

LETTERS *to the editor*

The "Write On" column is intended as a forum for students to respond to articles in *Imprint* as well as issues in nursing today. Did you like something? Dislike it? Please send your letters to: nsna@nsna.org, att. WRITE ON.

So *Why* Did I Work So Hard?

This past June, *PARADE* magazine ran a piece entitled, "The Hottest Jobs: No College Degree Required," in which it highlighted RNs as one of the "no degree" required professions. Needless to say, we received many emails from NSNA members who took exception to this categorization and asked us to respond. NSNA president Jennifer Davis contacted *PARADE*, noting that in addition to having degrees, many nurses "are charged with disaster planning at their institutions, advise policy makers on pending legislation, and are often on the front lines in emergency situations."

The American Nurses Association (ANA) also ran the following release shortly thereafter, thanking those nurses and others who also wrote to *PARADE*:

ANA would like to express its appreciation for the nurses who contacted ANA and *PARADE* magazine to express their outrage at the inclusion of nurses in the April 15th article, "The Hottest Jobs: No College Degree Required." Due to the significant response from nurses everywhere, the editors of *PARADE* magazine were compelled to issue an apology and remove registered nurses from the piece.

ANA recently heard from *PARADE* magazine's Managing Editor Dakila D. Divina who wrote, "We recognize the important work that registered nurses do everyday, and we certainly did not intend to dismiss the advanced education and additional levels of training that many RNs pursue. We apologize for any misunderstanding this may have caused."

Beating the Stress with Affirmations

Dear Editor,

First I concur with "Happy to Give a Damn" [from the September/October 2007 *Imprint* "Write On" section]. Well said!

I also wanted to comment on how much I enjoyed the *Beating the Stress / Treat yourself Right* article by Lucia Thornton in the Sept/Oct 07 edition. We tend to get so wrapped up in our studies that we do neglect ourselves. Nursing school is definitely stressful! But how can we practice the act of "holistic care" if we are not leading by example and keeping ourselves healthy? [Ms. Thornton] provides sound information and great ideas for getting back on track. I especially liked the basic steps of meditation and have been putting these into practice. [It's] still too early for definitive confirmation, but the morning meditations and daily affirmations definitely seem to be working for me.

My new personal affirmation: A smile and a positive attitude are infectious; may I have the strength to provide both for myself and those I encounter each and every day. ☺

Thanks,
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