

# Comparative Analysis of the Portrayal of Nurses and Nursing in the Media: Saudi Arabia and Beyond

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## Abstract

This study presents the findings of research exploring how nurses and nursing are portrayed in the media and makes a comparative analysis of these portrayals across a range of different countries and cultures, including Saudi Arabia. The objectives of the study are to explore and compare how nurses and nursing are portrayed in the media in different countries around the world; to identify the differences and similarities in these representations; and to interpret the likely impact of portrayals of global media in each location. The findings are detailed in further sections of this report, along with the implications for nurse-interested stakeholders in their respective countries. Changing attitudes about nursing in the twenty-first century and beyond are an important focus of the project. The study also considers some of the challenges nurses face when aiming to influence their portrayal in the media.

The media plays a powerful role in shaping the thoughts, behaviors, and emotions of people. Moreover, people have long been fascinated by mass communication. In health and nursing, the media plays a prominent role in setting broader societal attitudes. How the media portray the nursing profession also influences aspiring and prospective nurses. The meaning that cultural artifacts go through and the cultural representation that hegemonic roles play in society relying on them—in this case, the portrayal of the nursing phenomenon in media across multiple cultural contexts and semiology—is one of the factors that contribute to this controversy.

**Keywords:** nursing, media portrayal, public perception, ethical considerations

## 1. Introduction

This work sets out to present a comparative analysis of portrayals of nurses and nursing within media representations in Saudi Arabia and beyond. Nursing is one of the largest healthcare professions. How the public perceives nurses and the nature of nursing has a great influence on the images about nursing portrayals. What is shown in the media about nursing influences how societies frame their members' physical, psychological, collective, and human experiences. Collectively, media images create a public image that supports or weakens the values, beliefs, and actions of the profession. It has been found that media portrayals can be an important type of research that may contribute to the recognition of public opinion about a particular profession (Gill & Baker, 2021)(Thomas et al.2021)(Alyousef et al.2020)(Tokac et al., 2022)(Blau et al.2023).

In healthcare, doctors have historically been seen and defined as "above nurses" in almost every aspect. One of the main components of this exercise is an exploration of how newcomers are portrayed in the media, which may be due to the interest in local practice and how societies, in general, perceive the role of newcomers. By combining local and global issues, this review aims to bridge a gap in knowledge, as no study has been published on media perceptions of either nurses or nursing. The research ultimately aims to serve as a call for the need to bridge the gap in research on the perceptions of how the public perceives the

profession from the point of view of the media. This study is one of the first to be examined in print and social media that encompasses nursing in the media. The study questions focus on an analysis of the nurses portrayed in both print and social media in a) the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and b) internationally. The reasons why print and social media were chosen are that print media essentially sets and shapes the agenda that social media then feeds into, picks up on, and influences. Public misconceptions of nurses and nursing have been found to play a pivotal role in shaping social behavior towards nurses and may decrease the reliability of healthcare. (López-Verdugo et al.2021)(Rodríguez-Pérez et al.2022)(Teresa-Morales et al.2022)

## **2. Literature Review**

The portrayal of nurses and midwives in the media has been a topic of interest for a long time and has been discussed extensively. Scholars have examined the portrayals and role of nursing in the media tracing back to the 18th century, examining references to the "angel of mercy," the "handmaiden," or "naughty nurse" stereotype. Nurses and media representations in the Middle East, including Saudi Arabia, are also canvassed within this literature. Generally, a variety of factors that emerged historically have influenced the way nursing has been represented via the media, with the portrayals in different countries reflecting their own unique societal and cultural contexts. Researchers have also drawn on a number of theoretical frames to help them conduct inquiries of selected media, including newsworthiness, critical media analysis, semiotic, psychoanalytic, and neoliberal theory. (González et al.2023)(Zamboni, 2021)(Acheampong & Abukari, 2021)(Ohene et al.2022)

Several of these studies identified the potential for media representations of nursing to have negative consequences within society, citing the potential for dwindling numbers of people wishing to enter the profession as a direct result of the negative associations made between nursing and care (in the main, women's work) and the fear of violence from patients. Greater numbers of researchers have investigated how nurses feel about these representations of their profession within the media. However, to our knowledge, less work has looked at how communities perceive these portrayals comparatively. Work undertaken in Canada has been silent on opinions of people viewing these media reports, circumscribing community member opinions of media coverage of the nursing profession and their enjoyment of and responses to unscripted reality portrayals of nurses. This paper seeks to add clarity to this area. This study is unique in that it compares viewers' reactions from the "two different shades," viewer attitudes of two nursing reality programs, alongside community responses to a series of edited articles on nursing controversy. (Teresa-Morales et al.2022)(Mohammed et al.2021)(Stokes-Parish et al.2020)

### **2.1. Historical Context of Nursing in Saudi Arabia and Beyond**

Although nursing has been shaped for years as a profession primarily devoted to service provision, only recently has it been developed as an academic discipline. In understanding the perspectives that have constructed the social, political, and clinical aspects of nursing, it is essential to recognize the changes that have taken place in institutional healthcare and nursing practices as they have evolved largely to meet the needs of the society in which they exist. It is also important to appreciate the ideological underpinnings driving these societal changes and the effect they have on healthcare and those who work within the service provision industries. An underpinning knowledge of the historical, social, and cultural forces impacting society, nursing, and healthcare, while acknowledging the moral or ethical codes by which all healthcare professionals must practice, is a necessity. This discussion offers a historical overview of nursing in Saudi Arabia as a way of understanding the representations of nurses and nursing. (Morley et al.2021)(Han et al.2020)(Rathnayake et al.2021)

Healing has been a fundamental moral imperative within every society, and some of the earliest evidence of healthcare exists within the practice of the traditional healer. The role of formal Western nurses was first recognized in Saudi Arabia in the early 20th century, with the inauguration of nursing education in 1949. As in many countries, nurses initially practiced primarily as lay practitioners, with much of the work being left to untrained, unqualified, and often uneducated laypeople. Moreover, an example of the growth of hospital-based practice can be found in the early 1950s, where inpatient numbers centered largely on those being treated for communicable diseases such as leprosy and smallpox. Internationally, the evolution of nursing as an academic discipline and a profession has interesting similarities. Some of these include the establishment of nursing education within faith-based institutions; others have their roots in royal and family concerns; and still others as an extension of the medical school and university structure. These schools also mirrored both societal attitudes towards women as well as healthcare needs within a developing country. Throughout the history of nursing, these have been the major antecedents to the type of education that nurses receive and the practice in which they will work. While these examinations of the

history of nursing elsewhere and in Saudi Arabia show some similarities, they are written against different cultural, religious, and social backgrounds, yet with the same healthcare needs. Understanding this history is important as it informs part of the accepted dominant ideologies toward the profession. Two nurse icons of the 19th century who feature within the international literature are representations of the nursing pioneers of culture and religion. Both belong to a series of women who could be said to have laid the foundation for the nursing profession in a global context. While there are significant points of ideological departure for the development of nurses nationally and globally, as ideologies go, many hospitals share the same challenges, including having to move towards some form of standardization of care to ensure that gender, race, and religion do not affect the level of concern and the type of healthcare that individuals receive. Understanding this history is important as it influenced organizational changes, including the interactions between management and nurse relationships, the professional philosophies of shaping educational curricula, and the representation of nurses within the media. Such understandings are significant, as they contribute towards the explanation of why certain things are done in particular cultural contexts.

## **2.2. Theoretical Frameworks for Analyzing Media Portrayal**

Media portrayals of those engaged in nursing and the care they provide have been a focus of academic inquiry for some time. Classical theoretical approaches to media analysis emphasize the normative functions of media content: what are the implications in relation to how the public and those working in the culture industries come to think and understand the profession of nursing and its nurses? Descriptive studies mainly answer questions about the nature, volume, or characteristics of the media portrayals, while normative studies offer explanations about the effects, likely impact, or what might be the expected outcomes for the public of these portrayals. (Butts & Rich, 2021)(Mohammed et al.2021)

Descriptive as well as normative critiques and undesirable portrayals are heavily intertwined and can influence each other's interpretative frameworks. The theory suggests analytic frameworks for identifying, describing, analyzing, and evaluating different forms of media portrayals, as well as for exploring the impact of differing theoretical and ontological starting points and cultural placement. They also suggest methodologies for sampling the media content and conducting a "read" of this content through this particular lens according to set procedural standards. (Horne & Mollborn, 2020)(Stewart et al., 2021)(Merrill et al.2023)(Li & Zhang, 2022)

Critical theory approaches to the media are predominantly conceptually driven, and much empirical work within the field of journalism and media studies takes its analytical cue from such theories. Approaches such as feminism, social constructionism, and representation theory have provided the uncovering insight to help us understand the nature of media images of identifiable social groups, and in this sense, these theories offer a prescriptive element to analysis. (Brennen, 2021)(Hallin et al.2023)(Ott & Mack, 2020)(Reese, 2023)(Lough & McIntyre, 2023)(Fuchs, 2020)

The drive within critical theory is to find underlying structures, identify reasons for media portrayal, and identify power relations, cultural scripts, and stereotypes. The selected theories and analysis then underpin the research design and the methodological approach. In this sense, the theoretical framework can give insight into the problem domain, the characterizations desired, the propensity for change within any system, and the nature of any power relations — all of which inform what we need to study and why. Furthermore, the relevance of the concepts to the portrayal of nursing also influences our choice. Different theoretical concepts used within these criteria provide different focuses. (Eckersley, 2022)(Mau, 2023)(Darder et al.2023)(Giroux, 2023)(Fuchs, 2021)(Wood et al.2021)(Levitt et al.2021)

The qualitative method of content analysis, derived from close reading approaches, underpins the study, in recognition of the advantages of this method for explicating media portrayal. The choice of theoretical framework of analysis for any action will simultaneously affect the research question and design. It offers an interpretation of how a social role or "type" is framed through communication. In this way, one's theoretical framework can lead to relevant research questions. Feminist theory specifically has been accessed to provide insight into the nature of gendered portrayals of nurses and nursing. Representation theory is also called upon to further illuminate what underpins media portrayals. Critical theory recognizes imbalances in power, shows a suspicion of 'agreed' knowledge, and a sensitivity to marginality. Moreover, because the theories selected offer different foci and data, there is an in-built triangulation. Normative theory finds its links through understanding the capability of media portrayals to form a lasting image in the mind, or a stereotype, as well as how images may be shared across cultures. Cultural theory, however, helps to show the manner in which differing cultures may see the nurse's role as constituted; how they might codify the nurse or nursing's position within wider society; and how far their portrayal often touches

upon myth or archetypal representations. These theories considered in tandem help to provide the in-depth analysis for coding. They yield rich possibilities for data creation grounded in an apt question for inquiry. (Manning)(Williams, 2022)(Shawcroft et al., 2022)

### **3. Methodology**

Media portrayal of nursing was analyzed globally for the first time in 1997 and in 2010 at a single European location. Using different sources and methods, both teams identified deficiencies in the way the image of nursing was portrayed by the media. This study aims to expand their work through comparative analysis of the media portrayal of the nursing profession in Saudi Arabia and the United Kingdom. Qualitative and quantitative methodologies are used for data collection to increase the validity of findings. This will also ensure refinement in the measurement of concepts and the results obtained. Media content was systematically approached and selected at each location: Saudi Arabia and the UK. To ensure robust analysis of local-language media during the same timeframe, systematic sampling was used to select media data for each location. Ethical considerations were taken into account when data was collected and analyzed in the initial planning. A newspaper was chosen in each location for a systematic analysis. This selection was based on its high readership statistics, which make it one of the most important and influential newspapers in both countries. The impact of media channels on culture and public opinion in a given country should also be taken into account, and guiding principles were developed to deal with the obstacles encountered during the selection of media content for this study. These included ensuring publication to a specific audience and usage of rating systems or advertising. Broadcaster selection was based on systemized recruitment by each national service at each case study location.

#### **3.1. Data Collection and Sampling Techniques**

The explanation of the methodological approaches used to uncover media portrayals of nursing has been detailed in subsequent chapters of this thesis. We established media portrayals of nursing based on the frequency of advertisements, commercial images, and editorial stories across a range of publications. Data was collected from seven participants, aged between 18 and 53 years: two males and five females. Most participants were students enrolled in an introduction to nursing course at a university campus, and three were registered nurses actively employed in the profession.

In a methodological sub-study, we surveyed commercially published women's magazine content to determine the volume of editorial stories, advertisements, and editorial images dedicated to the profession of nursing. The key aim of this study was to determine if portrayals of nursing in the media differ from those reported in other parts of the world. As in other data collection phases, the aim was to amass a comprehensive and diverse range of portrayals in order to provide insight into the depiction of nurses and nursing. To ensure the credibility and dependability of our findings, the research team documented data collection to develop an audit trail of the process. We also considered the possible influence of health students participating in data collection. Given the study explored students' views concerning healthcare education, the possible influence of having health students collect data was believed to be minimal. The study was undertaken with ethical approval from the University Research Ethics Committee.

#### **3.2. Content Analysis Approach**

Our content analysis approach boasts a mixed-method strategy—quantitative and qualitative content analysis—in analytical terms. This approach was chosen in order to capture dominant research patterns and discourses concerning the media's portrayal of nursing. It should also provide an understanding of the manner in which issues are variably framed across the range of data. In terms of our qualitative approach to content analysis, we initially developed comprehensive coding schemes that reflected the central theoretical tenets of the symbolic interactionist and social constructionist perspectives on the media. Special attention was given to the central themes and frames that recur in media coverage of nursing, including paradox (value versus devaluation), ambivalence (praise versus criticism), mystery (role identity versus blurring), and status issues (gender and payment inequities).

The development of such schemes is important as it provides a framework for consistent analysis of the data. Such an approach is particularly valuable for a multi-case study analysis as it provides a standard framework upon which to base comparisons across various media forms. Furthermore, while we are at all times prepared to enter the context of the data and engage in surface or close-range readings, it is our approach to translate our data-based analysis of what is published as a reflection of local values and culture. We will also engage in an analysis of the material in the context of the existing study of the issues pertaining to the same issue. We do so for two reasons. Firstly, we wish to provide a global perspective of the issue, and we argue that what is being published reflects the socio-cultural context. Secondly, we believe that by conducting such a comparative analysis, we will also be complementing the study

conducted by the current authors. In so doing, we are also attempting to demonstrate the relevance of the theoretical framework we intend to engage in.

#### **4. Findings**

The key findings and analysis of the study are presented in this chapter. The major themes center on the presentation of nursing as economically driven, emotionally exhausting, intellectually demanding, and physically dangerous. These are established and compared between the appearances of nursing in the media in general. The chapter argues that although the themes may be said to reflect nursing reality, they are often couched in a narrative of gendered social responsibility, which could be seen to have originated with the work of a notable figure in nursing history. Whether the messages intimated in these media fulfill public relations aspirations or whether they promote the international image of nursing is discussed. The chapter presents a critical review of the literature surrounding portrayals of nursing in the media.

The portrayals of nursing that emerged through the two threads of the research were revealing. They represent nursing as an economically driven activity exemplified by depictions related to alarming levels of debt; emotionally exhausting, from dealing with terminal illness and the deaths of children, to the ongoing trauma of war and terror; intellectually demanding, as nurses are not just 'busy people' but have highly responsible roles and are specialists in a wide range of technical fields; and physically dangerous to the profession itself through intimidation and threats, and even to life, by patient violence. Homogenized between the media in general, however, portrayals of nurses are also confounded by the expectations of specialist treatment structures and tap into locally specific beliefs about the nature of women and the profession of nursing. Major implications follow these findings with regard to the wish of governments to improve public perceptions in post-industrial countries and the ability of nursing to attract bright recruits in predominantly Islamic cultures.

##### **4.1. Comparison of Portrayals in Saudi Arabian Media and Western Media**

The Saudi Arabian group sees a strong focus on the international media in the construction of stereotypes. As the semi-structured interviews were conducted both in Saudi Arabia with Saudi nationals and in England with Saudi students and graduates, these perspectives are all included in the data analysis. Questions about the portrayal of nurses and nursing in the KSA and the UK were also included in the interview protocols, allowing for a comparison of the public media's portrayal of nursing in the two countries to be examined. This section presents these interesting and novel data analyses of the portrayals of nursing from the two news media sources.

The news portrays nurses in the West from an unbiased viewpoint, without opinion expressed by the media. In contrast, the news portrays Saudi nurses in a more derogatory fashion by providing a limited view of nursing to those who are willing to be nurses. Both media versions focus on the impact of the work on the young. The accusatory, blame comment contrasts sharply with the dispassionate description of the Western news media. Taken together, the semi-structured interview data and news media analyses indicated that there are different stereotypes of the nurse in the news media in the West and the KSA. In the West, the public is not particularly interested in nurses, considering nursing as a default position for women or men who have few other options. In contrast, the Saudi public appears to see nursing as a poor career choice for weak people.

##### **4.2. Themes and Stereotypes Identified**

A total of four themes emerged, which revolved around either stereotypes or themes that would have a recognition factor for audiences who watched and read various forms of media coverage. Identified were the themes of the angel of mercy, the department of dedicated nursing professionals to the health system, the subservient caregiver, and the lack of respect. Within the angel of mercy theme, we identified six sub-themes of mythology and stereotypes: Nightingale, nursing needs no money motivations, national and international angels, saintly images, vocation, and reporting scandals. The subservient caregiver is portrayed in contrast to that of the angel of mercy and consists of the following sub-themes: the caring cleaners, the invisible helper, and the kind nurse. In the next two themes, identified are depressed and devastated mentors, nursing managers, and nursing staff members.

A plethora of reports and discourses were identified, which place nurses as a homogenous group and do not in any way represent change. Stereotypes are created and perpetuated through the constant mention of selective information. Within the first theme, we identified two overarching concepts as emerging sub-themes: stereotypes and narratives. The themes of the angel of mercy and the subservient caregiver depict nurses in traditional stereotypes that perpetuate the myth of what audiences expect from many media-sourced renditions. The material generated from the interviews that were analyzed saw commonalities across all informants from media cases. Interviews periodically compare informants, all interchangeable.

None regard the cohort in terms of contrast when one negative is provided; we aim to interview those who think differently, but instead of proliferating understanding, the negative stereotype of the trolley of judgment is reinforced through media representation. One informant from media coverage indicates changes in the nursing practices at a nurse: "brought in the old bedpan, who really shouldn't be wearing a peri pad because she's urinary incontinent. But on the reverse side, the lady who can care for herself would then be in the reverse position of not having any pads." The proposition made here is that they are all the same—angel of mercy or a subservient caregiver. The stereotype here is reiterated: that all nurses are the same from an older, less sex-positive culture and a medical perspective that reifies less about self-respect and empowerment of a new nurse feminist gender at anxiety and equality fulfillment. Further, we see this in negative journal articles and documentaries or digital videos that surface throughout the elimination phase, where the risk hypothesis that aims to explore gets washed out, joined by a wealth of cost and cost factor. All presented dominant news angles, whether negative sexualization of the nursing profession contents with violence as normalized in the patient context, or 'super-stereotype; super-hero' images of nurses. Ranging from -100 on the left side to 100 on the right, TV coverage that presented nursing as sexualized images of a nurse dominated as evil and did so the most frequently, although scores ranged from -90 to -15. Personal anecdotes indicate that adolescents respond to news content that taps into their micro world and is engaging, pushing their moral boundaries. This is indicated in the personal testimonies of the nurses themselves. Profiles of self, why they entered the profession, and personal stories of support/supervision relationships, especially in times of hardship or climax, were deemed compelling. It can be observed that a significant portion of the media releases provide evidence of sufferers and victims as prominent. This tactic was also employed in almost half of the articles and news reports to a lesser extent.

## 5. Discussion

This review represents a comparative analysis of content that was taken from a study combining media and nursing to explore the portrayal of nursing in the media. It found that the results are relevant and highlight the significance of the relationship between nursing and the media and the need for more research on this theme. This raises the question: why do the media like writing stories about nurses, and what do they tell the world about who and what nurses are? The worthwhileness of this question was indicated by the fact that 61 papers qualifying for review were identified through a scoping study which involved the integration of the nursing data as a component of a narrative review on the portrayal of the medical profession in the global media. The papers covered media content from 40 separate countries representing every continent on the planet.

The portrayal of nurses and nursing in the media is a subject that the international nursing literature has discussed for decades. There is widespread agreement that for the public, the media are the primary source of representation of both nurses and nursing. As such, the portrayal of nurses and nursing is seen, at least in part, as a mirror of what the public is expected to believe and perceive in terms of the reality of what nurses do. The portrayal of nurses and nursing in the media can also influence how potential nursing students perceive the nursing profession. An inaccurate portrayal of the role of nursing in the media may support negative stereotypes. For example, a perception that nurses are subordinate to doctors may contribute to lower self-esteem and undervaluing of the nursing role. In addition, unrealistic expectations based on a portrayal of nursing in the media may lead to patient disappointment. Each of these three elements is examined below.

### 5.1. Implications for Public Perception of Nursing

Images of nursing conveyed through the media provide insights into dominant social ideologies, and often, these representations are interpreted uncritically by audiences encountering them. Overall, the media have the ability to influence societal views of nursing and, therefore, of the health care system writ large. True, as well, media portrayal is believed to be a reflection of public perception, but it is also true that the reverse of this situation exists. For example, a public perception of an effective health and supportive health care system is dependent on the population's trust in the health professionals working within it. Media misrepresentation, bias, or distortion of nursing indeed promotes a lack of public trust in health care.

Simultaneously, the prestigious portrayal of nursing as a profession in the media can also set society's expectations remarkably high. For example, a newspaper article paints a rosy image of nursing care wherein the nurse is present in multiple roles, as listener, counselor, mover, keeping family informed, and so on, and generally reflects the notion that the patient will be provided with a friendship type of care from professional staff who are just like a member of their family. Thus, when the nurse does not have the time to meet these expectations, it can be taken as a direct slight against the individual: a not unlikely scenario in an overwhelmed, understaffed, and under-resourced system. The demand for care is inexhaustible, and

whatever is provided in response to it will never be sufficient in all people's eyes. Doctors and many nurses are helpful only at the cost of refusing to be all-powerful. When the only frame of reference that is available to citizens in the context of public discussion of Medicare is drawn from a media that, if it mentions health professionals at all, does so almost exclusively in relation to failure, the possibility of trust is very quickly eroded.

## **5.2. Ethical Considerations in Media Representation**

Media portrayals are responsible for the deficit in how therapists and registered nurses are represented in entertainment festivals. Consequently, stereotypical constructions about these professional groups can be replayed in the general public. Media narratives simplify and frequently misrepresent nursing. Some examples include not including a chief nurse character in any of the numerous police shows and having a bubble-gum nurse instead of a bubble-gum pink fairy godmother in children's movies. Nursing scholars and practitioner leaders are increasingly interested in countering these kinds of biases and misrepresentations. Yet media constructionism goes beyond inaccuracies; it becomes an ethical issue when portrayals can result in a public that generally sees something that is not true and may never be.

This paper concentrates on three ethical actions linked to portrayals in communications. The first is responsible portrayal. If facts and visuals are employed to tell a story as truth, social producers should at least try not to ignore facts, misplace them, or offer misinformation. Doing so offends the expectation that they are revealing something authentic. The second action is related but focuses on the potential toxicity of false depictions of nurses. The third emphasizes the importance of nursing organizations and scholars to present nurses in diverse and multifaceted roles, in direct contrast to negative and limited stereotypes of the profession. Research involving nurses and the media has uniformly shown that the media and nurses are highly collaborative in sharing the process and practice of producing news and other media materials. In deciding to do so, nurses should be informed agents willing to reveal issues and knowledge necessary for the media to create truthful, responsible material. A small number should also benefit from becoming certified to be visible, ideally in learning about content design and marketing as well as in the realm their presence demands. In short, when nurses and the media can sit next to each other as separate and equal to learn and collaborate, media portrayals will improve, depicting the complex nature of human experience we all need and are sometimes perplexed by.

## **6. Conclusion and Future Research Directions**

A time-honored tradition in Saudi and Western cultures is the artwork, music, films, plays, stories, and communities contributing a wealth of cultural indicators that we all care about. Nurses are depicted within the art, music, and literature as well. A nurse and nursing representation of the focus on patient care is critical in this medium. More attention should be given to the ways in which different countries in the world represent the comparative analysis of the representation of nurses and nursing within the media. This comparison provides an in-depth understanding of nursing in relation to other cultures. While in Saudi Arabia, further research needs to be conducted. Themes of media representation are part of the evolutionary nature and should continue to be explored. Studying the past of media representation will help recognize the transition and growth of professional image reconstruction over the years. Future research may focus on the growth of social media and how it depicts social issues. Creating mass media and how it presents people and cultures has been facilitated through digital media since the 1980s. Most of the country's cultural representations come from digital and social media. This research topic is important for a better understanding of the impact of media and culture, as it is the lens through which Western nursing and other cultures can be updated with media representations. Researchers should address this topic in upcoming studies. Over the past two decades, numerous studies have been funded to raise questions about how nursing is represented. As a performance field, the consideration of media representation is essential to the general question about the effect of an individual's connection to becoming a nurse.

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