Cooper and Gosnell: Foundations and Adult Health Nursing, 7th Edition

Chapter 02: Legal and Ethical Aspects of Nursing

Answer Keys - Open Book Quizzes

- 1. Criminal law: conduct in issue is offensive and detrimental to society in general, involves public offenses, and its purpose is to punish for the crime and deter and prevent further crimes. Civil law: conduct violates a person's rights and is detrimental to that individual, involves an offense that is against an individual, and its purpose is to make the aggrieved person whole again.
- 2. Duty exists, breach of duty, harm occurs, and the breach of duty was the proximate cause of the harm.
- 3. The nurse-patient relationship begins when a nurse accepts a patient care assignment.
- 4. To provide accurate information about themselves, to give information regarding their known condition(s), and to participate in decision making regarding treatment and care.
- 5. Existing laws, rules, and regulations that govern nursing practice.
- 6. Minors under the age of 18 may consent for treatment in the event they meet certain criteria including: marriage, court approved emancipation, living apart from parents and/or guardians for at least 60 days and independent of parental support, and serving in the armed forces.
- 7. Declining physical health and mental ability, decreased strength and mobility, loss of independence, isolation, and loss of loved ones, friends, and relatives.
- 8. Provide compassionate, competent nursing interventions.
- 9. The first, fundamental principle is respect for persons (viewing all life as sacred with each individual having inherent worth as a person).
- 10. When reporting unethical behavior, the nurse should always follow the proper chain of command and should explain the facts as clearly as possible.