



Recebido em 10-07-2017 Aprovado em 14-07-2017

## Como citar este artigo

Braga RMS. [História de vida de enfermeiras brasileiras contribuições para o desenvolvimento da enfermagem]. Hist enferm Rev eletrônica [Internet]. 2017;8 (1):45-7.

## Life Story of Brazilian Nurses Contributions to the development of Nursing

## Rosa Maria Souza Braga<sup>I</sup>

PhD student in the Post-Graduation Program in Education at Universidade Estadual do Rio de Janeiro (PROPED / UERJ). Member of the Laboratório de Educação e República (LER), linked to the research line Institutions, Educational Practices and History (PROPED / UERJ). Pedagogue in the position of Technical in Educational Affairs at the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro and teacher of basic education at the Municipal Department of Education of Rio de Janeiro.

As a deliberation of the 67th Congresso Brasileiro de Enfermagem, held between October 27 and 30, 2015, in São Paulo, the publication is part of the Ibero-American Collection of Nursing History Alma Carrasco, whose goal is to edit books on history of nurses from Spain, Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, Paraguay, Chile, Peru and Uruguay. The publication in matter is the result of a partnership between the Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem (ABEn) and the Ibero-American Network of Nursing History.

The selection of the biographies was the result of analysis, within ABEn, that, democratically, aimed to indicate nurses, from different Brazilian regions, involved in the construction of Nursing in Brazil, in relation to care, research, as well as political-representative issues. The criteria examined covered aspects of the contribution with ABEn, including today; of the participation of the board of directors of the institution between the years of 1926 and 1986; recognition in the field of Nursing; the contribution to the aggrandizement of the institution and of Nursing in Brazil, as well as the acceptance for participation in the work and the publication of the biography.

Both in relation to the organization of the text and to the authorship of the articles, these are Nursing professionals, with insertion in the scope of the History of Brazilian Nursing research, with a trajectory marked by assistance, teaching and acting in class entities. Because of these aspects, it is possible for the reader to identify a permeability in writing that expresses the look of those who circulate through different spaces of the profession.

Contrasting other biographies, the work focuses on narratives of nurses who, even with a long career, maintain an involvement with Nursing, especially ABEn. Due to this aspect, from the point of view of the biographies, the reader is offered a historical scenario of Nursing, which crosses much of the 20th century and reaches the present day. In this perspective, in addition to leading the reader to the nurses' life histories, the narratives reveal underlying issues, among them, gender relations, which expose the challenges imposed on women as mothers, wives and professionals. The memories also touch upon the creation of important institutions in the field, such as the growth of ABEn, the creation of educational institutions in the area and the use of methods of assistance. Thus, the work offers the reader the possibility of knowing the history of Nursing told by those who attended and / or played leading roles in the area throughout the twentieth century and in the early years of the twenty-first century.



Clarity in the development of narratives, coupled with the authors' linearity in the articles, and the dialogue with historical contexts make the work a pleasant reading and accessible comprehension, although methodological rigor and the necessary theoretical deepening have not been rejected by the biographers.

Considering the alphabetical sequence, Anaíde Corrêa de Carvalho is the first biographical nurse. From primary and secondary sources, meaning an interview with the biographee and articles within the History of Nursing, the academic, professional and personal trajectory of Anaíde Corrêa de Carvalho is chronologically narrated to the reader. On the face of it, there is the opportunity to know from her point of view the ways in which modern nursing has been structured throughout the twentieth century. Among these aspects, it is necessary to highlight the first years of the Nursing School of the Universidade of São Paulo, with the first professors of the institution, the propaedeutic character of the English Language for postgraduate studies outside Brazil and the concept of "good nurse" for the analyzed period. The text also reports the significant participation of the biographee in the board of the ABEn, as well as the effective collaboration in class entities of the category.

Using the first person, the second biographee is Ieda de Alencar Barreira. The title "Memory and the Story of a Successful Career" immediately prompts the reader to think about the text to be narrated - considering it being of two categories, memory and history, widely analyzed in the context of History. In a chronological perspective, the biographee subtly indicates to the reader the intrinsic relation between the categories chosen to entitle the narrative. Thus, the author uses her memories to narrate passages of her life, interwoven between the professional and the person, among them, the formation at the Anna Nery School, which included a conformation of habits and behaviors, which extended to the absence of makeup and to the hairstyle choice. Considering this aspect and other passages, the report is a valuable contribution to the field of Nursing History, because it brings to the reader elements on the daily life of nurses at the Anna Nery School, from the 1940s to the 1950s. In addition, exposes the profitable contribution of the biographee to the field of Nursing in Brazil, revealing precious details for the historian of this subject.

"A trajectory in the contingency of science, art, technology and innovation of Brazilian Nursing" is the title of the chapter that brings the third nurse biographee, Ligia Paym. From the theoretical-methodological perspective of Oral History, the authors point out the possibility of retrieving memories of professionals who helped to build the profession in the parameters exercised in the contemporaneity, both in relation to the assistance aspect, as well as research and teaching. In the account, when recalling the trajectory lived, at the same time that the biographee tells its history, with rich details, allows the reader to know facts that escaped official documents, such as minutes, memos, laws, etc. Among the instigating details is the passage in which the biographee tells about the ways in which the student left the family to begin the academic studies in Nursing. Finally, the narrative expresses the choice of the title, because it is a career marked by dedication, in particular by the creation of methods for Nursing, as well as by the participation in the board of directors of ABEn.

Nalva Pereira Caldas is the biographee of the fourth chapter of the work. Under the title "Life and Work", the authors give the reader a methodological perspective that considers the intrinsic relation between private life and professional practice. In this sense, they give voice to the biographee to narrate their involvement, still very young, with the functions of management and organization in the family business. As a mark of her trajectory and formation, the commanding of teams was present in diverse moments of her life; among them, it is possible to highlight the involvement in the creation of class entities and hospital institutions. In the scope of biographical studies, the biographical narrative is a vast source of information and study possibilities. Based on this assumption and considering the value of the report, for the researcher is evidenced the singularity of the narrative regarding the involvement of the biographee with the Escola Rachel Haddock Lobo, current Faculty of Nursing of the Universidade Estadual do Rio de Janeiro, and its struggle, at the time, to include it in the cadres of the Fundação Universidade do Estado da Guanabara.

The biography of Neide Maria Freire Ferraz occupies the fifth chapter of the work. The title "History of a life and reflections to be a nurse" brings indications of the narrated text, because the report signals the ways in which the biographee, from the concepts of Florence Nighthingale, built her path



in Nursing. Thus, claims the biographee, the greatest good of Nursing is *caring for people*. Filled with intriguing passages, the narrative tells the experience of the biographee as a sanitary visitor and the difficulties arising from this function. It also addresses the free education of Nursing, its participation in the foundation of COFEN and in the board of directors of ABEn, in short, a trajectory of dedication and dedication to her profession. Thus, it is an account abundant in detail, with bountiful material for the reader. Among the details, narrated from the place of the spectator/participant of the events, it is important to point out the passage in which the biographee tells about her formation, lightly touching on the first years of existence of the Escola de Enfermagem de Recife, and also on the movement that gave at the end of the military dictatorship, whose purpose was to remove the board of ABEn-National. In keeping with the historical context, the biography allows the reader to know aspects of a moment that was crucial for the future of the profession.

The chapter on Vilma de Carvalho closes the work. In the course exposed, there are stories full of details that permeate her personal and professional life, waving to the close relationship between these two spheres of life. The narrative exposes the reader to the insertion in one of the main institutions of training of nurses in Brazil: the Escola de Enfermagem Anna Nery, propeller of modern nursing in Brazil. In this sense, the narrative reveals the daily life of the biographee, lightly touching the stories of the institution. Among these, we highlight the "Welcome Day", celebrated by the School to greet the novices; the model of "standard nurse", built by the institution; the Nursing curriculum at the time; and the history of the Hospital Escola São Francisco de Assis (HESFA) - part of the identity of the Escola de Enfermagem Anna Nery, as pointed out by Vilma de Carvalho. Finally, in addition to knowing the life of the biographee - marked by professional practice in teaching, research and acting in important class entities, such as Aben -, it is also an opportunity to get in touch with the history of one of the Nursing institutions in Brazil, the Escola de Enfermagem Anna Nery.

There is agreement among the authors that the biographees contributed, in a broad sense, with the fields of Nursing. This assertiveness was demanded by the methodology of Oral History, which gave voice to the biographees to narrate the memories, as well as by consulting articles already published, or in research that touched the performance of these professionals.

The challenge of the biographer is not to be enchanted by the biographee, considering the distance necessary for academic writing. On this aspect, it is necessary to point out the arduous exercise of the authors in maintaining the distance from the biographee. In this field of tension, the narratives are filled with passages that inform and excite the reader, exposing stories of nurses who have dedicated themselves to caring. It is a work of interest, especially for professionals in the field of Nursing, for the health areas, as well as for researchers in the History area and for the general public.

## **REFERENCE**

 ALMEIDA FILHO, A.J. et. all. (Orgs). Life Story of Brazilian Nurses Contributions to the development of Nursing. Brasília: Aben, 2016. 182p.