

## EDITORIAL

Dear Readers,

It is an honor for me to have an opportunity to write this editorial for the *Central European Journal of Nursing and Midwifery*.

For quite some time, I have been thinking about the philosophical and moral aspects of science, research, theory, practice and education, which, in my opinion, receive little attention in our geographical and cultural context. On many occasions, I have heard that these aspects are considered a mere appendage to scientific and practical activities. I must say, however, that it is the other way round. Reflecting basic phenomena such as care or dignity could contribute to a deeper understanding of what care for somebody – to care about others - means and of how to show respect for another human being.

And it is these important terms that are often turned into nothing but ubiquitous empty phrases, statements, roles “it should be like that”. What makes any activity meaningful is being lost. Practice has become a routine seen through a prism of economic markers; scientific activity has become a hunt for publication points and projects. The original sense well-founded by values such as help, systematic extension of knowledge or honesty is being lost. In this context, I consider the legacy of German Philosopher Edmund Husserl to be still alive – back to the things themselves.

As a university teacher, I wonder how to approach my students in such a Husserlian way. I have realized that it is us who provide our students with instrumental knowledge and skill training but we work with their attitudes and values to a much lesser extent. Rarely, we show how things are interrelated in a wider context. But attitudes and values are among essential factors affecting how practice and research look in the end. There are excuses like “there is no time for that”, “we are being pushed into that” or “there is no money for that”. But that is the point – inertia, dogmatism, shallowness and, eventually, it is about morals.

It would be interesting to devote more of our time to reflections on the ethical aspects of practice, research and education also in articles published in Czech and Slovak nursing journals. I believe this would draw more attention to the unquestionable meaningfulness of these areas of human activity and contribute to their cultivation.

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