

Introduction

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New Proposals Editorial Collective

New Proposals began with a dream, that a small group of individuals could make a tiny difference. This was not a big dream. While we may have wanted to make big changes we were old enough and travelled enough to know that our best hopes lay in making small changes. We make no claims to have played any role in the changes that have occurred since we started our journal 6 years ago. We do, however, lay claim to having provided platform for diverse scholarship, focused on making progressive changes that may not have otherwise seen the light of day! We look forward to 6 more years!

From the vantage point of North America it is painful to watch the increasing repression within Egypt as the generals yet again increase their control over Egyptian civil society – yet the actions of the Muslim Brotherhood when they were in power lends no comfort to libertarian socialists. We open this issue with a commentary by Aisha Birani, which reminds us of the critical contemporary importance of Franz Fanon.

We are pleased to present a special theme issue, Nature on the Move. The three papers and introduction, while separate individual works, are best read, contemplated, and understood as a collaborative

writing project. In a subsequent issue we will have a special invited commentary, but for now we present Nature on the Move unadulterated by commentary so as to allow our readers the opportunity to come to your own conclusions.

The article section of this issue is a medley of tantalizing subjects: consulting anthropology/archaeology in BC, an intervention on Lenin and religion, and an exploration of neoliberal ideology in public education. The theme of this last article is picked up in three reflections on education.

Ecology and education are two of the most pressing issues facing humanity. Too often our political leaders focus upon clichés and platitudes favouring environmentally friendly policies while simultaneously enacting laws and regulations that diminishes the future wellbeing of all humanity. Realizing that education is a path toward liberation these selfsame leaders have undermined public education in such a way as to further diminish the future wellbeing of our societies. The papers gathered in this issue offer good counsel on ways forward, means to understanding and means to act. In each of the pieces to follow we are reminded that we do have the power to make our own history – the choice is ours!