

Distinguish Speaker Reflection

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Today's distinguished speaker opened my mind to the fact that we are a new generation coming into the nursing profession with newer ideas and a different mindset that is not guilt. I am 28 years old and my Hispanic parents thought me that work is everything and to this day when I get ask if I can cover for a coworker or ask to stay late I give in sometimes and say yes but there are times I have more important things to do and I feel a bit of guilt for not being able to help out. Could it be the fact that it was drilled into my head that works comes first maybe but since I started to work and had my own family I want to do better for my kids and be at school functions my parents never attended, at their games and even just to stay home when they are sick. To this day I remember that my parents would go to work if we were sick or call my grandma to come over because for them it was wrong to call in.

Knowing we are going to be the change of health care makes me feel proud and a bit scared that I chose this career. I have always said I want to be a nurse because I love to help people but also knowing that our generation will change the healthcare system gives me greater satisfaction in becoming a nurse. Change takes progress and I am in it for the long run. I want to be the advocate not just for my patients but for myself as well. Because I do not want to be the nurse that leaves bed side because of poor leadership, poor staff, and poor compensation. I want to help patients get down their health care journey and love what I'm doing and not be the nurse that goes there for a paycheck.