Madeliene Leininger’s
Theory of Culture Care
Diversity and Universality

& The “Sunrise Model”
Before 1950…

MISSING!

Two major significant phenomena in nursing

• Culture
• Care
Mid-1950’s

FOUND!

Madeliene Leininger

• Recognized that care and culture were the two major and significant missing phenomena in nursing.
• As the outcome of her research, Leininger developed transcultural care as a domain of nursing science, and created her “Culture Care Theory”
  • Care was first viewed as a cultural phenomenon
  • Culture Care Theory is the only nursing theory that focuses on culture. (Rosenbaum 1997.)
Care: Leininger’s concept

• Refers to assisting, supporting, or enabling behaviors that ease or improve a person’s condition
• Is essential for a person’s survival, development, and ability to deal with life’s events
• Has different meanings in different cultures which can be determined by examining the group’s view of the world, social structure, and language
Culture: Leininger’s concept

- Described as a group’s values, beliefs, norms, and life practices that are learned, shared, and handed-down
- Guides thinking, decisions, and actions in specific ways
- Provides the basis for cultural values, which identify ways of thinking or acting
- These values are usually held for a long time and help guide decision-making in the culture
Culture Care: Leininger’s Concept

• Refers to the values & beliefs that assist, support, or enable another person or group to maintain well-being, improve personal condition, or face death or disability

• Is universal, but the actions, expressions, patterns, lifestyles, and meanings of care may be different

• Knowledge of cultural diversity is essential for nursing to provide appropriate care to clients, families, and communities
• The first nurse researcher to point out the importance of culture in explaining individual health and caring behaviors.
• She developed transcultural care as one domain of nursing science.
• The roots of her theory lie in the clinical nursing practices of various cultures.
In her Culture Care Theory, she states that “caring is the essence of nursing and unique to nursing.”

• The main focus of cultural care frameworks is to assist nurses to avoid ethnocentric assessments, so that they can provide care that is responsive to the recipient’s cultural perspective. (Baker 1997.)
Leininger Defines Theory...

• A systematic and creative way to discover knowledge about something or to account for some vaguely known phenomenon.

• Nursing theory must take into account the cultural beliefs, caring, behaviors, and values of individuals, families, and groups to provide effective, satisfying, and culturally congruent nursing care.
First, Leininger considers nursing a discipline and a profession, and the term ‘nursing’ thus cannot explain the phenomenon of nursing. Instead, care has the greatest epistemic and ontologic explanatory power to explain nursing.
Leininger’s Review on Four Nursing Metaparadigm (1997)

Concept of Nursing

Leininger (1995a) views ‘caring’ as the verb counterpart to the noun ‘care’ and refers it to a feeling of compassion, interest and concern for people (Leininger 1970, Morse et al. 1990, Reynolds 1995, McCance et al. 1997).
When Leininger’s definition of care is compared to other transcultural scholars’ definitions, it appears that her view of care is wider than, for example, that of Orque et al. (1983), who describe care as goal-oriented nursing activities, in which the nurses recognize the patients’ ethnic and cultural features and integrate them into the nursing process.
Concept of Man/Person

Second, the term ‘person’ is too limited and culture-bound to explain nursing, as the concept of ‘person’ does not exist in every culture. Leininger (1997) argues that nurses sometimes use ‘person’ to refer to families, groups, communities and collectivities, although each of the concepts is different in meaning from the term ‘person’.
Third, the concept of ‘health’ is not distinct to nursing as many disciplines use the term. (Leininger 1997)
Concept of Environment

• Fourth, Leininger uses the concept ‘environmental context’, which includes events with meanings and interpretations given to them in particular physical, ecological, sociopolitical and/or cultural settings. (Leininger 1991, 1995a,b, 1997.)
Culture Care
Diversity
and Universality

A combination of anthropology & nursing beliefs & principles

Sunrise Model
In fact, many nurse leaders hold that “it has been the most significant breakthrough in nursing and the health fields in the 20th century and will be in greater demand in the 21st century” (Leininger, 1997).
Leininger recognized that one of the most important contributions of anthropology to nursing is the realization that health and illness states are strongly influenced by culture.
Culture Care Diversity and Universality

MAJOR AND UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE THEORY

1) Remains one of the oldest theories in nursing as it was launched in the mid-1950s.
2) Second, it is the only theory explicitly focused on the close interrelationships of culture and care on well-being, health, illness, and death.
3) The only theory focused on comparative culture care.

(Leininger, JTN, July 2002 p. 190)
4) The most holistic and multidimensional theory to discover specific and multifaceted culturally based care meanings and practices.

5) It is the first nursing focused on discovering global cultural care diversities (differences) and care universalities (commonalities).

(Leininger, JTN, July 2002 p. 189)
MAJOR AND UNIQUE FEATURES OF THE THEORY

6) It is the first nursing theory with a specifically designed research method (ethnonursing) to fit the theory.

7) It has both abstract and practical features in addition to three action modes for delivering culturally congruent care.

8) Finally, it is the first theory focused on generic (emic) and professional (etic) culture care, data related to worldview, social structure factors, and ethnohistory in diverse environmental contexts. (Leininger, JTN, July 2002 p. 190)
Sunrise Model depicts the Inter-relationships of Culture Care Diversity and Universality Theory

Illustrates the major components of Leininger’s Theory
Leininger's Sunrise Enabler for the Theory of Culture Care Diversity and Universality

CULTURE CARE

Worldview

Cultural & Social Structure Dimensions

Kinship & Social Factors
Cultural Values, Beliefs & Lifeways
Political & Legal Factors

Environmental Context, Language & Ethnohistory

Religious & Philosophical Factors
Economic Factors

Technological Factors
Educational Factors

Influences

Care Expressions
Patterns & Practices

Holistic Health / Illness / Death

Focus: Individuals, Families, Groups, Communities or Institutions in Diverse Life Contexts of

Generic (Folk) Care
Nursing Care Practices
Professional Care-Care Practices

Transcultural Care Decisions & Actions

Culture Care Preservation/Maintenance
Culture Care Accommodation/Negotiation
Culture Care Repatterning/Restructuring

Culturally Congruent Care for Health, Well-being or Dying

Sunrise Model

(See Chitty & Black, 2007, p. 343)
Theory's Purpose & Goal

The model is *not the theory per se* but depicts factors influencing care.

- *These factors* needed to be included for culturally competent care. Hence, the Sunrise Model was created (Leininger, 1997).
  - culture care meanings
  - practices
  - factors influencing care
  - religion, politics, economics, worldview, environment, cultural values, history, language, gender, and others.
Central Purpose:

- To discover and explain diverse and universal culturally based care factors influencing the health, well-being, illness, or death of individuals or groups.

Purpose & Goal:

- To use research findings to provide culturally congruent, safe, and meaningful care to clients of diverse or similar cultures.
Concept of Nursing
Culture Care
Diversity and Universality Theory

- A learned humanistic art & science that focuses on personalized behaviors, functions, processes to promote and maintain health or recovery from illness
- Has physical, psycho-cultural, and social significance for those being assisted
Culture Care Diversity and Universality Theory

Care & culture are cohesively linked

Leininger recognized the importance of an understanding of culture to effective nursing practice.
- both the nurse’s and the client’s –

All cultures have practices related to caring.

Practices common across cultures are culture care *universalities*
Practices specific to a given culture are culture care *diversities*

Research findings indicate there is more diversity than universality.
Culture Care Diversity and Universality Theory

Cultures exhibit:

• **Diversity**
  - perceiving, knowing, and practicing care in different ways

• **Universality**
  - commonalities of care & need
Assumptions concerning care/caring: Culture Care Theory

- Care (caring) is essential to curing and healing, for there can be no curing without caring.
- Every human culture has lay (generic, folk or indigenous) care knowledge and practices and usually some professional care knowledge and practices, which vary transculturally.
- Culture care values, beliefs, and practices are influenced by and tend to be embedded in the worldview, language, philosophy, religion (and spirituality), kinship, social, political, legal, educational, economic, technological ethnohistorical, and environmental contexts of cultures.
Assumptions concerning care/caring: Culture Care Theory

- Culturally based care is the broadest holistic means to know, explain, interpret and predict nursing care phenomena and to guide nursing decisions and actions.
- A client who experiences nursing care that fails to be reasonably congruent with his/her beliefs, values, and caring lifeways will show signs of cultural conflict, noncompliance, stress and ethical or moral concern.
Assumptions concerning care/caring: Culture Care Theory

• The qualitative paradigm provides ways of knowing and discovering the epistemic and ontological dimensions of human care transculturally.

• Nursing is a transcultural humanistic and scientific care discipline and profession with the central purpose of serving individuals, groups, communities or institutions worldwide.
Orientational definitions (Leininger 1995)
Culture Care Theory

• **cultural and social structure dimensions** - dynamic, holistic, and interrelated features of culture (or subculture) related to religion or spirituality, kinship (social), political (and legal), economic, education, technology, cultural values, language and ethnohistorical factors of different cultures

• **professional care systems** - formally taught, learnt and transmitted professional care, health, illness, wellness and related knowledge and practical skills that prevail in professional institutions

• **lay care systems** - culturally learnt and transmitted knowledge and skills used to provide assistive, supportive, enabling or facilitative acts towards or for another individual or group to improve a human lifeway, health condition or to deal with handicaps and death.
Modes to guide nursing judgments, decisions, and actions in order to provide culturally congruent care that is beneficial, satisfying, and meaningful to the people served by nurses.

These modes are care-centered and based on use of the client’s care knowledge:

- Cultural preservation or maintenance
- Cultural care accommodation or negotiation
- Cultural care restructuring or repatterning
Professional actions and decisions that help people of a particular culture to retain and/or preserve relevant care values so that they can maintain their well-being, recover from illness, or face handicaps and/or death.
Cultural Care Accommodation or Negotiation

Professional actions and decisions that help people of a designated culture to adapt to or to negotiate with others for beneficial or satisfying health outcomes with professional care providers.
Professional actions and decisions that help clients reorder, change, or greatly modify their lifeways for new, different, and beneficial health care patterns while respecting the client’s cultural values and beliefs and still providing more beneficial or healthier lifeways than before the changes were coestablished with the clients.
Leininger’s Theory is **flexible** and widely useful

- It can be utilized with individuals, families, groups, communities and institutions in diverse health systems (Andrews & Boyle, 2003, p. 6).
- It can be used in different nursing fields of specialization
- It focuses on the nurses’ approach to care- cultural care
- It views man holistically- concern on different factors affecting man’s health
- It fosters respect, trust, and good compliance to treatment
- It creates good interpersonal relationship skills
- It presents the world in different aspects
- Provides holistic, culture-specific assessment tool
- Provides wide selection of research problems
Since the 1960’s, care has been studied from the cultural perspective by several transcultural nurse researchers, who were influenced by Leininger and her Culture Care Theory, e.g.

- Orque et al. (1983)
- Dobson (1991)
- Giger & Davidhizar (1991)
Birth of Transcultural Nursing

**Definition**
A learned branch of nursing that focuses on the comparative study & analysis of cultures as they apply to nursing and health-illness practices, beliefs, and values.

- **1966**
  - Offered first course in transcultural nursing at the University of Colorado
  - A major contributor to other schools in transcultural nursing curriculum
Birth of Transcultural Nursing...

The Goal

To develop a scientific and humanistic body of knowledge in order to provide *culture-specific* and *culture-universal nursing care* practices to individuals, families, groups, and communities from diverse backgrounds.
Birth of Transcultural Nursing…

**Culture-specific:** particular values, beliefs & pattern of behavior that tend to be special or unique to a group and that do not tend to be shared with members of other cultures.

**Culture-universal:** commonly shared values, norms of behavior, and life patterns that are similarly held among cultures about behavior & lifestyles

Impact to nurses and nursing practice:
• Provides theoretical foundations to guide nurses in the provision of culturally congruent and competent care for individual clients & patients of all ages, families, groups, and communities.
• Enables nurses to examine the cultural dimensions of health and nursing organizations, institutions, and agencies.
Transcultural Nursing: Importance

Eight Factors that influenced Leininger to establish Transcultural Nursing

1) The migration of people within and between countries worldwide had markedly increased. Transcultural nursing is needed because of the growing diversity that characterizes national and global populations.
Transcultural Nursing: Importance

Eight Factors that influenced Leininger to establish Transcultural Nursing

2. There has been a rise in cultural identities, with people expecting their cultural beliefs, values, and lifeways to be understood and respected by nurses and other health care providers.
Transcultural Nursing: Importance

Eight Factors that influenced Leininger to establish Transcultural Nursing

3) The increased use of healthcare technology sometimes conflicts with cultural values of patients.

4) There are cultural conflicts, clashes and violence worldwide that have effected healthcare as more cultures interact with one another.
Transcultural Nursing: Importance

Eight Factors that influenced Leininger to establish Transcultural Nursing

5) There was an increased in the number of people traveling and working in many different parts of the world.

6) There was an increase in legal suits resulting from cultural conflict, negligence, ignorance, and imposition of health care practices.
Transcultural Nursing: Importance

Eight Factors that influenced Leininger to establish Transcultural Nursing

7) There has been a rise in feminism and gender issues, with new demands on health care systems to meet the needs of women and children.

8) There has been an increased demand for community and culturally based health care services in diverse environmental texts.

Transcultural Concepts by Margaret M. Andrews & Joyceen S. Boyles
Major Concepts in Leininger’s Theory:

- Culture
- Cultural values
- Culturally diverse nursing care
- Ethnocentrism
- Generalization
- Stereotype
- Cultural congruence
- Ethno-nursing, Transcultural nursing
The path towards more comprehensive development in the Nursing Practice has been opened.

Just like others who followed the works of Madeliene M. Leininger, you might be the next one to have a say on the Modern Day Transcultural Nursing!
This presentation is intentionally made incomplete…

It is now your turn to articulate reflection on Madeliene M. Leininger’s Theory of Culture Care Diversity and Universality

Speak Up!
Thanks for the following....😊

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