Concurrent Session 4-A

The Application of Social Justice to Address Food Insecurity in a Baccalaureate Nursing Curriculum

Marilyn Hightower, MSN, RN, CNE is a graduate of Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing and a graduate of Texas Woman’s University with a MSN in Education and the role of a Clinical Nurse Specialist. She was a Clinical Nurse Specialist for 13 years at Children’s Medical Center Dallas, and has been in Nursing Education for 12 years. She is an Assistant Clinical Professor at Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing.

Barbara Devitt, MSN, RN is on faculty at Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing. Educationally prepared as a Clinical Nurse Specialist in Community Health Nursing, she teaches senior students in the Community Health Nursing clinical. Ms. Devitt has over 28 years experience in nursing education. She volunteers and includes students at community clinics serving the underserved and medically vulnerable populations.
Objectives

1. Discuss the application of social justice and ethics in a population-based nursing clinical.
2. Identify strategies for enabling students to identify the link between poverty and food insecurity.
3. Discuss methods of incorporating social justice in the identification of food insecurity in specific community settings.
Food Insecurity

• 14.3% of all households meet definition
• Food insecure households:
  • Limited access to high quality foods
  • Tend to live in food deserts
  • More likely to substitute fast foods
  • Linked to the development of obesity

Food Insecure Households Affect on Children

• Children are more likely to:
  • Be sick
  • Recover more slowly from illness
  • Be hospitalized more frequently
  • Be more likely to develop obesity
  • Be adversely affected with growth, cognitive abilities, behavioral & emotional issues

Definitions of Social Justice from Nursing Literature:

“Intervening in the effects of power, race, gender, and class where these and other structural relations intersect to create avoidable disparities and inequities in health for individuals, groups or communities.” (Thompson, 2014).
Definitions of Social Justice from Nursing Literature:

Nursing Practice includes interventions:
• Focused on the social determinants of health to correct inequities in Health Care.
• Consistent with achieving Social Justice in health.

Definitions of Social Justice in Nursing Practice
Nursing Practice is Normative:
• Nurses Use Ethical Reasoning to deliberate about what is fair, just and good (Thompson, 2014).
• Deliberate ethically between Facts and Norms: noticing in empirical facts compelling evidence of “what ought to be” (Thompson, 2014).
• Conveys a shared discourse about what should exist and what can be achieved in health equity (Thompson, 2014).

Definitions of Social Justice in Nursing Practice
American Nurses Association Code of Ethics and Interpretive Statements and ANA Policy Statement on Nurses’ Role in Ethics and Human Rights. Social Justice:
“individual and collective actions aimed at alleviating social, economic, political and environmental conditions that cause illness, suffering; democratizing practice environments and civic reforms to achieve equity in health.”
Social Justice Outcomes in Nursing Practice

• Association of American Colleges of Nursing (AACN) Educational Outcomes:
  • Promotion of Social Justice as a outcome of liberal education in nursing
  • Engagement with health policy to achieve Social Justice in health
  • Advocacy to eliminate health disparities and achieve Social Justice

Definitions of Social Justice in Nursing Practice

Negative points of Injustice:

• Inequity
• Oppression
• Violence (Chin and Kramer, 2011).

Definitions of Social Justice in Nursing Practice

Positive Points of Justice

• Frees people to exercise their will
• Live healthy lives
• Achieve full potential (Chin and Kramer, 2011)
Philosophies Related to Social Justice and Ethics

Critical Social Theory
Virtues Ethics

Three dimensions of Social Justice address:
- what may be equitably distributed,
- who may make claim for justice,
- how representation is accomplished to achieve justice (Fraser, 2010).

‘Greatest good for the greatest number’
(Thompson, 2014).

Virtue Ethics
Philosophy of moral recognition, mutual respect, and the ethics of caring and cultural empowerment in practices that support Social Justice (MacIntyre, 2007).
Ethical Principles

- Beneficence
- Non-maleficence
- Autonomy
- Veracity
- Fidelity
- Justice
- Integrity

Tenets of Social Justice

- Fairness
- Impartiality
- Righteousness
- Reasonableness
- Even Handedness
- Honesty
- Integrity
- Uprightness

Social Determinants of Population Health

- "The conditions in which people are born, grow, live, work & age. They are shaped by the distribution of money, power, & resources at global, national & local levels." (ANA Code of Ethics, 2015)
  - Food Insecurity
  - Income Inequality
  - Health Care Disparity
  - Poverty
  - Homelessness
  - Stigma
Student Engagement with Ethics & Social Justice

- Intangible concepts for students to comprehend
- Difficult for students to relate to another’s unfortunate social and environmental circumstances unknown to them.
- Need to “see, interact, and feel”

Actualizing Concepts of Ethics and Social Justice in Clinical

- Brother Bill’s Helping Hand
- Cornerstone
- Healthy Zone School
- Texas Hunger Initiative
- Nutrition in urban schools
- Parkland Community Oriented Primary Care

Brother Bill’s Helping Hand

- A poverty zip code in West Dallas
- Former site of a defunct smelting plant that permeated the environment
Clinical Tools

- Health Screening & Assessment at Brother Bill’s
- Community Clinics Worksheet for Analysis & Decision-Making
- Teaching Plan
- Windshield Survey
- Reflective Practice Journal

Health Screening & Assessment

Page One

- Brother Bill’s Helping Hand
- Name_________________________ Date___________
- Community Clinic _____________________________________________
- 3906 N. Westmoreland Rd.  Dallas, TX 75212
- Home/Cell number_________________________
- DOB__________
- 214.638.2194 – clinic
- 214.638.2198 – fax
- Insurance A=Parkland B=Medicare C=Medicaid
D=Other               E=None                    H=Unknown
- Male ____ Female____

About You

- How is your health?    Excellent ________   Good  ________
- Fair  ________  Poor  ________
- Cómo está su salud?   Excelente ________  Buena ________
- Razonable ______  Mala ______

- Do you do any of the following?
- Walk _________ Exercise Class _________ Run ________
- Hace usted alguno de los siguientes?
- Caminar _____   Clase de Ejercicios _____  Correr ______

- How often? None _____ 1-2 times a week _____ 3-4 times a week _______
- 5+ times a week _______

- Do you take medicine?      Yes  _____   No  ______
- Usted toma medicina?   Si _____  No _____

- How many pills a day?     1 - 3 pills  _____   4 - 6 pills ______  7 or more pills _____
- La cantidad de pastillas al día?   1-3 pastillas _____  4-6 pastillas _____
- 7 o más pastillas _____

- Diabetes

- Fasting (Ayunando) : YES ________ NO ________
- Last Meal (última comida) : ________ AM/ PM

- Diabetic Foot Exam :

Page Two

- Heart Rate
- Heart Rate : _________________                      Refused : _____________
- Not taken: _____________
- Blood Pressure
- Blood Pressure : ______ /______                       Refused : _____________
- Not taken : ______________

Medication/ Medicamento ______________________________________
Purpose/ Proposito ____________________________________________
Dosage/ Dosis _______________________________________________
Route/ Ruta ________________________________________________
Day/ Dia ____________________________________________________
Special Instructions/ Instrucciones Especiales _______________________

Page Three

- Heart Rate
- Heart Rate: _______________
- Not taken __________________
- Blood Pressure
- Blood Pressure: _______________
- Not taken __________________

- Metabolic/Medical History
- Drug Therapy __________________
- Nutritional History __________________
- Family History __________________
- Past Medical History __________________

- Special Instructions/ Instrucciones Especiales _______________________
Reflective Practice Journal Application

The bridging of theory and practice in the RPJ:

• Section V-Analyze moral, ethical and legal implications of nursing practice
• Describe a moral, ethical and or legal situation that you encountered.
Students at Clinical Sites

- Employing the Tenants of Social Justice, Ethical Principles & Code of Ethics
- Incorporating the mission of the School
- Integrating “Learn. Lead. Serve”

Brother Bill’s Helping Hand

Engaging the “Neighbors” in reading food labels at Brother Bill’s Helping Hand

Brother Bill’s Helping Hand

Bagging Groceries
Student Responses & Impact

• “I am taking away the notion that there are needs to be met beyond health care and beyond simple nursing assessments and diagnoses. JR has shown me what it is like to come from your community, advocate for its best interests, and passionately implement care for the community regardless of stereotypes, preconceived notions or what others may think”.

Student Responses & Impact

• “Before this clinical experience, I had never worked with an undocumented immigrant or a patient that didn’t speak English. Getting an opportunity to work with these patients has opened my eyes more to the health issues and barriers facing many people in our community that I didn’t recognize before”.

Student Responses & Impact

• “I was surprised by how many clients that we encountered who could not read or have barely enough money to take care of themselves and family. This was a very humbling experience and gives me much to think about in future practice”.
Summary

“Social Justice is Action and knows no boundaries.”
Sr. Rosemary Donley

References


References


• Thompson, J. L. (2014). Discourses of social justice: Examining the ethics of democratic professionalism in nursing. ANS Advances in Nursing Science, 37(3), E17
References


- www.healthypeople.gov/2020/about/foundation-healthmeasurement/DeterminantofHealth

Thank you for attending!

Baylor University Louise Herrington School of Nursing

Marilyn & Barbara

Contact Information

- Barbara Boncela Devitt MSN RN
  Barbara_Devitt@baylor.edu

- Marilyn Hightower MSN RN
  Marilyn_Hightower@Baylor.edu