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KEY WORD: SYMBOLIC MODELING / ATTITUDE / NURSING PRACTICE

PENWAN MAHAPHOL : EFFECTS OF TEACHING BY SYMBOLIC MODELING ON ATTITUDE TOWARD NURSING PRACTICE OF NURSING STUDENTS. THESIS

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The purposes of this quasi-experimental research were to study effects of teaching by symbolic modeling on attitude toward nursing practice of nursing students and to compare attitude toward nursing practice of nursing students who received teaching by symbolic modeling and those who received regular teaching method. Research samples consisted of sixty first-year nursing students of Boromratchonnee Sapsittiprasong Ubonratchathanee Nursing College who had attitude score less than percentile 75. Subjects were randomly assigned into one experimental and one control group. There were 30 students in each group.

The experimental group received teaching by using symbolic modeling for 4 weeks, this method was consisted of 3 steps : presenting the models, discussion and conclusion. Two research instruments which were developed by the researcher and tested for the content validity, were a teaching plan using symbolic modeling and an attitude test. The symbolic model was in the video format in which its content was related to patients, nursing care and nursing practice. The attitude tests consisted of three parts which were attitude toward patients, toward nursing care and toward nursing practice were developed according to guidelines described by Fishbein and Ajzen. The reliability of three attitude tests were .75, .63 and .63, respectively.

Major findings were as followed :

1. There were no statistically significant difference between attitude toward nursing practice in all three parts of nursing students before and after the experiment.
2. There were no statistically significant difference between attitude toward nursing practice in all three parts after the experiment of nursing students in the experimental group and the control group.

Several recommendations regarding symbolic model construction, teaching by symbolic modeling and attitude development in nursing education and nursing personnel development were derived from this study.

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