A diagram of the causes of mortality

Description automatically generated**PSYC6135: Assignment 2**

The above graph by Nightingale (1859) tells a powerful story regarding causes of death in the army. Not surprisingly based on Nightingale’s impact in the field, the radial diagram is successful in conveying her story as it clearly communicates that the majority of deaths were a result of preventable disease. The contrast between deaths due to preventable disease and deaths from all other causes is striking in this graph, sending a clear message to government and health officials that solutions are needed immediately. Moreover, this message comes across quickly and easily, with little information on radial diagrams needed to interpret the message. This makes this type of graph extremely accessible to the lay person. Furthermore, the graph does an excellent job at conveying trends over time, illustrating the changes from month to month clearly. Some areas of improvement include providing numerical labels within the wedges so readers can better interpret what each size of the wedge represents. If possible, combining both years into one graph, or demonstrating each year in graphs of equal size would make visual comparison across years simpler.