Objective: To develop researches about esthetic knowledge by narrating histories of nursing revitalized by the Cordel Literature. Method: There was a qualitative and historical research that adopted the following guiding question: Is it possible to narrate the history of nursing by producing knowledge revitalized by the Cordel Literature? Primary sources were raised by using the referential inclusion criteria: historical texts, biographies, Cordel strings and others. A complex and creative process was used to form the material of the esthetic and string-shaped redefinition. Results: Several references were analyzed, such as papers, books, legislations and theses. The metrical pattern used was sextilha, thus producing a literary project containing four chapters and 28 strings. The participants on this research were the author herself, a Cordel consultant, and an illustrator and designer. Conclusion: Creative productions foster the scientific development, and the Cordel Literature allows producing knowledge and making historical-esthetical dissemination about the nursing field. Undoubtedly, this research about Cordel Literature has originality, innovation and creativity for the science-art. Descriptors: Nursing, history of nursing, research in nursing, education in nursing.

Muy bien, ¡qué pesquisa diferente! Histórias da enfermagem revitalizadas por la literatura de cordel


INTRODUCTION

In the time axis, the nursing profession has constructed its history through the hands of actors who perform the science and the art of caring. Nobody can list the pathways traveled for constructing Brazilian and world history of the profession of caring.

In the current context, the nursing, in spite of being considered science under construction, has important historical developments, such as the struggles to break the hospital-centered model, thus advocating the production of a comprehensive care and that enables multidisciplinary, creative and ludic activities. The nursing has made history in the promotion, protection, prevention, rehabilitation and recovery of health. This area of knowledge has fostered new care-related actions seeking development of creative skills and attitudes of its professional staff by producing esthetic knowledge.

Thus, when thinking about nursing as a science under construction and the need for researches related to production of esthetic knowledge, the author, who is a researcher of the issue of creativity, devised a study on narratives of the histories of nursing revitalized by the Cordel’s Literature.

The first sparkles took place in 2009, when researcher on a visit to Fortaleza, the capital of the Ceará State, was approached by creative repentistas (troubadours) and fluent history tellers of the local knowledge. Therefore, she has associated the profile of those enchanting singers to various historical moments experienced by the nursing field in the process of constructing its body of knowledge.

The insight emerged from the urgency to develop researches focused on the art of the nursing. Under this perspective, it was considered that researches conducted on behalf of esthetics are related to a flexible, sensitive, reflective and non-linear care, therefore, within full view of the elements of creativity and complexity.

Then, the initial idea was transformed into the research project “Histories of nursing in the universe of Cordel”, by relating it to the artistic scientificity of this field of knowledge. As for the framework, it was based on those who allow to discuss this scientificity, namely: The Science of Unitary Human Beings, authored by Martha Rogers; Systemic Theory of Creativity, authored by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, and Complexity Theory, elaborated by Edgar Morin.¹-³

In order to construct the foundation of knowledge on the behalf of nursing as a profession and discipline, further constructs are required.⁴ Accordingly, the struggle for nursing knowledge must be a constant within the fundamental standards of knowledge already identified and categorized - which are used to subsidize the designs of studies. Among these standards, one should highlight: the empirical knowledge that refers to the nursing science; the moral knowledge related to the ethics of the nursing profession; the
personal knowledge that enables studies on its own therapeutic use and esthetic knowledge that subsidizes the work on the art of the nursing. 5, 6

Specifically in relation to esthetic knowledge, due to its importance, the current time is a supportive scenario to the development of further scientific studies. This new time seems to be conducive to the development of studies related to the standard of knowledge of the art of the nursing. For example, in the field of qualification, with the onset of the National Curriculum Guidelines for the Nursing Course (DCN), the assumptions of DCN emphasize nursing training related to comprehensive care; in order to overcome the image of the technicist professional, by giving way to that one who operates by means of its humanizing, transforming, creative and critic potential. 7

The current curriculum, which adopts a new approach targeted to produce critical and reflective professionals in the Graduation Nursing Courses, highlights important aspects of the paradigmatic change that is related to the dialogical and esthetic knowledge, such as active methodologies. Within this vision of dynamic praxis, the nursing professional has played an important role as an actor in the historical process, when developing its creative potential through skills, creativity and attitudes. 8, 9

The history has a dynamic nature, and its nature is full of complexity and subjectivity. Currently, it is possible to identify the tendency to narrate the history of nursing in many forms, revitalized by strategies, such as the narratives in other parlance. The nursing professional is an important stakeholder in the construction of the history itself, and it should make maximum use of its creativity to develop nursing skills and praxis, which is known as science-art for a long time. 8, 10

The current context, considering the esthetic standard of knowledge, is boosted by the quest to innovate and renew itself, undoing the certainties in the movement of construction and deconstruction as a continuous learning process. Thus, the creativity of the nursing professional is an important element in the production of care. It is impossible for the human being to live/coexist and act without creativity, but it is possible to increase the number of creative people. 11 Therefore, the research that makes association between creativity and nursing can contribute to the development of creative potential and esthetic knowledge. 8, 10

The universe of nursing requires from all its professionals - nurses, nursing technicians and nursing assistants - skills, attitudes and a reflective, critical, creative and complex profile, because of the variety situations and problems hard to be solved. 8, 10 The teaching and practice of nursing can be creative and enjoyable, thus encompassing the full dimension of care, as advocated by researchers who study creativity and nursing. 8, 11 Added up to this line of research, there are other areas of knowledge focused on the scientific development of the Cordel genre. 12, 13

Regarding the justification and relevance, this research shows several histories of nursing in the Cordel’s parlance (string), by highlighting: the importance of class institutions and the struggle for professional development; profile and performance of notable personalities who worked (in the past) and work (at the present time), facts, achievements and other information that facilitate the historical understanding of this social practice - both for nursing professionals and for the general population.
Alright, this research is different!

It is important to mention that this study was developed in a research group registered in the Core for Studies on Education, Health Promotion and Inclusive Projects (NESPROM-UnB), of which the author is a member. The study was outlined in the research line: Creativity, Teaching, Thinking and Creative Personality. In addition to the researcher, the study participants were the NESPROM coordinator, a consultant in the field of Cordel, an illustrator and graphic designer.

The proposition of the research “Histories of nursing revitalized by the Cordel Literature” is justified by the need to construct and reconstruct the esthetic knowledge, by considering that the historical process is dynamic. Thus, the area of nursing knowledge, when based on the issue of creativity, can provide to the science a possibility of meaning the trajectory experienced by this profession, by narrating the history in other parlance.

The idea for this study, captured by an innovative gaze in 2009, contributed to the scientific approach that involves the triad of scientific requirements: having a relevant issue for the profession and the society in general, researcher's interest and originality.

OBJECTIVES

In the challenge of producing esthetic knowledge in nursing and developing this research, the following objectives were established:

- To identify the production of history of nursing related to the esthetic knowledge in the string-shaped parlance and in illustrations;
- To produce esthetic knowledge derived from the string-shaped parlance and from illustrations produced on the history of nursing;
- To discuss the possibility of the meaning of the esthetic knowledge elaborated to the history of nursing.

METHOD

This is a qualitative research and that makes use of some important facts of the history of nursing, by giving new meaning to them and reintroducing them in other forms of parlance: Cordel Literature and imagetic material. The study was conducted in the period from 2009 to 2012, whose process was designed by considering the following stages of data collection, analysis and dissemination: pre-production of knowledge, production of string-shaped esthetic knowledge and publication of results.

Concerning the stage of pre-production of knowledge, initially it was held the survey of the framework. The adopted guiding question for this study was: Is it possible to narrate the history of nursing by using creativity and produce esthetic knowledge based on the Cordel Literature? As for the strategy of seeking the framework, the sources in books, papers, photos and other documents were surveyed for performing the initial study of the history of nursing and, subsequently, one can generate the esthetic knowledge revitalized by the Cordel’s parlance.
The criteria for inclusion of framework were: texts on the history of Brazilian and world nursing, biographies of personalities of nursing, varied string literature, information from sites of nursing schools that have laboratories of the history of nursing and of the respective research groups registered in the National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq).

The selected references on the history of nursing have grounded the construction of the string-shaped knowledge and of the imagetic material, by following the specific requirements of the work of the string-shaped parlance, such as the vocabulary, standardization, structuring of the verses and lots of imagination. The studied material was critically, reflectively and creatively treated, through various readings to seize the meanings of the esthetic knowledge in nursing and the relationships in the string-shaped historical redefinition.

The material selected to compose this study was analyzed in the light of the following strands: Theory of Unitary Human Beings, by Martha Rogers, Systemic Theory of Creativity, by Mihaly Csikszentmihalyi, and Complexity Theory, by Edgar Morin.1-3

To that end, the stage of production of esthetic knowledge was subdivided into three steps. In the first step of research, which made use of the creative process to construct new knowledge, the histories of nursing in free verses were outlined. There was a continuous interaction between the author and the illustrator and graphic designer, in an artistic environment, thus fostering the imagetic conception related to the esthetic string-shaped learning.

Regarding the second step, the work was held through the use of the foundations of the creative process and of complexity, by using the Principle of Re-introduction of the Cognizing Subject as an cognitive operator of the complex thinking, which emphasizes the important role of the researcher/observer in the action-reflection-action, for redefinition of skills, by using the own creative potential and subjectivities. This cognitive operator enabled the construction of the fully string-shaped historical and esthetic material on nursing. In order to structure the strings, we obtained the consultancy of a researcher of the Cordel Literature.

Concerning the third step, we organized the result of this research in string-shaped parlance, by including the production of images, which is a constructed material of paramount importance to discuss the meaning of the history of nursing referenced by standard of esthetic knowledge.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We analyzed 85 references, 60 of them were focused on the history of nursing, 08 on Cordel Literature, 15 on creativity and ludicity and 02 on health. The analyzed references consisted of 47 papers and other scientific texts, 24 books, 09 legislations, 03 dissertations and 02 theses. The framework was written in the Portuguese language (Brazil and Portugal) and English. The authors consisted of nurses, linguists, poets and other professionals. We
also worked with material collected from 40 internet sites, rhyming dictionaries and a vocabulary in nordestinês (slangs from the Brazilian Northeast), photographs relating to nurses who assisted in the composition of the character profiles and illustrations.

As a result of the research, it has revealed the history of nursing inspired by the creativity, rhythm, musicality, spontaneity, imagination and literary freedom that compose the Cordel Literature. When researching, we opted for the standardization of sextilha (stanza with six verses), by giving rise to 28 strings and 65 images, which were organized into four thematic axes.

The first thematic axis was titled Histories of characters/actors of Nursing, composed of the following strings: Oh! Beautiful history of the Brazilian nursing; Nurse Florence and the miracle of the lamplight; Anna Nery, the courageous Bahia’s woman who became nurse in the war; Nurses, Brazilian, pioneering - a historical string; Haydée, the gold star that shone in the nursing field; The nurse who even defied Lampião to defend the profession; the incredible history of the nurse who discovered Brasília.

Regarding the second thematic axis, called Histories of the struggles of nursing, the produced strings are the following: Histories of the struggles of nursing: The battle of the nurse-doctor against the haunt of miasmas; The battle of Alfredo Pinto and Anna Nery for dealing with nursing; Memories of typical nurses-stars of Goiás; Remarkable meeting: the cordelist and the historians of nursing; Movement “Participation”: changed the history of nursing and did not expect to happen.

In the third thematic axis called Social, political and educational histories, the following strings were organized: The association that has history to rhyme and the bellows of the accordion to vibrate; Alright, a good advice for nursing; Nursing at the platform faces life and death of Severina; the nurse-doctor who invented a school inside the computer; Raimunda Germano kicks out the traditional guidebook; Nursing journals visit the Cordel’s House; Oh! The symbolism of nursing is prettiness; May (on) verses: Nurses’ Day.

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About the fourth thematic axis, which is highlighted as Several histories about nursing, it is composed of the following strings: The nurse who wore a leather hat to compose strings; Cordel of the wise nursing; The day in which the creativity cheered the nursing through the hands of Lygia Paim; The day in which the breast milk faced the bottle; The holy remedy of the miraculous syrup (garapa); The revolt of navels against the evil of the seven days; Finally, making strings, a story without end; Cordel involving nursing and imagination with our people.

Regarding the string-shaped conception of the thematic axes, in order to ensure the meaning of the worked parlance, the vocabularies, terms and expressions of the northeastern culture were preserved, by considering that the research should have the material and creative truth of the universe of Cordel.
Silva O.

Alright, this research is different!...

With respect to the plastic conception, the artist participating in the study created 65 exclusive and original images, by using a technique called (India) ink on paper, which was applied in all illustrations. Four images were selected to illustrate this paper, which will be presented below, due to the relevance that they have for the history of nursing.

The images to be presented address an imagetic material articulated to the produced strings. They are important contributions to esthetic knowledge of the history of nursing and are organized as Figure 01, Figure 02, Figure 03 and Figure 04.

Accordingly, the first image (Figure 01) refers to Florence Nightingale, the protagonist of the string “Nurse Florence and the miracle of the lamplight”. In the imagetic conception, Florence is presented clothed with a dress and has her head adorned by a veil, in a stylized modeling that refers to the context of the string. It is noteworthy to highlight that the veil is considered an element of composition of the construction of the nurse’s image.17

The image of Figure 01 also highlights another symbolic element related to Florence: the lamplight. According to the history of nursing, the meaning of this object is strongly linked to Florence due to her performance in caring to war-wounded people. The lamplight has granted to the nurse at stake the title of “The Lady of the Lamplight”. Henceforth, she became a symbol of notable meaning in the nursing profession.

The second image (Figure 02) refers to an important personality for the Brazilian Nursing: Anna Nery. Her history is narrated in the string “Anna Nery, the courageous Bahia’s woman who became nurse in the war”. In the imagetic conception, Anna Nery is presented clothed with a dress that has applied to its sleeve another symbol that is found within the history of nursing: the cross. The symbol of the cross is considered a representative code for the nurse’s image, given that it is a strong symbolic brand, both by secular or religious meaning assigned by those who used it.17

In the image (Figure 02), Anna Nery is performing a careful action with regard to the preparation of infusions and medications derived from herbs, which was important in the care to the wounded of the Paraguayan War.

Figure 01 - Illustration related to Florence Nightingale, the protagonist of the string “Nurse Florence and the miracle of the lamplight”.

Figure 02 - Illustration related to Anna Nery, the courageous Bahia’s woman who became nurse in the war.

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Alright, this research is different!

The third image (Figure 03) refers to the lamp, which is a strongly representative symbolic object of the nursing profession. The image of the lamp produced in this research was stylized by means of the use of esthetic traits that refer to specific designs of the Cordel Literature. The symbolism applied to nursing is expressed in the COFEN Resolution nº 218/99, including the lamp. This symbol in the history comes from the action of Florence, who used a lamp, to care of wounded people. The image of the lamp is linked to several strings produced in this research.

The fourth image (Figure 04) refers to the role of nursing nowadays, i.e., at this moment historical that requires creativity, dialogue, exchange of knowledge and energy, mutual participation and other aspects from professionals. In the contemporary world, marked by complexity, health is a precious good and the act of caring is produced from the health promotion, in network. Thus, Figure 04 represents a scene from the production of esthetic knowledge in action, collectively constructed, by using creativity.

In the discussion, it is emphasized that similar proposals of the research at stake mean breaks and relevant changes - and necessary - in the nursing field, whose principle is taking care of the person in its entirety, however, the biological dimension is still prioritized.
Silva O.

Alright, this research is different!

Scholars on this matter show reflections on important constructs in nursing, based on concepts, as well as on scientific and technological concerns that influence the construction process. Nursing has been referred to as a science under construction due to the difficulty to overcome epistemological issues, achieve the status of science and define the corpus *doutrinae*. 4-6;19

This is a challenge that can be understood through the quest of the substantiation in the assumptions of creativity and science of complexity, because both contribute to the discussion of the challenge of change, address the practice, reflection and social transformation, thus opposing the reductionist view of the linear and fragmented ideas.

Investigations revitalized by art mean scientific advancement of the profession, when relating the flexible, sensitive, non-linear and non-deterministic care contained in the principles of creativity and complexity. 5,8-13 Accordingly, the esthetic construction requires action-reflection-action from the researcher, who, when using the cognizing cognitive operator, can redefine the knowledge guided in creative and complex processes.

Professionals need uneasiness, creativity, subjectivities and complex thinking to innovate, narrate, tell and retell, construct and reconstruct the science-art. 7,13 Nursing as a science under construction is “on-the-ways-of-doing”. 19

This is the argument to discuss the possibility of the meaning of the esthetic knowledge in constructing the history of nursing and develop studies using the Cordel Literature as parlance option to tell in an innovative way the history of nursing.

During the preparation of this study, the identified limit was the almost nonexistent scientific production by linking nursing and Cordel Literature, which significantly hinders the discussion of results, because of the lack of the knowledge based on this thematic.

That is why there is the proposal for the dissemination of results and the democratization of the knowledge constructed from the string-based histories of nursing for nurses professionals and other workers, since the work transcends the universe of this profession. Moreover, the plan is to perform workshops on literary production and lectures focused on issues related to the project: Cordel Literature, history of nursing and creativity in health.

Creativity is a universal and distinctive element of the human being, thus requiring ideal conditions for stimulation and development. The creative productions of nursing foster the esthetic knowledge and the development of the profession.

Nursing as a science, discipline and profession in the process of constructing the body of knowledge has its history marked in the scientific community, through constant struggles in order to build a consistent theoretical background.

The esthetic knowledge constructed by the creative and complex process attracts the reader to the historiography and historicity of the occupation at stake. It is considered that this research project based on the Cordel genre to narrate histories from the world of
nursing facilitates the historical understanding of nursing to professionals and society in general.

The proposition of narrating string-shaped histories is innovative and unique, i.e., relevant to nursing and to the Brazilian culture. The meaning of the esthetic knowledge produced in this research is relevant to the historical, social, artistic, political and cultural heritage in the field of the nursing knowledge.

The results from this investigation will undoubtedly contribute to discuss the standard of the esthetic knowledge and the narrative of the history of nursing. The search for histories of nursing based on the Cordel Literature is an innovation to elaborate important esthetic constructs for nursing as a profession and discipline.

Lastly, the results of this research show differences such as originality, technology, innovation and creativity; and the built knowledge will support further studies to be developed on the behalf of the esthetic knowledge in nursing.

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REFERENCES