Teacher-Learner Connection: Nursing Students' Perceptions of Contributory Educational Interactions in Associate Degree Practice Experiences

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# Learning Objectives

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- ➤ Identify contributory educational and invitational learning interactions.
- Describe invitational behaviors within a nursing practice experiences.
- Compare and contrast inviting and noninviting interactions.
- Integrate contributory educational interactions and invitational learning within nursing practice experiences.

## Introduction

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#### Contributory Educational Interactions (CEIs)

- > Communication in Educational Setting
- > Student Identifies as Relevant to Learning and
- Individual Transformation from Student Nurse to Professional RN

#### Invitational Interactions

- Supportive
- > Humanistic
- Positive Communication

# Background

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"Experiential learning in any setting where health care is delivered or health is influenced.

... (AACN, 2012, p. 4)

Teaching "in the rain" (Purkey & Novak, 1996, p. 85)

Engaging in and evaluating clinical performance provide students a method of critical reflection concerning their future nursing role (Billings & Halstead, 2009).

# **Review of Literature Teacher-Learner Connection**

#### Together, Transformative, & Transpersonal

- Being in This Thing Together (Purkey & Novak, 1996)
- Persuasive Climate of Support (Miller, Harbor, & Byrne, 1990)
- Uplifting Human Potential (Purkey & Novak, 1996)
- ➤ "A special kind of human relationship—a connection/union with another person, a high regard for the whole person and their being-in-the-world" (Watson, 2012, p. 81).

### Hermeneutics

### Interpretive Analysis

- "The power to grasp one's own possibilities for being in the world in certain ways" (van Manen, 1990, p. 180).
- Understanding everything that can be recognized through the language of being (Gadamer, 1967/1976).
- Continual reflective process of exploration and understanding distinctively separate from scientific logical expression.

## Conceptual Framework

**Invitational Theory** 

**Human Caring Theory** 

- > Trust
- Respect
- > Optimism
- Intentionality

Based on the fundamental principle that states all humans possess unlimited potential (Novak, 1984, 1996; Purkey, 1978, 1988; Purkey & Stanley, 1994; Purkey & Strahan, 1995).

- Transpersonal Caring
- Human-to-Human Connection
- Shared Experience

A human activity . . . [which] passes on to others feelings he or she has lived through, realized, or learned (Watson, 2012, p. 81).

## Purpose

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The purpose of this interpretive phenomenological study was to enhance understanding of associate of science in nursing (ASN) students' perceptions of the teacher-learner connection and contributory educational interactions within practice experiences.

## Methodology

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Design: Interpretive Phenomenology

**Setting:** Face-to-face interviews with recent ASN graduates from an accredited nursing education program located in the southeastern US

**Sample:** Purposive sample of 11 recent ASN graduates

# **Data Gathering**

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- Participants signed informed consent form
- Demographic data collected
- > Semi-structured, face-to-face interviews
- > Interviews audio-taped
- > Transcribed verbatim by transcriptionist

## **Data Processing**

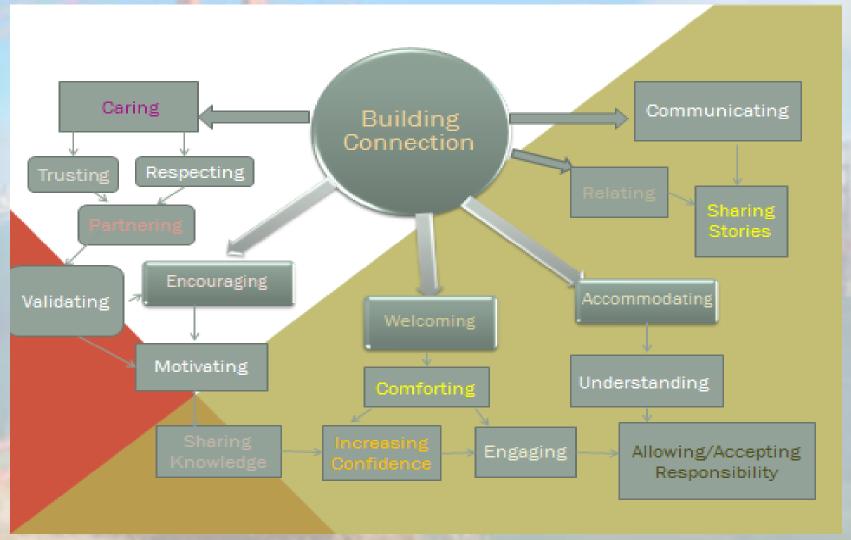
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- > Transcribed data
- Computer assisted processing (MAXQDA)
- Weekly data back-up
- Data protection, locked storage, security code
- Weekly updates on data processing procedures provided to committee chair

# Data Analysis

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- > Field Notes
- Computer Assisted (MAXQDA)
- Coding Cycles
  - > First Cycle- In Vivo and Emotion
  - > Second Cycle- Focused
- Thematic Analysis (van Manen, 1990)
  - Working Image

## Working Image



#### Themes & Subthemes



#### Building Connection

Inviting

ProfessionalPartnering/ Engagement

Trusting

## "Suffering through it"

Discouraging

Contradicting

Missed Learning Opportunities

#### Reinforced Learning

Role Modeling

Improving Confidence/ Validating

Encouraging Critical Thinking "Going through the motions"

**Powerless** 

Disengaging

Avoiding



# Implications and Recommendations for Nursing Education

#### **Implications**

- Improve Learning Outcomes
- Support Student Learning
- Promote Successful Transformation to RN
- Formation of EssentialConnections

#### Recommendations

- Address Relationship Building
- Incorporate Invitational Education Principles
- Need for Inviting and Passionate Faculty, Preceptors, and Nursing Staff
- Recognize Deficiencies

# Implications and Recommendations for Nursing Practice

#### **Implications**

- Increase Awareness
- Provide Support
- Enlighten Nursing Staff
- Address
  Inadequacies
- EncourageProfessionalPartnering

#### Recommendations

- Strengthening Student Transformation
- Supporting Connections
- Exemplary Role Models
- Implementing Preceptor Programs
- IntroduceTransformationalTeacher-LearnerConnections

# Study Significance

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The significance of this study brings to light encouraging and discouraging educational interactions within the practice experiences of senior ASN students. Additionally, findings within this study revealed implications related to student learning when faced with inviting and uninviting behaviors during practice experiences.

# Researcher Reflections





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