

2020 came with a pandemic to remind modern society of its vulnerability*2020 llegó con una pandemia para recordar a la sociedad moderna su vulnerabilidad**2020 veio com uma pandemia para lembrar a sociedade moderna da sua vulnerabilidade***Chrystina Barros¹**

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We are closing a year that will undoubtedly be marked in the memory of our generation and certainly underlined in the history of humanity: 2020 came with a pandemic to remind modern society of its vulnerability.

Since the Spanish Flu in 1918, advances in science have transformed our lives. Thanks to advances in vaccines, the profile of deaths has changed: from causes related to infectious diseases, we migrate to the complications resulting from our sedentary way of life. We get sick from diabetes, hypertension and cancer, but we still live longer. We have gained more life expectancy; we just have not yet learned to grow old with the same quality that we invest in healing those who are economically active. Our National Immunization Program not only eradicated diseases, but also improved our infant mortality indicators, among others¹.

But this brought the man and the woman (why not quote like that?) To a state of great pride. We did not believe that we would succumb to another flu pandemic. Especially because the flu passes like a cold, and we are much superior to that. Mistake.

The extreme connectivity of a world where virtual borders have shattered geographic ones, caused a virus from China to reach the entire planet in months². But together with him, they also transcended the same boundaries, solutions, and possibilities for change. However, these possibilities will not be converted into anything if there is no deep reflection on what we are doing with our history, with our lives, with the legacy for future generations.

It is a fact that the capitalist production model also posed important challenges for us: N95 masks, respirators and other essential inputs for assistance were disputed in trade wars antagonistic to what the future needs and, for this, some countries organize themselves strategically to account for vital supplies that can suddenly become scarce in the face of disruptive episodes³. While a vaccine is being developed in record time⁴, light technology⁵ is the one that saves, but still seems disowned by many.

In fact, to deny and deny, words that occupied the minds of many, from scientists to politicians who leave bad examples to inspire a good part of society tired of isolating itself and impatient to return to a normal that even she does not know what will be.

The light technologies, which we master so well, prove to be the solution for a world that invests and consumes hard technologies, without realizing the values that are in fact at stake.

More than a flu, COVID-19 puts us during economic, social, psychological, and humanitarian impacts that we did not imagine until December last year. Science is not only biological, but it also transcends such boundaries that man insists on delimiting, as if it were possible to isolate himself in the present time or in the place he occupies today.

In 2020, nursing has its International year declared by the WHO⁶. It was not for nothing. The universe conspires. 150 years ago, Florence brought hygiene and letters to the Crimean war renegades, reducing mortality and revolutionizing the fight against epidemics⁷. Today, nursing washes hands and welcomes those in need with video calls, bringing patients and families closer. But beyond that, there is a lot of knowledge and science that needs to be highlighted.

We are professionals with multiple possibilities. If management was male and still predominates, we now have examples that inspire us to win positions and walk paths in health, in a broader way than just the department that once controlled our scales. It was what we had, but times evolve and require our evolution.

If the media present themselves with immediate and planetary influence, why not occupy them? The science behind each behavior or endeavor must be recognized.

The academy shows itself as a space from which solutions will come, but has it already left its learned castles and reached the mortal poor people of the practical world? How far can these virtual and academic limits stay? How can we build bridges where there are walls?

May we learn beyond the virus. That as a profession, nursing declares itself to the world through work of great value, with a lot of science and empowering itself with the diverse knowledge that the new world requires. After all, to change something, you must be there. But for now, it is essential that we reach the time soon when the pandemic is controlled, and the bestiality of men does not make it difficult for us to live in peace. After all, much of the rate of spread of this new disease is in us.

And so, we will break our next New Year's Eve, still waiting for a vaccine, but until then, needing to wash our hands in the mechanical sense of the word, not like Pontius Pilate⁸.

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