**NUR415 Policy, Finance, and Quality in Nursing and Healthcare**

Week 1 Discussion (60 points)

Directions: Complete the checklist individually and then respond to the following questions:

1. Do you consider yourself to be politically active? Why or why not?

I do not classify myself as being politically active but that does not mean that I am ignorant. I am well aware of what is going on but I do not involve myself in the bureaucracies involved. The reason is I feel that many of the politicians put their interests first above everything else.

1. Do you feel that you are knowledgeable of the political process?

I do possess general knowledge of the political process like any other average citizen.

1. Should nurses be politically active? Why or why not?

I believe that nurses should be somewhat politically active as they are patient advocates and are in a better position to understand the various needs and processes that should be implemented to streamline the healthcare delivery process.

1. How can nurses make a difference in the health of their patients and the public by shaping policy?

Nurses can help make a difference by presenting public health policies and supporting them as they are geared towards increasing the health of the community.

1. What do you hope to learn during this course?

I hope to gain an understanding of the part that politics has to play in nursing and the various ways through which nurses can use politics to increase patient outcomes.

Respond to other comments.

|  | **Never** | **Sometimes** | **Always** | **Yes** | **No** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Engagement and Political Voice Checklist** |  |  |  |  |  |
| For each item, check the box that applies to you. For the item on voter registration, use the “Yes” or “No” boxes. |  |  |  |  |  |
| I work to solve community problems |  |  |  |  |  |
| I volunteer regularly for an environmental group |  |  |  |  |  |
| I volunteer regularly for a civic or community organization |  |  |  |  |  |
| I volunteer regularly for any other organization |  |  |  |  |  |
| I belong or donated money to any group or organization |  |  |  |  |  |
| Besides donating money, I help raise money for charitable causes |  |  |  |  |  |
| I have registered to vote |  |  |  |  |  |
| I vote in elections (regular voting) |  |  |  |  |  |
| I volunteer for a political campaign or candidate |  |  |  |  |  |
| I encourage others to vote |  |  |  |  |  |
| I wear a campaign button or have a sticker on my vehicle |  |  |  |  |  |
| I volunteer for a candidate, work or contribute money to a political party, or an organization that supports candidates |  |  |  |  |  |
| I contacted/visit public officials |  |  |  |  |  |
| I contact a newspaper or magazine |  |  |  |  |  |
| I contact a radio or television news show |  |  |  |  |  |
| I protest |  |  |  |  |  |
| I sign an e-mail petition |  |  |  |  |  |
| I sign a written petition |  |  |  |  |  |
| I boycott companies |  |  |  |  |  |
| I buy something to support the values of a company |  |  |  |  |  |

Adapted from Dahl, I., Hoy, A., Meisel, W.(Eds. of the Corella and Bertram F. Bonner Foundation.) (2006). *From community service to political action: A student call for civic engagement.* Princeton NJ: The Bonner Foundation.