DETERMINATION OF NURSING STUDENT'S ATTITUDES TOWARDS REFUGEES AND AFFECTING FACTORS

Background
Negative attitudes of nurses who will provide care to refugees may negatively affect the quality of healthcare services. The curricula of nursing students, who will have a direct encounter with the positive and negative situations caused by migration and refugees, especially after graduation, need to include positive attitudes and behaviours as well as knowledge and skills to provide healthcare to individuals, families, and communities coming from different cultures [1,2,3].

Aim(s)
This study was carried out in a descriptive and cross-sectional type to determine the attitudes of nursing students towards refugees and the factors affecting them.

Methods
The study consisted of 1665 nursing students studying in the three universities in Istanbul between the 2020-2021 academic years. The sample of the study consisted of 646 students determined by power analysis. Data were collected by Students Data Form and the Attitude Scale Regarding Syrian Refugees [4]. Institutional permissions and ethics committee approval was obtained (Approval code: 14901). Students were informed about the study. The findings of the study were evaluated with the SPSS 24 program. Data analysis was performed using the Mann-Whitney U test, Kruskal-Wallis H test, Spearman correlation, and Bonferroni post hoc test.

Results
The average age of students was 20.07±1.68 years, and 84.8% were women. When the sub-dimension means of Attitude Scale Regarding Syrian Refugees were examined, the mean scores of the students were recognized as follows; 3.52±0.89 defended the rights of Syrian refugees, 3.45±0.96 had negative opinions about Syrian refugees, 3.32±0.96 supported finding radical solutions for Syrian refugees, 2.76±1.20 helped the Syrian refugees 2.47±0.69 agreed to find the moderate solutions for Syrian refugees. Examination of individual characteristics such as age, gender, number of siblings, education level, parent's education level and place of residence, factors such as job anxiety in the future, traveling safely, having refugee friends, presence of refugees in the family, disaster management education, the Attitude Scale Regarding Syrian Refugees sub-dimension, revealed a significant difference between the dimension mean scores ($p < 0.05$).

Discussion
It was determined that the attitudes of nursing students toward Syrian refugees were partially negative and that some individual characteristics and influencing factors were effective in their attitudes toward refugees.

Implications and future perspectives
In line with the results obtained from the study, it can be recommended that students need to be supported to determine their attitudes towards refugees and the factors affecting them and to develop positive attitudes in this context and that courses related to migration and refugees be added to the undergraduate curriculum.

References
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