

The Impact of Nursing Students' Cultural Diversity on the Intention and Attitudes Towards the Use of Information Technology (IT)

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Abstract: This research highlights the challenge for nursing educators in understanding, developing awareness, and preparing strategies to manage the impact of nursing students' cultural diversity on the relationship between the intention to use computer and attitudes, self-efficacy, innovativeness, and threat and challenge.

Keywords: Cultural diversity, Attitudes, Information Technology, Nursing students, Innovativeness, Self-efficacy, Threat

1. The purpose of this study:

Examining some cultural characteristics amongst nursing students in an Israeli academic center, concerning the use of Information Technology (IT).

2. Methods:

This is a quantitative study, with the sample of 102 nursing students. We assessed the difference between three groups of students: Ultra-orthodox Jewish, Secular Jewish and Arabs students, on their subjective perceived knowledge and expertise in using a multitude of software programs.

3. Results and discussion

Ultra-orthodox Jewish students felt more threatened by using IT. Arab and Secular Jewish students reported overall software knowledge on a high level, and were mostly willing to assimilate innovations. They also had more positive attitudes and self-efficacy. This study provides some valuable insights about how culture, religion, and education may influence nursing students' attitudes toward Information Technology.

4. Summary

Nursing education today is facing new challenges with the emergence of the Internet and other information and communication technologies. The call for the transformation of nursing education is imperative. The learning environment extends beyond the classroom and establishing a learning culture is essential to the future of nursing education and the facilitation of lifelong learning. This research highlights the challenge for nursing educators in identifying the factors, understanding, developing awareness and preparing strategies to manage the impact of nursing students' cultural diversity on the relationship between the intention to use computer and attitudes, self-efficacy, innovativeness, and threat and challenge.

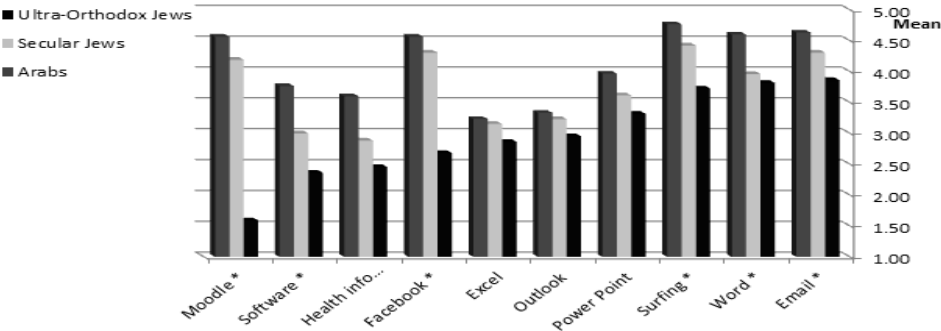


Figure 1: Differences between the groups pertaining to perceived knowledge of different software programs

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