

28th International Conference on

FAMILY NURSING & HEALTHCARE

September 11-13, 2017 San Antonio, USA

Characterizing health as planned happenstance

Cristina Noriega

Samuel Merritt University, USA

It is this author's goal to establish and explain a contextual understanding of the meaning of health. Healthcare as a mere treatment for disease is not in itself a human right. Humans are not born with an entitlement to receive medical services. This author will contend that human beings are entitled to and deserve a social structure that protects persons from unnecessary risk of disease and that allows for human health and well-being. Social entitlements include secure housing, fresh water, sanitation, fresh food, and a safe environment. The social infrastructures and technologies that have most greatly contributed to the quality of human health and life expectancy, are: Sanitation, environment, and vaccines. In the United States, many communities take for granted having these in place, however, many people in our country do not have access to potable water and lack environmental protections. Many healthcare providers recognize that the greatest factor that determines one's risk of a compromised life expectancy due to these conditions is poverty. This is a fundamental starting point for health care providers to exercise capacity in holding lawmakers more accountable regarding health laws and social conditions. Our current system relies on the acute care system to keep sick patients stable often because we lack the protective social systems that would keep people healthy. Therefore, a means of addressing this societal obligation is the provision of healthcare. However, our American paradigm with respect to healthcare delivery has to change for the sake of addressing the human health condition appropriately.

Biography

Cristina Noriega studied nursing at the University Of San Francisco, received a Master's Degree for her graduate studies in Healthcare Ethics at Creighton University in 2011 and is currently working on her doctoral studies in nursing at Bradley University. Cristina has worked in acute care at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, held various positions in solid organ transplant at UCSF, worked in community health at the City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Health, and has served as adjunct faculty for Samuel Merritt University for the past seven years.

crissynoriega@att.net

Notes: