

cultural competence to ensure that holistic care is provided to their clientele. Teachings based on cultural competence, while informative, do not provide nurses with the skills to effectively engage with families and are a short-sighted way to approach this contextualized part of children's lives. Cultural competence does spur reflection upon elements of society that perpetuate social inequity or injustices, such as racism, ageism, or homophobia. Cultural humility, on the other hand, recognizes that children and families are affected by the intersection of social elements of society and this can contribute to health inequity or poor health outcomes. For example, migrant children may face special challenges because of poverty or low-wage work, the family's undocumented status, and community attitudes toward immigration. Cultural humility is a “commitment and active engagement in a lifelong process that individuals enter into for an ongoing basis with patients, communities, colleagues, and themselves” (Tervalon and Murray-Garcia, 1998). It requires that health care providers participate in a continual process of self-reflection and self-critique that recognizes the power of the health care provider role, views the patient and family as full members of the health care team, and does not end after reading one chapter or attending one course; it is an evolving aspect of being a health care provider. Similarly, Furlong and Wright (2011) encourage health care providers to be “critically aware.” This means that nurses should engage with children and families from a stance of curiosity and “informed not-knowing” by changing the dynamic of the encounter to learn from the family, rather than only being the expert clinician (Furlong and Wright, 2011). This liberates the nurse from a reliance on static knowledge that may not be relevant for the client, and it allows the nurse to be a “knowledge-seeker” who tries to understand what life is like for the child and family. This critical awareness also calls nurses to assess their own history and the contextual factors that have shaped their own life. Critical awareness draws us to reflect on aspects of North American culture that may be invisible or taken-for-granted, such as emphasis on independence and individualism, and the ways in which this doesn't match the needs of children and families.

A family's religious and sociocultural backgrounds can influence their decisions about health care and the religious traditions and