

**Vulnerable Populations**

**(DELETE THESE WORDS! THERE IS AN EXTRA SPACE IN BETWEEN THE TITLE AND YOUR NAME)**

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N314: Introduction to Professional Nursing

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**“I have neither given nor receive, nor will I tolerate others’ use of unauthorized aid”.**

### Sample Paper N314

Growing up, I never thought I would be a nurse, let alone take care of prisoners. As a child, I never said, "I want to take care of prisoners no matter what their crime is." When taking care of a prisoner, I would prefer not to know the patient's crime. Taking care of prisoners who have committed rape or murder or sex offenders still deserve quality care and be treated like humans, even though that can be hard to do.

Taking care of a prisoner knowing their crimes would make it harder to give complete care, especially for people. When having someone commit such a crime such as murder, it would be hard to provide quality unbiased care. For a prisoner who has committed something such as murder, it would be hard not to think of, "Why should I take care of and save this person who has killed other people? Does he even deserve to live?" Knowing these things, I would find it hard to look past everything they have done and give them the best care possible. Although they have done unthinkable things, they are still humans, and human life should be persevered at all costs. Their choices shouldn't affect their care. They deserve to be cared for as if they were anyone else. Prisoners who have committed murder would be hard to take care of, but I think I would also struggle to take care of prisoners who are sex offenders or committed rape.

Prisoners who have taken advantage of innocent people and raped or sexually abused them are hard to look at, especially when it was against children. When knowing what they have done, it would be hard not to think about the innocent people that they have hurt and wonder why they deserve quality care after what they have done. Although when they get released from prison, as Redemske said, "If we don't take care of these issues while they are incarcerated, they are going to bring these issues right back to the community (North Coast Association of Health Underwriters, 2018)." This quote reminds us that if we just ignore their problems when released, the bigger picture is not solved. They

can come out of prison with their issues not fixed and resentment and anger towards the political system,, and commit more crimes that could be even worse. We have to teach them and respect them so that they can go back out into the community and not continue to commit a crime when they are released. There can also be problems if things aren't managed, such as tuberculosis, HIV, and hepatitis C (North Coast Association of Health Underwriters, 2018). We do not want these chronic conditions brought back to the community and spread. Although they have committed evil crimes, we as health care professionals must look past that and give them the care you would give to anyone else.

When taking care of prisoners or any patients, it is essential to maintain cultural competence. "Burchum defined cultural competence as a developmental process that builds continuous increases in knowledge and skill development in areas of cultural awareness, knowledge, understanding, sensitivity, interaction and skill (Hood, 2018)." Being able to know where your beliefs and biases lie can help you be culturally competent. Once you have found out what these beliefs are for you, you can build awareness for when you may contact these situations and how to interact with people appropriately (Hood, 2018). As with everything in nursing, you should always look back and reflect on your mistakes and look for ways to improve those mistakes. Everyone has biases and beliefs, but as a nurse, you should make sure that you do not let that affect your patient's care.

Taking care of prisoners who have committed rape or murder or sex offenders still deserve quality care and be treated like humans, even though that can be hard to do. Everyone makes mistakes and no matter the mistakes, as a nurse, it is your job to know your biases and beliefs and look past them and give the best care possible.

### References

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