They committed the crime so they've got to be punished/only the dangerous few should be locked up).

I'm a man (and there's more or less a 50/50 chance that you are too); how dare I write anything on Women and Crime and how come you're reading it — surely women and crime is a women's topic?

In the same way that racism is a problem which should be embraced by white people so should sexism and the way that women are dealt with, whether as victims, offenders or as criminal justice professionals be addressed by men. Indeed, men have had lots of practice at calling the tune; perhaps if they started to play a different melody the whole drama could change.

Martin Farrell Director, ISTD

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The Mannheim Centre

It was reported at the AGM that formal discussions were just about to start between representatives of Council of ISTD and members of the newly created Mannheim Centre for Criminal Justice Studies at the London School of Economics to consider the possibility of a partnership between the two bodies. Several models for the association are being considered. There could well be much to be gained for both parties by working together whilst maintaining the

Institute's independence and uniqueness as an independent interdisciplinary body. *Martin Farrell*

Annual Reports

Do you want copies of ISTD Annual Reports some going back to the foundation of the Institute in 1931? We have retained copies for record but must dispose of others to make best use of office space. Contact Martin Farrell by the end of January please or forever hold your peace.