Nurses as bullies and as victims of bullies

One are the days when the public perception of bullying was that it occurred mainly in residential neighborhoods and on school playgrounds, and that bullies were children whose parents had not taught them proper values and behaviors. This presentation will consider the serious problem of the bullying of nurses, sometimes by other nurses, who are employed in health care settings. Regardless of the job titles of the perpetrators, the bullying of nurses can have deleterious effects on a number of areas such as: Job performance, morale, productivity, turnover, and patient care, to name a few. This presentation will examine possible antecedents to such bullying behaviors as well as some of the interventions that have been undertaken to ameliorate those situations.

Biography

Carol Apt received her Ph.D. in Sociology from Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts (USA), her Masters in Sociology from Boston University in Boston, Massachusetts (USA), and her Bachelors in Sociology from Indiana University in Indianapolis, Indiana (USA). She also has a Certificate of French Studies from Ecole Lemania in Lausanne, Switzerland. As she was finishing her coursework at Northeastern University, she learned that she was the recipient of an internship in Applied Medical Sociology from the American Sociological Association. She chose to assume this honor at the University of Texas Medical School, Department of Psychiatry, in San Antonio, Texas, where she worked for 2 years. During this time she did HIV/AIDS research and wrote HIV/AIDS education materials which she and her staff used with high-risk individuals incarcerated in the county jail in San Antonio. During this time she also taught at the University of Texas at San Antonio, and team taught a course in psychiatric interviewing for medical students during their second-year psychiatry rotation. Dr. Apt has taught courses in Medical Sociology, Human Sexuality, and the Sociology of Genocide. She is also the host of a live, call-in radio program called “Talk to Me,” which is broadcast on 90.3 FM-WSSB in South Carolina. The subject of her radio show is sexuality and relationships.

capt@scsu.edu

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