

### **Week 3 Journal**

**Reflect upon and describe what generation of learner you feel most equipped to educate as a future nurse and provide rationale for your choice.**

I would feel most equipped to educate older students from Generation X if only because they are closer to my own age, and they are not digital natives, which makes them more similar to my generation. However, having said that I did successfully teach my own children, and I have never had any problems making connections with any of the nursing students or new employees (of all ages) who I have precepted over the years. I know that the situation would be somewhat different in a classroom, but I think a student's willingness to learn is greatly aided by a strong willingness to impart concepts in a way that the learner is able to process and obtain meaning.

**Reflect upon and describe what generation of learner you feel least equipped to educate as a future nurse and provide rationale for your choice. How will you close this knowledge gap?**

In the same manner of thinking, the group I might feel least equipped to teach would be the very youngest of students who are true digital natives and have a different communication style. Josephine and Jones (2022) related that some younger students do not relate well when faculty use their years of experience as a source of power-over rather than a source of information that could enhance student feedback. When faculty used their experience to empower themselves it tended to "create a feeling of inferiority and a gap in teacher-student relationship, which consequently led to students' fearing being wrong and having lower self-esteem, and thus it was "safer" for them stay silent" (Josephine & Jone, 2022, p. 1074).

I would certainly attempt to make real connections with younger students and approach them in a collegial manner since they are on their way to becoming fellow nurses. Billings and Halstead (2023) found that “Planning effective learning experiences to meet the diverse learning needs of students requires faculty to embrace the diversity that exists among their students and understand how they can best support their academic success” (p. 23). In my own nursing practice, I try to be conscious about practicing with cultural humility, and that can extend to the unique diversity of younger students as well. I believe each person we meet has something they can teach us, and faculty need to be curious about students of different generations to meet them where they are and help them be successful in learning to become nurses.

### References

- Billings, D. M., & Halstead, J. A. (2023). *Teaching in Nursing - E-Book: Teaching in Nursing - E-Book*. Elsevier Health Sciences.
- Josephine, J., & Jones, L. (2022). Understanding the impact of generation gap on teaching and learning in medical education: A phenomenological study. *Advances in Medical Education and Practice, Volume 13*, 1071–1079. <https://doi.org/10.2147/amep.s370304>