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Assignment

Research Proposal

Notes:

1. The page limit of this assignment is **20 pages** (including the cover page), excluding references, tables, figures, and appendices.
2. At least 6 peer-reviewed journal articles in total have to be cited in your proposal. At least 3 journal articles have to be published no earlier than January 1, 2003.
3. Your written proposal and oral presentation (4 minutes) will be graded together. One of your classmates will evaluate your presentation and give an oral critique right after your presentation (no more than one minute).
4. To promote your learning experience, it is strongly suggested to use a quantitative research design for your proposal.

The Research Proposal

- **Title and the cover page**
- **Abstract (limited to one page)**
- **Introduction:** The purpose of the research and statement of the problem are introduced, with background information substantiating the need for the study. Terms are defined conceptually and operationally. Hypotheses or questions that directly address the specific aims are presented in testable form.
- **Review of the literature and theoretical framework:** Relevant literature from nursing and related fields is reviewed to show awareness of knowledge extant in the area, and to demonstrate that the investigator has considered a range of possibilities for investigating the problem. The description of the study should show clearly how the study will extend previous findings. The theoretical rationale for the hypotheses or research questions is made explicit.
- **Methods:** Including **sample** (The parameters of the study population, sample selection procedure, size and rationale, as well as any limitations are described. Adequate scientific reasons for choosing the sample are stated), **instruments** (The research instruments for collecting data with a view to their appropriateness to the research at hand is presented. Information regarding their validity and reliability is included), **procedure** (The research design and data collection methods, including details of the setting, procedures, steps taken to control for extraneous variables, nature of the treatment to be administered, if any, and type of data to be obtained are described. Describe any procedures, situation and/or materials in the proposed research that may be hazardous to humans or, if applicable, animals. Describe precautions to be exercised and steps taken to protect rights of participants and for obtaining their informed consent), and **plan for data analysis** (The means by which the data will be analyzed and/or interpreted are specified in relation to each hypothesis or research question).
- **Writing skills:** Professional appearance (references being cited in the text in the APA format, neatly types, well-organized, no editing needed, etc.), clarity and conciseness of writing
- **Presentation skills:** Clarity and persuasiveness of the presentation, professional presentation skills, and ability to stay within the time limits prescribed