



Research Week 2020

From "Eat Your Young" to "Grow Your Own:" Exploring Civility in Clinical Simulation for Nursing

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Keywords

simulation, nursing, civility

Abstract

Nursing school is the entry point for foundational knowledge and practice of nursing skills; it is also where learners acculturate to the nursing profession before licensure. Clinical simulation offers unique experiential learning within nursing curricula for learners to translate knowledge to practice, discover conceptual relationships, and collaborate with peers and faculty.

Nursing, however, has experienced historic challenges with incivility in education and practice and recent research studies have explored civility and incivility, collegiality, bullying, lateral/horizontal violence, and micro-aggressions in classroom, clinical learning, and nursing practice settings, including research of civility behaviors among and between students and faculty members.

A topic that has yet to be explored is understanding of civil behaviors among nursing simulation educators who design and deliver experiences for pre-licensure nurse learners. Nurse simulation educators may develop their simulation expertise through graduate nursing education and simulation certificate programs, professional development workshops, and/or from presentations at conferences. However, the vast majority learn the modality through informal on-the-job training on their own or from instructor peers – if they receive faculty development at all. Educators therefore often rely on their own professional and curricular experiences to inform their simulation practice. Civil practice is rarely a formal component of any formal or hidden nursing curricula.

In this descriptive discussion, I will highlight key literature on civility themes in nursing education and practice, summarize recent research about civility in practice related to patient outcomes, and advocate for further research into civility in nursing simulation education to inform faculty development solutions that foster positive outcomes for learners upstream and may lead to positive patient outcomes downstream.

