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Undesirable or slightly desirable social position of Iranian nurses: A rising cause for concern of the Iranian nursing community

Akbar Zare-Kaseb ^a  | Mohammad Hashem Gholampour ^b  | Zahra Arbabi ^c  | Mohammad Javad Ghazanfari ^{a*} 

- a. Department of Medical-Surgical Nursing, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran
- b. Department of Medical-Surgical, Amol Faculty of Nursing and Midwifery, Mazandaran University of Medical Sciences, Sari, Iran
- c. Department of Medical-Surgical Nursing, Kashan University of Medical Sciences, Kashan, Iran

*Corresponding author(s): Mohammad Javad Ghazanfari (MSc), Department of Medical-Surgical Nursing, School of Nursing and Midwifery, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Tehran, Iran.

Email: javad.ghazanfari12@gmail.com

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To the Editor

The meaning of nursing is different between cultures, and it seems hard to integrate nursing concepts. However, many studies evaluate the process of professional socialization [1]. Nurses' social position is one of the major factors affecting their quality of life, which may alter their job competency [2]. Being recognized as a doctor's assistant is not only limited to nurses in Iran but also in other countries; even doctors have the same view of nurses and ignore their art in patient care [3]. A study in Iran showed that most Iranian nurses were concerned of culturally based 'poor' attitudes of their job [1, 4]. Another study on nurses' social well-being showed a lower score of social acceptance among other variables. Also, have been shown that the mean score of social well-being was higher in male participants who had more experience [5]. "Nursing is not well perceived as a profession within this community", this is likely the best description of Iranian nurses' social position from a study by Valizadeh et al. [6]. On the other hand, nurses' high rate of burnout is also related to their social position [7]. With all of these, few studies are addressing how to change this social image of nurses. One way is to use them without distortion, portraying their profession in the media [3]. Others suggest extending community-based services and replacing the style of nursing practice from routine-oriented to knowledge-based [4].

Nowadays and with the increasing number of post-graduate nursing students, the young and motivated workforce, and the changing image of this profession among families, nurses are experiencing a slightly better social position. However, more studies are needed to help society feel better about nursing. It is recommended that Iranian researchers design well-designed research in the future to identify barriers to better social positions in nursing.

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Authors' contributions

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Using artificial intelligent chatbots

None.

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