Development of Nursing knowledge: Epistemological issues

Knowledge construction & theory development

知識建構與理論發展

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Ways of knowing

- Tradition
- authority
- experience, trial and error:
- logical reasoning:
  - inductive reasoning(推論)
  - deductive reasoning(歸納)
- Scientific empiricism
  - Systematic, objective, reproducible

Purpose of knowing

- To describe
  - trying to identify concept(s)
- To explore
  - trying to establish structural frame to discover relationship or degree of relationship
- To explain
  - explain the nature of phenomena
- To prediction and control
  - make reliable prediction and to develop control mechanism

The origin of knowledge

- The nature, the structure
  - Independence of how people come to know it
  - Ontological issue

- The process of becoming to know
  - Varies, multiple ways
  - Influenced by human experiences, perceptions, interpretations, and meaning
  - Resulting in various points of view even on same issue
  - The epistemological issue

The revolution of science

- Philosophers vs. Scientists
- Observation, testing, experiment
- Rationalism
- Reductionism
- Empiricism
  - Classic physics, quantum physics
  - Theory of Relativism, Chaos Theory
  - Certainty vs. uncertainty

(Hawley, Young, & Pasco, 2000).

The discourse

- Dominant vs. Marginalized discourse
  - The credibility, the accuracy
  - The generalizability, the predictability

- The emerge of Postmodern Feminism
  - The humanity
  - The life experience
  - The understanding
  - The meaning

Nursing science and Nursing practice

- Accountability in Complexity
- Maintain stability in constant changing
- Respect autonomy while providing professional therapy
- Invasive vs. non-invasive
- Safety vs. Dignity
- Ethical vs. unethical issue

(Whittemore, 1999)

Nature science to Nursing

- The value

- The failure

- The congruent and incongruent

(Whittemore, 1999)

Gortner's theory on science and nursing knowledge

- The criteria of being a science

- The context of nursing science

- The six premises of building nursing knowledge

(Lauzon, 1995).

The emerge of epistemic diversity

- The beautiful theory
- The aesthetic understanding
- The triangulation, the integration, the conclusive
- The trans-theory approach

☞For better understanding

<div align="right">Georges, J. M. (2003).</div>

Terms in knowledge

- Philosophy, Belief
- Concept
- Conceptual framework, Model, Theory
- Assumption, Hypothesis
- Grand theory, mid-range theory, situational theory

(Meleis, 2007)

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Q & A