

Nursing Students' Rights as perceived by Nurse Teachers and Students

Thesis

Submitted in partial Fulfillment of the
Requirements for Master Degree in
Nursing Administration

By

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First, thanks are all due to Allah for Blessing this work until it has reached its end, as a part of his generous help throughout our life.

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Madiha Nabhan El-Said

Dedication

First, to my dear husband, my lovely sons

***Ahmed and Eyad**, to my family and friends*

I will never forget.

Abstract

The issue of students' rights has become an important part of modern education due to student being much more aware of what they can expect from the institute when they enter the academic environment. This study was aimed to identify nursing students' rights through: exploring nursing students' rights as perceived by the students and identifying nursing students' rights as perceived by the nurse teachers. The study was conducted at technical institute of nursing- Ain Shams University. Two groups of subjects were included in the present study; Nurse Teachers group and students group enrolled in institute. Two tools were used for data collection of this study: (self administrative questionnaire sheet was used to exploring students' rights as perceived by students, and self administrative questionnaire sheet was used to identifying students' rights as perceived by nurse teachers). In the light of the study finding, it is concluded that that majority of nurse teachers group agreed upon all items of general students rights, the agreement ranged between (52 to 88 %), Furthermore, the findings of the present study showed that majority of nurse teachers agreed upon all items of specific students rights ,the agreements ranged between (80 to 88%). Furthermore, the findings revealed that the agreement upon the rights were lowest among students' group, regarding general rights, the agreement ranged between (32 to 76%), while in specific rights, the agreements were higher than general rights, agreement ranged between (62 to 75%). The study recommended that the concept of students' rights should be included in the undergraduate study in nursing. Also the students must be aware about their rights, in addition to each educational institution must conduct continuing education program for nurse teachers regarding the importance of students' rights and compliances.

Keywords: student's rights, Nurse Teacher, Nursing student

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List of Abbreviations

H E	: Higher education.
H E I	: Higher education institution
H E I S	: Higher education institution society.
ANA	: American Nurses' Association.
OSHA	: Occupational Safety and Health Administration

INTRODUCTION

To improve the quality of technical nursing education, associated degree of technical nursing program in nursing for two years had been started in 1972 in Alexandria. A similar one was established in Cairo in 1973. These institutes are affiliated to the ministry of health or University. The administration requirement is the general secondary certificate or technical nursing school diploma with a grade point average of not less than 75%. The main objective of the program is to prepare technical nursing with high level of scientific knowledge and skills **(Mohamed, 2002)**. The graduates of these programs have the opportunity for admission to the nursing college if they have at least 75% grade point average. Moreover, graduates may have a year in specialized nursing area **(Ministry of Health, 1999)**.

The freedom and effectiveness of the educational process depend upon the provision of appropriate condition and opportunities for learning in an environment that is supportive of diversity among ideas, culture, and student characteristics. The responsibility to secure, respects, and protect such opportunities and conditions is shared by all members of the academic community **(Simon, 2007)**.

Everyone has the right to equal chances of access to elementary, fundamental and all forms of higher education (HE). Students are an equally important and integral part of higher education institutions (HEI) community. Students must

be seen as partners who are in the center of interest of the HEI. Student representatives must be elected in a democratic way by the students (**Gewin, 2004**).

Students need to be continuously improved. This should be done in order to provide equal opportunities within higher education institutions society (HEIS) and to secure the quality of education. The form and substance of education, including curricula and teaching methods, must be student oriented. In this regard, as with all other aspects of HE, students and authorities of HEIs must communicate in order to create a better study environment (**Donald, 2009**).

One of the goals of education, and HE in particular, is to encourage the development of active, critical and constructive citizens. Human rights are students' rights. A right is a moral entitlement, more than want or desire, these rights concern students as well as other individuals. Therefore, students' organizations must promote human rights and tackle any obstacles to these fundamental rights (**Paul, 2007**).

There are many rights of students as; Freedom of access to higher education, student rights and responsibilities in the class room, regarding student privacy, right and responsibilities association, rights and responsibilities pertaining to freedom of expression and advocacy, imposition of disciplinary sanction, and standards for cases involving student grievances (**Buzanski, 2005**).

The policies and procedures contained in nursing institutions attempt to define both the student's freedom and the limits of that freedom. They are based on the principles that membership in the academic community involves rights and responsibilities but that the student is also a citizen and that all rights, privileges, and responsibilities which accrue to the student as such are not abridged by membership in the academic community (**Tanner, 2005**).

Perception is being aware of objects or quality through the use of sense organs. Person associates a sensory cue with the task to perform. Perception refers to the process by which one becomes aware of the many stimuli impinging on own senses. It influences what stimuli or messages are taken in and what meaning is giving once they reach awareness. It is defined as the process of becoming aware of what is presented through the sense organs. It is also defined as the process of selecting, organizing and interpreting sensory data into usable mental representation of the world. It is described as the active process of obtaining and interpreting information from the environment to provide order and meaning (**Mohamed, 2002**).

Significance of the study

An educational institution's behavior towards its students has a significant impact on the student's experience and response to the educational program. Educational services in the institutions should be provided by designated staff members to investigate student's complaints and the