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Introduction: From *Taboo* to New *Taboo*

Shirley R. Steinberg

1995, the first issue of *Taboo: The Journal of Culture and Education* debuted at the American Educational Research Association. Handing out mouse pads and black mugs, Peter Lang Publishing stormed the scene with a cutting edge new journal. The product of collaboration with Joe Kincheloe, Michael Flamini (Lang) and me, we wanted to fracture expectations of refereed journals in education. Michael insists to this day he named it *Taboo*; I disagree, I did. Paper journals are hard to manage, even harder to pay for, and after three years, with great response, we still were in the red. So the journal was on hiatus until we could find a new home. Alan Jones from Caddo Gap purchased the rights to the journal, and we had some great years publishing with Alan, but in 2006, we had to cease paper production, it just wasn't feasible. When Joe and I opened the Freire Project, we merged *Taboo* onto the freireproject.org website, where it remains. After Joe's death, it was hard to manage so many projects, and *Taboo* suffered.

2013, and we have new editors for the first time. Jon Austin and Renee Baynes, from the University of Southern Queensland in incredible Toowoomba are the new editors. Jon is a long-time friend of mine and Joe Kincheloe's and a trusted and respected colleague. Renee is a beloved new friend, and as committed as Jon to liberatory, critical work. Both are on the Academic staff of the Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledges and have the critical props to step in and make *Taboo* their own...of course, along with the critical cultural and pedagogical community.

Social media has allowed us to move on from only 400 readers an issue to a possibility of thousands. Our work will be global, and the referees for each issue are rigorous. Make no mistake, a journal on line is equal (or better) quality and just as well-refereed as a paper journal. And the hits will keep on coming.

So, here it is, the first new issue of *Taboo: The Journal of Culture and Education*. I thank all of you, from 1995 to the present, who have supported and sweat

over this great publication. From Michael Flamini (I suggested the name), Chris Myers at Lang, and to our longest supporter, Alan Jones, a gentleman, a colleague, and a hell of a publisher. Alan continues to design, layout, typeset, and create web-based files for *Taboo*, without remuneration. Thanks to Jon and Renee, they are there for our *Taboo* community, and knowing them, we will continue to walk, talk, and write on the edge.

Along with the new *Taboo*, the freireproject.org is being revamped and changed to become The Freire Project: Critical Cultural, Community, and Media Activism (freireproject.org), and *Taboo* will also be a partner to The International Institute for Critical Pedagogy and Transformative Leadership.

Radical love and *mazel tov* to us all...start sending in the articles.

—Shirley R. Steinberg
Founding Editor

Shirley R. Steinberg is chair and director of The Werklund Foundation Centre for Youth Leadership Education and professor of youth studies at The University of Calgary, Calgary, Alberta, Canada, and the founding editor of Taboo: The Journal of Culture and Education.