

MORAL COURAGE ACROSS THE BSN CURRICULUM

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BACKGROUND

- Higher rate of cheating among nursing students than any other discipline
- Correlation between students who are dishonest and dishonest professional nurses
- State Boards of Nursing in several states have an increasing number of disciplinary actions reflecting loss of moral compass

PURPOSE

- Assess moral courage among BSN nursing students.

SAMPLE

- N= 42
- Males= 8 Females = 34
- Age range= 18- 50
- Caucasian= 28, African American= 3, Hispanic= 5, American Indian= 1, Asian= 5.
- Practiced Religion: Christianity= 32, Buddhism= 1, Judaism= 1, Agnostic/Atheist= 6, Spiritual= 1.
- Junior level= 8 Senior level= 34

PRELIMINARY RESULTS

You witness a fellow student cheating on his/her Pharmacology exam. How likely are you to report this event to your instructor?

Answer	Response	%
Very Unlikely	1	2%
Unlikely	1	2%
Somewhat Unlikely	3	7%
Undecided	1	2%
Somewhat Likely	9	21%
Likely	21	50%
Very Likely	6	14%

A friend confides in you and a group of other students about wanting to use a friends' old research paper instead of writing their own. How likely are you to tell them, in front of the entire group, that this displays academic dishonesty?

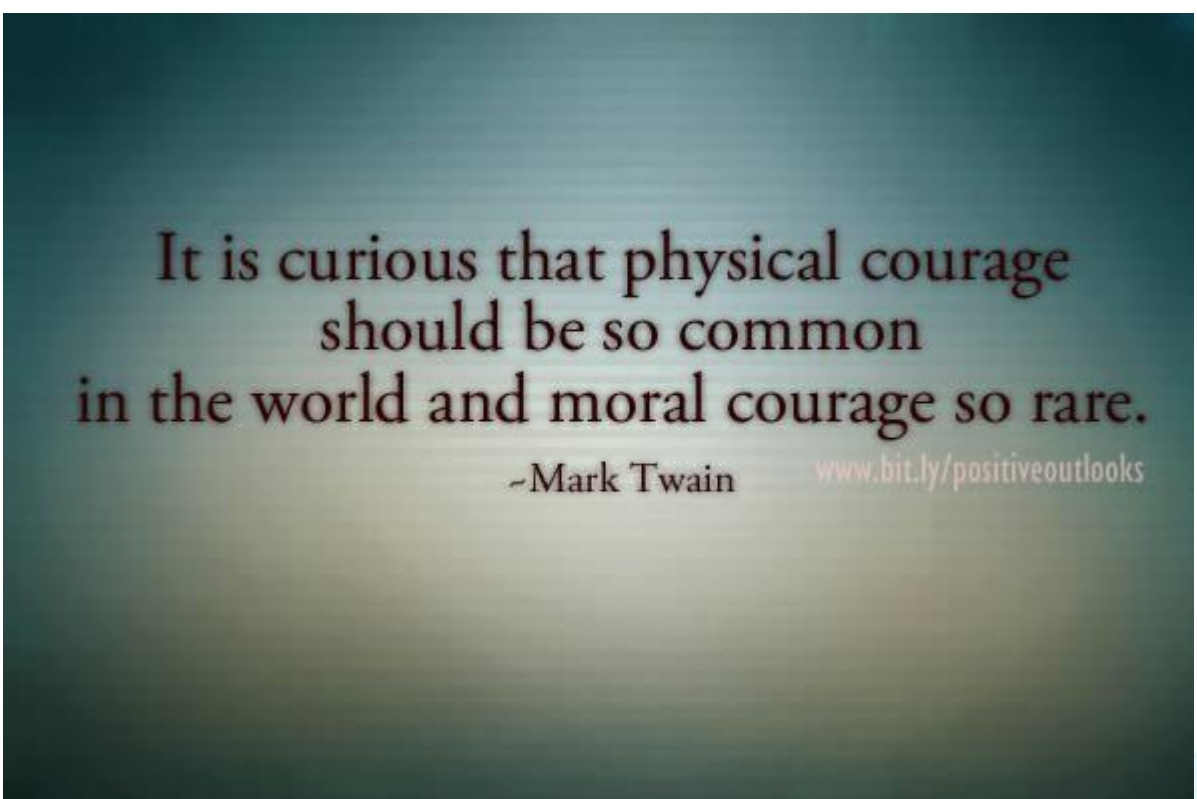
Answer	Response	%
Very Unlikely	1	2%
Unlikely	2	5%
Somewhat Unlikely	5	12%
Undecided	1	2%
Somewhat Likely	4	10%
Likely	13	31%
Very Likely	16	38%

You are at your clinical facility and witness your patient's nurse put the patient's scheduled narcotic in their pocket, you follow the nurse to the patient's room to watch the administration technique, but do not see the nurse give the narcotic to the patient. How likely are you to approach the nurse after exiting the patient's room?

Answer	Response	%
Very Unlikely	2	5%
Unlikely	0	0%
Somewhat Unlikely	2	5%
Undecided	4	10%
Somewhat Likely	7	17%
Likely	11	26%
Very Likely	16	38%

METHODS

- Survey of BSN Students in Sophomore thru Senior year
- 3 different Universities in different geographical locations
- Online Survey via Qualtrics



DISCUSSION

- More information is needed as to why some students choose to not address nurses when unethical behavior is observed.
- Implementation of moral courage within the curriculum
 - Lecture v. SIM
- Empowerment training
- Conflict resolution training