PROGRAMME

for the Degree of

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
Nursing

Maureen Ryan
MN University of Victoria 1992
BSN University of Calgary 1989
RN Conestoga CAAT 1982

“Nursing and Adolescent Health Promotion: An Inquiry Following the Philosophical Oeuvre of Michel Foucault”

Friday, October 25, 2013
10:00 AM
David Turpin Building, room A144

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Mary Ellen Purkis, School of Nursing, UVic (Supervisor)
Dr. Marjorie McIntyre, School of Nursing, UVic (Unit Member)
Dr. Bonnie Leadbeater, Department of Psychology, UVic (Non-Unit Member)

External Examiner:
Dr. Carol Ewashen, Faculty of Nursing, University of Calgary

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Rustom Bhiladvala,
Department of Mechanical Engineering, UVic
Abstract

Following the philosophical oeuvre of Michel Foucault, the project on which this dissertation reports, involves two steps and serves two purposes. The first step comprises an archaeology of language in use through which I isolate particular statements that suggest how nurses think about young people’s health and how nurses act toward young people and their health. In the second step, a genealogical analysis allows me to consider the possibilities and restrictions of contemporary ‘adolescent health promotion’ discourse on nurses’ thinking about their professional relationships with young people.

From my archaeological work I locate and name two confident nursing practices within the context of young people and their health: “reducing risk” and “promoting well becoming” and go on to locate those practices within two broader theoretical discourses within human science: the biological view and the social constructionist view.

From my genealogical work I consider how the management of the adolescent body has become a matter that situates biological life (puberty) as a political event and situates the nurse within governing practices of pastoral power. I question the ways in which adolescent health may be shaped through political interests of economy and social order and the possible limits of such thinking and acting.

I offer a (re) view of responsibility and argue for a shift in binary thinking that allows for the consideration of c-responsibility.

Awards, Scholarships, Fellowships

2009 University of Victoria Graduate Scholarship $6000

2008 Nominated Andy Farquharson graduate teaching award
2008 “Developing Capacity in Community-University Collaborative Research with Youth”. Awarded $5000.00 Community Alliance for Health Research, Centre for Youth and Society, University of Victoria.

2008 University of Victoria Graduate Scholarship $6000

2007 University of Victoria Graduate Scholarship $6000


**Presentations (select to reflect dissertation topic)**


World: The Politics of Nurses Practice conference Banff, AB. Abstract published.


**Publications**


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