A Comparison of Professional Values of Taiwanese and American Nursing Students

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Why is this study important?

GLOBALIZATION

Nurses cross borders to:
– Respond to global events
– Continue their education
– Conduct research
– Seek employment
– Share information

Source: http://www.globalsherpa.org/globalization-globalisation
Which comes first – the Chicken or the Egg?

- Encompassing multiple moral paradigms: A challenge for nursing educators – Caldwell, Lu, & Harding, *Nursing Ethics*, 2010

Source: http://blogs.menshealth.com/health-headlines/the-answer-to-the-chicken-or-the-egg-question/2010/07/15
What we discovered!

• Is there a difference in professional values for nursing students in a Taiwanese and USA nursing program?

• What professional values are most important to students in a Taiwanese and a USA nursing program?
## Comparison of Group Characteristics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>USA N = 168</th>
<th>Taiwan N = 94</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>F(%)</td>
<td>F(%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>23 (13.7%)</td>
<td>18 (19.1%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>145 (86.3%)</td>
<td>76 (80.9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single</td>
<td>106 (63.9%)</td>
<td>94 (100%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Single</td>
<td>60 (36.1%)</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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<th>USA N = 168</th>
<th>Taiwan N = 94</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mean (SD)</td>
<td>Mean (SD)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>27 (7.42)</td>
<td>24 (.94)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Median/Mode</td>
<td>Median/Mode</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age</td>
<td>24/23</td>
<td>24/23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• NPVS ® by Weis & Schank, 2009
  – 26 Likert-type items (1 least important to 5 most important)
  – 5 Domains in the USA (Caring, Activism, Trust, Professionalism and Justice) Alpha = .94
  – 3 Domains in Taiwan (Professionalism, Caring, and Activism) Alpha = .97
Is there a difference in professional values for nursing students in a Taiwanese and USA nursing program?

No Differences. ($p = .34$)

USA Mean of Total Score = 106.16  
SD = 12.93

Taiwan Mean of Total Score = 104.27  
SD = 16.81
Answer to Question 2

- What professional values are most important to students in a Taiwanese and a USA nursing program?

13 of the 26 NPVS® items were different at the $p < .05$ level of significance

5 of the items were different at the $p < .001$ level of significance
Differences in Mean ($p < .001$)

- Participation in peer review (Taiwan higher)
- Assume responsibility for meeting health needs of the culturally diverse population (USA higher)
- Maintaining competence in area of practice (USA higher)
- Protecting the moral and legal rights of patients (USA higher)
- Acting as a patient advocate (USA higher)
8 items with greater than 5 points difference in rank

- Acting as patient advocate (23 points)
- Maintaining competence (12 points)
- Engage in on-going self-evaluation (9 points)
- Involvement in health related activities (9 points)
- Professional associations (8 points)
- Additional education (7 points)
- Culturally diverse population (6 points)
- Safeguarding right to privacy (6 points)
Top 5 value related items

**USA**
- Maintain competence in area of practice
- Act as a patient advocate
- Maintain confidentiality of patient
- Protect moral and legal rights of patients

**TAIWAN**
- Maintain confidentiality of patient
- Safeguard patient's right to privacy
- Seek additional education to update knowledge and skills
- Practice guided by principles of fidelity and respect for person
- Protect health and safety of the public
Professional values align with cultural priorities

- **Collectivism Versus Individualism**
  - US - patient advocacy, personal accountability, rights of patients
  - Taiwan - responsible for health & safety of community

- **High-Context Versus Low-Context**
  - Taiwan - patient confidentiality, privacy, respect

- **Significance of Formal Education**
  - Taiwan - importance of formal education and professional associations
How do we use this information?

- Practice
- Education
- Research