Saúde e Sociedade is celebrating its 20th anniversary. This is a fact that benefits the scientific production and dissemination of the field of Public Health. To keep publishing systematically the regular issues and the supplements of the journal for two decades, overcoming organizational, financial and editorial challenges, is a very important task. This is particularly so for an editorial project shared by a civil association - Associação Paulista de Saúde Pública (APSP – São Paulo’s Public Health Association) - and a teaching institution - Faculdade de Saúde Pública da Universidade de São Paulo (FSP/USP – School of Public Health of the University of São Paulo) –, assuming the challenge of articulating the “world of academic production” with the “world of the health services”.

When we celebrate the 20 years of Saúde e Sociedade, we believe that this was a good bet, with all the considerations that may be present in this position. Today the journal is reference in its editorial line, publishing four regular issues per year. It is present in the main indexing databases of scientific journals of the areas of Public Health and Human and Social Sciences.

The diversity and complexity of the approached themes and of experiences reported by Saúde e Sociedade have contributed significantly to the knowledge and know-how of Public Health, promoting the dialog in our society and making an interface with other social realities of authors from other countries.

The first issue of 2011 reflects this content of Saúde e Sociedade, that is, we have papers deriving from the II Encontro Paulista de Ciências Sociais e Humanas em Saúde (2nd São Paulo’s Meeting of Social and Human Sciences), strengthening the importance we intend to give to the publication of studies that make the interface between this field and the health field, and a set of papers that bring research results and reports on experiences about themes and issues that are important to the practices and knowledge production of Public Health.

In this perspective, a large part of the papers focus, in its different conceptual and methodological approaches, on the theme of violence and vulnerability situations in different groups - women, children and adolescents - in the standpoint of the exposed subjects and also in that of the health professionals. The question of dengue is also discussed in other papers; one of them brings the reality of the Argentinean society. To complete this issue, the remaining texts provide contributions to men’s health, the relationship between user and urgent care services and the theme of social networks in the field of health.

Congratulations to Saúde e Sociedade and a happy 2011 to all of you!!

Nivaldo Carneiro Junior
In behalf of the Editorial Board