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ATTITUDE TOWARD NURSING PROFESSION AMONG SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOL STUDENTS: A DESCRIPTIVE STUDY

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ABSTRACT: Background: One of the oldest and noble professions is nursing. It necessitates a caring heart and deserving of compassionate treatment. It is one of the most joyful arts, requiring the integration of skill, values and knowledge. **Aim:** To assess senior secondary students' attitudes toward the nursing profession. **Methodology:** A study has adopted a cross sectional descriptive design with convenience sampling technique. Data was collected from Delhi World School and Ramagya World School, and it was analyzed and interpreted using descriptive statistics and inferential statistics. The tool is socio demographic and Likert scale on attitude toward Nursing Profession. **Result:** The frequency and percentage distribution of study participants was described. The overall mean & S.D was \pm SD of 74.20 ± 13.67 . The association between attitude and selected socio demographic variable was significantly related to class, gender, monthly income, father and mother education with ($p < 0.05$).

The majority of the participants in the study were positive and supportive of the nursing profession.

Keyword: Nursing Profession, Senior Secondary Students, Attitude, Professionalism & Nursing Perception.

Introduction

Nursing is one of the most ancient and noble professions in the world. It necessitates a caring heart and deserving of compassionate treatment. It is amongst the most joyful arts, requiring the integration of skills, values & Knowledge. Nursing is a profession that combines social science, physical science, technology, innovation & nursing theory among other things. Nurses are in high demand across the country, with numerous job opportunities, a variety of nursing career options, good benefits, and a wide range of specialty areas and advancement opportunities. Nurses have a wide range of responsibilities and duties, and their work is dependent on their qualifications, skills, and circumstances. Nursing students and forthcoming nurses are the backbone of the country's health-care system, and their attitudes have an impact on other health-care providers and the clinical environment in which they provide health services. The public's perceptions of nursing appear to have both positive and negative implications for this profession.

Methodology

A descriptive cross-sectional design was used. The conceptual framework used to guide this study was based on Leininger's sunrise model. Likert scale was developed, used to determine attitude towards nursing profession. A total of 101 subjects were selected using convenience sampling for survey. Content validity, Convergent and Construct validity of Likert scale were determined. Internal consistency ($P=0.97$) and stability ($P=0.75$) were used to assess reliability. Pilot study was conducted on 30 subjects and feasibility and sample size for main study was determined. Confidentiality was assured for all the information provided. The data has been collected from 101 subjects (Senior Secondary Students male & female) studying under various schools situated in Greater Noida, U.P. Descriptive and inferential statistics were used to analyze quantitative data.

RESULT

Objective1: To determine senior secondary students' attitudes toward the nursing profession.

N=101

Level of Attitude	Score	Frequency	%	Mean \pm SD
Favorable	81-100	35	34.65	74.20 \pm 13.67
Moderately Favorable	61-80	48	47.52	
Unfavorable	40-60	18	17.83	



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Table 1

The table depicts 35 (34.65%) subjects scored between range of 81-100 which denotes they had favorable attitude towards Nursing Profession & 48 (47.52 %) subjects scored between range of 61-80 which showed they had Moderately favorable attitude towards Nursing profession whereas 18 (17.83 %) subjects scored between range of 40-60 which denotes they had Unfavorable attitude towards nursing Profession & the overall mean \pm SD score was 74.20 ± 13.67 .

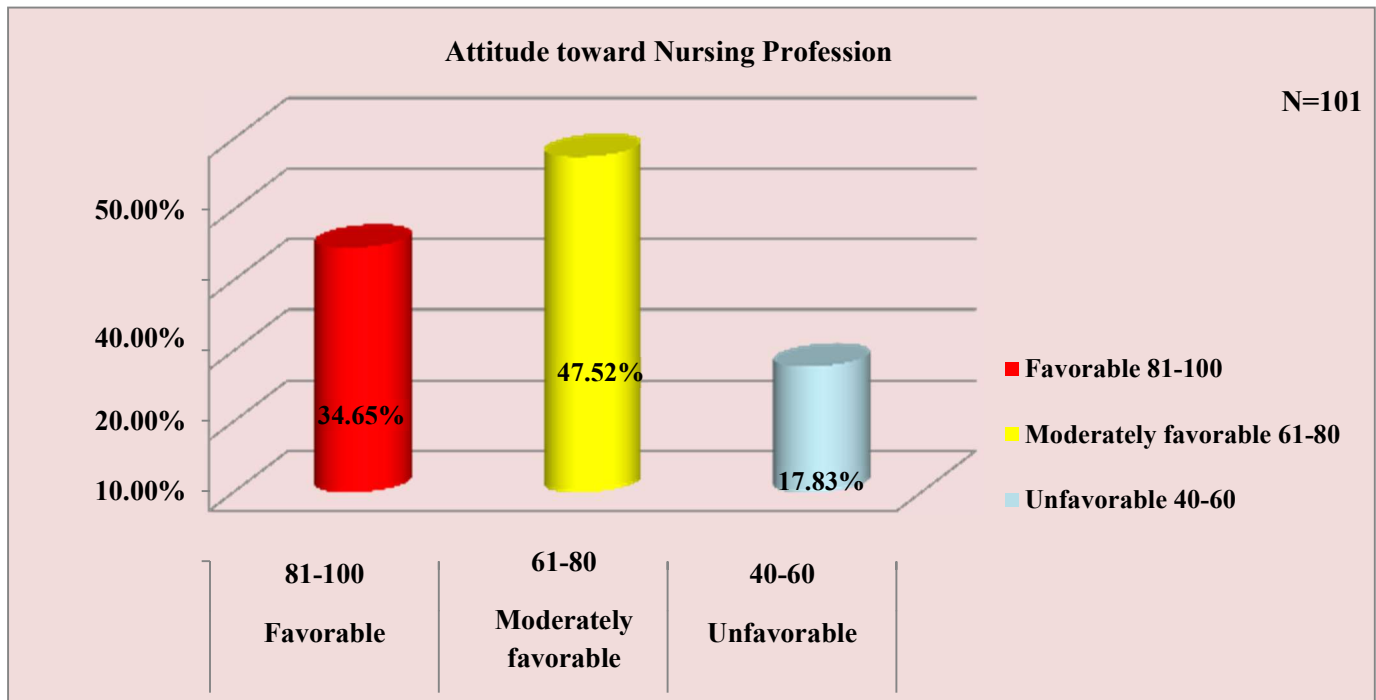


Fig 1: Percentage distribution of subject according to Attitude Score

Objective 2: To investigate the relationship between senior secondary students' attitudes toward nursing profession with sociodemographic variables.

N=101

Variable		Score			P- Value
		Poor (40-60)	Average (61-80)	Good (81-100)	
Age in Years Group	15-16	1 33.3%	2 66.7%	0 0.0%	0.655
	17-18	5 13.5%	19 51.4%	13 35.1%	
	19-20	6 17.1%	18 51.4%	11 31.4%	
	Above 20	6 23.1%	9 34.6%	11 42.3%	
Class	11 th	8 22.8%	22 62.9%	5 14.3%	0.007*



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	12 th	10 15.2%	26 39.4%	30 45.5%	
Gender	Male	14 30%	19 41%	13 28%	0.010*
	Female	4 7.3%	29 52.7%	22 40.0%	
Religion	Hindu	10 13.9%	33 45.8%	29 40.3%	0.437
	Christian	3 30.0%	6 60.0%	1 16.7%	
	Muslim	2 33.3%	3 50.0%	1 16.7%	
	Other	3 23.1%	6 46.2%	4 30.8%	
Father education	No formal education	7 13.2%	24 43.4%	23 43.4%	0.009*
	Primary school education	4 23.5%	9 52.9%	4 23.5%	
	Secondary school education	7 24.1%	15 51.7%	7 24.1%	
	Graduate and above	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	1 100.0%	
	No formal education	1 20.0%	4 40.0%	2 40.0%	
Mother education	Primary school education	9 42.9%	7 33.3%	5 23.8%	0.041*
	Secondary school education	8 20.5%	20 51.3%	11 28.2%	
	Graduate and above	1 4.0%	12 48.0%	12 48.0%	
Monthly Income	<Rs.10,000	2 25.0%	2 25.0%	4 50.0%	0.005*
	Rs.10,001-15,000	0 0.0%	5 71.4%	2 28.6%	
	Rs.15,001-20,0001	12 33.3%	19 52.8%	5 13.9%	
Native place	Above 20,0001	4 8.0%	22 44.0%	24 48.0%	0.574
	Rural area	5 17.2%	14 37.9%	13 44.8%	
	Urban area	8 24.2%	15 45.5%	10 30.3%	
	Metropolitan area	5 14.7%	19 52.9%	12 32.4%	



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School Management	Private	9 15.5%	31 53.4%	18 31.0%	0.111
	Government	9 24.3%	12 32.4%	16 43.2%	
	Other	0 0.0%	5 83.3%	1 16.7%	
Source of information (If any)	T.V	5 38.5%	4 30.8%	4 30.8%	0.395
	Friends	6 21.4%	12 42.9%	10 35.7%	
	Family	3 10.0%	17 56.7%	10 33.3%	
	Social Media	4 13.3%	15 50.0%	11 36.7%	

The table 2 shows that class, gender, monthly income, father and mother education are some of the factors which can contribute & associated towards forming an attitude towards nursing profession while on the other hand age, religion, streams/discipline, native place, school management and source of information has no evident role in forming attitude towards nursing profession.

DISCUSSION

The current study focuses on nursing profession among senior secondary students.

Study findings showed that total mean \pm SD 74.20 \pm 13.67 attitude score of participants toward nursing profession. Present study finding concluded that class, gender, monthly income, father and mother education are some of the factors which are associated and contributing to form an attitude towards nursing profession.

Participants in the current study were positively associated with the nursing profession. It is consistent with the finding of the study done by **Suresh K. Sharma et.al (2017)**. Result shows senior secondary students are positively motivated toward nursing profession due to increase desirability of this profession.

In the present study states genders of the participants were associated positively toward nursing profession. It is consistent with the findings of **Mahesh B.Chendake et al. (2014)**, who discovered a significant correlation between gender and attitude.

Implication

The study's findings were applied in a variety of fields, including nursing practice, nursing administration, and nursing research. The study's findings indicate that senior secondary students' positive attitudes toward the nursing profession will help her provide better quality patient care and can organize in-service educational programs to upgrade nursing professionals and skills. The students perceived that the government should improve working conditions in order to attract students to the profession. Educating the public about the profession and purpose of nursing, this may increase public appreciation.

Limitation

1. The sample size was limited.
2. The non-probability was used to collect the sample.
3. Social desirability bias.

Recommendation

1. A study can be conducted to determine the preparedness of senior secondary students for work as a professional Nurse.
2. A qualitative study can be conducted to report early socialization and carrier choice in nursing among secondary students.
3. A study can be conducted to assess outgoing students' attitudes and perceptions of toward scope of nursing profession.



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Conclusion

Nursing is one of the most joyful arts, requiring the integration of skills, values & knowledge. In India, the image of the nursing profession is changing on a daily basis, despite the fact that the profession still suffers from a mild degree of stigma in certain states of the country. It is essential that we should focus on the next generation of nurses. The current study was designed to assess senior secondary students' attitudes toward the nursing profession. The study's findings revealed that the majority of senior secondary students have a positive and favorable attitude toward the nursing profession.

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