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## **EDITORIAL**

This issue of the Quarterly focusses on women's participation in the life of our Baptist churches. It seeks to do two related things: first, it tries to lay down a record of contemporary attitudes as seen by participants and by the critical eye of a sociologist. That record is then set in the context of the development of our thought and practice since the beginning of the seventeenth century. A further dimension will be added in the October issue when we will publish a doctrinal reflexion by Dr Paul Fiddes of Regent's Park College on I Corinthians 11.3, one of the key texts in this debate.