

Examining Factors Influencing Career Choice Among Young Muslim Arab Women in Nursing

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Abstract : Aim: This study investigates the factors that motivate young Muslim Arab women to pursue nursing careers, focusing on the impact of nurse uniforms, the COVID-19 pandemic, and perceptions of nurses and the nursing profession. The aim is to draw insights that can inform policy strategies. Background: The global shortage of nursing professionals is a pressing concern, even in regions like Israel. Attracting and retaining young Muslim Arab women in nursing is essential for addressing this shortage. To better understand their career decisions, it is crucial to examine the influence of nurse uniforms, the pandemic, and perceptions related to nurses and the nursing profession. Methods: This cross-sectional study employed digital questionnaires, which were administered to 200 Muslim Arab women between the ages of 20 and 30 in Israel. Results: Only 29.2% of the participants indicated an interest in pursuing a nursing career. The study findings revealed a noteworthy positive correlation between the pandemic's impact and the intention to pursue nursing. Further analysis, using linear regression, elucidated the role of factors such as the white nurse uniform, perceptions of nurses, and the image of the nursing profession in influencing career choices in nursing. Discussion: This study underscores the significance of nurse uniforms, the image of nurses, and the perception of the nursing profession in shaping the career choices of young Muslim Arab women in nursing. Policy interventions should prioritize raising awareness about diverse nursing roles, expanding nurses' responsibilities, and highlighting their invaluable contributions to society.

Keywords : nursing image, uniform, nursing career, nurse profession

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