In Depth Critical Thinking

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Thoughts on Critical Thinking: Right or wrong answer?
SPONGE vs. GOLD

SPONGE
www.ahappyplanet.com

www.minerals.net/mineral/elements/gold/gold1.jpg

www.usagold.com

perugoldtours.wordpress.com

www.geekologie.com
What is Critical Thinking?

Sharon Staib (2003) quotes:
Richard Paul, director of the Center for Critical Thinking and Chair of the National Council for Excellence in Critical Thinking in California:

“critical thinking is the art of thinking about your thinking while you are thinking in order to make your thinking better..."
What is Critical Thinking?

Paul and Heaslip (1995): “Critical thinking presupposes a certain basic level of intellectual humility (i.e. the willingness to acknowledge the extent of one’s own ignorance) and a commitment to think clearly, precisely and accurately and...act on the basis of genuine knowledge.”
“The Myth of the Right Answer”

The goal of Critical thinking:

“move the conversation forward”

Knowing what we do and don’t know when we are finished with the evaluation than when we began.

IT IS OK TO FORMULATE YOUR OPINION

Browne & Keeley
Why is it so difficult to find the “right answer” to many questions about human behavior?

Do you think that different textbooks on the same topic would always agree on the right answers? Why or why not?
ALL CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS ARE DEPENDENT ON THE PRIOR IDENTIFICATION OF THE:

ISSUE,
CONCLUSION,
REASONS

Browne&Keeley
Seventeen Consensus Dimensions of Critical Thinking in Nursing (Scheffer & Rubenfeld, 2000)

1. Analyzing
2. Applying standards
3. Confidence
4. Contextual perspective
5. Creativity
6. Discriminating
7. Flexibility
8. Information seeking
9. Inquisitiveness
10. Intellectual integrity
11. Intuition
12. Logical reasoning
13. Open-mindedness
14. Perseverance
15. Predicting
16. Self-reflection
17. Transforming knowledge
Reasons + Conclusion = Argument

Making a claim, an assertion, or a “point” is not the same as making an argument.

To qualify as an argument, reasons must accompany the claim.
What do you think?

Consider arguments that you have recently made. What KINDS of reasons did you use? Do you think some kinds of reasons are better than others? Why?

What are some steps that you can take to achieve openness on a topic for which you already have a strong opinion?
Critical Thinking in Nursing Practice

- Interpret: Recognize, classify, and describe the significance of data
- Analyze: Identify the intended and inferential meaning of, and relationships among, data
- Infer: Derive reasonable conclusions from the evidence
- Evaluate: Judge the credibility of information
- Explain: Justify the results of reasoning activity based on cogent arguments
• http://www.4debates.com/
• Dirty Little Secret - Universal Healthcare? Social Security?
• http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KGpY2hw7ao8
Global Mind change Remixed:
• http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ccwosoSR5HM&feature=user
WHY?

- Critical Thinking Skills are Vital to Good Nursing Practice
Socratic Questions

Conceptual Clarification Questions

Probing Assumptions

Probing Rationale, reasons and evidence

Questioning viewpoints and perspective

Probe implications and consequences

Questions about the question
References: