

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISSERTATION

### COMPASSION AND CARING IN CORRECTIONAL NURSING

by

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This study explored the concept of compassion satisfaction of correctional nurses within 1 private medical provider's system. Stamm's ProQOL and a second survey the researcher designed measured the relationship between compassion satisfaction and fatigue as it relates to a nurse's practice. In this study, a paired *t*-test result showed that compassion satisfaction was achieved more than fatigue. Chi square analysis then compared several variables of the sampled population of nurses in order to see if there was an effect on the ability to practice with compassion. Chi square analysis did not find the variables to be of significance. The 2nd survey identified custody as a major barrier to a correctional nurse's practice and nursing autonomy as a positive factor to practice in the correctional setting. The study provides a foundation in which the perceptions surrounding correctional nursing can be changed.