

Evaluating the Effect of Nursing Ethics Education on Nursing Students' Sensitivity and Moral Judgments

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Abstract : This study was based Quasi-experimental design. The study explored the relationships of nursing ethics education, nursing students' moral sensitivity and moral judgments in Taiwan. A total of 242 nursing students (NS) participated the study. The proposed teaching nursing ethics from 2 to 16 weeks. Three questionnaires were adopted in this study. First, Demographic of nursing students questionnaire; Second, the questionnaire is Taiwan's Moral Sensitivity Questionnaire for Student Nurses (TMMSQ-SN); Third, Defining Issues Test (DIT). The pre-test data were collected during the first week, and the post-test data was collected during the 17th week of the semester. The purpose of the study is explored evaluating the effect of nursing ethics education on nursing students' moral sensitivity and moral judgments. The results of the study showed that moral sensitivities and moral judgments have been significantly improved after 16 weeks (Pair-t=-11.10***; Pair-t=-7.393***). Moral sensitivities and moral judgments were significant in the pretest. There was a negative correlation, but there was no correlation between moral sensitivity and moral judgments in the post-test. There was a significant correlation between the moral judgments (DIT) and the hours of work and other ethical courses ($r=.28^{**}$; $r=.015^{*}$). Nursing ethics education is necessary for nursing students in Taiwan. The nursing ethics courses are necessary to improve nursing students' moral sensitivity and moral judgment (DIT).

Keywords : defining issues test, moral judgments, moral sensitivity, nursing ethics education, nursing students

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