## CHAPTER II
### REVIEW OF LITERATURE

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CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Introduction

This chapter includes search for relevant literature to the present topic: perception of Nursing Students towards Nursing Profession. It contains information of the research topic, Conceptual framework and research methodological issues pertaining to the study. A review of literature helped the investigator, to construct the tool, assisted to bring the problem into focus and to formulate appropriate research process. Review of literature is collected and divided under the following headings:

- Studies on perception towards nursing profession.
- Studies on influencing factors to enroll in nursing profession.

As we have already discussed definition of perception in chapter one. It is one’s awareness and understanding of sensory information attained through interplay between past experiences, one’s own culture and the interpretation of the perceived.

The word “perception” is defined as the “ability to perceive and the perceived is to realized or become aware of something through the senses, an impression accompanied by an understanding of what it is.

Perception is the receipt of the sensory stimuli by a person regarding objects, situation, person (s) or profession, interpretation of these received stimuli add to a person’s knowledge, whereby their views are turned into attitudes. A. S. Hornbey, 2000, postulated that perception is conceived through a linear dynamics relationship between “description” (in the brain), the senses and the surrounding. It is bidirectional interplay that holds true to the linear concept of experience “. Perception by itself is merely defied as an idea, belief, or an image.
you have as a result of how you see or understand something. Perception is the way in which something is regarded, understood, or interpreted. Therefore nursing as a „concept“ is more than just a definition. It is part of a framework of communication, language of a group and this reflects who nurses are and this definition carries a person’s perception. More importantly, perception of nursing may vary depending on age, educational level, social and professional experience and occupational and social factors.

Based on the reviewed literature, the researcher of the current study would assume that perception of one’s professional identity changes over the course of the 4 years of the nursing programme. Changes have taken place in the last two decades in the way health care is being delivered and managed; these changes consist of a different way of practice and perception of the profession. Being a nurse is not only about taking care of patients, but it also requires knowledge of technology, more paperwork and more stringent standards of care. Another way nursing has been changing over the years is the gradual increase in men entering the profession and, thus, introducing a new nuance to the meanings embedded in the profession. Bearing on these imminent transformations, nurses and nursing educators are compelled to assist students in their development of caring, nurturing and critical thinking, and to acquire the latest introduction of technological advances into the healthcare system. It is important to ascertain how students perceive nursing and the decision to choose nursing to be their career or any other career is highly influenced by one’s previous ideas about the career. Studies investigating students’ perception of nursing at the beginning of the nursing programme showed that the students had idealistic views of the profession with concepts of caring, compassion and nurturing but after the exposure to clinical experiences it shifted towards it being more of technical, documentation and procedural skills.

In studies of nursing students’ perception of nursing, researchers examined perception of students at different points in a programme. Studies included exploration of student nurses’ beliefs and conceptions at entry to nursing programmes, shortly after clinical practice and before graduation. Moreover,
prospective longitudinal studies were conducted to define and to understand changes occurring over time

2.2. International Studies

The foregoing studies revealed that most male and female students’ primary interest in nursing was not linked to cognitive understanding of nursing, but on emotional desires, such as helping people and the desire to nurture. In the three studies cited in examining student’s interests in nursing, at least two of the studies showed significant interest in each of the remaining areas. Students’ knowledge base of educational programs for nursing, nursing licensure, professional opportunities, or professional responsibilities were not indicated.

Why are students overlooking careers in nursing? Sought to develop an understanding of how students perceive nursing as a career at various stages in their education, and how these perceptions affect students’ interests in nursing. The study indicates that decisions about jobs are being made at an early age and that by late elementary school students have often rejected jobs on the basis of perceptions. Thus, it is important to provide career information and experience for well-defined perceptions about nursing that can be developed for greater career decision-making skills.

A study was conducted in 1998, by Huffstutle, on effects of nursing education on the image of nursing as a profession in Israel. The samples consist of 200 first year nursing students and 200 more advanced students. The result revealed that most of the students felt that nursing profession needs to undergo an image change, while first year students perceived nurses as more angelic than more advanced students, and there was positive correlation found between satisfaction with nurses in the field and image of nursing. Thus the study concluded that there is a need to reinforce a positive image of nursing as a career, nurse educators should alter negative stereotypes about the profession. The image of both nurses and nursing has been the focus of a number of research projects globally.

This study brings out facts that new comers are very delicate, They come with raw mind and very positive perception toward nursing progression. They had super
idea-belif that nurses are angels. Now it is the responsibility of the nursing teachers and sisters in the clinical area to foster their concept as “angels.” Perception of this study is related to the researcher’s study.

A study was conducted in August 2002 by Essie Dec Scott Cockrell regarding perceptions of the nursing profession among 207 pre-nursing students at Louisiana State University Health Science Centre School of Nursing United States. The results revealed that 193 (93.2%) of students desired to help others, 27 (13%) were desired based on religious influences and 11 (5.3%) of the students were career change after completing another degree, in addition 16 (7.7%) respondents had some other reasons choosing nursing as a career. Thus the study concluded that the pre-nursing students had the need for career information. They were highly motivated but were unclear regarding their perceptions of the nursing profession.

This study has helped the researcher to prepare tool with likert scale which is known as cockrell five point likert scale. Most of the high school students who were eligible to enter the nursing profession had good perception and had desire to help others, however knowledge about nursing profession was limited, still group was motivated.

A study was conducted in 2004 by Al-Omar BA. in Riyadh city, Saudi Arabia. to determine the knowledge, attitudes, and intention among the Saudi high school students towards the nursing profession. In addition, the study aimed to identify students' perception of causes preventing them to become nurses. It also aimed to determine the factors influencing the Saudi high school students' choice of nursing; the more likely the student would be attracted to the nursing profession. Accordingly, it could be concluded that Saudi Health decision-makers need to increase the positive attitude on the nature and encouraging characteristics of modern nursing and its increasing respect as a skillful career for high school students. Reconsideration of salaries and benefits were recommended in order to attract more students to the nursing profession.
This study was little different. The researcher had tried to find out the Saudi students knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession. This is a rich country and many Indian and Philippine nurses work in the said country. They had very less human resource in nursing of their own country. Attitude towards nursing profession may be due to high socio economical status of their own and compared to that less salary is paid to nurses, which is not cleared in this study.

A study done in 2005 at Rio de Janeiro by Spindola, Seibert, Francisco and Clos of 62 high school students indicated that the students associate the nurse figure to the assisting function and they visualize nurses as an auxiliary of the physician and that they were not aware of the different categories of the nursing profession and the education level of the profession. Therefore it is essential to give information to the youngsters before entering college for them to know what nursing is all about so that they choose the profession knowing what it entails therefore reducing the rate of dropouts and therefore retaining them in the profession.

This study reveals that no knowledge or limited knowledge about the different cadres of the nursing and second issue is low status in society and secondary level of work was prohibiting hem to enter in this profession.

A study of 1000 American nursing students reported that students believed nursing to be physically challenging and that there is inadequate respect and recognition of nursing. Other studies reported that nursing students recognize nursing as a caring profession and as an opportunity to help people gain a better health. Nursing students also viewed nursing as a noble and well-regarded career path and one which requires strength, patience and compassion. Nursing students also viewed nursing as a noble and well-regarded career path and one which requires strength, patience and compassion.

Apart from the traditional perception of nursing as caring, a longitudinal study that examined nursing students’ perceptions of nursing showed that students considered nursing as a profession based on scientific knowledge and
requires expertise in nursing and responsibility. They also viewed nursing as a "medical-technical" activity.  
This study has thrown light on new activities include in a job. Technology in the medical and nursing field has grown up. Now nurses are operating and handling their patients with modern technology like ventilators and cardiac monitors in ICU and in O.T. This perception may help to motivate the students. This result helped the researcher to prepare a tool. 

A research done of highly academic students in 2008 by Neilson at School of Nursing, Dundee University, United Kingdom revealed a different perception of how some people perceive nursing. These students wouldn’t consider taking a nursing career because of the perception that doctors cure patients whilst nurses only care for patients. The students also believed that nursing shouldn’t be a university programme because they didn’t believe that nursing required a university education. In short, the students believed that nursing wasn’t for high achievers but for low achievers and dim students, therefore, this hindered the students from choosing nursing as their career and therefore chose to undertake other courses which were believed to be in line with their grades and nursing was viewed as the last resort career choice.

A nurse working in clinical area, if she does not have knowledge of basic sciences and why she is doing particular procedure in a systemic manner may cause complications. Even doctors operate and post operative care is not done properly, patient will not cure. However, knowledge is found deficient to choose nursing career. This helped a researcher to prepare a check list for influencing factors.

An exploratory cross-sectional study was conducted in September 2009, students at Azania and Jangwani in Ilala district, school of nursing, Dar-es-salaam by Kiwanuka Achillies on image of nursing profession as viewed by 100 secondary school with the sample size of (50 male and 50 female) students, using both qualitative and quantitative methods. Results revealed that, awareness regarding nursing profession above 50% for males was 79.2%, while that of females was 76.9%; whereas awareness regarding nursing profession was below 50% and 31.4% for females and 31.1% was for male. The study concluded that,
students are aware of the profession but they do not want to opt for it due to the image they have of it from public.

This study proved that public image ultimately social status does affect the Perception and influence a choice of nursing profession of the school children.

A study was conducted on Measurement of students' perceptions of nursing as a career. Middle school has been identified as the prime age group to begin nursing recruitment efforts because students have malleable perceptions about nursing as a future career choice. An integrative review of the years 1989 to 2009 by CINAHL was conducted searching databases using the key words career, choice, future, ideal, nursing, and perception. Reference lists of retrieved studies were hand searched, yielding a total of 22 studies. Middle school students and high school students were the samples. Of the 10 studies, samples were 30% middle school students; 40% high school students; 10% mixed, including school-aged students; and 20% college students with an instrument tested in middle school students. Eighty percent of participants were Samples of white females may hinder generalization. Socioeconomic status was not consistently reported and may be an important factor with regard to perceptions of nursing as a career choice.

A study was conducted in 2010 at Kuala Lumpur on perception of nursing as a career choice among 84 secondary male students. The majority (90.5%) of the respondents were between the age 17 and 18 years. The results revealed that, career choice motivators ranked according to importance such as good salary(84.5%), stable job(76.2%), low stress (72.7%), opportunities for advancement (0%), respect(2.4%), flexible work hours(2.4%), autonomy(0%), doing something useful/meaningful (2.4%), enjoy/like the job(6.4%), power/leadership(48.8%), challenges(44.1%), travel opportunities/ work in other countries(40.5%)The study concluded that further national studies to be carried out to understand the students” and the public perception of nursing, be undertaken with a larger sample. Attempts should be made to work closely with career counselors and parents to refuse the myths and misconceptions about nursing and to promote the vast array of opportunities available in nursing.
This study speaks about criterion of the profession, No autonomy though leaders talk about professional autonomy, No respect and none agreed that there is chance for personal and professional advancements These reasons would be influencing them to choose a nursing profession. These reasons would help the researcher to prepare a check list for influencing factors.

A cross sectional survey study was conducted at Dade County, Florida USA\textsuperscript{21} on what high school students, think of a nursing career. From 10th and 11th-grade 700 students\textsuperscript{7} were included in the study. The results revealed that, the Scores from 14 to 56, the mean opinion score for the sample was 40.92\% and (SD =7.8). While age had no significant correlation with nursing opinion scores, they were influenced significantly by gender, the students' desired occupation, and the opinions of parents, friends, and guidance counselors. Although only 287 students selected nursing as their desired occupation. The study concluded that 119 (24.5\%) considered nursing one of their alternatives prior to making a decision. These findings have important implications for the recruitment of high school students into nursing profession. One fourth group had positive perception and parental and peer group influence may help them. These students would be eligible to choose or opt for nursing. Parent’s knowledge in this area need to be strengthened.

A Comparative Study on Knowledge and Attitude towards Nursing Profession among PCL and B.Sc. Nursing Students in a Selected Nursing Institute Pokhara by Devi Ashalata W. y Nepal\textsuperscript{22} among 183 (113 Proficiency Certificate Level and 70 Bachelor of Science) nursing students by using knowledge and attitude questionnaire on nursing profession. Results showed that both the groups of PCL and B.Sc. students, majority (94.69\% and 88.57\%) had fair knowledge about nursing profession. Majority (67.25\%) of the PCL students had negative attitude on there is no clear cut written policy for nursing profession in most of the nursing institutions and hospitals, whereas majority (78.57\%) of the B.Sc. students had positive attitude on the same statement. The study concludes that in both PCL and B.Sc. students, majority (94.69\% and 88.57\%) had fair knowledge about nursing, and had positive and negative
attitude on various statements towards nursing profession. Studies investigating students’ perception of nursing at the beginning of the nursing programme showed that the students had idealistic views of profession with concepts of caring, compassion and nurturing.

There is always dispute between diploma and degree students. Degree students are preferred for the job, they had ladder for promotions. had idealistic views, perception level declines as they progress year to year. Why? Need to find out

Vanhanen and Janhonen,\textsuperscript{23} and Mendez and Louis (1991),\textsuperscript{24} say that “nursing students do not always regards nursing as an ideal career.” Therefore the majority of nursing students perceive nursing as a career which offers opportunities in caring for people and the students also emphasized on employment opportunities while it (nursing) promotes their own personal growth students choose nursing for other reasons, like recruitment opportunities.

General, nursing is perceived favorably for its ability to provide security of job. It is important to ascertain how students perceive nursing and the decision to choose nursing to be their career or any other career is highly influenced by one’s previous ideas about the career. The society and media play a major role in influencing the image and ideas the student has of nursing career employment and a steady income. As mentioned earlier, it is perceived as a job that involves caring, nurturing and teaching it also required compassion, patience and strength Many males perceive nursing as involving working with complex technology and therefore consider nursing to offer career potential.

A charge nurse at Newham community children’s home by the name Andrew Mcgovern (2006)\textsuperscript{25} wrote an article which brought out the perception of the public on nurses. He said that the public view about nurses as people who take care of the sick and he adds in his own perspective, nurses care for people at every age, from before birth to death. He also says that nursing is not just a career but it is about making a difference to the patients and their family. As much as it will never be the most financially rewarding career, nurses remain to be the most recognizable health service symbol. Hard work, effective
communication skills and being practical and having the ability to work in a team and act as a leader are some of the characteristics a nurse requires.

A study was conducted on impact of the perceived public image of nursing on nurses’ work behavior among 346 nurses in Australia. The results were analyzed by t-test, polynomial regression and response surface analysis. The results revealed that the overall image of nurses i.e., self image mean was 4.96 and perceived public image mean was 4.48 and paired t-value was 13.22 at p=0.001. Leadership aptitudes i.e., Nurses self image mean was 4.88 and perceived public image mean was 4.17 and paired t-value was 16.46 Caring aptitude i.e., Nurses self image mean was 5.16 and perceived public image mean was 5.22 and the paired t-value was -1.29. Thus the study concluded that lack of understanding of nursing as a profession by the general public is a common phenomena that contributes to nurses turn over. It is important to improve the public image of nurses in order to mitigate the current nursing shortage and emphasize the importance of reinforcing in nurses.

This study would help as a guideline to adopt statistical method.

A quantitative descriptive study with a cross sectional study design was used for assessment of nurses’ perception towards nursing profession in public hospitals under Addis Ababa health bureau in Ethiopia by lay wondwossen in May 2011. The sample size was determined by using a formula for estimating a single population proportion. Sample size was 264. Data collection was carried out using structured questionnaire. The analyses were verified using descriptive interpretation for demographic variables. Bi-variate analysis was done to look at relationship between independent variables of Socio-demographic characteristics with the perception of nursing. On this model of analysis, Asmara nurses were 4.5 more likely to have good perception than other ethnic groups (COR=4.5, 95% CI 1.16 – 17.35). Nurses who had bachelor and masters of nursing had 1.76 times more likely to have good perception than nurses who had diploma educational level (COR=1.76, 95% CI 1.05 - 2.94). Nurses who had a monthly income above 2808ETB were 2.37 times more likely to have good perception than other nurses who had a monthly income of less than 2808.
ETB(COR=2.37, 95% CI 1.12 – 5.04). Professional Nurses at Gandi Memorial Hospital had slightly higher likelihood to have poor perception towards nursing profession than other nurses who work in other hospitals. (COR=0.20, 95% CI 0.08 – 0.49). After adjusting for all Socio – demographic characteristics, nurses who work in Gandi memorial hospital were also slightly more likely to have poor perception than other nurses who work in other hospitals. (AOR=0.15, 95% CI 0.05 – 0.43)

Regarding the Socio-demographic characteristics and perception of important aspects of nursing. Those nurses with Bachelor and Masters Degree were found to be 1.99 times more likely to perceive important aspects of nursing than other group of nurses who had diploma qualification. (COR=1.99, 95% CI 1.06 – 3.74). After adjusting more educated nurses, those who held first degree and second degree, had 2.59 times more likely to perceive important aspects of nursing than diploma Nurses. (AOR=2.59, 95% CI 1.12 – 5.97).

The results of this study is similar to previous studies. However as education was high,, knowledge score was good, perception was going towards positive. As it was comparative study, different statistical methods were used.

All the studies in the area of perception ,helped the researcher to develop the concept of perception towards nursing profession. Except one cohort studies none studies were done as researcher”s tproblem. However review of these studies heped the researcher to construct structured questionnaire on perception.

2-3. Studies regarding influencing factors to enroll in Nursing

According to Kerstern Barkwell, and Meyers students chose nursing related to five categories of reasons. In order of frequency students” reasons stemmed from a desire to nurture, meet emotional needs, employment opportunities, financial opportunities, and interest in science/disease.

Stevens and Walker reported the most frequent reason for college bound students to choose nursing was the desire to help people, followed by wanting to do important work and the desire to work with all kinds of people .Previous research studies, reported that most students decided to join nursing
profession because they had a desire to help others, and nursing was perceived as caring and serving humanity job; on contrary,

Lai HL\textsuperscript{30} et al 2006 conducted a study in Taiwan and found that 65.4\% of the nursing students would not choose nursing as career after graduation. Attitude of junior nursing students toward their future profession was alarming. Many of the students were not planning to practice nursing at beside nor did they consider quality bedside care a priority for their career. The students most frequently reported choosing nursing because of the availability of career opportunities, jobs security, salary, and interest in nursing. In their study, students identified pursuing further education as a career goal followed by “doing one”s best in nursing.\textsuperscript{31}

Several research studies reported that most of the nursing graduates are reluctant to join bed side nursing and those who joined it has not right attitude towards the profession.\textsuperscript{32} Each year of nursing study presents its own specific challenges and expectations of the profession. The negative experience of nursing students during clinical practice was a major contributor to the reasons why students choose to leave their chosen future profession.

A study of perception about nursing is that it is regarded as a career more suitable for females than male and this was found out from a research made in the University of Ontario Canada.\textsuperscript{33} The research was made from female and male nurses and non-nursing university students. It was found out that it is generally perceived by the society and stereotypes that male nurses are for example, gay, effeminate, less compassionate and caring than female nurses and it contributes negatively to the recruitment and retention of the nursing.

A study was conducted regarding perceptions of male nursing role with the samples of senior nursing students (n=90) at an undergraduate program in school of Health located in the north western Turkey. A questionnaire was used for data collection, which received a response rate of 97\%. The results revealed that, female nursing students (45.3\%) want to see males as staff nurses, while most of the male nursing students wanted to occupy administrative or instructor positions after graduation (34.3\%). Female and Male student”s perceptions about

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effects of males on image and status of nursing (p<0.01), both gender’s perceptions about nursing being only female profession (p<0.001) was statistically significant. Both genders consider nursing as a profession which has negative image in the public (80%). The study concluded that nursing continues to be seen as a female dominant position especially by male students despite the increasing number of men in nursing.

A descriptive cross-sectional design was used by Safadi R.R., Saleh M.Y.N., Nassar O.S., Amre H.M. & Froelicher E.S. in 2011. The study aimed to describe nursing students’ changing perception of nursing over 4 years of the nursing programme and examine whether perception differed by gender, previous study or choice of nursing education. With a probability sample of 606 students. Respondents were a random sample of 50% of each of the four educational cohorts studying within the academic year 2008–2009 in one baccalaureate nursing programme at a Jordanian public university. A specifically designed tool of statements of nursing definitions based on nursing theories, the nursing literature and socio cultural beliefs was used to identify student nurses” perception of nursing. The study sample (n = 606) consisted of a higher percentage of female students in the first year (74%, n = 121) compared with that in the fourth year (53%, n = 125). Most were Jordanian (97%, n = 585), with a mean age of 21 (1.66) years. A higher percentage of the students (74%, n = 447) had a high school sciences background, and 106 (17.5 students were bridging from an AD nursing programme. Only 54% (n = 328) of the students chose nursing as a university education priority.

Cohort study takes long duration as same students perception was changing each year. However this study is done at Jordan, which may differ with Indian culture, social, economical, status and criteri for admission also. This study helped the researcher for structuring questionnaire and check list for influencing factors also.

A study done by Raines (2010) brings out the fact that there are individuals who hold a baccalaureate degree in another field and they desire to change careers and more specifically to nursing and the factors that attracted
these individuals to nursing were three. These factors were to bring something in nursing, to seek work which is satisfying and to get the missing piece.. One of the many factors that influence people’s choices in life is having a career which is good and stable.

This study was different. Graduates in other faculties were again entering in nursing for a stable career.

A qualitative study done by Hsiu-Hung Wang, College of Nursing, Kaohsiung Medical University, Kaohsiung, Taiwan in 2011. The purpose of this study was to explore senior nursing students' perceptions toward the nursing profession and their experiences in clinical practicum in Taiwan. This study used semi structured interview guides and unstructured face-to-face dialogue with the participants based on a qualitative method. A purposive sample with a snowball method from a baccalaureate nursing program in Southern Taiwan was used to recruit participants. A total of 30 senior nursing students participated in this study. Data were collected from February to May 2011. The interviews were transcribed verbatim, and data were analyzed based on the phenomenological approach of qualitative methodology. Data were categorized into three major themes: in-depth recognition of nursing, recognition of the meaning and value of life, and decision conflicts for being a nurse. The findings of the study not only help nursing educators further understand the educational effects of clinical practicum, but also provide information for managers of medical organizations to recruit and train newly graduated nurses. That registered nurses and nursing students chose to study nursing because of the opportunity for caring and that it was their vocation in life which were congruent with the character and temperament found in the participants

In Qualitative study, sample size is small but it uses method like case study.

A study done in Hongkong School, indicated that that student’s decision to choose or not choose nursing was significantly influenced by factors like Gender, biology subject pursued, previous academic achievement and mother’s occupation and the students’ perception. The parents, the school teachers, friends, past experiences with career activities and working in hospital were
some of the influences that made the students have the intent to study nursing.\textsuperscript{38}

Kelly, Shoemaker, and Steele\textsuperscript{39} examined the motivational factors for males choosing a career in the predominantly female dominated field. The results revealed that the choice of a career in nursing was influenced by the following: job security/availability; desire to help people, professional autonomy, and previous contact with the healthcare system i.e. volunteering, working, family member and family support.

2.4 National Studies

A descriptive study to determine the knowledge and attitude towards Nursing Profession among male and female students in selected higher secondary schools at Gujarat. By H.T Dave\textsuperscript{40} the results showed that the student’s knowledge about Nursing was low. Female students showed slightly better knowledge than male. There was a positive attitude towards Nursing among students. However, the positive attitude was not transmitted into a desire to join Nursing. There was no significant difference in attitude among male and female students. Students from monthly high income group showed less positive attitude towards Nursing compared to medium and low income group students. This study is related to socio-economic status of students. High income group students will naturally opt for high status profession or females in Gujarat may not opt for job. Attitude was positive towards nursing profession but choice may not be as per financial status.

A cross sectional survey in state Punjab\textsuperscript{41} in 2011 by Anurag B. Patidar, Jasbir Kaur, Suresh K Sharma, Neeraj Sharma at Dayanand Medical College and Hospital, Jalandhar, patiala, nawashahar hoshiarpur and Ludhiana of the state Punjab regarding Future nurses' perception towards profession and carrier plans: This study was aimed to explore the perception of outgoing nursing students towards nursing profession and perceived future job orientation. Sample of 530 outgoing GNM, B. Sc. (N) and Post Basic B Sc Nursing students was recruited through proportionate stratified random sampling from conveniently selected twelve nursing colleges of Punjab State. Semi-structured questionnaire was administered to collect data. Descriptive Statistics (mean,
standard deviation and Percentage) was used to describe sample characteristics; inferential statistics (t-test, Anova, chi-square test) was used to identify group differences and association of selected socio-demographic variables with perception of nursing profession and future job prospective. Results shown sample characteristics mean age of outgoing nursing students was 22 ± 2.3 years. B. Sc. (n) and gnm group was slightly younger than pb b. Sc. (n) group. Female (96.2%) dominated over the male (3.8%) in study sample. Majority of the outgoing students were sikhs (74.3%) followed by hindus (15.6%), and christians and others (10.2%). More than half (55.1%) of the outgoing students were rural dwellers; on the contrary, slightly more than half (51.6%) of the students in b. Sc. (n) group were urban dwellers. Unmarried students (95.5%) outnumbered the married students (4.5%) in the present study. Nearly half of (49.6%) the outgoing nursing students were in first birth order; furthermore, same pattern was observed in all the three groups of the student. Annual family income of 43.8% of the outgoing nursing students was 1-3 lacs in rupees; almost the same percentage (42.3%) of the outgoing nursing students were having less than 1 lac rupees annual family income. Almost half of the students in b sc (n) and Pb b sc (n) group were having annual family income 1-3 lacs rupees whereas in gnm group, it was less than 1 lac rupees (p=0.000). Findings revealed that majority of the students (83.2%) were self motivated to join nursing. More than half (56%) of the outgoing nursing students were not having any family member or relative in nursing self motivated profession majority (99.1%) of the students, perceived nursing profession as an opportunity to serve humanity and a way to get due recognition in the society (69.6%). Two third of (69.4%) the nursing student perceived their profession as dignified and respectful as well as a way to get due recognition in society (69.6%). There was almost equal percent of the students who planned to join teaching (46.4%) and bed side nursing (45.5%) after completion of course. A vast majority (93.4%) of the students were not interested to change their profession. Male students were significantly more interested in bed side nursing as compared to female students (p=0.04). More than half of the urban students (52.5%) were interested to join
teaching followed by bed side nursing (39.5%); on contrary, the rural students were predominantly interested to join bed side nursing (50%) followed by 41.8% teaching job (p=0.039). The present study concluded that the perception of nursing profession among nursing students is changing towards positive side and majority of the students perceived that nursing is a profession with bright prospects and it provides due recognition.

A cross sectional study assessed the attitudes and perceptions of nursing professionals and their desired future practices by. Poreddi V, Ramachandra, Konduru R. The study was conducted using a modified version of Beliefs, Attitudes and Perceived Practice questionnaire among 129 students who were undergoing undergraduate nursing programme at a selected college of nursing in Bangalore. Data was analyzed and interpreted by using descriptive and inferential statistics. Forty-four (34.1%) of the subjects agreed that they were enrolled of their own interest; 43 (33.3%) of them reported that they enrolled in nursing out of their own interest and also to improve their financial situations.

An exploratory study was conducted regarding perception of gender in nursing profession among 78 senior nursing students at college of nursing Pondicherry, India. The results revealed that 42% of the female nurses preferred men to work as the instructors, 48% of the female students considered men as a staff nurses, but 40% of the male student’s intention was to occupy administration or 38% teaching post after the graduation. Thus the study concluded that to emphasize a nurse’s role identity without any gender segregations, because most of the male students thought that nursing is a female dominated profession

2.5. State Level studies

A Study to Assess the Knowledge and Attitude regarding Nursing Profession among Professional College Teachers in Karad in March 2013 by Mahesh B. Chendake, Vaishali R. Mohite, Manisha C. Gholap, to assess the knowledge & attitude of teachers towards nursing profession and to find the association between knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession with
selected demographic variables. It is also to find the co-relationship between knowledge and attitude towards nursing profession. Setting & Design: Professional colleges present in Karad city, Descriptive survey design. With Purposive Sampling Technique is used with sample size: 219. Tool: used was-Knowledge questionnaire-- Attitude questionnaire -analysis by “Instat”. Results: Mean, median of knowledge& attitude: 9.81, 10, 30.04, 30. Demographic data: Age group 20-23yrs. -135 (64%). Sex-female-117(53.42%). Educational status-post graduate-138(63.01%). Hindu religion-204 (93.15%). Marital status - married-128 (58.44%). type of family- Joint-141 (64.38%).Income-above 20000/PM-86 (39.44%). Place of residence-Rural-84 (38.35%). present post-Teacher-190 (86.75 %). Year of experience- less than five year-153 (31.09 %). Knowledge& attitude- correct response of the knowledge scale-2150(75.51%) Grading of knowledge-excellent -132(60.72%). Grading of Attitude scale-excellent -137(62.55%). Significant association-Type of family with knowledge Chi square: - 48.498, DF 4,P value <.0001. Correlation (Pearson r)-Correlation coefficient- (r) 0.3046, the two tailed P value is <0.0001, considered extremely significant. Conclusion- was overall knowledge excellent & attitude positive. There is significant correlation between knowledge & attitude..

In concluding review of literature it is of investigator’s opinion that many studies are done in abroad and less work is done in India and Maharashtra, Socio economical status, social and cultural values in Maharashtra and India, educational status of foreign countries and of India may be different thereby perception towards nursing profession also may be varied. Therefore this study would be significant to know Maharashtra students perception.and to know influencing factors in choice of nursing.profession.
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