

Abstract

This project is an exploratory and qualitative survey which sets forth and examines the question: How does the nurse experience the meeting with a 6 – 12 year old child whose parents are dying?

Our aim with this project is to get a perception of and an insight into the factors and issues which we are facing when dealing with such a meeting.

To get an answer to our question we have undertaken a phenomenological, hermeneutic and scientific process - which is inspired by the methodology of Max van Manen and the method of analyzing established/used/invented by Steinar Kvale – and made a qualitative interview with a nurse.

After we through the analysis have reached a comprehension of: How the nurse experiences the meeting with the child, we use various theories. These theories we compare with our results in order to get a clear picture of the situation.

From the nurse's experiences we have discovered different facts and issues which play an important role in the meeting with children of dying parents.

These facts and issues are also involved when the child experiences and feels that its needs are not met.

Key words: meeting, relatives, child, youth, cancer, nursing, nursing profession, sorrow, care, nurses.