
Letters to the editor

Letters received from readers in response to articles and ideas published in ANS are regularly featured, providing an opportunity for constructive critique, discussion, disagreements, and comment intended to stimulate the development of nursing science. Unless otherwise stated, we assume that letters addressed to the editor are intended for publication with your name and affiliation. As many letters as possible are published. When space is limited and we cannot publish all letters received, we select letters reflecting the range of opinions and ideas received. If a letter merits a response from an ANS author, we will obtain a reply and publish both letters.

To the editor:

I find Beverly Hall's latest article on stability (*ANS* 5:3, April, 1983) very thought-provoking.

Since the focus of Dr. Hall's approach is the concept of stability, I would like to suggest that stability is the synthesized concept emerging from change (thesis) and stasis (anti-thesis). This point becomes even clearer if stability is viewed, as Dr. Hall suggests, as pattern continuity.

Margaret A. Newman
Professor
Pennsylvania State University
University Park, Pennsylvania

To the editor:

Your article entitled "Parental reaction to the birth of an infant with a defect: an attributional approach" written by Mary L. Horan, RN, MSN, *ANS* 5:1, was well written, educational, and thought provoking.

Although I have not had this experience of dealing with birth defects on a personal level, it is my experience with friends and family that the emotional trauma is stressful to say the least. Often I hear the question, "why me?" It is evident that there is a great need for more research to provide more information regarding parental reactions, relating to negative reproductive outcomes. It is interesting that I note genetic counseling as intervention designed to help parents avoid the risk of future defective offsprings has not met with great success. One would tend to believe that once parents have been advised of risk for repeated congenital abnormalities this would be deterrent to future reproduction. From your article obviously this is not so.

Thanks for sharing this interesting information.

Joyce Harris, RN
Pensacola, Florida