Nursing and Me

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If I have learned anything about life from the experiences I have had lately it is this: training to be hero is not as easy as many writers would want you to believe. Perhaps the title of “hero” is a somewhat dramatic synonym for the title of “nurse” to many, but I don’t know if a better word could be used. Nurses save lives, heal people, comfort children and adults alike, work hard and long away from their families, help resolve conflicts, and offer guidance in health to those who need it. Being a nurse is being the modest hero, everyday nurses make a difference in the world and the world needs more; I am proud to say that I am working to be a nurse.

I chose nursing as a profession because I wanted to make a positive impact on the world. As the American Nurses Association defines nursing

“Nursing is the protection, promotion, and optimization of health and abilities, prevention of illness and injury, alleviation of suffering through the diagnosis and treatment of human response, and advocacy in the care of individuals, families, communities, and populations.” (Craven and Hirnle, p.44)

The world is full of pained people, sick people, and neglected people and nurses do a great deal of work with these people in their homes, hospitals, and other facilities. I decided in my senior year of high school that nursing was the profession I would enter, to better myself and the world. I hold a set of values that have pushed me to nursing, and I will hold these values for all my life.

Nursing is a field that requires dedication to job and clients, an immense amount of emotional perspective and care, and a sense of purpose. Any I job I perform, whether it be in a hospital or a supermarket, I will give my all to that job. I am a hard-worker, and nursing will become more than a job to me, it will become apart of who I am. I am
caring and compassionate, and the problems of others are of concern to me. Protecting and helping others is a priority in my life. I believe that everyone has the right to respect, their integrity, and dignity. Without the past experiences of my life, I would not be training to be a nurse today.

I always wanted to be an engineer, from a young age to my junior year of high school. I was accidentally put into the anatomy and physiology class of my school as a junior. My teacher was inspirational, and I fell in love with learning about the human body. “An anatomy and physiology course can be the gateway to a gratifying career in a host of health-related professions.” (Derrickson and Tortora, iv) I decided that I wanted to enter a job working with the health field. Volunteering at New England Pediatric Care, a facility for handicapped children helped me realize the joy of helping others and the impact it made on their lives. Watching the nurses calmly take action there (coming to the aid of clients who stopped breathing, began to seizure, etc…) and perform their responsibilities so well gave me great respect for the nursing profession.

I believe that the nursing profession is a great responsibility and honor. However, it is a commitment that can never be taken lightly. Whether taking a patient’s vital signs or working in the operating room, a nurse should always be attentive, focused, and interested in his or her work. Being a nurse is being a leader and a protector. Nursing is developed around core concepts that give structure to the field.

Discipline and competence are important concepts in nursing. Those two concepts keep nurses professional, determined, and effective in their work. Socialization and understanding of roles is vital to nursing. Knowledge and experience are the
building blocks of the profession. I will focus on these concepts while training to be a nurse and practicing as one.

What do I want to accomplish as a nurse? I don’t need to become a great theorist like Florence Nightingale; I don’t care if my name is actually recognized throughout history. I just want to help others recover from their illnesses, make it through a surgical or life-threatening experience, and let as many people know that I care about them and that I want them to be at their best health. Maybe someday I’ll make a larger impact, but for now, I want to make sure I make the smaller ones as effective as possible.

Every day as a professional nurse I will strive to learn and to keep my mind open to new experiences and ideas. I may have a great deal to offer to my clients, but they will have a great deal to share with me as well. Hopefully I will learn about many more cultures, peoples, and customs to enrich my own life and add to my wisdom. I will strive to maintain effective communication with concerned families, and to share everything I can with the members of my community.

Becoming a nurse is of great importance to me. The course my life has taken has inspired me to follow the path of a nurse. I may believe that I understand the profession and the concepts of it, but I know that I still have much to learn about nursing. As a nurse, I will do my best to reach my full potential and serve the community and its people to do my part in the world.
References
