Editor’s Introduction to the Special Issue

Since the advent of the ‘What Works’ literature and Risk-Need-Responsivity Model (DNR; Andrews & Bonta, 2010), there has been a flurry of work examining intervention with various offender types (see Craig, Dixon, & Gannon, 2013). Astoundingly, however, we are still at the relatively early stages of establishing how best to work with those offenders who are deemed to be at ‘high risk’ of reoffending. Clearly, establishing ‘what works’ with this particular group of offenders is critical for informing policy and practice worldwide and also for reducing the risk of those offenders whom society—and professionals—are most concerned about.

In this special issue, Devon Polaschek has gathered together and edited a collection of manuscripts all dedicated to the topic of treatment with high-risk offenders. Given the dearth of information available in this area, I anticipate that this special issue will be read and digested by many professionals who are keen to reduce offending behaviour in society. I also anticipate that this special issue will spark future ideas and research programmes on the topic of high risk offender intervention.

This special issue represents an interesting collection of works that I know will contribute to future research and practice in this area. Thus, I would like to thank Devon for her hard work on this special issue. This special issue examines an especially important—and interesting—area of forensic psychology.

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References

Andrews, D. A., & Bonta, J. (2010). *The psychology of criminal conduct* (5th ed.). Newark, N.J.: Matthew Bender.

Craig, L., Dixon, L., & Gannon, T. A. (2013). *What works in offender rehabilitation: An evidence-based approach to assessment and treatment*. Chichester, UK: Wiley.