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A Descriptive Study of Service-Learning on Social Justice and Leadership Attitudes in Senior B.S.N. Students

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Service-Learning Effects on Social Justice and Leadership Perceptions

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BACKGROUND

- ❑ AACN *Essentials* (2008) state that the BSN graduate should demonstrate leadership and professionalism, including social justice
- ❑ Service-learning is suggested in the AACN *Essentials Faculty Tool Kit* (2009) as a pedagogy effective for teaching social justice
- ❑ Evidence needed to support use of service-learning in nursing curricula

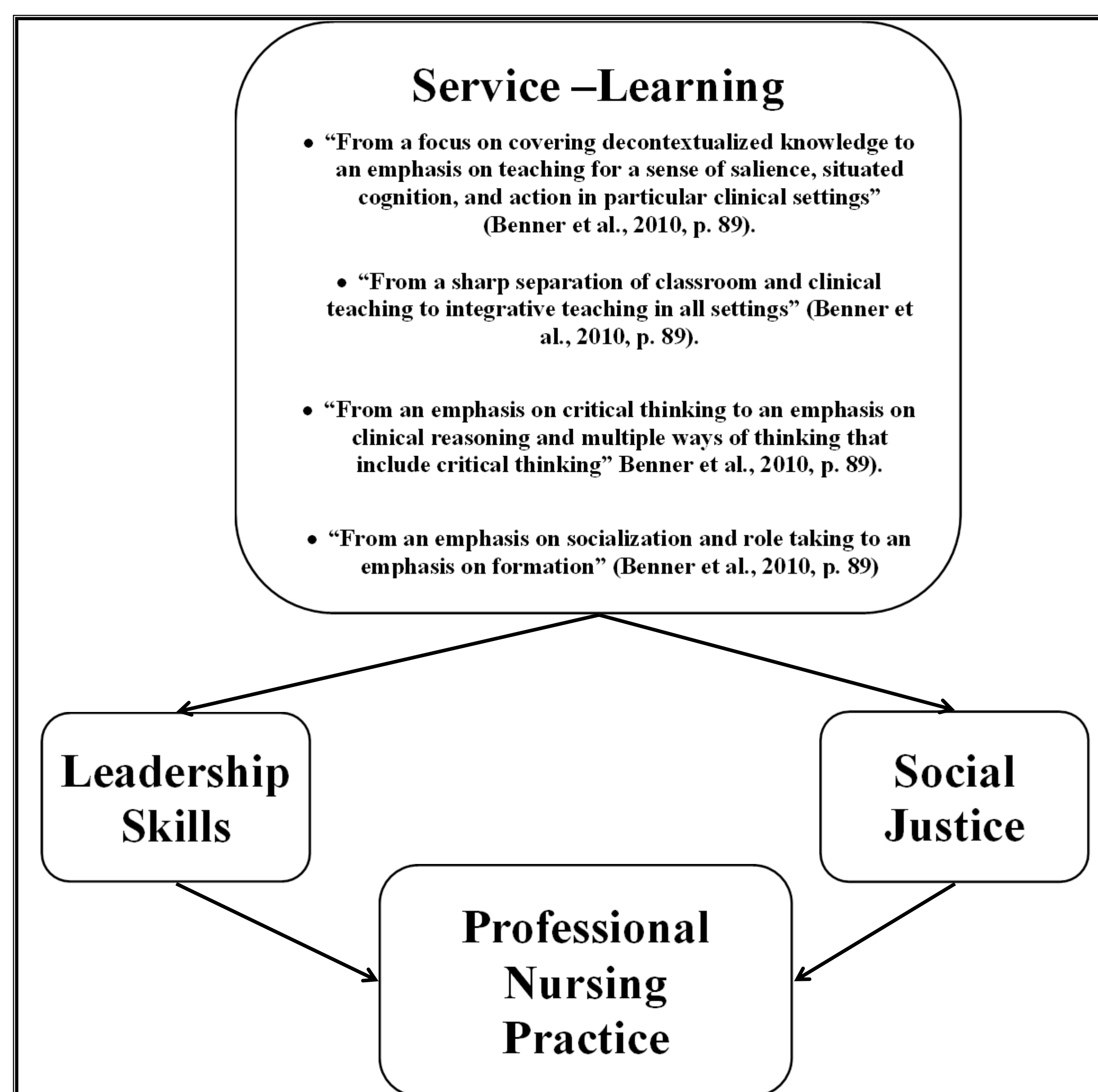
PURPOSE

- ❑ Assess changes in the attitudes towards social justice and leadership skills in senior level BSN students enrolled in a Care of Populations' course after completing a service learning experience.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- ❑ Is there a difference in student perceptions of leadership skills after a service-learning experience?
- ❑ Is there a difference in student perceptions of social justice after a service-learning experience?

FRAMEWORK



DEFINITION

- ❑ Service-learning—“a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction and reflection to enrich the learning experience, teach civic responsibilities, and strengthen communities” (National Service Learning Clearinghouse, 2012, para. 1)

METHODS

- ❑ Descriptive Study
- ❑ IRB Approved
- ❑ Convenience Sample of Senior Level BSN students
- ❑ Pre-test administered prior to service-learning experience
- ❑ Post-test administered after completing a 60-hour service-learning experience

INSTRUMENT

- ❑ Service-Learning Self-Evaluation Tool (SLSET) (Leadership Development Institute (LDI) at University of Detroit Mercy (UDM))
 - ❑ 10 Leadership Skill Constructs (Cronbach's alpha: .80-.87) (Groh et al., 2011)
 - ❑ 7 Social Justice Constructs (Cronbach's alpha: .82-.87) (Groh et al., 2011)

SAMPLE: N=50

VARIABLE	NUMBER OF SUBJECTS	PERCENT OF SAMPLE
Gender		
Male	2	4
Female	48	96
Ethnicity		
Caucasian	47	94
Asian American	1	2
Asian	1	2
Hispanic	1	2
Extracurricular Participation Area		
Christian Ministry	35	70
Mission Trip	45	90
Current Off Campus Job	20	40
Nursing Job Experience	33	66
Volunteer Work	40	80
Type of Mission Trip (N=45)		
National	8	19
International	12	28.6
Both National and International	22	52.4
To Marginalized Population	15	33.3



RESULTS

	MEAN (SD)	RANGE	ALPHA	PAIRED T TEST (DF)	P VALUE
Leadership Skills					
Pre-Service-Learning	3.86 (0.42)	1 to 5	.74	-3.47 (46)	.00
Post-Service-Learning	4.03 (0.37)	1 to 5	.68		
Social Justice					
Pre-Service-Learning	4.25 (0.53)	2 to 5	.79	-1.93 (49)	.06
Post-Service-Learning	4.40 (0.48)	1 to 5	.77		

CONCLUSIONS

- ❑ Significant increase in student perceptions of leadership skills
- ❑ Approaching significant increase in student perceptions of social justice

LIMITATIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

Limitations

- ❑ Small sample size
- ❑ Convenience sample
- ❑ Length of time between pre-and post-test questionnaire
- ❑ Lower reliability for leadership skill pre-and post-test

Recommendations

- ❑ Replication of study with further nursing classes
- ❑ Replication of study in a non-faith-based institution
- ❑ Further research of service-learning's influence on other variables

