

(First lecture 2 hour)

Definition of sociology ; Sociology is a study under the social sciences that looks on the behavior, history, growth, structure, and groups that included society. It is not to be confused with Psychology as Sociology looks at people as a whole and not as an individual. Sociology is a field in science that concerns itself with social behavior.

Why nurses study sociology?

If a nurse has at least an understanding of these social processes, that nurse might be able to conduct a patient assessment in a more circumspect way. Nurses interact with a lot of people. And the demographics of this crowd is quite diverse. This is where knowledge in sociology comes in. If a nurse has a comprehensive know-how on certain sociological issues that would make his or her work a higher than only auxiliary to a doctor. Not that nurses need to consider sociology as an entry pass to a more fruitful nursing career, but that every nurse should understand the relation of their duties with the social structure of their patients. Nurses provide care to their patients. And at times, providing care is not so much about giving them what they need, it about knows what to do with what kind of patient they have. They can only do that by having a clear understanding of their sociological background.

Methods of Testing Theories in Sociology:

Sociologists use three main methods to test theories: (1) surveys, (2) controlled experiments, and (3) led observation.

1. **Surveys**, sometimes referred to public opinion poll, are the widely accepted ways of studying human behavior. Using variables, surveys measure people's attitude towards different matters. Sociology often studies the relationship between a viewpoint and a subject while considering elements like education, age, and gender. Questionnaires are usually given to a controlled group where they will answer either worded or objective type questions. The survey questions also ask about their background and demographic information. Through this method of data gathering, information such as consumer habits, racial

- discrimination, and other human behavior and activity are provided. In addition, surveys answer issues in the society to have a clear understanding concerning the problems involved.
2. **Experiments.** Some of the experiments are conducted in a laboratory and in small groups. In some cases, two groups are studied for comparing. They want to know the significant difference in the attitudes and behavior of certain groups.
 3. **Field Observation.** Information is primarily gathered through observations and talk within the community. During the period of study, the sociologist will participate in societal activities such as political activities, networks, and functions. Field observation gives first-hand information about a group of people, but is least reliable method of testing theories. A fact can be true to community A, but cannot be applied to community B. Additionally, there are also outside factors that may influence the conclusions made.

The Relevance of Sociology in the Nursing Profession:

Sociology is a study of human behavior inside the societal context. Despite its big importance in politics, organizations, and other statistical fields, nursing students conflict to see its relevance in their chosen career.

Two kinds of sociological knowledge in the nursing course:

1. Sociology in nursing and 2- sociology of nursing. Both these knowledge give nursing a different light. It's like students are given a new pair of glasses, and look at everyday occurrences in a whole different way. As follow: The practical relevance of sociology in the profession depends on how an individual perceive what nursing is all about. If they want to find ways to supply the needs of their patients, nursing students need to understand their experiences with health and illnesses, what's their basis of health, what is it like to live with similar disorder, and how society views of these people? In short, if one thinks nursing involves critical thinking and patient experience, and then sociology has a lot to give. Most students are not easily known with this subject matter and find it difficult. Most of them not easily connect sociology to the current practical context of the nursing

practice. However, when students engage in wider social issues, they develop reflecting skills. Having these skills let a nurse become a care provider rather than just being too technical with their job. The remainder relevance of sociology lies on focusing on contemporary (update) research especially in patients with learning difficulties. The significance of this research lies on changing the perception of people with learning disabilities that they are incompetent, inadequately capable of speaking for themselves, and thus needs to be given care. It also gives students valuable insight to what these people are going under to have a better understanding of their needs. Sociological research continues to expand and has become useful in the nursing profession.

What are relationships between sociology and nursing?

Nowadays, nursing goes past concentrating on disease and pathology to include a significantly wider concept of both ill health and personage. Nurses are significantly linked to producing sense and giving objective to life, disease and death. Sociology may be of value to nurses in order to question the values and beliefs of their expert and the organizational framework in which they work. We have to comprehend the social forces which usually shape and restrict our lives to be able to modify them. Being familiar with many people is very important. Think about this – a nurse has to know about if a customer is using illegal drugs. Without knowing this detail may cause the doctor to prescribe incorrectly. But how are you able to ask to get an honest answer? Knowing how people think can lead to learning how to phrase the question. Also being familiar with cultural differences is highly essential for too many good reasons. Nurses work with people, and they need to understand them.

Importance of sociology in nursing:

Educating nurses with sociology has turned into a major issue in health sociology. The latest nursing curriculum recognizes the necessity for the twenty-first century nurse to use knowledge coming from a selection of specialties and disciplines when evaluating and examining patients/clients and selecting a procedure for care. This includes the study of sociology.

Society has evolved and people tend to be more prepared to challenge 'experts' in terms of medications, treatments and procedures.

The effect of these adjustments (modifications) has been enormous and lots of nurses have found themselves at a loss in understanding how to prepare for the new demands. The function of sociology in nursing is constantly focusing to new light on many directions of wellness and illness. Throughout the last 20 years, nursing process has seen sociological concept become an important clinical tool, in both the diagnosis and prognosis of a wide range of illnesses and long-term conditions

Sociology in nursing is a vital tool in understanding more the patient's reaction and response to treatment. The more the nurses are able to connect with their patient, the more effective they are. It is in fact difficult to diagnose a patient without having the right connection and understanding; this is why sociology is important. The previous studies and research on how a patient reacts, respond and recover to certain diseases or conditions can give the health care professional a step ahead on the medical treatment process...

REFERENCES:

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