

Perception of Saudi Female School Students about Nursing as a Career

¹Amel Ahmed Elsayed, ²Reem Mazen Alnughaimesh, ²Sara Saad Aldossary,
²Norah Abdullah Al-aloula, ²Shahad Monif Alharbi, ²Sarah Ali Alharbi,
²Rahaf Khaled Alghreby, ²Manal Abdullah Rdini, ²Mariam Alonazi

¹Lecturer of Community Health Nursing Mansoura University, Egypt

²Nursing students 4th year, College of Nursing, Princess Nourah bint Abdulrahman University, KSA.

*Corresponding author: amelelsayed79@gmail.com

Abstract: The profession of nursing is considered a high and human profession because of its association with human health, preserving its life, alleviating its suffering and sense of pain. Nurses have an essential role in the healthcare system and services provided to patients. The effect of this role affected by the shortage of nurses globally, as well as in Saudi Arabia. *The study aimed to explore the high school female student's perspective toward nursing as a career. Design:* Cross-sectional design. *Setting:* in High Schools for female in Riyadh. *Sample:* Convenience sample consisted of 517 students at the previously mentioned study setting. *Tools:* data obtained using nursing intent *questionnaire* 3 parts. Including demographic data with eight questions in which response alternatives was specified to ensure comparability of the response and to facilitate analysis. The other two parts were adopted from a similar research work, including (a) the statements on knowledge with 12 questions, attitude with 10 questions and intention towards nursing with 5 questions and (b) the causes that prevent students from being nurses with 10 questions. *Results:* The findings of this study shows that although the students have good attitude toward nursing profession, majority of them not considered it as the best future career. Many factors affected their decision mainly the family and friends. In addition to that, society view and apperception of the profession plays in important role in the student's decision toward to purse nursing as a future career. *Conclusion:* Based on the findings of this study, it was evident that the intention of young female Saudi toward nursing profession still considered as a low. There is an evolving need to lunch a public awareness programs about the correct contemporary image of nursing profession compared with before. *Recommendations:* Public and practice health sectors are encouraged strongly to reflect the positive image of the profession and act as a role model in a way that improves the image of the nursing profession and encourages others to become a nurse. Solutions are suggested that improvement the imaging of the nursing profession to others through education and outreach community activities to improve public perception and value of the nursing profession.

Keywords: Nursing, Perception, Career, Knowledge, Influence, intention, Attitude.

1. INTRODUCTION

According to the World Health Organization (WHO) 2014. Nursing is one of the most important specialties, However, the global deficit of health professionals entered 12.9 million by 2035. Brown D. et al., (2014) He stated that college-aged students face a fair deal of academic stress as they confront one of the first and perhaps most important choices about their career. Most students have trouble making judgments to choose their future occupation. They need self-efficacy to make choices about the career is really the extent of personality confidence incompetence to attain and understand their intention. In Turkey, Parents have a major impact on both the decision of their kids for the field and the selection of their careers in the family system. (Baykal U. et al., 2010). However, the decision making of some students is based on an

external predictor. Due to the high rates of old age and competitiveness between health courses, that have increased necessity workforce, it's become a difficult task to attract graduates to nursing courses, so knowing the concerns for students who have decided non-nursing courses can help to identify their opinions of nursing and recognize techniques to attracting them to the nursing course. Without even a reason to think, nursing is one of the most important professions in the field. (Liaw et al., 2017).

However, there is a considerable deficiency of nursing staff in Saudi Arabia. (Aboshaiqah, 2016) Therefore, in line with the 2030 vision, the lack of nursing has become a matter for consideration and resolution. However, the first alternative is to seek the views of high school students on nursing as a career of selection, regarding that it is the most required specialty in health systems in Saudi Arabia. (Ministry of health, 2016).

Recently mention has made to the fact that several variables affect adolescent Arab citizens to join nursing programs. (Tawash and Cowman 2018). However, A descriptive cross-sectional study of 500 Saudi men and women indicated that there are several elements which influence the selection of nursing as a profession, one being society-oriented, and they think that Saudi nurses were better than external workers and that they were not encouraged enough to want to nursing as a profession. (Tawash E et al., 2018). In addition, a further review of the student's perception of the nursing profession, which they thought nursing as a significant career but assumes that nurses have only a weak position in decision-making as opposed to physicians. (Liaw et al., 2016).

Moreover, in Saudi Arabia (Hatamleh and Sorio, 2019), Alboliteh, et al 2017 and Alroqi H. (2017) results indicated that going to work with the male gender and not appreciating the nursing profession was encountered to have the greatest impact on preventing students from becoming nurses. While an undergraduate nursing student in Australian The reasons for entering nursing have been the ability to serve and care for individuals, job stability, and the opportunity to reach as a stepping stone to another career such as medicine, as well as the comfort or love of nursing. (Wilkes. et al, 2015).

Otherwise, in New England, (Wasiams, et al., 2018). The views of the nursing role concluded to be inappropriate in many school counselors.

Significance of the study

The importance of the study is to figure out the causes that make students exclude nursing from their career options that may help future researchers to work on that issue to improve nursing acceptance among students leading to reducing nursing shortages in Saudi Arabia.

The aim of the study

The present study aimed to explore the high school female student's perspective toward nursing as a career

Research Question:

What is the perception of Saudi high school females about nursing as career?

2. MATERIAL AND METHODS

2.1 Research Design

Cross-sectional design utilized in this study.

2.2 Setting

The study conducted at in high Schools for female in Riyadh. Saudi Arabia.

2.3 Subjects and Sampling

The study population is high school students, the sample of this study was including 11th and 12th grade of natural science course who are going to choose their career, Convenience sampling technique used to represent female Saudi high school students in all areas in Riyadh city. The sample size equation $n = (p)(1-p)(Z)^2/e^2$ yields that a sample size of 384 is required to represent large populations with 95% confidence level ($Z=1.96$), an error rate (e) of 5% and a proportion of the target population (p) equals 50%. However, more than 550 questionnaires distributed to participants through electronic survey to have a better representation of the population. According to the size of the population, around 517 questionnaires were returned, and valid for analysis.

2.4 Tools of Data Collection

Data obtained using nursing intent *questionnaire* 3 parts. **Part1:** Include the socio-demographic data with 8 questions in which response alternatives was specified to ensure comparability of the response and to facilitate analysis. **Part2:** the statements on knowledge with 12 questions, attitude with 10 questions and intention towards nursing with 5 questions and **Part3:** the causes that prevent students from being nurses with 10 questions. (Al-Omar, 2004).

2.5. Methods:

1. Ethical consideration:

The researcher requested for the permission of the Institutional Review Board (IRB) by the Research center at Princess Nourah Bint Abdulrahman University. Application form collected from all participants prior to the data gathering process. participating students were provided written information about the study purpose and explained to them that participation is entirely optional., including the benefits and the risks that may happen and study was cause no harm to the respondents. Participants in this study and any information they gave will treated in a confidential manner.

2. Tools development:

Following the assessment of national and global studies, this analysis was a guideline to the creation of research tools: It included Questionnaire that developed by *Al-Omar (2004)* **Part1:** Include the socio-demographic data with eight questions in which response alternatives specified to ensure comparability of the response and to facilitate analysis. **Part2:** the statements on knowledge about nursing with 12 questions, attitude with 10 questions and intention towards nursing with 5 questions and **Part3:** the causes that prevent students from being nurses with 10 questions. The participants was answering the items from the last two parts using 5-point Likert scale with (one = strongly disagree; two = disagree; three = I do not know; four = agree; five = strongly agree). The instrument written in translated from English to Arabic back to English to enhance understanding of the questionnaire and to achieve data that are more accurate. In addition, the questions and answers rephrased with an additive word from the original questionnaire. In addition to some changes in the questions to suit Saudi culture, aim, and sample

Validity and reliability of tools

A pilot study was conducted in a group of 20 students enrolled at 5th to 8th grade (3rd and 4th year) with clinical training. Based on the results of the pilot study, the tools have updated. Reliability of the statistical kit SPSS tested to yield a Cronbach alpha of 0.94.

3. Data analysis:

Statistical Analysis Used: Data was analyzed using SPSS version 20.0. Descriptive statistics was utilized to describe the variables and multiple regression analysis to show correlation between variables and the predictors power of knowledge, attitude, intention (Independent variables) on the female Saudi participant desired job in the future (dependent variable).

Moreover, class intervals developed to describe the mean scores obtained by student's answers in a qualitative manner. For the knowledge domain, the mean sores was calculated out of five (5), and the intervals included five categories: Unacceptable, Very poor, Satisfactory, Very good, and Excellent level of knowledge, for the other domains (Attitude, Intention, and preventing factors), the same is true in term of mean score calculation, However, the description of mean score values was different. The description ranges from "Very low" for the lowest values up to low, moderate, high, and very high for the highest mean values. For more details about class intervals, Box 1 and 2.

Box (1) Mean scores interpretation for the student's level of knowledge regarding nursing profession.

Class interval	Interpretation
1.00 -1.79	Unacceptable
1.80- 2.59	Very poor
2.60- 3.39	Satisfactory
3.40- 4.19	Very good
4.20- 5.00	Excellent

Box (2) Mean scores interpretation for the student’s level of attitude, intention, and preventing factors regarding nursing profession.

Class interval	Interpretation
1.00 -1.79	Very low
1.80- 2.59	low
2.60- 3.39	Moderate
3.40- 4.19	High
4.20- 5.00	Very high

3. RESULTS

Table (1): Table 1 shows the socio-demographic properties of the study population. The study sample consisted of 517 participants, the participant’s age divided into three parts. 16 year old (19%), 17 year old (51.5%) and above 18 year old (29.6%). Majority were single (98.6%). The participants asked about their future desired job. The majority of them (84.9%) said that they choose non-nursing profession as a desired job in the future. Only 15.1% (78) expressed that they would like to choose nursing as their future profession. Further, the participants asked about how they take their decision when it come to their future job. The majority of them 91.5% (473) said that it is their personal choice.

Table (2): The participants' impression of nursing care based on a previous experience assessed by asking them if they received nursing care before, almost 50% percent of them answered "Yes". Among those who received that care, 93.4% of them described that nursing care as a good experience.

Table (3): exhibits that in general, most of the participants have good knowledge level regarding nursing profession. Nursing perceived as a human and caring profession, and provide a comfortable environment for patients by all participants (100%). Further, the majority of them see nursing profession as an excellent way to educate the society about health-related issues to maintain their health status well through health education (86.1%) and promotion activities (89%).

The participants believe that nursing care should rely on scientific knowledge (69.9%), skills (85.5%), emotional support (94.8%), and the ability to plan individual care in collaboration with patient (51.5%) that can earned by a university degree. On the other hand, around half of the participants see nurses as an assistant to the doctor in providing the care to their respective patients (52.8%).

Table (4): Table 6the general attitude result of the participants toward nursing profession. A considerable percentage of the participants consider nursing as an interesting job (54.4%), challenging career (56.8%). Further, less than half of them see it as very fulfilling to see patients getting better (48.8%). Concerning job security and compensation, the majority of the participant believes that nursing is a secure profession (84.9%). However, only 23.6% of them are satisfied with the salary scale of nursing. Other negative aspects that scored significant responses by participants is viewing nursing profession as a female career (96.5%).

Table (5): Table 7 shows the respondents intention toward nursing profession. Only 29.6% of participants found to be interested in nursing as a future profession. Further, the role of family and friends in encouraging the young adult to pursue nursing as a future career assessed in this study; the result shows that only 4.6% mentioned that they had been encouraged by family and 30% by friends to choose nursing as a future job. Moreover, less than half of them expressed their desire to study nursing courses (44.3%), and only 40% of them feel that their character are appropriate for the nursing profession.

Table (6): The participants view about the hindering factors to choose nursing as a future job assessed in this study the majority of students grade nursing as a low profession (69.1%). Long working hours (65.2%), Night shifts (65.2%), and society does not appreciate nursing profession (58.8%) were the major factors identified by the respondents to prevent them from choosing nursing as a future career. The other factors scored less percentages compared with the ones mentioned ahead like unpleasant atmosphere to work at (39.4%), fearful of getting an infection (36.7%) , I hate the sight of blood (33.2%) , too much workload compared with other jobs

Table (7): To summarize our findings in a meaningful way, a table was developed to describe the grand means score for each domain in the study concerning students’ attitude, intention, and preventing factors toward nursing profession. As

explained in the below table, students level of knowledge for nursing as a profession is a “very good” with mean of 4.09 (0.89) out of five. The students demonstrate a “High “attitude level for the nursing profession with a mean value of 3.79 (0.27), and their intention to become nurses in the future is “Moderate” with mean value of 2.66 (1.20). Finally, the effect of preventing factors that hinder them from becoming a future nurse is described as “ Moderate” with a mean value of 3.32 (1.40).

Table (8): Multiple linear regression calculated to predict nursing profession as a desired job based on respondents' responses on "Knowledge", "Attitude", "Intention" statements (Table 9). A significant regression equation was found ($F(3, 512) = 27.412, p < .000$), with an R^2 of 0.176). As seen the above table to be evident that intentions factors are a significant predictor for the dependent variable, in our case, the nursing as a desired job in the future. The intention statements in this study encompass the interest of nursing profession in general, the role of family and friends in encourage young female Saudi students to become a nurse in the future as well as the feeling of personal character as being appropriate for nursing. These findings confirm the previous studies result mentioned ahead that regardless of the good level of knowledge and attitude toward nursing, choosing nursing as a future job did not change positively and still considered under expectations.

Table (1): Frequency distribution of demographic characteristics among school Students (n=517).

Item	N	(%)
Age		
16 years old	98	19%
17 year old	266	51.5%
18 year old and above	153	29.6%
Marital Status		
Single	510	98.6%
Married	7	1.4%
Desired Job		
Nursing	78	15.1%
Non-nursing	439	84.9%
Factors affect decision making process in choosing future job		
Family choice	14	2.7%
Personal Choice	473	91.5%
Nursing friend	1	0.2%
Social Media Website	4	0.8%
Others	25	4.8%

Table (2): Participants' impression of receiving nursing care.

Question	Answer	N	(%)
Received nursing care before in a hospital, clinic or home	Yes	262	50.7
	No	255	49.3%
Experience with the nurse during the caring process	Good	483	93.4%
	Bad	34	6.6%

Table (3): Knowledge statement about nursing and nurses.

#	Statements	Agree or Strongly agree N (%)	Don't know N (%)	Disagreed and Strongly disagreed N (%)	Mean (SD)	Interpretation
1	Provides comfortable environment for patients	100% (517)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.53 (0.5)	Excellent
2	Involves caring for patients	100% (517)	0 (0%)	0 (0%)	4.90 (0.3)	Excellent
3	Includes educating people to keep healthy	445 (86.1%)	62 (12%)	10 (2%)	4.23 (0.88)	Excellent
4	Includes promoting and maintaining health	460 (89%)	44 (8.5%)	13(2.5%)	4.30 (0.78)	Excellent
5	Nursing care is based on scientific knowledge	361 (69.9%)	125 (24.2%)	31 (6%)	3.89 (1.04)	Very good
6	Nurses need skill and knowledge to	442 (85.5%)	54 (10.4%)	21 (4.1%)	4.15 (0.92)	Very good

	provide care					
7	Nurses educate patients about their illness	372 (71.9%)	111 (21.5%)	34 (6.6%)	3.99 (1.06)	Very good
8	Nurses provide patients with emotional support	490 (94.8%)	20 (3.9%)	7 (1.4%)	4.63 (0.68)	Excellent
9	Plan individual care in collaboration with patients	266 (51.5%)	157 (30.8)	94 (18.2%)	3.27 (1.33)	Satisfactory
10	Nurses are well educated	342 (66.2%)	108 (20.9%)	67 (12.9%)	3.74 (1.14)	Very good
11	Nurses are supporting doctors to take care of patients	273 (52.8%)	156 (30.2%)	88 (17%)	3.40 (1.14)	Very good
				Grand Mean	4.09 (0.89)	Very good

Table (4) Attitude statements

#	Statements	Agree or Strongly agree N (%)	Don't know N (%)	Disagreed and Strongly disagreed N (%)	Mean (SD)	Interpretation
1	Nursing is a very interesting job	281 (54.4%)	180 (34.8%)	56(10.8%)	3.60 (1.12)	High
2	Comfortable with the idea of being a nurse	483 (93.4%)	28 (5.4%)	6(1.2%)	4.48 (1.12)	Very high
3	Enjoy caring and being with people	376 (72.7%)	62 (12%)	79(15.3%)	3.85 (1.27)	High
4	Nursing is a challenging career	294 (56.8%)	83 (16.1%)	140 (27.1%)	3.46 (1.37)	High
5	Nursing provides opportunities for travel around the world	343 (62.3%)	71 (13.7%)	103(20%)	3.64 (1.39)	High
6	Nursing is a secure profession	439 (84.9%)	57 (11%)	21(4%)	4.31 (0.90)	Very high
7	The pay in nursing is reasonable	122 (23.6%)	224 (43.3%)	171 (33.1%)	3.02 (1.12)	Moderate
8	It is very fulfilling to see patients getting better	252(48.8%)	188(36.4%)	77 (14.9%)	3.56 (1.19)	High
9	Possibility to find a job in nursing	170(32.8%)	283(54.7%)	64 (12.4%)	3.23 (1.03)	Moderate
10	Nursing profession is a job for females only	499 (96.5%)	13 (2.5%)	5 (10%)	4.78 (0.57)	Very high
				Grand mean	3.79 (0.27)	High

Table (5) Intention to study nursing statements.

#	Statements	Agree or Strongly agree N (%)	Don't know N (%)	Disagreed and Strongly disagreed N (%)	Mean (SD)	interpretation
1	Interested in nursing	153 (29.6%)	239 (46.2%)	125 (24.2%)	3.05 (1.17)	Moderate
2	family encouragement to be a nurse	24 (4.6%)	27 (5.2%)	466 (90.2%)	1.64 (0.68)	Very low
3	Like to study nursing courses	229 (44.3%)	82 (15.9%)	206 (39.9%)	2.87 (1.46)	Moderate
4	Friends think that nursing is an important profession	160 (30.9%)	136 (26.3%)	221 (42.8%)	2.87 (1.46)	Moderate
5	Personal character is appropriate for nursing	208 (40.3%)	133 (25.7%)	176 (34%)	2.93 (1.36)	Moderate
				Grand Mean	2.66 (1.20)	Moderate

Table (6) Causes that prevent students from being nurses

#	Statement	Strongly agreed & Agreed N (%)	I don't know N (%)	Disagree & Strongly disagreed N (%)	Mean (SD)	interpretation
1	Society does not appreciate nursing profession	304 (58.8%)	60 (11.6%)	153 (29.6%)	3.37 (1.50)	Moderate
2	Most of people low grade nurses	357 (69.1%)	45 (8.7%)	115 (22.2%)	3.54 (1.50)	High
3	Requires working with male	308 (59.6%)	68 (13.2%)	141 (27.3%)	3.42 (1.42)	High
4	Unpleasant atmosphere to work at	204 (39.4%)	155 (30%)	158 (30.6%)	2.77 (1.34)	Moderate
5	Long working hours	337 (65.2%)	102 (19.7%)	78 (15.1%)	3.65 (1.25)	High
6	Night shifts	337 (65.2%)	96 (18.6%)	84 (16.3%)	3.58 (1.27)	High

7	Community do not respect nursing profession	268 (51.9%)	77 (14.9%)	172 (33.3%)	3.26 (1.58)	Moderate
8	Fearful of getting infection	190 (36.7%)	98 (19%)	229 (44.3%)	2.70 (1.43)	Moderate
9	I hate the sight of blood	172 (33.2%)	45 (8.7%)	300 (58%)	2.73 (1.45)	Moderate
10	Too much workload compared with other jobs	241 (46.6%)	179 (34.6%)	97 (18.7%)	3.33 (1.24)	Moderate
				Grand mean	3.32 (1.40)	Moderate

Table (7) Total mean scores of Students’ answers to knowledge. Attitude. Intention and prevention factors toward nursing profession.

Domain	M (SD)	interpretation
Knowledge	4.09 (0.89)	Very good
Attitude	3.79 (0.27)	High
Intention	2.66 (1.20)	Moderate
Preventing factors	3.32 (1.40)	Moderate

Table (8) Prediction model of choosing nursing as a desired job

Model	Unstandardized Coefficients		Standardized Coefficients	t	Sig.	
	B	Std. Error	Beta			
1	(Constant)	1.443	.092		15.760	.000
	Knowledge Average	-.005	.033	-.006	-.141	.888
	Attitude Average	.029	.031	.053	.943	.346
	Intention Average	.135	.019	.377	7.069	.000

a. Dependent Variable: Desired Job

4. DISCUSSION

The shortage of nursing staff in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) has revealed well into the literature. (*Al-Omar, 2004*). This shortage negatively influences the standard of care given to society. Which is one of the objectives of the Ministry of Health (MOH). The Minister of Health highlighted that by stating, "continue to saudization the labor force in healthcare areas, particularly nursing." (*Ministry of health, 2016*). Therefore, this study conducted to examine the perception of the field of nursing both as a career profession and a field of study among Saudi high school students the in Riyadh. Particularly, their attitude towards it; and whether or not they tend to have the willingness to choose it as a field of study in future. Furthermore, to find out major reasons preventing them from joining the field.

The result of this study shows a warning sign to the future of the nursing profession in KSA. Whereas, only 15% of responses agreed that they have an initial willingness to choose the field as a future career. Which is a relatively small percentage, if the participants scored a high level of knowledge about the nursing profession. This result is similar to previous study findings conducted in KSA as well (*Al-Omar in 2004 and Hatamleh & Sorio 2017*).

The questionnaire of this study consists of four main domains of focus. First, the overall knowledge of the field. The majority of responses shows a very good knowledge level about nursing profession among students. They are aware of the main concepts of nursing profession, especially the humanity aspect. However, there is a lack of awareness concerning the practical part of the career, which is planning an individualized care with patients. Statistically speaking, more than half of participants agree on the previous statement. Similarly, previous study showed a high percentage of that. More than 60% have unknown autonomy in the decision-making of nursing roles and nurses (*Saied, et al. 2016*). On the other hand, a quantitative study took a part in Punjab, India on high school students between the ages 15-18; Male and female they conducted in more than half of them have little to no knowledge about nursing previously. The majority of the participants have a very positive perception regarding the major nursing (*Kaur, 2018*). This is similarly with study on Jordan that found he study showed that the associate nursing students generally have a significance positive perception about the image of the nursing profession (*Al Jarrah, 2013*). On this study, around half of the participants see nurses as an assistant to the doctor in providing the care to their respective patients. Many studies revealed that Students are more likely to see nurses as subjective to doctors, and only obey doctor's instructions. *Williamson (2012)*. While *Dante et al.*

(2014) mentioned that misunderstanding of nursing working career growing the chances of students selecting programs with the exception of nursing.

Second domain of focus is students' attitude towards nursing. The debate whether or not nursing is a predominantly female job has been always discussed in literature. Moreover, there has always been a perpetuated international image that nursing profession preferably be carried out by females rather than males. In that regard, 96% of responses saw nursing as a female profession. While in contrast, another study that conducted in the KSA has highlighted that nursing profession is not only a female career; 63% of its responses agreed to that (Saied, et al. 2016) and Thomas, 2018. Several factors can explain the difference between the two results. Such as, the variation in population size, mindsets, gender and perspectives. However, more than 90% of the participants enthusiastically accept the idea of becoming a nurse, but more than half of them are not aware about the opportunities provided to nurses by the provider facilities. Another significant result is the financial perspective; the majority of participants are not satisfied with the income. Similarly, Hatamleh and Sorio, (2017) concluded that Saudi students would most likely choose nursing if optimism and job preference are demonstrated towards the profession. Perhaps, the respondents are still not aware of the incentives such as premiums and other compensations that provided to Saudi nurses.

Over the past two decades, the factors preventing students from joining the nursing field have been quite similar worldwide. Different types of reasons have reported in the literature. A study conducted in Singapore (2016), articulated that prestige and nature of work are among the main reasons of which students avoid choosing nursing as a field of study. (Liaw, et al. 2016). However, this study investigated the preventing factors in a more precise manner. Such factors categorized into two main types: Socioeconomic factors and nature of work related factors. The score was high in regards to the socioeconomic preventing factors. Occupational prestige is a socially significant preventing factor; more than 60% see nursing as a low profession. Moreover, a number of views from their families and environment also influences student's decision regarding their future career. According to an integrative study done in 2017, their family and friends but their perception affect not only student's decision as well. For instance, parents' opinion toward specialties, teachers and career advisors. (Glerean, et al. 2017) while (Al Jarrah, 2013) revealed that the highest percentage of study subjects joined the faculty of nursing because of financial reasons/ availability of work. Thus, nationwide correction campaigns of behaviors, beliefs and awareness should launched to reach all categories of the society, which in return might inspire and lead students to decide their future field of education without societal biases (Cohen et al. 2004). Study results showed, 90.2% participants answered that their family do not support the choice of nursing as a future career.

Although, the nature of work-related factor, such as long hours and night shifts, they take exactly the same percentage of agreement, then require work with males, respectively. However, increase the number of staffs might decrease the duration of shifts into 8 hours was make a difference. According to Cohen et al (2004), the high-stress job and unsatisfactory pay profoundly influenced the selection of nursing students to become nurses. In other words, adopt new methods of recruitment nurses, like part-time duties but there are other factors that drift students away from joining the field of nursing and that must treated to have better outcomes, which is a positive perspective and correct knowledge about nurses and their roles. In addition, one of the major factors is affected the development of ideas toward the nursing profession is social media such as Snap chat and Twitter. According to our results, nearly half of participants gain their knowledge about nursing from social media, applications and the issue, yet there are no official accounts provide the public with information from a formal source about the nursing profession and the role of nurses. This is identical to the find by Hickey et al. (2013) and Raymond et al, (2018) that guidance from considerable others and particular health care expertise were important considerations in students choosing to graduate in nursing degree programs. Chinkhata et al, 2018 found that using the media utilized could be a significant source throughout career planning events. This could affect high school graduates in their preference of nursing professions. Nor Saudis role model nurses that can be influencers and promoted nursing as an attractive profession full of challenges yet opportunities to grow and developing.

5. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

Based on the findings of this study, the desire of Saudi students to enter the nursing field is relatively low compared to their willingness to join other fields. In addition, several preventive factors found by the students in this study should emphasized on Saudi Arabia's decision-makers in order to combat this clear lack of interest in entering the nursing sector in Saudi society. Further motivating effort should be made to raise it since the need for nursing staff is strong. Moreover,

it has helped to reach the goal of the Saudi vision for 2030. In addition, salaries and other advantages should be recognized and evaluated on a continual basis through the Saudi Arabia Ministry of Health and Health Organizations in order to attract young Saudis to the nursing profession.

In addition to that, the findings of this study show that there is growing need to initiate a nursing education campaign that elaborates on the current view of nursing as a profession compared to past traditional perceptions. Nursing researchers in the kingdom of Saudi Arabia invited to take a positive role in this field by standing on these factors preventing young Saudis from becoming nurses.

Limitations:

There is a number of limitations to this study. First limitation is the sample usage of convenient sampling as a sampling technique, in which the results of the study are not representative and cannot be generalized on the whole population. A second limitation was conducting the study in Riyadh city only, where different attitudes might be associated with the younger population in comparison to rural areas or different provinces of KSA that are not considered. The third cause having the study exclusively conducted on female students, it restricted the overall views of teenagers in concern with nursing specialization.

REFERENCES

- [1] Aboshaiqah, A. (2016). Strategies to address the nursing shortage in Saudi Arabia. *International Nursing Review*, [online] 63(3), pp.499-506. Retrieved from: <https://onlinelibrary-wiley-com.sdl.idm.oclc.org/doi/full/10.1111/inr.12271>
- [2] Al-Omar, B. A. (2004). Knowledge, attitudes and intention of high school students towards the nursing profession in Riyadh city, Saudi Arabia. *Saudi medical journal*, 25(2), 150-155.
- [3] Alroqi H. (2017) Perceptions of the community toward the nursing profession and its impact on the local nursing workforce shortage in Riyadh. [ONLINE] Retrieved from: <https://arro.anglia.ac.uk/702200/>
- [4] Alboliteeh, M., Magarey, J., & Wiechula, R. (2017). The Profile of Saudi Nursing Workforce: A Cross-Sectional Study. *Nursing research and practice*.
- [5] Al Jarrah, I., (2013). Associate Nursing Students' Perceptions toward Nursing Profession in Jordan. *European Scientific Journal* vol.9, No.6
- [6] Baykal, U., & Altuntas, S. (2010). Perceptions of nursing students' parents regarding the profession and their college. *International Nursing Review*, 58(2), 211-217. doi: 10.1111/j.1466-7657.2010.00837.x
- [7] **Brown, D., & Cinamon, R. (2014).** Choosing a High School Major: An Important Stage in the Career Development of Israeli Adolescents. *Journal of Career Assessment*, 23(4), 630-644. doi: 10.1177/1069072714553083
- [8] Glerean, N., Hupli, M., Talman, K., Haavisto, E., (2017). Young peoples' perceptions of the nursing profession: An integrative review. *Nurse Education Today*, 57, pp. 95-102
- [9] Cohen J. et al, (2004) Middle school students' perceptions of an ideal career and a career in nursing. *Science Direct*, Vol. 20 Issue 3, PP. 202-210. Retrieved from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S8755722304000316>
- [10] Chinkhata, M., Langley, G., and Nyika, A. (2018) Validation of a Career Guidance Brochure for Student Nurses Using the Nominal Group Technique. *Annals of Global Health*. 84(1), pp. 77–82. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.29024/aogh.4>
- [11] Dante, A., et al. (2014). Factors influencing the choice of a nursing or a non-nursing degree: A multicenter, cross-sectional study. *Nursing & Health Sciences*, 16(4), 498-505. doi: 10.1111/nhs.12126
- [12] Hatamleh, W. A., & Sorio, E. H. L. (2017). Knowledge, attitude and intention towards nursing profession among pre-clinical students. *Journal of Health Specialties*, 5(3), 135. -41:<http://www.thejhs.org/text.asp?2017/5/3/135/210433>

International Journal of Novel Research in Healthcare and Nursing

 Vol. 6, Issue 3, pp: (478-487), Month: September - December 2019, Available at: www.noveltyjournals.com

- [13] Hickey, N., Sumison, J., Harrison, L., 2013. Why nursing? Applying a socio-ecological framework to study career choices of double degree nursing students and graduates. *J. Adv. Nurs.* 69 (8), 1714–1724. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/jan.12029>.
- [14] Kaur M., Sharma, S., Mrs. Sharma S. (2018). A Descriptive study to assess the Perception regarding Nursing Profession among Students of Senior High Schools in Kurali (Punjab). *International Journal of Nursing Education and Research*, 6(1), 69. doi: 10.5958/2454-2660.2018.00017.0. Retrieved from: <http://ijneronline.com/HTMLPaper.aspx?Journal=International%20Journal%20of%20Nursing%20Education%20and%20Research;PID=2018-6-1-17>
- [15] Liaw, S.y., Wu L, Holroyd E, Wang W., Lopez V. , Lim S., Chow Y. (2016) “Why Not Nursing? Factors Influencing Healthcare Career Choice among Singaporean Students.” *International Nursing Review*, vol. 63, no. 4, pp. 530–538., doi:10.1111/inr.12312.
- [16] Liaw, S., Wu L., Chow Y., Lim S., Tan K. (2017). Career choice and perceptions of nursing among healthcare students in higher educational institutions. *Nurse Education Today*, 52, 66-72. doi: 10.1016/j.nedt.2017.02.008
- [17] Ministry of health. Retrieved from: <https://www.moh.gov.sa/en/Pages/default.aspx> [Accessed 2, 2, 2019].
- [18] Raymond, A., Jamesb, A. Jacobc, E, Lyonsd, J. (2018). Influence of perceptions and stereotypes of the nursing role on career choice in high students: A regional perspective. *Nurse Education Today*, 62, pp.150-157.<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2017.12.028>.
- [19] Saied H., Al Beshi, H., Al Nafaie, J. , Al Anazi, E. (2016) “Saudi Community Perception of Nursing as a Profession.” *Journal of Nursing and Health Science*, Volume 5, Issue 2 Ver. I, PP 95-99 www.iosrjournals.org/.
- [20] Thomas, R., (2018) A study to assess the attitude of public toward nursing in selected community of district Patiala, Punjab *Journal of Nursing and Health Science- ISSN: 2320–1940 Volume 7, Issue 3 Ver. V (May-June .2018), PP 48-54, DOI: 10.9790/1959-0703054854*
- [21] Tawash, E., Cowman, S. (2018) “The NURSING-Positive Recruitment Arabic Model (NURS-P.R.A.M.): A Mixed Methods Study.” *Journal of Advanced Nursing*, vol. 74, no. 11, pp. 2630–2639., doi:10.1111/jan.13740.
- [22] Wasiams, C., et al. (2018). A National Study of School Counselors’ Perceptions of the Nursing Profession. *Nurse Educator*, 43(4), 191-195. doi: 10.1097/nne.0000000000000476
- [23] Williamson C. (2012) Hispanic female undergraduates' perception of nursing as a career choice: A phenomenological study. <https://pqdtopen.proquest.com/doc/1151409623>
- [24] Wilkes L., Cowin, L., Johnson, M., (2015). The reasons students choose to undertake a nursing degree. *The Australian Journal of nursing practice*, 22(3), pp.259-265. Retrieved from: <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1322769614000043>
- [25] World health organization (2014). A UNIVERSAL TRUTH: NO HEALTH WITHOUTA WORKFORCE: https://www.who.int/workforcealliance/knowledge/resources/GHWA-a_universal_truth_report.pdf