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STUDENT ACTIVITIES/ NURSING STUDENTS

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Self-esteem is important for the nursing profession. The objective of this research was to study the self-esteem of nursing students in private institutions and, to determine the differences in self-esteem of nursing students in terms of demographic factors such as age, class, GPA , family background, family income, family relationship, family upbringing and the participation in student activities. This study is a descriptive research and the sample group consisted of 728 nursing students from 8 private institutions. The data were collected by using questionnaires and analyzed by One Way Anova, F-test , t-test, frequency, percentile and mean.

The result of this study showed that self-esteem of the entire group of nursing students in this study was at moderate (78.70%) and low level (21.30%). The mean scores of self-esteem were not significantly different for age and GPA. However, for class, third-year students had significantly higher scores than forth-year student ($P = 0.05$). As for family upbringing, the mean scores of self-esteem among the students were not significantly different. Nursing students with the highest participation in student activities however had higher scores than those with less or no participation. The scores for family income and family relationship were significantly different. However, for family income those with no income and low income had higher scores of self-esteem than those with higher income, lower family relationship had higher scores of self-esteem than good and moderate family relationship.

This research suggests that private institutions should develop various programs providing nursing students with more participation in student activities in order to increase their self-esteem .