News on nursing in the media

Are nurses getting the respect they need to save lives?

April 30, 2020

Headlines

1. Front-line nurses urge Covid-19 skeptics to wake up

2. CBS on White House protest by nurses over lack of PPE to treat Covid-19

3. Who could resist being a “rape-kit nurse”?

4. Nurses show skill and some authority in early seasons of Chicago Med

5. NPR pieces show how nursing research helps children and mothers

6. Sign our petition for more PPE!

7. The latest on Covid-19: our masks, our faces, not least, our colleagues

8. In-person speaking engagements on hold for a while, but you can still book an online engagement for nurses week or graduation now!


HELP US BRING NURSING RESPECT
Don’t show up, don’t come out

Front-line nurses urge Covid-19 skeptics to wake up

In April 2020, U.S. nurses appeared in the media to tell the public why Covid-19 must be taken seriously and managed with social distancing measures. An anonymous California nurse did that forcefully in an installment of the Guardian’s “ER Diaries” series, explaining that Covid patients were pushing his hospital to the brink. And on PBS’s NewsHour a Miami nurse manager likewise pleaded for distancing, describing how challenging it is to stay safe while providing critical care.

We are not heroes

CBS on White House protest by nurses over lack of PPE to treat Covid-19

An April 2020 CBS News piece reported that National Nurses United had held a protest in front of the White House about the lack of personal protective equipment (PPE). The union argues that the CDC has weakened its standards for PPE, that OSHA has likewise failed to act, and that Congress and the White House have not mandated the production of enough PPE or testing supplies.
Who could resist being a “rape-kit nurse”?  
*The New York Times*, and its headlines, on women and men in nursing

One *Times* opinion piece ably explains the need for more sexual assault forensic nurses. Another looks at barriers to men entering nursing. But both 2017 items have clickbait headlines that reinforce stereotypes and call into question why *anyone* would become a nurse.

Gotta keep ‘em from killing people

*Nurses show skill and some authority in early seasons of Chicago Med*

The first two seasons of the NBC hospital drama (2015-2017) focused on physician characters, and they did at times suggest that physicians direct nurses’ clinical care. But they also showcased the important roles of three skilled nurse characters: the wise hospital executive Sharon Goodwin, the authoritative ED charge nurse Maggie Lockwood, and the competent ED staff nurse April Sexton.
Young Americans

NPR pieces show how nursing research helps children and mothers

A May 2017 report addressed how “napping pods” can ease the effects of sleep deprivation on high school students. And an August 2017 piece described research finding that many postpartum nurses are ill-prepared to educate new mothers about risks to their health. Both reports show how nursing research can improve health.

Read more...

Adapting to a new world:
Strategies for Covid-19 care

The latest on Covid-19

Best ways to sanitize a mask  How to prevent facial damage from PPE  In memoriam of our colleagues

See the article  See the article  See the article
Speaking engagements

See Sandy Summers in Florida in August 2020

On August 21, 2020, Truth About Nursing founder and director Sandy Summers will be the keynote speaker at the Florida Nurse Practitioner Network (FNPN) conference in Orlando. The FNPN's theme for this, its 17th conference, will be "2020: The Year NP's Inspire, Innovate & Motivate." If you can, please come see Sandy and be inspired! The conference will be held at the Orlando World Center Marriott.

See Sandy Summers in Nebraska in November 2020

On November 6, 2020, Truth About Nursing director Sandy Summers will give the keynote address at the Nebraska Action Coalition-Future of Nursing's Fall Leadership / Culture of Health Conference. Sandy will also give a shorter presentation at the 40 Under 40 Emerging Nurse Leaders’ Award Ceremony. The conference will be held at the Holthus Convention Center in York, Nebraska. Please come see Sandy if you can!
Nurses week events thrown into the air? The Truth About Nursing's founder and executive director can give an online presentation!

Let Sandy Summers, RN, MSN, MPH, empower your nurses and help them fully embrace their autonomy!

Patients deserve better protection. Let Sandy help your nurses and students fully embrace their autonomy to strengthen nursing care, reduce errors and improve care! Sandy speaks widely to a variety of international nursing groups. Click here to see details and book her today!

Book Sandy Summers for Nurses Week Now!
Ask U.S. federal officials to get nurses more PPE and Covid-19 tests instead of leaving nurses without proper protection.

Unbreakable Kimmy Schmidt: "Thank God for stupid nurses"

After 348 tries, Grey’s Anatomy portrayed a nurse doing the nursing work of educating a patient. Encourage Grey’s to continue and bring on more nurse characters to do the nursing instead of the surgeons who almost always do it.

Cardi B needs education as to why the naughty nurse damages the nursing profession.

Should biologists oversee nurses? The NIH thinks so. Join our campaign!

Inside Amy Schumer used vicious anti-nurse stereotypes.

The Good Doctor strongly reinforces the stereotype that nurses are low-skilled physician lackeys who are barely involved in hospital
barely involved in hospital care.

Google
Ascension

Project Nightingale

Don't let this be a search result for "Nightingale."
"New Google / Ascension project has already breached nursing's data security.

Netflix and Ryan Murphy plan two-season TV origin story for Nurse Ratched, one of the most damaging anti-nurse stereotypes in history, releasing this fall.

Family Feud uses naughty nurses and battleaxes as a mainstay of its "jokes"
We can turn $5/month into a more empowered nursing profession. Join us?

Presentations

How can nurses become fierce advocates?

Sandy Summers delivered an empowering message to new graduates at graduation speech at Widener University’s Nightingale ceremony last week.

In a short, compelling address, Sandy Summers welcomes new graduates to the field of nursing and inspires them to become fierce patient advocates—to put patients’ interests first. Sandy explains her holistic vision of nursing advocacy and shares strategies to help nurses find their voices. She highlights areas in need of our advocacy and offers perspectives on how to overcome the resistance we meet when we challenge the world to do better. Nursing advocacy saves lives, and our patients need us to do it. So please join Sandy and let’s get started!

See the speech!

Can you please donate $5 or $10 per month to support our work? Thank you!
Professors

Planning your curriculum?

We have ideas

Many nursing professors rely on the extensive and varied materials on the Truth's website to help their students engage with critical issues nurses will face in the future, from their public image to key aspects of nursing education, practice, and advocacy. Since 2001, we have explored and analyzed how the global media and society in general has seen the nursing profession. Join your colleagues and use this material to help plan your curriculum! Please consider some of these ideas...

See our curriculum ideas...

Books

Imagine a world where nurses were fully empowered to protect patients

Get an author-signed copy of Saving Lives for you or a friend

_Saving Lives_ is the transformative book acclaimed by nurses, nursing leaders, scholars, and the media. It can help your friends, colleagues, and students be the strong nurses our profession needs to protect patients from errors, injuries, and disease. See
patients from errors, injuries, and disease. See praise for *Saving Lives: Why the Media's Portrayal of Nursing Puts Us All at Risk* by leaders in nursing and the media as well as the awards it has earned, including three Book of the Year awards from the *American Journal of Nursing* and an award from Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society of Nursing. The updated second edition from Oxford University Press is now available! All donations and royalties go directly to support The Truth About Nursing, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Thank you for your support!

Think about the future

New international text *Nurses and Nursing* leads off with chapter by Truth leaders

The exciting new textbook *Nurses and Nursing: The Person and the Profession* includes a chapter on nursing's image by Truth leaders Sandy Summers and Harry Jacobs Summers. Edited by Padraig O Luanaigh, RN, EdD, the thought-provoking new textbook from Routledge "draws on international contributors with a range of backgrounds to explore, engage with and challenge readers in understanding the many aspects and elements that inform and influence contemporary nursing practice." Our chapter is "Nursing's public image: Toward a professional future." We thank Dr. Luanaigh for the opportunity to be a part of this important new project. Please consider this book for your classes in professionalism, nursing and society, and nursing leadership. Click here to request a free copy for review now! See more about the book here...
Change the world with us!

Your support is what makes it possible for us to improve public understanding of nursing -- one media image at a time. Please make a generous donation today. Thank you!

Join the effort to bring nurses more respect!

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