

Invitation to Nursing Identity Through Historical Inquiry, Research, and Writing Martha M. Libster - Historian

Highlights of Historical Inquiry, Research, and Historiography

1. Describe methods of historical research.
2. Examine possibilities of the relevance of historical research to personal focus area.
3. Review examples of historical research.
4. Differentiate Journalism from Historical Research and Historiography
 - Past Constructions
 - Presentist Eyes
 - Futurist Intentions
5. Discussion of history of date requirements and rigor
6. Purpose
 - Understand Peoples and Societies
 - History Helps to Understand Change and how society came to be
 - Reconstruction of a Well told story is beautiful
 - Construction of identity **rooted** in rich past
 - Skilled writing – not just accuracy
 - Student of History – Develops skills in pattern science, Informed Citizen
 - History (Humanities) informs science

Conclusions About the Nature of Historical Inquiry and Research:

- All research begins with an historical question.
- We gain insight when considering the context for human endeavor.
- History is the *science* of data over time.
- Understanding patterns of human behavior can be comforting and healing.
- People's memories of the past are fascinating!
- Exploring history is a deeply spiritual experience.

RESOURCES

LINKS HISTORY OF NURSING – by Martha M. Libster (Free Downloads)

<https://www.drmarthalibster.com/nurse-scientist-and-nursing-historian>

<https://www.goldenapplehealingarts.com/store>

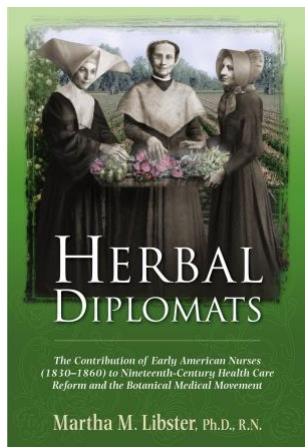
Book-Length Histories – M. Libster

Herbal Diplomats (2004)

2005 Lavinia Dock Award for Excellence in Historical Research and Writing

Available in Print (Hardcover or EPUB) – 9.95 / Read Reviews and TOC

<https://www.goldenapplehealingarts.com/store>



"This remarkable book connects medical history and women's history in pathbreaking ways. All students of American women's health history will benefit from its comprehensive and careful analysis."

~ **Kathryn Kish Sklar**, Distinguished Professor of History

“This very readable book provides an innovative historical perspective on the complexity inherent in the internal and external expectations assigned or assumed by community women and their creative use of the borderland between their private and public lives... The notion of cultural integration and the diplomacy required to achieve it is relevant today as nurses face the mounting health care crisis with a depleted workforce... The author offers a refreshing account of overlooked contributions to the historiography of health care and as such offers a refreshing perspective for students and scholars alike.”

~ **Olga Maranjian Church**, PhD, RN, FAAN

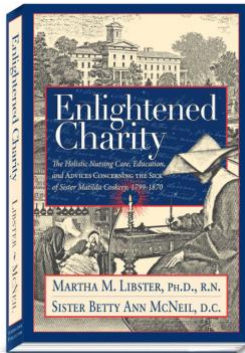
Founding Member of the American Association for the History of Nursing

“Dr. Libster 's work is an important contribution to an area of study in the history of nursing and health care in the United States. **This is a work that has patiently waited 150 years to have its story told...**Herbal Diplomats is engaging and well referenced. It pushes the borders of traditional history of nursing and medicine that have focused on professional viewpoints. It expands our view toward an emerging look at history that moves beyond the study of solitary heroes or history of professional practice. It is a story of the reality of the work of nurses within the context of their culture and actual practice in the nineteenth century.”~ **Elaine Sorensen Marshall, R.N., Ph.D.**

Enlightened Charity

Available in Print (Bookseller Price) or EPUB 9.95 / Read Reviews and TOC

<https://www.goldenapplehealingarts.com/store>



"We understand from this book how nurses lived their history and traditions and what has been their true legacy. I recommend it not only for the way it unearths this invisible tradition but for the analytical issues it raises and that desperately need discussion in the contemporary nursing universe."

~ **Suzanne Gordon**, Award-winning Journalist and Author

“*Enlightened Charity* is an intriguing, convincing, and groundbreaking history that contributes to our understanding of the consequences of choices made in the past for current nursing practice. This book presents an American history of nursing that claims a much earlier emergence than the traditionally held view that sees American nursing practice beginning in the late 19th century. This portrayal of the life and nursing of Sister Matilda is a work of art that offers valuable insights into the components of effective nursing practice. It is a most delightful read!”

~ **Sylvia Rinker**, RN, PhD President, American Association for the History of Nursing

Articles/Editorials/Videos/Podcasts - M. Libster

- Libster, M. *Wondering about the history of American nursing?* (6 minute Youtube). <https://www.drmarthalibster.com/nurse-scientist-and-nursing-historian>
- Libster, M. (2021) Women's Herstory Project – Podcast Guest - Did 19th century institutionalizing and deinstitutionalizing healthcare make it safer? <https://www.goldenapplehealingarts.com/free-resources>
- Libster, M. (2021). *Kindness as the remedy of remedies: A History of psychiatric mental health nursing*. Wauwatosa, WI: Golden Apple Publications Monographs.
- Libster, M. (2014). *APRNVoices: Holes in the Fabric of American Nursing*. Golden Apple Monographs, 1(1): 1-48. © 2014 Golden Apple Publications. [FREE Download](#)
- Libster, M. (2018). Spiritual formation, Secularization, and Reform of Professional Nursing in Antebellum America. *Journal of Professional Nursing*, 34(1): 47-53.
- Libster, M. (2011) Lessons Learned from a History of Perseverance and Innovation in Academic-Practice Partnerships. *Journal of Professional Nursing*. 27(6): e76-e81.
- Libster, M. (2010). Guest Editorial - From Flame to Bonfire: A Call for Companions. *Curationis: Journal of South African Nurses Assn.*, 33(1),3.
- Libster, M. (2009). A History of Shaker Nurse-herbalism, health reform, and the American Botanical Medical Movement (1830-1860). *Journal of Holistic Nursing*, 27(4), 222-231.
- Libster, M. M. (2008). Perspectives on the History of Self Care. *Self-Care, Dependent-Care and, Nursing*, 16 (2), 8-1.
- Libster, M. (2008). Elements of Care: Nursing Environmental Theory in Historical Context. *Holistic Nursing Practice*, 22(3), 160-170.
- Libster, M. (2001). *Demonstrating Care: The Art of Integrative Nursing*. Albany, NY: Delmar Cengage Learning.

Sample of Nursing History and Historical Research Resources

American Historical Association www.historians.org

American Assn for the History of Nursing <https://www.aahn.org>

Baker, N. (1952). *Cyclone in calico: The Story of Mary Ann Bickerdyke*. Little, Brown and Co.

Calabria, M. & Macrae, J. eds. (1994). *Suggestions for thought by Florence Nightingale*. University of PA Press.

Child, L.M. (Original 1837, 1997). *The Family Nurse*. Applewood Books.

Coskery, M. (Original 1840, 2009) *Advices concerning the sick*. See Appendix B *Enlightened Charity*, Golden Apple Publications.

Church, O. (1994). Historiography: In search of nursing's history. *Western Journal of Nursing Research*, 16(1): 108- 113.

D'Antonio, P. (2010). Histories of nursing: The power and possibilities. *Nursing Outlook*, 58(4): 207-213.

Francis, K. (2013). Historical Research. In *Qualitative Research in the Health Sciences: Methodologies, Methods and Processes* (Taylor & Francis eds.), 56-64.

Hewitt LC, (1997). Historical research in nursing: Standards for research and evaluation, *Journal of the New York State Nurses Association*, 00287644, Vol. 28, Issue 3.

Leavitt, J. & Numbers, R. eds. (1997). *Sickness and Health in America: Readings in the History of Medicine and Public Health*, 3rd ed. University of Wisconsin Press.

Lewenson, S. & Herrmann, E. *Capturing Nursing History*. (New York: Springer, 2007). (ISBN 13:9780826115669). Chapters 1, 2, 3, pages 1-44, and Chapter 12, pages 167-172.

Lusk, B. (1997). Historical methodology for nursing research. *Journal of Nursing Scholarship*. 29(4), 355-359

Poovey, M. (1988). *Uneven developments*. University of Chicago Press. Chapter 6 – A housewifely woman: The Social construction of Florence Nightingale.

Theophano, J. (2002). *Eat my words: Reading women's lives through the cookbooks they wrote*. Palgrave.

Tosh, J. (2009). 5th ed. *The pursuit of history*. Pearson Ed. Limited.

Ulrich, L. (1990). *A Midwife's tale*. Vintage Books.