Transforming Nursing Practice with Lessons from Nursing History

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• I have no financial interests
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Objectives

• 1. Identify the impact of gender, culture and power in nursing practice in four period television dramas.
• 2. Compare the relationships between nurses and other healthcare personnel in four period dramas.
• 3. Describe how a knowledge of historical nursing practice can assist nurses to grow and transform their nursing practice.
Media Portrayal of Nursing

Stereotype Myth, or Factual?

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Influences on Nursing Roles

- Gender
- Culture
- Power
Mercy Street
(PBS, 2016)
Mercy Street (PBS, 2016)

Abolitionist Mary Phinney

Confederate Supporter Emma Green

http://www.pbs.org/mercy-street/about/cast-characters/
Infectious Disease Precautions?

http://www.pbs.org/mercy-street/uncover-history/behind-lens/disease/
Civil War

http://www.pbs.org/mercy-street/uncover-history/behind-lens/disease/

OPERATION Iraqi Freedom
Crimson Field (BBC, 2014)
Role in UK
Trained Nurses

Sister Joan Livesey
Sister Margaret Qualye
Matron Grace Carter
Volunteer Nurses

Rosalie

Flora

Kitty
Lasting Medical Advances from WWI

- Antiseptics to clean wounds
- Attention to hygiene
- Thomas splint for femur fractures
- Improvements in facial surgery
- Burn care
- Improvements in rehabilitation
- Identification of “Shell Shock”
Call the Midwife (BBC, 2012)
Code Black (CBS, 2015)
Words of Wisdom from Momma

• “You think you're smarter than your mama because you got an M.D.?... Well, you're not!”

• “Clearly, you don't speak the native tongue of my people: Sarcasm."

• “Lean on each other, that's what siblings are for."
Conclusion

• Historical Accuracy

• Current Medical Dramas

• Future Dramas
Selected References:


• BBC. (2018a). Call the midwife. Retrieved from: [http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0118t80](http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0118t80)


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