

Secondary Analysis of Cultural Domains among Filipino Nursing Students

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Objectives:

1. The learner will be able to **apply a template process of qualitative analysis** to cultural domains of the Purnell Model for Cultural Competence.
2. The learner will be able to **appreciate the commonalities and variations of responses among Filipino nursing students' cultural assessments** based on interview questions from the Purnell Model for Cultural Competence.

CONTEXT:

Philippines Study Abroad Program

- 1 semester pre-trip orientation (8 classes)
- 3 week immersion experience in the Philippines
 - 1st week: Manila government hospital
 - 2nd & 3rd week: Iloilo City paired with Filipino senior nursing students during clinical rotations
- One requirement is to complete a cultural assessment on a Filipino during trip

CONTEXT:

Cultural Assessments

- Generally completed with Filipino nursing student buddy
- Based on assessment questions from the Purnell Model for Cultural Competence
 - (Purnell & Paulanka, 2003)
- Students required to submit a narrative report, their story of their findings
- During the reading of these assignments, the professors could recognize the commonalities and diversity of beliefs within each domain.

The purpose of this study was:

To describe the cultural domains of communication, family organization & roles, pregnancy & childbearing, spirituality, death rituals, and health care beliefs according to cultural assessments completed by nursing students during a study-abroad program in the Philippines.

Secondary Analysis of Qualitative Texts

- IRB approval from Truman State University
- **Template Analysis using cultural domains (Purnell & Paulanka, 1998)**
 - “*Preliminary category schemes*” (Polit & Beck, 2012, p. 558)
 - “*a priori themes*” (Brooks et al., 2015, p. 203)
 - “*directed content analysis*” (Hsieh & Shannon, 2008, p. 1281)
- **Content for each cultural domain was extracted from cultural assessment narratives and grouped into one preliminary category scheme.**
- **Identifying information was omitted or constructed anonymously.**
- **A holistic reading of the domain was done before identification of cultural beliefs.**
- **Cultural beliefs were mapped out among all informants.**
- **Frequency counts on variations of each cultural belief were made.**
- **Audit trail was maintained of all decisions regarding data analysis.**

Cultural Domain (example)

- **Spirituality** [25 informants in total within 13 pages of text]

- Informant #1 (♀, Catholic)

- My buddy said that since Catholicism is so prevalent in the Philippines many patients that come to the hospital will have a rosary with them that will be placed in a location that the patient can see. It is also common that faith drives optimism when a patient is in a health care setting. Having a solid faith background can give patients and their families the support they need to keep a positive attitude throughout care and treatment. My buddy stated that her meaning in life is to help others and specifically to see the light at the end of the tunnel for completing school, which she is anxious for. Her family drives her positive energy and motivation for school and helps her find strength in living. Her religious beliefs are shown through her daily prayers and going to church every Sunday; she shares these beliefs with her family. Her family practices Catholicism and prays before each meal. They go to church every Sunday and there is a rosary present in their house.

Mapping of Cultural Beliefs: (e.g., Spirituality)

Informant	Religion Influence Health	meaning in Life	Where she/he gets strength	Religious practices
<u>Informant #1</u> (♀, Catholic)	many patients that come to the hospital will have a rosary with them that will be placed in a location that the patient can see. It is also common that faith drives optimism when a patient is in a health care setting.	that her meaning in life is to help others and specifically to see the light at the end of the tunnel for completing school, which she is anxious for.	. Her family drives her positive energy and motivation for school and helps her find strength in living.	daily prayers and going to church every Sunday; she shares these beliefs with her family. Her family practices Catholicism and prays before each meal. They go to church every Sunday and there is a rosary present in their house.
<u>Informant #2</u> (♀, Catholic)	religion doesn't have much influence on her and her family's healthcare practices. When she was little her parents took her to a hilot once, but now they just go to the doctor when they are sick or hurt. Children two and under have ginger pinned to their clothes to keep evil spirits away.			Prayer is done in the morning, at night, and at mealtimes. Church is on Sunday and holidays, and confession is held twice a year.
<u>Informant #3</u> (♀, Catholic)	on spirituality and how it affects one's health care practices, my friend said that during times of illness, her family would pray a lot for healing and strength to overcome the sickness.		what she finds strength in, she replied by saying that she gets her strength from watching the dedication of her parents and through prayer and reading scriptures daily.	
<u>Informant #4</u> (♀, Catholic)	, "I have known spirituality as the essence of people's being and purpose in being. I am a Catholic and being one has really brought awareness to me of who and what I am in this world.	, "I have known spirituality as the essence of people's being and purpose in being. I am a Catholic and being one has really brought awareness to me of who and what I am in this world.		." Friends and neighbors often come together in the church or through youth groups to pray together,

Sample:

Cultural Assessments of:

Characteristics of Informants	
Nationality	Filipino
Age	17 -19 years
Education	Senior BSN nursing students
Ethnicity	Ilonggo, Visayan (Iloilo City region)
Religion	21 "Roman Catholic" 1 "Christian" 1 "Baptist" 1 "Mormon" 1 [unknown]
Gender	20 Women 5 Men

Cultural Domains:

1. Communication
2. Family Roles & Organization
3. Pregnancy & Childbearing Practices
4. Death Rituals
5. Spirituality
6. Health Care Practices

Communication:

(interview questions)

1. What languages/dialects do you speak?
2. What are culturally unique verbal expressions for you as a Filipino?
3. What nonverbal behaviors are common among Filipinos?
4. What principles do you use regarding touch or physical contact between individuals?
5. What meanings do you hold for silence, touch, cultural nonverbal behaviors, and cultural expressions when communicating with another person?
6. How would you address another person during a greeting (1st name, surname, title)?
7. If you have something important to discuss with your family, how would you approach them?
8. Orientation to time (past, present, future)? View of time (social, clock-oriented)? How do you monitor your time (e.g. clock, calendar, stars, moon, seasons)? How soon should you arrive for an appointment?

Communication: (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meanings)
Languages	Hiligaynon, Tagalog, English (×23) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Karay-a (×8)• Japanese (×1)
Expressions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “po” or “opo” (sign of respect for elder) (x4)• “Dyos ko” (Oh God!, OMG) (x4)• “Bumpanes” (bad joke) (x2)• “Bayad” (jeepney fare) (x2)• “Toxic” (Ward is busy!)• “Nose bleed!” (Too much English)• “Have you eaten?” (How are you? [greeting])
“Mano”	“‘Mano po’ is very common which is when a young person takes the hand of an elder and touches their own forehead as a sign of respect.” (×9)

Communication: (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meanings)
Point with mouth (×9)	“pointing with a hand or finger is said to be rude and can bring on evil spirits”
Raise eyebrows (×15)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “raising of the eyebrows to signal a ‘yes’ answer or even an informal greeting”• “You raise one eyebrow when you don’t like someone or you are in doubt and anger. Both brows raised can mean no.”
Silence (×16)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “...silence means yes” (×4)• “...silence is used to indicate respect or to simply avoid conflict” (×3)• “Silence was a chance for someone else to think” (×3)• “...she took silence as a sign that the other person is angry or upset with her” (×3)• “...silence she said that it is seen as awkward and should be filled with easy going chatter” (×3)

Family Roles & Organization

(interview questions)

1. Tell me about your family.
2. Who is the head of your family?
3. What are appropriate behaviors or duties for you in your family?
4. What are appropriate behaviors or duties for others in your family (siblings, parents, others)?
5. What would be some restricted or taboo behaviors in your family?
6. What are some family priorities in your family?
7. Gender roles (men versus women)?
8. Religious practices?

Family Roles & Organization

(Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meanings)
Live at Home until Married (×17)	“While at school he stays in the dormitories, but otherwise he will live at home and eat meals with his family until he marries and has a family of his own.”
Responsible for Siblings (×11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “as eldest child, we have to help support the family and make sure our sisters go to college”• “She said that being the oldest she has to take a lot of responsibility with her siblings. She stated how it can be difficult to always be a role model”
Priority of School (×25)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “...family priorities were and she said education, religion, and then food in that order”• “My buddy stated that she would not begin dating until she graduated from college. It is her parent’s belief that this will allow her to focus solely on her studies.”• “In her family it is understood to her that low grades would be unacceptable.”

Family Roles & Organization (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meanings)
Absence of a Parent (×5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Her mother has...a job in Manila...She visits every 2-3 months...Her mother sends home money to pay bills, buy groceries, etc.”• “[H]is father lives in Manila and is a businessman, he comes home about once every other month. His father sends home money”
Lives with Extended Family (×11)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “...often find more than two generations of family members living under the same roof”• “She lives with some of her cousins who are from the provinces but are now in school in Iloilo City.”

Pregnancy & Childbearing Practices (interview questions)

1. What values do you have about pregnancy and childbirth?
2. What advice would you give a pregnant woman to encourage a healthy pregnancy? What things should she do or eat? What things should she not do or avoid?
3. After a woman has given birth, what things should she do or eat? What things should she not do or avoid?
4. What are your views about birth control or family planning?

Pregnancy & Childbearing Practices (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meanings)
Pregnancy as blessing	Pregnancy viewed as a gift, special and exciting time, blessing from God (×6)
Pregnancy after marriage	Pregnancy plan after marriage, should not occur before marriage (×9)
Advice to pregnant women –health care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comply with prenatal check ups, encourage vitamins, plenty of sleep (×25) • To “see a Hilot for prenatal care” (×1)
Postpartum Advice:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Healthy eating, fruits & vegetables (×9) • Breastfeeding (×6) • A lot of Rest (×3) • Avoid stress (×3)
Family Planning	Support birth control (×18) Family planning is against Catholic beliefs (×16) Abortion is wrong (×3)

Pregnancy & Childbearing Practices (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meanings)
Awareness of Indigenous Beliefs	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “after giving birth a ‘Big Kis’ is performed...to keep the uterus in place” (×3)• “Avoid eating bananas stuck together [during pregnancy] or you will have twins” (×2)• “Blocking a stairway [during labor] can lead to difficult delivery” (×2)• Protect newborn from evil spirits (×6)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Safety pin garlic or ginger to shirt (×2)• Pin Rosary to clothing (×2)

Death Rituals

(interview questions)

1. What would you do for someone who is dying?
2. Please describe a traditional ritual for someone who has died.
3. What religious or cultural practices does your family do after someone in the family has died?
4. What taboos do you have about dying?
5. What type of care do you give to someone who has died?
6. How do you express your feelings about the death of a close family member?

Death Rituals (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meaning)
During the Wake...	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “the body stays at home in the coffin” (×5)• “When someone dies in her family they hold a wake and they stay up all night, usually playing cards. They have rules that they must follow, such as you can’t watch TV or brush your hair in front of or in the same room as the coffin.” (×5)• “...it was typical to pray every night the coffin was in the home, complete the nine nights of Latin prayers, have a wake that lasts one week, pray the Rosary for the salvation of the soul...” (×4)• Food: “offering food such as valenciana, a sticky yellow rice. Then the soul leaves the body, the sticky rice allows the soul to remain attached with the family.” (×4)

Death Rituals

(Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meaning)
Mourning	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “...either white is worn to signify peace or black is worn to signify mourning. “ (×4)• Crying:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ “...it is common to cry with the family” (×12)○ “Many of the family members suffer more in silence while not showing they are sad, but yet showing they are strong” [one response specific to men] (×2)
Taboos	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “no one should wear red to a funeral” (×3)• “pregnant women should not go to funerals or else she or her baby may be at risk of dying.” (×3)• “disrespecting the dead as they will come back and haunt you” (×2)

Spirituality

(interview questions)

1. What influence does religion have on your health care practices?
2. What meaning do you find in life?
3. What gives you strength in living?
4. What religious practices do you do?

Spirituality (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meaning)
Religious Practices – Family	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “The religious practices that her family participates in is going to church every Sunday.” (×14)• “The family unit is a very important part of his culture. Even on a daily basis, meals are shared with the family. They pray before and after every meal and you are to eat all that is offered to you.” (×9)• “...during Easter time they go the ‘way of the cross’.” (×3)
Religious Practices –Personal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “She also mentioned the Rosary and that she prays with it when feeling scared or troubled.” (×9)• ““whenever I ride on a jeepney and happen to pass by a church, I make the sign of the cross.”” (×2)• “Praying with candles...” (×2)

Spirituality (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meaning)
Praying for Health (×7)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Before she arrives on duty at the hospital, my buddy stops in the chapel to pray for her patient’s health and for a safe day on the floor.”• “...buddy...would tell each patient before we left that we would pray for their healing...”
No Influence of Religion (×2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “...religion doesn’t have much influence on her and her family’s healthcare practices...now they just go to the doctor when they are sick or hurt.”• “...my buddy’s religion does not affect any of her healthcare practices. She is very well educated on health practices.”

Health Care Practices

(interview questions)

1. How would you describe being healthy?
2. What practices help you to be healthy?
3. What practices prevent you from becoming sick?
4. What cultural beliefs do you have about sickness and health?
5. Who in your family is responsible for caring for those who are sick?
6. What causes do you generally attribute to sickness?
7. What prevents you from seeking health care?
8. What illnesses are unique to Filipinos?

Health Care Practices (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meaning)
Causes of Illness	<p>“Some Filipinos believe...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘evil spirits’ (×5) <p>“I believe...”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ‘Microbes and germs’ (×5)• ‘punishment from God’ (×5)• ‘stress’ (×5)• ‘rainy season’ or ‘weather’ (×4)
Prevents Seeking Health Care	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “struggle with finances” (×15)• “Transportation is not free” (×6)• “Nothing prevents family from seeking care” (×5)• “Only mildly sick—illness is not serious” (×4)• “Handle it on her own” (×2)• “Wait in lines...sometimes for hours” (×2)

Health Care Practices (Findings)

Beliefs	Evidence – (Meaning)
Traditional Beliefs about Health	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evil spirit possession (×8)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Healing through faith healer or priest (×4)• Protection with Rosary or bracelet (×2)• Traditional medicine with herbs (×4)• “Quack doctor” or Abularyo sought (×4)• “Superstitions held by older generation” (×2)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “a mother should keep the hair and nails from the baby’s first cut and place them in a book to make the baby smarter”• “a pregnant woman should never tie her hair up because it will cause the cord to wrap around the infant’s neck”• “Bad Air Theory” (×2)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• “Cold breezes are seen to make you sick. This can be attributed to the bad air theory.”

Limitations of Study

1. Bias of interviewers (through American students' lenses)
2. Secondary analysis: pre-existing data
 - **No ability to confirm findings**
3. Imposed second level of templates through interview questions
4. Homogeneity of sample (informants)
5. Expectancy effect possible
 - Filipino nursing students being interviewed by American nursing students

Recommendations:

1) Cultural assessment, as a skill for cultural competence, should be a standard requirement during nursing education in a baccalaureate program.

2) However, to take cultural assessment a step further in the educational process, qualitative analysis of cultural domains allows students to recognize the degree of diversity and the commonality of cultural beliefs within a cultural group.

References

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