Aristotelian Philosophy of the Human Person, the Theory and Conceptual Framework of Imogene King Expanded to a Global Perspective

43rd Biennial Convention
November 8, 2015
Las Vegas, Nevada USA

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The global world emphasizes the Unity of Humankind
IMOGENE KING

Nursing Theorist in Focus

Some slides from PPT by Amethyst Vic C. Mergal, RN (2009) accessed and adapted by BEVERLY J WHELTON, RN, MSN, PHD October 5, 2015

http://www.slideshare.net/macluvniam/dorothea-orem-imogene-king
Through the Aristotelian Perspective of the human person in the work of Thomas Aquinas that King studied at St. Louis University, King viewed patients and nurses, all humans as substantial beings able to have an intellectual/conceptual grasp of the world from experience. With concepts the intellect forms propositions and is able to come to new understandings. Aware of these capacities of knowledge and the capacity of choice that follows on knowledge, King (1971, 1981) saw that when patients become active participants in identifying needs and transacting health related goals they more actively chose to achieve these mutually set goals whose achievement becomes evidence for evidence-based practice.
A model of King’s Theory of Mutual Goal setting
DYNAMIC INTERACTING SYSTEMS

Three systems in the conceptual framework:

**Personal System** (the individual)

**Interpersonal Systems** (individuals interacting with one another)

**Social System** (groups of people in a community/society sharing common goals, interests, and values)

Study systems as a whole rather than as isolated parts of a system.

Mergal
DYNAMIC INTERACTING SYSTEMS

Elements of each System

- **Goal**: Health
- **Structure**: 3 open systems
- **Functions**: identified in the reciprocal relationships as they interact
- **Resources**: essential to keep systems in harmony
  - People & money
- **Decision making**: critical to perform functions and attain goals
• **Self**
  – awareness of being a person separate from others but related to others

• **Growth and Development**

• **Body Image**
  – personal & subjective; acquired or learned; dynamic and changing
  – includes how person sees self & other’s reactions to one’s appearance)

• **Space**

• **Time**

• **Learning** (1986, not defined)

• **Perception**

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*Adapted from Mergal*
Interpersonal System Concepts

Interaction

Communication

Transaction

Role and Stress
Social System Concepts

- **Organization**
  - formal or informal structure that *orders* positions and activities
  - made up of *persons with roles and positions* to meet goals

- **Authority**
  - *regularity, direction and responsibility for actions*

- **Power**
  - *energy* necessary to avoid chaos in a society

- **Status**
  - *relationship of one’s place* in a group to others

- **Decision Making**
  - changing and orderly process wherein *choices are made* in relation to goals
The Global System
the fourth system
for a world community

Concepts to be added
beyond social system concepts:

Culture
Environment
Technology available
Economic stability
Political stability
Safety