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Student attitudes connected to career, family and future planning at the Faculty of Health Sciences

Introduction: It is important to study the attitudes of paramedical students in higher education from different point of view. In our research we dealt with female students' images of motherhood, their professional practice and career plans.

Methods: In this study quantitative, self-completed questionnaire was used among second, third and fourth year nurse, health visitor and midwife students in 2012. Data analysis was performed by SPSS software by using descriptive methods of statistics. Response rate was 94.1% (N=257).

Results: 77.8% of students preferred motherhood but only 29.2% focused on higher professional achievements. We did not find any statistical differences between the attitude of professional practice and motherhood. 52.0% of the students had ambivalent feelings related to their image of the future. Career plans were affected by specialisation ($p < 0.001$). 80.0% of nurse students would like to reach a higher position and only 8.7% would like to work as a staff nurse.

Conclusion: At the Faculty of Health Sciences the majority of the students have a professional calling but their image of future is uncertain. They require additional studies and some of them plan promotion in their career. They definitely prefer to practise their paramedical profession, but some political measures are necessary to help these students hold a position according to their prospective qualification.

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