

ABSTRACT

ETHICAL CHANGES IN THE NURSING STUDENT

Ethical issues are of great importance in the educational process of a nursing professional. The purpose of this study was to determine if there were ethical changes in nursing students between entry and exit from the nursing program at California State University, Fresno. This study focused on 110 students enrolled in either their first semester or their final semester of nursing school. It was conducted using the Nurses Professional Values Scale – Revised survey tool. The two classes were compared and it was noted that there was one significant difference in the beliefs between the groups. This exception was in the area of the nurse as a patient advocate. These results suggest that, at least in this group of subjects, completion of a nursing program may not have a major impact on the ethical development of a nursing student.

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