Nursing History in Portugal

Lucília Nunes
One of our tasks is to plan for future meetings on nursing history at ICN.

Therefore, we ask for only 5-10 minutes from the presenters and request that you concentrate on the key issues concerning nursing history in your country.
Nursing History in Portugal
There are references to Nursing in Portugal since 1120 A.C. Like in many other countries in the World, Nursing was practiced by monks and nuns in a religious context.

The first known “nursing manual” has been recently discovered and was published in 1741.
Nursing as a Profession only appeared in XX century. Almost a century after the scientific nursing revolution connected to the work and figure of Florence Nightingale.

The first nursing school with a scientific basis only became real in 1881 in Portugal, in University Hospitals of Coimbra.
Nursing History in Portugal

Following the paths of the last half century

“new history” focusing the objects, the territories and habits

60’s

(1) paradigm estruturalist

(2) Submiting History to quantification

1. New antropological and sociological approaches

90’s

transformation of the historical approach - resource to model interactionist or etno-metodological

"micro-history"
racionalidades and strategies used by the communities, families, persons

biography

Object of history

separation between the object of the knowledge and the subjective conscience

Structures and mechanisms regulate social relations

1. cultural turn
Nursing History in Portugal

“Historians, are geographers. Be also jurists and sociologists, and psychologists” Febvre.

Be, especially, anthropologists, he would say the third generation.

Building new spaces of research

Today, if I was following Gadamer, we would say that «the historian also is historical». And “a thought effectively historical will think at the same time his historicidade itself”; “the appropriate hermeneutics to the thing open to question must show in the understanding itself the effective reality of the history”.

the discipline of the historian and the art of the narrator

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New historiography

“the third level” (mental, sensibility, religious)

anthropology

Social, economics, demography

Pierre Chaunu
Nursing History in Portugal

Difference between articles with historical approach and research with historical methodology - few Nursing historical studies
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SOARES, Isabel – Da blusa de brim à touca branca: Contributo para a História do Ensino de Enfermagem em Portugal (1880-1950)

NUNES, Lucília – Um Olhar sobre o Ombro. Enfermagem em Portugal (1881-1998)

AMENDOEIRA, José – Uma biografia partilhada da enfermagem. A segunda metade do século XX
PhD thesis 2006


CARNEIRO, Marinha - Ajudar a nascer, parturientes, saberes obstétricos e modelos de formação (séc. XV-XX)

RACHA DA SILVA, Maria Helena - Dos postos de protecção à infância aos dispensários materno-infantis (2008)
Development

• Research Units – Programm/ Historical Line of Research

• Several studies in Master and PhD degrees nowadays
  – Profession studies, Historical representations, Gender history, Nurses role, etc
The interest for the history becomes from the primordial question of knowing who we are and of where we came from.

And this sends us to a search for memory. Without memory we do not exist because we also cannot remember what happened. So it is necessary to preserve the event and, for the narrative, to give him a sense

Without the vision of the past and the paths we have walked, we can not sustain a professional identity and look to the future.
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Thank you

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