

ABOUT THE GENDERIZATION¹ PROCESS OF THE PROFESSION: THE FEMALE IN THE HISTORICITY OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

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Introduction: By the history of the Occupational Therapy it is possible to observe great number of women in the exercise of the profession with a profile very stereotyped: very patient, motherly, charitable and ready to make possible the rehabilitation of physical, emotional or social disabled people. A very similar case is the one of the profession of Nursing.

Objectives: This study discusses the gender condition that permeates the reality of Occupational Therapy over time and its current praxis.

Methods: It is a theoretical research with a qualitative approach, using a bibliographic research as the investigation method.

Results: The readings allowed to identify three subjects of exploration: Occupational Therapy, Nursing and Gender. Thus, new categories were created to respond the initial questions of the investigation. 1) The historical context of postwar period established the conditions for female presence in mass, serving to the exercise behind the foreheads battle. 2) The care and the privacy with the domiciliary space, both characteristics considered like womanly², approximated more once the feminine to the professions. 3) The practice nonscientist identified by the great number of women and the proximity with the simplicity of the daily activities, is another emphasized point. 4) Attitudes as the patience and passivity also were waited for in the professionals after the reestablishment of the health. 5) This profile that in a while of history was delineated like criterion for the exercise of the profession, is resembled the roles assumed by the woman in the society.

Conclusion: These aspects can influence in the number of professional women involved in the profession of Occupational Therapy as well as in the stereotype that was created of the same one. Within the discussion of gender made here, this like category made up of social and historical aspects, it extends the concept of sex, it allows to break stereotype and to reflect on praxis professional.

References:

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