This Supplement of *Saúde e Sociedade* provides a set of texts that converge on the issues that were discussed during the 13th São Paulo’s Public Health Conference, promoted by *Associação Paulista de Saúde Pública* (APSP – São Paulo’s Public Health Association) and held in São Paulo from August 31 to September 4, 2013.

This set is formed by papers and lectures presented in the conference, as well as articles submitted to the Journal. The latter were selected to compose the Supplement because they also deal with issues related to the discussion about *The public dimension in public health – The production of the (common) welfare*, which was the theme of the 13th Conference.

The publication of articles with many theoretical perspectives and approaches and written by many authors expresses the Journal’s commitment, by means of the partnership between the School of Public Health of the University of São Paulo (USP) and APSP, to foster the dissemination of scientific production in the area of health. Thus, the Journal promotes knowledge exchange among teaching, research and health services institutions, and guarantees a diversity of views concerning ways of reflecting on and providing healthcare.

The production of public space in contemporary society and, particularly, in the context of ethical-political disputes present in the many levels of *Sistema Único de Saúde* (SUS - Brazil’s National Healthcare System), is problematized in these texts. They provide analyses of State, society and power relations from the perspective of the Human and Social Sciences, Collective Health and Law, among other areas.

The texts that reproduce the lecturers and speakers’ discourse offer a critical reflection on restrictions to the consolidation of the public dimension and to the construction of the common dimension. At the same time, they reveal, in the commitment to public ethics, a possibility to public and collective health.

The other articles that compose the supplement can be divided into three thematic blocks. In the first one, the authors discuss ethics and bioethics when they approach themes like global health, interculturality and decoloniality, and decision-making in democratic education processes. In the second block, relations and tensions among different SUS actors – State, government and civil society – are problematized in articles about health reform, health insurance promotion, the logics of care, and the judicialization of the right to health. Finally, the third block contains articles that deal with the social theme as a public health issue, either in the context of the health inequality of a homeless population, or in theoretical analyses attempting to define the field of knowledge and action of collective health. In a deeper perspective, some authors reflect on the very notion of social dimension that is present in public health practices.

In these articles, the public dimension and power relations are problematized both by Brazilian authors, whose analyses were carried out in the context of the SUS, and by foreign authors, who contribute to the debate bringing experiences and reflections that go beyond the national borders. This is the case of the study on health reform presented by researchers from the Public Health Institute of Mexico, and of the reflective article about the notion of social dimension, whose author is linked to the University of London.

This Supplement invites the reader to make new reflections on the ethical, political and social aspects of health. In other words, this is an invitation to dialog!

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