How nurses bring clarity to the nature of social change
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In the editorial, D'Antonio broadens the impact of an article in the same issue about how the role of Black American nurses during the 1918—1919 influenza pandemic incrementally advanced civil rights and provided some greater opportunities for Black nurses overall.

D'Antonio suggests that the history of nurses and nursing can move beyond just important events and actors; it can help provide answers to questions about how agendas around change in public health policy and practice might also change attitudes and beliefs; how self-interest or group interest may intersect with broader issues of social justice; and if harm reduction policies are appropriate steps when ultimate goals are for broad-based prevention.

"We can see the illustrative power of how this group of clinicians, and the discipline they represent, allow us to more fully understand the nature of social and political change," said D'Antonio. "Through historical analysis like this, we can see how nurse have used opportunities when there were increased demands for their care to challenge their marginalization or exclusions from larger issues of policy or practice."


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