

READER'S VIEW

NURSING EXPERIENCES

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I am only a student nurse and, I have interacted number of times with my conscience, during the past three years of my clinical experience. It is here that I communicate with my clients, senior nurses, staff nurses, junior students, doctors and relatives. In this article I wish to share some of the personal experiences that I have faced during the practice of my profession. I am certain, other nurses may be able to add to my views.

PRIDE & RESENTMENT

Many a times, my ego has been hurt very badly. For instance, when the sister in charge, treats me as though I know nothing and orders me around. My teenage spirit rebels against the authority and I wish I could say, "enough, I know what to do, I don't need your instructions".

At times, we want everyone to notice how smart are we, we want people to notice our performance. We fail to understand that the mundane and ordinary job of giving bed pans, emptying kidney trays or sponging the clients are at times of more relevance than those apparently important jobs.

The desire to excel is definitely positive, but, trying to outshine by trampling others or stabbing others from the back, is a negative response. I have encountered a number of individuals, who make themselves comfortable by making others uncomfortable.

LAZINESS

This feeling very often pulls me down subtly, its especially true for

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students and we have to struggle hard to keep out of it. Last minute studies; just before the examination is a classic example. Other instances include, copying assignments without doing any reference work, incomplete recording, lame excuses, half hearted work, incomplete tray set up, using unsterilised articles to finish off a job, are all examples of laziness that we all succumb to, if, we are not alert.

Reports can be vague and vital signs can be recorded without even seeing the clients, if we allow our conscience to become insensitive and immune.

FIBBING

The temptation to speak a lie as a student is almost irresistible. Frankly, it is very difficult to be honest. I once faced a situation where I had to give catheter care to a patient using sterile technique. Due to some reasons, I violated the principles and even lied about it, fortunately, the client was discharged without any problem. It indeed needs courage to be honest.

ATTRACTION

Sexual attraction is something that a nurse is constantly exposed to. A client can misinterpret the empathy demonstrated by a nurse for love. Such feelings can also occur between nurses and doctors or even a nurse and the patients. I think it is prudent for us to act intelligently and have balance in such situations than to mess up with our lives.

DISBELIEF

The toughest temptation is to allow our hearts to become hardened towards God. At times of so much suffering it is natural to wonder, "can a loving God permit all this"?

Does this sound like a cry of despair?

Certainly not! It is a challenge for us also, yet maintaining our dignity as efficient 'Nurses'.

Attention Readers !

We invite our Readers to snatch some minutes and pen their expressions in the form of prose or poetry; facts or the famous events for our 'Readers' View' column. You can even share with us any unusual incident or a harrowing harassment.

Ofcourse, we would like to know how did you get out of that piquant situation, i.e. giving suggestions to others for not getting in or how to come out of a thick soup !

Kindly send your contributions timely in a neatly typed and concise format.

We would also prefer if the photographs carry the caption on the reverse.

We are thankful for your continued cooperation.

Editor