

Social Sciences(None)

# American Nursing Education Since World War II: History and Perspective

Betty S. FURUTA

*Department of Nursing Faculty of Medical Welfare Kurashiki, Okayama, 701-0193, Japan*

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## Abstract

After World War II, American nursing began innovations that continue to the present. A brief, chronological review is presented of developments in the profession during the approximately 50-year interval. The discussion covers the evolution of registered nurse education as it shifted from predominantly hospital-based, diploma training to academic degree programs. Also reported is the influence of important studies on the profession through the years. The article concludes with reflections on the future. At the threshold of the 21st century, nursing is re-examining its role in society to meet the challenges of the newly established managed health care system and an increasingly informed, health-oriented public.

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