

# The importance of black women in nursing in brazil and the world

## A importância das mulheres negras na enfermagem do brasil e do mundo

## La importancia de las mujeres negras en la enfermería en brasil y en el mundo

Valéria Joaquim de Oliveira Santos<sup>1</sup>, Jessica Gonçalves da Costa<sup>2</sup>, Fagner Alves Moreira Brandão<sup>3</sup>, Osmar Pereira dos Santos<sup>4</sup>, Iel Marciano de Moraes Filho<sup>5</sup>

**How to cite:** Santos VJO, Costa JG, Brandão FAM, Santos OP, Moraes Filho IM. The importance of black women in nursing in brazil and the world. 2023; 12(3): 443-62. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.36239/revisa.v12.n3.p443a462>

# REVISA

1. Paulista University, Campus Brasília. Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil <https://Orcid.org/0000-0002-0509-2405>
2. Paulista University, Campus Brasília. Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-1411-6827>
3. State Department of Education. Goiânia, Goiás, Brazil. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9251-3625>
4. Goyazes University Center. Trindade, Goiás, Brazil. <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7962-622X>
5. Paulista University, Campus Brasília. Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-0798-3949>

Received: 08/04/2022  
Accepted: 24/06/2022

### RESUMO

**Objetivo:** compreender a importância das mulheres negras na enfermagem e sua representatividade. **Método:** trata-se de uma revisão historiográfica realizada através de um levantamento em base de dados eletrônicos, que foram capturados por meio dos descritores em Ciência da Saúde: "História da Enfermagem", "Cuidados de Enfermagem", "Enfermagem em Saúde Comunitária", "Biografia" e "Racismo", combinados pelo operador bolleano "and", nos sites da Biblioteca Virtual em Saúde, da Scientific Electronic Library Online. Também foram utilizados documentos da literatura cinzenta e sites de domínio público. **Resultados:** foram avaliados 54 documentos relevantes ao estudo e que atenderam aos critérios de inclusão, sendo possível sistematizar e categorizar 13 mulheres negras que se destacaram na enfermagem e os seus principais feitos. Elas são: Mary Jane Seacole, Mary Eliza Mahoney, Mary Elizabeth Carnegie, Clara Adams Ender, Maria José Barroso ("Maria Soldado"), Maria Barbosa Fernandes, Lydia das Dores Matta, Maria de Lourdes Almeida, Josephine de Mello, Rosalda Paim, Izabel dos Santos, Maria Estella de Azevedo dos Santos e Ivone Lara. **Conclusão:** o negro, sobretudo as mulheres negras, sempre esteve ativamente envolvido no processo de cuidar, em todas as suas formas, porém seu protagonismo foi esquecido e invisibilizado, portanto, quanto mais se resgata fatos históricos e se coloca em evidência marcos que contribuíram para a mudança de paradigmas, menos riscos se corre em reproduzir e perpetuar histórias com protagonistas únicos. **Descritores:** História da Enfermagem; Cuidados de Enfermagem; Enfermagem em Saúde Comunitária; Biografia; Racismo..

### ABSTRACT

**Objective:** to understand the importance of black women in nursing and its representativeness. **Method:** this is a historiographical review carried out through a survey based on electronic databases, which were captured through the descriptors in Health Science: "History of Nursing", "Nursing Care", "Community Health Nursing", "Biography" and "Racism", combined by the Bollean operator "and", on the websites of the Virtual Health Library, of the Scientific Electronic Library Online. Documents from grey literature and public domain sites were also used. **Results:** 54 documents relevant to the study were evaluated and met the inclusion criteria, being possible to systematize and categorize 13 black women who stood out in nursing and their main achievements. They are: Mary Jane Seacole, Mary Eliza Mahoney, Mary Elizabeth Carnegie, Clara Adams Ender, Maria José Barroso ("Maria Soldado"), Maria Barbosa Fernandes, Lydia das Dores Matta, Maria de Lourdes Almeida, Josephine de Mello, Rosalda Paim, Izabel dos Santos, Maria Estella de Azevedo dos Santos and Ivone Lara. **Conclusion:** black people, especially black women, have always been actively involved in the care process, in all its forms, but its protagonism has been forgotten and invisible, therefore, the more historical facts are rescued and milestones that have contributed to the paradigm shift are highlighted, the less risks are in reproducing and perpetuating stories with unique protagonists. **Descriptors:** History of Nursing; Nursing Care; Community Health Nursing; Biography; Racism.

### RESUMEN

**Objetivo:** comprender la importancia de las mujeres negras en enfermería y su representatividad. **Método:** se trata de una revisión historiográfica realizado a través de una encuesta basada en bases de datos electrónicas, que fueron capturadas a través de los descriptores en Ciencias de la Salud: "Historia de la Enfermería", "Atención de Enfermería", "Enfermería en Salud Comunitaria", "Biografía" y "Racismo", combinados por el operador Bollean "y", en los sitios web de la Biblioteca Virtual en Salud, de la Biblioteca Electrónica Científica en Línea. También se utilizaron documentos de literatura gris y sitios de dominio público. **Resultados:** 54 documentos relevantes para el estudio fueron evaluados y cumplieron con los criterios de inclusión, siendo posible sistematizar y categorizar a 13 mujeres negras que se destacaron en enfermería y sus principales logros. Ellos son: Mary Jane Seacole, Mary Eliza Mahoney, Mary Elizabeth Carnegie, Clara Adams Ender, Maria José Barroso ("Maria Soldado"), Maria Barbosa Fernandes, Lydia das Dores Matta, Maria de Lourdes Almeida, Josephine de Mello, Rosalda Paim, Izabel dos Santos, Maria Estella de Azevedo dos Santos e Ivone Lara. **Conclusión:** las personas negras, especialmente las mujeres negras, siempre han participado activamente en el proceso de cuidado, en todas sus formas, pero su protagonismo ha sido olvidado e invisible, por lo tanto, mientras más hechos históricos se rescatan y se destacan los hitos que han contribuido al cambio de paradigma, menos riesgos hay en reproducir y perpetuar historias con protagonistas únicos. **Descritores:** Historia de la Enfermería; Atención de Enfermería; Enfermería em Salud Comunitaria; Biografía; Racismo

## Introduction

Within the context of science, nursing is defined as the art of caring, the particularity of providing assistance, and there is no single concept to define it, only some specificities inherent to the living context that complement each other. Each one meets the needs of its time and, thus, according to the development of society, new versions of concepts emerge, which may be more complex and with greater compatibility with professional practice.<sup>1,2</sup>

Historically, care is peculiarly linked to the feminine cosmos.<sup>3</sup> Despite this evidence, women were only sporadically mentioned in historical narratives, especially black women<sup>4,5</sup>. In addition, although not widespread, care and care practices have always been related to the customs of black people, since, since the era of slavery, black women played roles, such as black mothers, wet nurses, midwives, healers, who treated from illnesses and from a multitude of other tasks they were entrusted with.<sup>6</sup>

In this sense, nursing was still not considered a profession, but a job, mainly at home, exercised by men and women from lower classes, as well as those who were enslaved. Knowledge was based on alternative medicine, more instinctive and cultural, passed on and perpetuated from generation to generation. Later, around the 16th century, in Europe, the craft was already seen as a profession, especially after the industrial revolution, and gained strength in the 19th century, due to the notoriety of a personality called Florence Nightingale.<sup>7,8</sup>

As far as Brazil is concerned, it was only in the first half of the 20th century that the process of institutionalization began, mediated by the Brazilian Red Cross (Associação de Socorro Voluntário). Thus, the women's session resulted in the creation of a group of women from Rio society who volunteered as nurses, becoming known as Ladies of the Brazilian Red Cross, who would have, as their first task, training the body of volunteer nurses, however the scientific technical training only took place around 1930. In this context, subordinated to the National Department of Public Health, the Ana Nery School of Nurses, in Rio de Janeiro, was considered the official standard school.<sup>7,8</sup>

Therefore, when introducing care in the sense of professionalization in the history of nursing, black women did not gain notoriety as protagonists of care. The first nursing schools followed the Anglo-American professional model, originally proposed by Florence Nightingale (1820-1910), who sought to transform the term, which, in classical approaches, once had a stereotyped, discrediting synonym. So, an attempt was made to give new expression to the meaning of the word, expanding the status of care.<sup>9,10</sup>

In this perspective, they selected religious women, with an unblemished character, with an educational background and a vocation for care, attributes that were linked to white women, this was the figure of the nurse portrayed by the Anglo-American professional model. Black women, in turn, were typified as synonymous with illness, disability, out of standards.<sup>9,10</sup>. In this way, black women were not well liked in the first Schools of Nursing.<sup>11</sup>

On the other hand, it is important to point out that any system of inequality based on race, which occurs in departments, corporations or institutions, is conceptualized as institutional racism, which is formed when

ethnic-racial segregation is systematically encouraged in organizational segments. It can be characterized in various ways, including discriminatory practices or actions, racist prejudice and even disregard for milestones or important people in a cultural context.<sup>12</sup>

In this regard, the Federal Constitution emphasizes equality as a right, as it provides, in Article 5, that all are equal before the law, without distinction of any kind. It also reiterates, in its fundamental objectives, which is contained in article 3, item IV, the “promote the good of all, without prejudice of origin, race, sex, color, age and any other forms of discrimination”. Added to this, in Brazil, there is still a law number 7,716, of January 5, 1989, which defines crimes resulting from racial or color prejudice, helping to combat racism and corroborating the rights of blacks, which consequently influences positively in terms of the professionalization of black women in nursing.<sup>13,14</sup>

Furthermore, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) designated 2020 as the International Year of Nursing Professionals and Midwives, both promoting the work carried out by nurses and highlighting the challenging conditions of the category.<sup>15</sup>

Therefore, in view of this commemorative milestone and numerous citations referring to Florence Nightingale (1820-1910), founder of Modern Nursing, it is pertinent to highlight the importance of black women, who were also part of history and who, despite being often forgotten and neglected, stood out in a grandiose way, corroborating the historical trajectory of the profession.<sup>15</sup>

Thus, there was an interest in identifying which were the black nurses who historically stood out in nursing, aiming to understand the relevance of these women and their representativeness, since it is of fundamental importance to promote this protagonism.

Therefore, bringing this reflection to the academic area makes it possible to reframe the professional history of nursing itself, recognizing and contributing to such admirable deeds being propagated in the classrooms, as well as many other memorable figures.

## Method

This is a historiographic review, as the method adopted for the research consists of historiography, which includes the study of facts and events, in a temporal perspective. In this context, the following are considered: information sources, through written reports; texts of any kind, administrative documents; the temporal perspective, analyzing not only past events that were forgotten, but also observing how collectivities and communities proceed and transform over time; the global perspective, in which the narratives of a society are the junction of the daily events of each individual, that is, the stories are intertwined in a way that they cannot be disconnected, or at least they are prone to do so.<sup>16,17</sup>

Therefore, the search for articles and journals was initially carried out through a systematic search, in virtual databases, of articles published in scientific journals, which were captured using the following descriptors in Health Science: "History of Nursing", "Nursing Care", "Nursing in Community Health", "Biography" and "Racism". For this purpose, the sites of the Virtual

Health Library and the Scientific Electronic Library Online were used, mediated by the Boolean operator and.

Then, other references, related to the gray literature, were included in the review, obtained through the search on sites such as: Periodicals of the State University of Maringá, Research Notebook of the Carlos Chagas Foundation, USP Digital Library (Theses and Dissertations) and Library Nacional, in addition to consulting dissertations, theses and digital books.

Subsequently, it was necessary to cover the searches on websites of the Class Councils, such as the Federal Council of Nursing, and the sections of the Regional Nursing Council of the Federal District, São Paulo and Rio Janeiro, in addition to sites such as the Oswaldo Foundation Cruz, the National Health Foundation, the African American Registry and The History Makers. In addition to these sites, some articles were consulted on the TabUOL portal, on *Sou Enfermagem*, on *Pensar a Educação* and on *Correio Bahia*, from which complementary and relevant data to the research were extracted.

The inclusion criteria used for this research were: documents that dealt with black women in nursing, including biographies that told the story of these women's lives and careers; and date of publication (chosen a historical survey with a period from the beginning to the present day). The exclusion criteria were: articles or materials that did not address the proposed theme or that were not fully available.

Then, the texts that met the inclusion criteria were retrieved and analyzed in full, observing the due aspects (time, information sources and global perspective) for the object of study and researched theme. Therefore, a total of 63 documents were identified, of which 9 were excluded for not meeting the theme, as they brought aspects related to the theme, but with another approach.

In this way, a total of 54 documents were evaluated, distributed as follows: 28 documents that included articles, periodicals and master's dissertation; 23 materials from websites, such as those from class councils and virtual libraries, Ministry of Health websites, government websites and popular information; 1 document referring to the National Policy for the Comprehensive Health of the Black Population; 1 document referring to the Bill; and 1 Virtual Book. Due to acquisition difficulties, it was not possible to access all references published in book format.

## **Results and Discussion**

Chart 1 describes the summary of the main accomplishments of 13 women who pioneered the beginnings of nursing and left their mark in history. However, a limitation of the research must be highlighted, since of the 54 documents analyzed, they either addressed a general historical aspect or referred to only one woman and, in rare exceptions, two or more women in their context, making access to these data difficult. historical, which made the analysis of foreign black nurses difficult.

As a result, the work was aligned with a greater emphasis on black Brazilian nurses, due to the accessibility of historical documents. Therefore, the representativeness of the majority that was listed is from Brazil, followed by the United States and a representative from Jamaica.

The deeds consonant to these women are related to important functions they occupied in the construction of the history of nursing, such as participation in wars, and also to the exercise of prominent positions, such as: representativeness in councils and associations; acting in different instances, from care to education; the preceptorship of internships and representations of professional categories and the change of paradigms they carried out. In this context, it is worth mentioning the fact that they conquered not only the nursing record, but also received titles and honors.

**Table 1-** Summary of black nurses and their main accomplishments. (n=13). 2022.

Name/Country	Date	Universidade/ Training Area	Historical Deeds
Mary Jane Seacole <b>(Jamaica)</b>	1850	Empirical Practice/Improvement Studies  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked with physicians to care for patients during a cholera epidemic in Jamaica in 1850;</li> <li>• He financed, with his own resources, his stay in the Crimean War in 1854;</li> <li>• Attended and cared for several wounded soldiers;</li> <li>• Recognized and honored in your country in 1991.</li> </ul>
Mary Eliza Mahoney <b>(EUA)</b>	1879	<i>New England Hospital For Women and Children</i>  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First black woman to obtain a nursing registration in the US;</li> <li>• First African-American to graduate from New England Hospital for Women and Children;</li> <li>• Co-founder of the National Association of Graduate Nurses in Color;</li> <li>• One of the first women to register to vote in Boston.</li> </ul>
Mary Elizabeth Carnegie <b>(EUA)</b>	1943	<i>Hampton University</i>  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effectively participated in the American Association for the History of Nursing;</li> <li>• Advocated for African-American nurses;</li> <li>• Wrote three editions of <i>The Path we Tread: Blacks in Nursing Worldwide</i>;</li> <li>• Received eight Doctor Honoris titles, the most important title granted by universities;</li> <li>• Named a living legend in 1994.</li> </ul>
Clara Adams Ender <b>(EUA)</b>	1961	<i>North Carolina A&amp;T State University</i>  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joined as a second lieutenant in the US Army Nurse Corps;</li> <li>• Became the first female officer to receive an expert badge in the medical field;</li> <li>• Named one of the 350 Women Who Changed the World by Working Women Magazine;</li> <li>• Published her autobiography entitled "My Rise to the Stars: How a Sharecropper's Daughter Became".</li> </ul>
Maria José Barroso ("Maria Soldado") <b>(Brasil)</b>	1932	Empirical Practice  Practice in Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked as a nurse in the 1932 Revolution;</li> <li>• Received the title of "Symbol Woman" in the silver jubilee of the 1932 Revolution;</li> <li>• Contributed to the consolidation of black work in nursing.</li> </ul>
Maria Barbosa Fernandes		Carlos Chagas School of Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First black woman to graduate from the Carlos Chagas School of Nursing;</li> <li>• Acted as an internship preceptor;</li> </ul>

<b>(Brasil)</b>	1938	Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Was actively part of the Brazilian Nursing Association of Minas Gerais (ABEn-MG).</li> </ul>
Lydia das Dores Matta <b>(Brasil)</b>	1947	USP School of Nursing  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked with the Brazilian Association of Nursing (ABEn);</li> <li>• Held prominent positions and leadership in the field of nursing education and training in Pará;</li> <li>• Assumed the direction of the Alfredo Pinto School of Nursing, in Rio de Janeiro;</li> <li>• Helped in the transfer of the capital from Rio de Janeiro to the Federal District;</li> <li>• Was nominated for the Federal Senate.</li> </ul>
Maria de Lourdes Almeida <b>(Brasil)</b>	1947	USP School of Nursing  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He was a professor of nursing in communicable diseases, in the regions of Manaus – AM, Belém and Santarém – PA;</li> <li>• Assumed the position of head of nursing at the Special Service of Araraquara (SESA);</li> <li>• One of his articles was published in the Revista Anais de Enfermagem, which is now the Revista Brasileira de Enfermagem;</li> <li>• Honored for the expressive works developed in the health/nursing area;</li> <li>• A school in your city is named after you.</li> </ul>
Josephine de Mello <b>(Brasil)</b>	1947	USP School of Nursing  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Won scholarship in Minnesota, USA;</li> <li>• Held positions such as provider of Santa Casa de Misericórdia, in Manaus – AM;</li> <li>• Professor at the Amazonas School of Nursing and, later, vice-director;</li> <li>• Precursor of the Brazilian Cerebral Palsy Association and vice-president of the Amazonas Regional Nursing Council (Coren-AM).</li> </ul>
Rosalda Paim <b>(Brasil)</b>	1947	School of Nursing Rio de Janeiro state  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Played an important role in consolidating the modernization of Brazilian nursing;</li> <li>• Specialized in the areas of hospital administration, public health and pediatrics;</li> <li>• Master's degree in education and doctorate in maternal and child nursing;</li> <li>• Elected deputy, becoming the first parliamentary and black nurse in Brazil.</li> </ul>
Izabel dos Santos <b>(Brasil)</b>	1950	Hugo Werneck School of Nursing  Enfermagem	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Worked in different regions of Brazil, working for the Special Public Health Service;</li> <li>• She was a professor at the School of Nursing at the Federal University of Pernambuco;</li> <li>• Consultant for PAHO, from 1976 to 1997;</li> <li>• Creator of the Larga Escala Program.</li> </ul>
Maria Estella de Azevedo dos Santos <b>(Brasil)</b>	1945	School of Nursing and Public Health – BA (UFBA)  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• She was a health visitor for over 30 years;</li> <li>• Assumed chair 33 at the Academia de Letras da Bahia.</li> </ul>
Ivone Lara <b>(Brasil)</b>	1939	Faculty of Nursing of Rio (UNIRIO)  Nursing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Approved in a public tender for the Ministry of Health;</li> <li>• Worked at the National Service for Mental Illnesses;</li> <li>• Used music to help his patients, along with nursing knowledge;</li> <li>• One of the first Brazilian social workers.</li> </ul>

When analyzing the aforementioned nurses, it was possible to verify that, in the international scenario, one of the most evident names was that of Mary Jane Seacole, called, by many war fighters, as "Mãe Seacole". Born on November 23, 1805, in Kingston, Jamaica, when it was still part of the English colony. Daughter of a free black Jamaican woman and a Scottish officer, her mother was a tutor in the teachings of alternative medicine and, from an early age, she accompanied the care provided to patients affected by various illnesses, not only in her country, but in neighboring nations. She was considered Creole, received quality education and was part of the Jamaican aristocracy, but with limited political rights.<sup>18,19</sup>

In her youth, in London, where she was to improve her knowledge, refuting once again the idea that blacks did not have intellectual capacity, she volunteered for the entourage of nurses who would be recruited to care for soldiers in the Crimean War, under coordination of Florence Nightingale. Due to the refusal suffered, he used his own resources to travel and pay for his stay.<sup>18,19</sup>

Thus, she attended and cared for several wounded soldiers, regardless of which side they were fighting, and was admired by them. However, funds were raised for their support after the end of the war, due to financial difficulties. Later, when her trajectory was revealed by an English nurse, called Elsie Gordon, in 1973, through the rescue of her autobiography, Seacole, in 1991, she was recognized and honored in her country.<sup>18,19</sup>

Another big name was Mary Eliza Mahoney, the first African-American to graduate from the New England Hospital for Women and Children in Boston, now called The Dimock Center. Born May 7, 1845, in Dorchester, Massachusetts, she was the eldest of 4 children. Since she was a little girl, she attended the Baptist church, and her precocious interest in the art of care may have come from her passage, aged 10, at Phillips Scholl, which was recognized for teaching, in addition to general curriculum knowledge, about humanity and moral values.<sup>20</sup>

In 1878, she joined the New England program in Boston, a pioneer in offering training to women to become professionals in the health area, a field that was predominantly male. Mahoney's training required going through strict and intense criteria, involving teaching provided by physicians, through explanations in the wards and bedside procedures, in order to obtain general knowledge about nursing. Graduated in 1879 as a nurse, first black woman registered as a nurse in the United States.<sup>20</sup>

In this way, she gained a reputation working as a private nurse and, with her skills based on ethical principles, fought and pioneered scenarios that once linked nursing work to domestic work, helping to increase the standard and appreciation of nurses.<sup>20</sup> Among the countless achievements, we highlight the fact that she was one of the first black members to join the Nurses Associated Alumnae of the United States and Canada (NAAUSC), which later became the American Nurses Association (ANA), which is still active today. An association that was composed predominantly of white members and that initially did not accept African-American nurses.<sup>21</sup>

So, it was in an attempt to banish race/color intolerance and prejudice from the nursing scenario that Mary Eliza Mahoney acted as co-founder of the National Association of Graduate Nurses of Color (NACGN), which had the important role of supporting other black professionals in the area, promoting

well-being and influencing the integration of blacks in these associations that excluded them.<sup>22,23</sup> This path was not taken in vain, because at the end of World War II, almost all state associations of nurses admitted blacks as members and, in 1951, there was an integration, incorporating the NACGN into the ANA, which assumed all the functions of the NACGN, and its members voted for its extinction.<sup>22,23</sup>

In short, after decades as a private nurse, she became director of the Howard Orphanage Asylum for Black Children in Kings Park, Long Island, New York City. She was one of the first women to register to vote in Boston, in addition to being successful in her profession, as she was recognized with numerous awards and memorials, such as the Mary Mahoney Award, which is a medal for those who promote interpersonal relationships in her area, an award that ANA continues to award to this day. She was also inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, New York, an organization that recognizes the achievements of American women, and her grave has become a memorial.<sup>21</sup>

Like so many other African-American names, the name of Mary Elizabeth Carnegie stands out, who began her bachelor's degree at Hampton University, in Virginia, United States. Traditionally black university that was founded in 1878 by black and white leaders to provide education to manumitted people after the Civil War.<sup>24,25</sup> She effectively participated in the American Association for the History of Nursing (AAHN) until the last year of her life. This great woman defended the cause of African American nurses at every opportunity she had in open lectures on history, without fail she clarified and indicated what and how black nurses were contributing in the context of what was under discussion.<sup>24,25</sup>

In addition, in 1976, she joined the American Academy of Nursing, was professor and dean of the School of Nursing at Florida A&M University, from 1945 to 1953, as well as president of the Advisory Committee of the Minority Scholarship Program of the American Nurses' Association, from 1988 to 1999. Wrote three editions of "The Path We Tread: Blacks in Nursing Worldwide", from 1854 to 1994, and, as part of the editorial team, participated in "The American Journal of Nursing".<sup>24,25</sup>

After retirement, Carnegie still mentored for Scientific Writing and was a visiting professor at the School of Nursing at Hampton University and North Carolina College, among others. In addition, she has received eight Doctor Honoris degrees, the most important title awarded by universities, and was designated in 1994 as a Living Legend of the American Academy of Nursing, being the highest honor that the profession offers, an indication that is granted to very few people in the nursing, in recognition of their accomplishments and collaboration, as well as their impact on service delivery, both in the United States and around the world.<sup>24,25</sup>

Another prominent protagonist is Clara Adams-Ender, born in Willow Springs, North Carolina, on November 7, 1939. She entered North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University (one of the historically black universities in America) and earned her degree. in nursing in 1961.<sup>22,26</sup> Then, as a second lieutenant, he joined the US Army Corps of Nurses. She was trained at Brooke Army Medical Center, located at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, which to this day is considered the premier medical facility for the United States Army. In 1963, she was appointed to serve abroad, starting as a nurse at the 121st



evacuation hospital in the Pacific Theater near North Korea and later serving in Germany.<sup>22,26</sup>

Thus, in 1964, she returned to Fort Sam Houston, where she worked as an instructor in medical-surgical nursing, becoming, in 1967, the first female officer to receive a badge of specialist in the medical field, which made her decide to return to his studies, entering the master's degree at the University of Minnesota.<sup>22,26</sup> Shortly after completing his master's degree, he worked at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC, (Walter Reed National Military Hospital, one of the most prominent military hospitals in the Washington metropolitan area, responsible for caring for several presidents of the country since the 20th century). Initially, her role was that of medical-surgical nursing preceptor, then she served as an assistant professor, until her promotion, in 1972, when she took over education coordination.<sup>22,26</sup>

Still on her accomplishments, in 1975, during her leadership position in the Nursing department at Fort Mead, located in Meryland, she joined the College of Command and General Staff of the US Army, in Kansas.<sup>22,26</sup> Additionally, she graduated in 1976 as the first woman to earn a master's degree in military arts and sciences at the college, and in 1982 from the US Army War College as the first female officer African-American Army Nurse Corps. Additionally, in 1987, after serving as Chief of Nursing at the 97th General Hospital and as Chief of Nurse Recruitment at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, she was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General and became head of the Army Corps of Nurses.<sup>22-24,26</sup>

In 1991, she was chosen to be General Commander at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and she held this position until 1993, when she retired. In 1996, she was named one of the 350 Women Who Changed the World by Working Women Magazine, and she is currently President of Caring About People With Enthusiasm Associates, Inc. (CAPE), a world-class management consulting institution whose main mission is to provide services to care for people with enthusiasm. Therefore, this famous character, in 2001, published her autobiography, entitled "My rise to the stars: how a sharecropper's daughter became an Army general").<sup>22-24,26</sup>

It should be noted that, in Brazil, big names also walked the path of nursing, breaking paradigms and creating connections to the history that we can glimpse today. Thus, one of the great names to be highlighted is Maria José Barroso, later known as "Maria Soldado", born on December 9, 1895, in Limeira, São Paulo. The historical context was challenging for black people, because, despite the Brazilian miscegenation, the whitening of the people was propagated, this action with a racist nature spoke about the uncertain future of the Brazilian nation, as this factor would lead the country to destruction.<sup>27,18</sup>

Added to this, there was the Revolution of 1932, an armed confrontation between representative forces from São Paulo against the government of Getúlio Vargas, provoked by a series of factors, among them the disadvantage in political protagonism, since until 1930 São Paulo was on the rise due to the finances arising from coffee (Coffee Producers) and its alliance with Minas Gerais (Milk Producers), which was called the Café com Leite policy, in addition to the requirement for the formation of a constituent assembly and elections. Soon,

when the Revolution broke out, there was a need to enlist volunteers for the battle front.<sup>27-29</sup>

Thus, Maria José Barroso, who worked in the kitchen of the Penteadó Mendonça family, enlisted as a nurse in the Black Legion, also known as “Black Pearls”, a group made up of dissidents from the Brazilian Black Front, the first black organization in the country. However, as the Black Front representatives opted for neutrality in the face of the armed movement, not pronouncing themselves in favor of the fight against the Federal government, represented by Getúlio Vargas, this group decided to rally and go to the front in the hope of new times.<sup>29, 30</sup>

She initially worked as a nurse (a job assigned to women who went to the front, as nursing was referred to both in the sense of caring for the wounded and performing domestic work, such as cooking, assembling the packs and mending the uniforms, which can call pre-professional nursing) but later, in the ardor of combat, she went to fight at the front of the battle, which was only discovered after being injured and needing care.<sup>29,30</sup>

Her accomplishments were recognized by the São Paulo press, which led her to receive the title of “Woman Symbol” in the silver jubilee of the Revolution of 1932. However, there are no official reports that Maria José Barroso received training or that she attended school for academic training and, despite the tabloids of the time using the term Nurse in a comprehensive way, as a rearguard function, the black women who made up the Black Legion did not correspond to the image that was being spread of the standard nurse, that is, white, middle-class and from a good family. However, its representativeness helped to contribute to the consolidation of black work in nursing, creating opportunities, breaking paradigms and rewriting new chapters in history.<sup>18,30</sup>

After the Revolution, like so many other characters who survived and who returned to their daily lives, Maria José Barroso again dedicated herself to domestic work and, at the end of her life, after her retirement, without any monetary value arising from her work, she sold sweets and delicacies at Hospital das Clínicas in São Paulo. And, despite her influential historical role, she was found dead in a small room, in a building on Rua Consolação. His mortal remains can be found in the pantheon of the heroes of the Revolution.<sup>29,30</sup>

Following the Brazilian representations, a little publicized name, but who exercised her profession with brilliance, acting in a unique way, is Maria Barbosa Fernandes, born in September 1918 in Santa Bárbara, in the interior of Minas Gerais. She was the first black woman to graduate from the Carlos Chagas School of Nursing, created in 1933 in Minas Gerais, a school that initially sought to follow the model of the “Standard Nurse” of the North American professional style, however, due to the existing diversity of race in Brazil, observed that, with such strict requirements and expanding health demands, they were not having the expected return, which imposed on schools at the time the acceptance of admissions outside the established white stereotype.<sup>31</sup>

Soon after carrying out the necessary tests, she entered the School of Nursing, whose classes were taught at the Faculty of Medicine, and, after graduating, she worked in the field of public health, carrying out home visits and having the care and vision to pay attention to the people's social individuality and culture, as well as their scenarios of fragility. She later worked as an

internship preceptor and was actively part of the Associação Brasileira de Enfermagem, section Minas Gerais (ABEn-MG).<sup>31</sup>

However, the first black women from poor Brazilian states, as well as scholarship recipients from the Nursing Program maintained by the Special Public Health Service (Sesp), to join the Basic Nursing Course at the University of São Paulo (USP), in 1943, were: Lydia das Dores Matta, Maria de Lourdes Almeida, Josephina de Mello and Lucia Conceição. The USP School of Nursing, created in 1940, was the most prominent school in Latin America at the time and remains to this day.<sup>27</sup>

For example, Sesp was founded in 1942, through an agreement between the Brazilian and American governments, with the strategic objective of organizing a sanitation infrastructure in regions that produce raw materials, such as the Amazon region, from where water was extracted. rubber needed to reinforce the war.<sup>32</sup> After the Second World War, the program expanded to several states and acted as a local health unit in poor regions, with a focus on raising sanitary standards in these interior regions of Brazil. Above all, it was guided by health education for schoolchildren, training doctors, nurses and engineers, being part of the plan for the advancement and development of health.<sup>33</sup>

Then, in 1969, it was renamed Fundação de Serviços de Saúde Pública (Fsesp) and, since 1990, it was renamed Fundação Nacional de Saúde.<sup>32,33</sup> In this context, the name of Lydia das Dores Matta is listed, the result of this nursing program. Born on August 5, 1916, in Manaus-AM, the daughter of a Portuguese immigrant naturalized in Brazil and a black seamstress, she described herself as brown and, since childhood, showed admiration for the illustrious character of Ana Nery, as well as for the renowned school that bore his name.<sup>34</sup>

Furthermore, Lydia did not have wealth with her family, which excelled in a good education, which gave her the opportunity to enter the School of Nursing as a scholarship holder. However, their training was surrounded by challenges and labeled by racism and prejudice on the part of the veterans, who refused to accept the presence of these women in the school.<sup>34</sup>

However, even though she was described as shy in her attitudes, she was determined and aware of her wishes when it came to her training and professionalization. After her training, she participated in the Sesp nursing program in the Amazon, which was obviously part of the program's agreement, as her immediate hiring included teaching classes in schools supported by Sesp. In this way, scholarship holders were included in public health services in their hometowns and contributed to the development of public health policies in Brazil.<sup>34</sup>

He also worked with the Brazilian Association of Nursing (ABEn) and, in his professional career, held prominent positions and leadership in the field of nursing education and training in Pará, as well as taking over the direction of the Alfredo Pinto School of Nursing, in Rio de Janeiro. Janeiro, the first School of Nursing in Brazil. Such circumstances demonstrated that Lydia did not devalue the opportunities that the title of nurse afforded her.<sup>34</sup>

Therefore, at the end of his period of work at the School of Nursing, he responded to the requests of the then president Juscelino Kubistchek to join a group of civil servants to go to Brasília, to help in the transfer of the capital, from

Rio de Janeiro to the Federal District, central region of the country. Soon, after the installation of the administration in the city, she was appointed to the Federal Senate, a very important fact, as it was her performance in this sector, together with Diva Câmara, that made it possible to articulate, together with the Urbanizing Company of the New Capital of Brazil (Novacap), the land for the construction of ABen's headquarters. Therefore, when going through the reports about Lydia's life, it is possible to verify that she ratified her competence and earned respect in her trajectory.<sup>34</sup>

Following, one can highlight the name of Maria de Lourdes Almeida, born in 1917, in Santarém-PA. Also, on a scholarship from the Sesp Program, he had his educational background consolidated, managed with words and knowingly behaved in the face of the diversities encountered. The practice at that time hovered around the question that, when blacks were accepted, they should strive to prove their intellectual ability incessantly, so that they could access education and training centers.<sup>35</sup> Thus, the young woman from Pará returned to her state, graduated in 1947, and worked as a nursing teacher in communicable diseases, in the regions of Manaus-AM, Belém-PA and Santarém-PA, in the course of hospital assistant, and sanitary visitors and as head of public health nursing in Santarém- PA.<sup>35</sup>

In the same year, she assumed the position of head of nursing at the Special Health Service of Araraquara (SESA), created in 1947 by the government of São Paulo, to exercise, within the borders of this municipality, the sanitary role, together with the Learning Center from the School of Public Health at USP. Undoubtedly, an important role, as it worked in the training of professionals, as well as oriented Public Health internships, an integral part of the curriculum at the Faculty of Hygiene and Public Health and School of Nursing at USP.<sup>35,36</sup>

Due to its visibility and network of contacts, one of its articles was published in the "Revista Anais de Enfermagem" (a magazine that in 1955 was renamed "Revista Brasileira de Enfermagem" - REBEn), attributed to the Sixth Nursing Congress held in São Paulo, where he gave lectures that gave rise to the theme: "Need for better preparation in obstetrics for public health nurses", which he wrote in partnership with Inácia Augusto.<sup>35,37</sup>

In this way, her last and noble honor received as a nurse was given by the 23rd class of nursing graduates, and later the school in her city would receive her name, thus being immortalized.<sup>35,38</sup> Today the Maria de Lourdes Almeida School is an educational establishment belonging to the Municipal Secretariat of Santarém, Pará, founded in 1974. The school was named in his honor for the expressive work carried out in the health/nursing area.<sup>38</sup>

As well as the aforementioned students who similarly graduated from the São Paulo School of Nursing, the importance of Josephine de Mello, born on May 21, 1920 in Manaus, Amazonas, is also emphasized. Daughter of a Brazilian father and a Caribbean mother, she was an obstetric nurse. She had training as a teacher, as she studied teaching at the Education Institute in Amazonas. In addition, she graduated as a rescuer from the Brazilian Red Cross of Manaus and entered the School of Nursing, breaking social taboos for being black.<sup>39</sup> Then, after her graduation, she received a scholarship in Minnesota, United States.

It also operated in several regions in the North, such as Acre and Rondônia, as well as in the Northeast, in Pernambuco and in the state of Minas

Gerai. She held a multitude of positions, such as Ombudsman at the Santa Casa de Misericórdia in Manaus, a position that was generally linked to the male gender, she was a professor at the Amazonas School of Nursing and later she was appointed vice-director nurse Josephine de Mello.<sup>39</sup> She was still a precursor and member of the Brazilian Association of Cerebral Palsy and vice president of Coren section-Amazonas, among others. Nowadays, there is a Family Health Unit (USF), located in the neighborhood of Jorge Teixeira, in Manaus, which is named after him.<sup>39</sup>

Concerning the graduation of these intrepid figures, it was an extremely relevant legacy, since the path they permeated contributed significantly to the participation of blacks in management positions in health programs.

Following the representations, in the state of Espírito Santo, the name of Rosalda Paim had great evidence. Born in Vila Velha in 1928, she joined the Nursing course in 1947, at the institution known at the time as the School of Nursing of the State of Rio de Janeiro, today UNIRIO, graduating in 1950.<sup>40</sup> She specialized in the areas of hospital administration, public health and pediatrics. She has a master's degree in Education and her doctorate in maternal and child nursing.<sup>40</sup>

Thus, it played an important role in the process of modernization of Brazilian nursing, in the training of nurses and health professionals. Holding a holistic view of health, she intended to break with the curative model and introduced concepts that were not yet discussed and used in health, such as humanization, reference and counter-reference, comprehensiveness and hierarchization of services. She also played a role in Brazilian politics, was elected deputy, becoming the first parliamentary and black nurse in Brazil.<sup>40</sup>

Another representation is Izabel dos Santos, a respected character in the field of human resources training in nursing. Born in Pirapora, Minas Gerais, he graduated from the Hugo Werneck School of Nursing, today part of the Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais. She also worked in different regions of Brazil, working for SESP and as a professor in Pernambuco, at the School of Nursing at the Federal University. Furthermore, she was a PAHO consultant from 1976 to 1997 and made a relevant contribution to professional nursing training.<sup>41</sup>

On the other hand, dissatisfied with the health care offered, which did not match the needs of health users, as well as the disregard for the education of high school professionals, she was the creator of the Large Scale Program, which dealt with training for people who were in the health area and who had no training. Later, with its end, in this same scope, the Professionalization Program of the Area of Nursing (PROFAE) was created, which was the biggest strategic plan for improving the assistance provided by workers in the units of the Unified Health System (SUS). PROFAE was initially configured to operate for four years (2000-2004), but its actions were expanded and the term was renegotiated until 2007.<sup>41</sup>

Among the many names that have already been mentioned, a woman who represents Salvador - BA is Maria Stella de Azevedo dos Santos. She was born on May 2, 1925 and became a nurse at the School of Nursing and Public Health at the Federal University of Bahia (UFBA). As a nurse, she dedicated part of her life to caring for the neediest population, working at the Public Health Department

of the State of Bahia until her retirement. She served as a health visitor for over 30 years.<sup>27,42,43</sup>

Once active and committed to the black cause, for the appreciation and affirmation of culture in Brazil, she entered literature in 1988 and, in partnership with Cléo Martins, published the book "And then the charm happened", in which the author recalls her roots. An ardent defender of candomblé, she demanded respect, but did not criticize any other belief. In addition, she had great knowledge, however she did not feel comfortable being defined as an intellectual. Thus, in 2013, after being unanimously elected, she assumed chair number 33 at the Academy of de Letters of Bahia.<sup>27,42,43</sup>

Another icon in the history of nursing is Dona Ivone Lara, born on April 13, 1921, in Rio de Janeiro, graduated from the Faculty of Nursing of Rio, currently UNIRIO. Shortly after graduation, she was approved in a public tender for the Ministry of Health and began her work at the Institute of Psychiatry at Engenho de Dentro (RJ).<sup>27,44,45</sup> In this institution, as a specialist in occupational therapy, she worked with Nise da Silveira, a great Brazilian psychiatrist who was against aggressive mechanisms for mental health treatment. She used music, along with nursing knowledge to help her patients, offering a humanized work in psychiatry.

This humanized assistance opened doors to discuss the end of institutional confinement for people with mental disorders, being an important and significant contribution in this area.<sup>27,44-46</sup> A few years later, Ivone returns to the classroom and takes a new course, that of social worker, being one of the first Brazilian social workers. He dedicated himself completely to his profession and, after his retirement, he paid tribute to samba, his other great passion in music, by dedicating himself exclusively to it.<sup>44, 27,45</sup>

In view of the above, it is emphasized that highlighting the representativeness of these women in nursing is to honor their contribution and legacy, since, facing a scenario of adversity and racism, they cooperated with an entire generation of black nurses in an assertive way, because, whatever for your ancestry, every human being is valuable.<sup>18,47,48</sup>

When analyzing the data, it is possible to identify a considerable number of black representatives in nursing, obviously not all of them are represented here, since many had not only their stories neglected but were also left on the margins of society and the history of nursing.

However, this participation evidences the assistance practiced for centuries in the history of Brazil by black ancestors. It is also observed that, throughout history, even in the face of challenging trajectories, they have overcome adversity, racism and prejudice and thus had great results. It is plausible to infer that they slowly gained space and visibility in society, which is not enough, as they currently still deal with veiled, camouflaged racism, which, despite coming in the subtleties, was nonetheless less painful.

However, despite the difficulties, it is possible to verify that the women who had the opportunity stood out and occupied notable roles in Nursing. Therefore, we can also find professors, doctors and researchers today. Facts that refute narratives based on segregation by color/race, which placed blacks in a subordinate condition.

With the purpose of enforcing what was initially chosen in the problematization, it is salutary to address the difficulty in finding historical data as a limiting factor for the results of this research, which made it impossible to list a more significant number of black foreign nurses. Therefore, greater emphasis was placed on Brazilian representations, since historical findings were more accessible.

## Final Considerations

Through a review of the historiographical records that deal with the participation of black women in care assistance, it is noticeable the reason that some authors had in relation to the forgotten and invisible protagonism of these women. Fundamentals that bring to light the structural racism that has always existed and is still latent today, even if often softened by fallacious speeches or movements that try to disguise what is real and toxic even today.

It is noteworthy, therefore, that they acted in the most diverse instances, from care to education, internship preceptorship, as representatives of professional categories, creators of programs, such as Large Scale, Academia de Letras, mental health, public health and politics, standing out and exercising their functions with commitment and responsibility. However, they were placed in anonymity, having their protagonism in nursing silenced.

Recalling the deeds of such famous figures, it is indisputably concluded that black people, especially black women, have always been actively involved in the care process, in all its forms. Another point to be considered is that, although coming from the lower or middle class, most of the outstanding names, among many others who contributed in a unique way and who were left on the margins of history, obtained access to a quality education.

This fact certainly does not diminish or exclude the above average effort and dedication that they had. And, considering the hegemony of "whitening" that hovered in the context experienced by many of those listed here, for being women and black, the incessant dedication to improving the knowledge they had stands out, with dedication being the key point for open doors and explore, with autonomy and confidence, the opportunities that have arisen.

Such opportunities here in Brazil were not due to the fact that they committed themselves and stood out among many, but due to the demand in health at the time, which was growing and was urgent. In this way, holders of the ruling class saw that remaining in the insistence of such rigid, classicist and eugenic standards of the "Standard Nurse" (in which representations of pure women were sought, associated with benevolence and chastity, qualities that were attributed to women white, while black women were stereotyped as hypersexualized, impure and degenerate figures) would not bring the expected return, so, in view of the miscegenation of the Brazilian people, they were pressured to extend the criteria.

In this context, black women entered the scene, even with all the challenges imposed on them, subordinated, suffering discrimination and racism, they were synonymous with bravery, resilience and determination, succeeding in this arduous journey and leaving a legacy that so few times and in such a timid way it was expressed. Undoubtedly, many advances are still needed, there is a

need for more visibility, opportunity and recognition, both related to its contribution to the history, not only of nursing, but of society itself, as well as improvements in areas that also suffer recurrent violations, such as in the economic, cultural and environmental fields.

Therefore, even far from ending this journey, an undeniable fact is that, through the achievements of these great women in nursing, today we can see black intellectuals, writers, professors, masters, specialists and doctors. The more historical facts are rescued and milestones that contributed to the change of paradigms are highlighted, the less risk is taken in reproducing and perpetuating stories with unique protagonists.

## Acknowledgment

This work was funded by the authors themselves.

## References

1. Horta W de A. Conceito de enfermagem. In: Rev. Esc. Enferm. USP [Internet]. 1968Sep.1 [cited 2022Nov.23];2(2):1-5. Disponível em: <https://www.revistas.usp.br/reusp/article/view/141168>.
2. Moraes-Filho IM, Carvalho-Filha FSS, Viana LMM. O que é ser enfermeiro? In: Rev Inic Cient Ext. 2019; 2(2): 1-2.
3. Waldow VR, Borges RF. Cuidar e humanizar: relações e significados. Acta Paul Enferm 2011;24(3):414-8. Disponível em: <https://www.scielo.br/j/ape/a/MvcQR4bWHt4kcdD9DgyVCZh/?lang=pt&format=pdf>
4. Gonzales L. A categoria político-cultural de amefricanidade. IN: Rev. TB.1988;(92-93):69-82. Disponível em: <https://negrasoulblog.files.wordpress.com/2016/04/a-categoria-polc3adtico-cultural-de-amefricanidade-lelia-gonzales1.pdf>
5. Campos PF de S. História, mulheres negras e enfermagem brasileira. In: REA [Internet]. 2021;21(230):167-7. Disponível em: <https://periodicos.uem.br/ojs/index.php/EspacoAcademico/article/view/58389>.
6. Deiab R de A. A mãe-preta na literatura brasileira: a ambiguidade como construção social (1880-1950) [Dissertação de Mestrado on the Internet]. Universidade de São Paulo; 2006-09-15 [citado em 2022 Mar 18]. DOI 10.11606/D.8.2006.tde-04092007-123741. Disponível em: <https://teses.usp.br/teses/disponiveis/8/8134/tde-04092007-123741/pt-br.php>.
7. Ferreira LO, Azevedo N. Origem Social e Racial e a Formação de Enfermeiras Profissionais (1930-1960). In: Revista da Associação Brasileira de Pesquisadores/as Negros/as (ABPN). 2019;11(Ed. Especi):231-251. Disponível



em: [https://redib.org/Record/oai\\_articulo2210268-origem-social-e-racial-e-a-forma%C3%A7%C3%A3o-de-enfermeiras-profissionais-brasil-1930-1960](https://redib.org/Record/oai_articulo2210268-origem-social-e-racial-e-a-forma%C3%A7%C3%A3o-de-enfermeiras-profissionais-brasil-1930-1960).

8. Boechat J. Mulheres negras romperam o paradigma da enfermeira padrão no início do século 20, revela pesquisa. Casa de Oswaldo Cruz. [Internet]. 2020 Mai 13 [citado em 2022 jul. 14]. Disponível em: [https://coc.fiocruz.br/index.php/pt/todas-as-noticias/1790-artigo-revela-como-mulheres-negras-romperam-o-estereotipo-da-enfermeira-padrao-no-inicio-do-seculo-20.html#!enfermeiras\\_historia2](https://coc.fiocruz.br/index.php/pt/todas-as-noticias/1790-artigo-revela-como-mulheres-negras-romperam-o-estereotipo-da-enfermeira-padrao-no-inicio-do-seculo-20.html#!enfermeiras_historia2).

9. Barreira I de A. Os primórdios da Enfermagem Moderna no Brasil. Esc. Anna Nery Rev. Enferm. 1997; 23(1):1-5. Disponível em: <https://pesquisa.bvsalud.org/portal/resource/pt/lil-284416>.

10. Campos PFS, Oguisso T, Freitas GF. Cultura dos cuidados: mulheres negras e formação da enfermagem profissional brasileira. Cultura de los Cuidados. 2007; 22:1-7. Disponível em: [https://rua.ua.es/dspace/bitstream/10045/6630/1/CC\\_22\\_05.pdf](https://rua.ua.es/dspace/bitstream/10045/6630/1/CC_22_05.pdf).

11. Ferreira LO, Salles RBB. A origem social da enfermeira padrão: o recrutamento e a imagem pública da enfermeira no Brasil, 1920-1960. Open Edition. 2019; 1-10. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.4000/nuevomundo.77966>.

12. Brasil. Ministério da Saúde (MS). Política Nacional de Saúde Integral a População Negra Brasília: MS; 2007.

13. Brasil. Constituição (1988). Constituição da República Federativa do Brasil. Brasília, DF: Senado Federal; 1988. Disponível em: [http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil\\_03/constituicao/constituicao.htm](http://www.planalto.gov.br/ccivil_03/constituicao/constituicao.htm).

14. Silva, CAB de S, Pereira, LI. O racismo recreativo 30 anos após a publicação da Lei nº 7.716, de 5 de janeiro de 1989. In: Revista de Direito. 2021;13(2):1-32. Disponível em: <https://periodicos.ufv.br/revistadir/article/view/11497>.

15. Conselho Regional de Enfermagem. 2020 é o ano dos profissionais da Enfermagem, segundo OMS. [Internet]. 2020 Jan 15. [citado em 2022 jul 11]; Disponível em: <https://www.coren-df.gov.br/site/2020-e-o-ano-dos-profissionais-da-enfermagem-segundo-oms/>.

16. Padilha MICS, Borenstein MS. O método de pesquisa histórica na Enfermagem. Texto Contexto Enferm. 2005; 14(4):575-84.

17. Aróstegui J. A pesquisa histórica: teoria e método. Bauru (SP): EDUSC; 2006.

18. Löw, L. y Oguisso, T. Mary Seacole e Maria Soldado: enfermeiras negras que fizeram história. Cultura de los Cuidados (Edición digital). 2018; 18(38)1-7. Disponível em: <http://dx.doi.org/10.7184/cuid.2014.38.9>.

19. Fonseca ALT. Mary Jane Seacole – a outra Florence Nightingale: homenagem à lembrança da heroína enfermeira negra hoje. COREN-RJ. [Internet]. 2020 Mai

14 [citado em 2022 abr. 6]. Disponível em: [http://rj.corens.portalcofen.gov.br/mary-jane-seacole-a-outra-florence-nightingale\\_18499.html](http://rj.corens.portalcofen.gov.br/mary-jane-seacole-a-outra-florence-nightingale_18499.html).

20. Instituto Sou Enfermagem. Mary Eliza Mahoney [Internet]. 2018 [citado em 2022 abr. 7]. Disponível em: <https://www.souenfermagem.com.br/fundamentos/mary-eliza-mahoney>.

21. Spring K. Mary Eliza Mahoney [Internet]. National Women's History Museum. 2019 [citado em 2022 jul. 2]; Disponível em: <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/mary-mahoney>.

22. African American Registry. National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses founded - [Internet]. African American Registry. 2009 [citado em 2022 jul. 2]; Disponível em: <https://aaregistry.org/story/national-association-of-colored-graduate-nurses-founded/>.

23. Journal of the Registry. Clara Adams-Ender, oficial militar nascida [Internet]. Minneapolis-MN: African American Registry. [citado em 2022 jun. 29]; Disponível em: <https://aaregistry.org/story/clara-adams-ender-army-trailblazer/>.

24. American Association for the History of Nursing. Mary Elizabeth Carnegie, DPA, RN, FAAN, 1916-1918. [Internet]. 2018 [citado em 2022 jul. 4]; Disponível em: <https://www.aahn.org/carnegie>.

25. American Nurses Association. Mary Elizabeth Carnegie (1916-2008) 2000 empossada. ANA. [Internet]. 2022 [citado em 2022 jul. 4]; Disponível em: <http://ojin.nursingworld.org/FunctionalMenuCategories/AboutANA/Honoring-Nurses/NationalAwardsProgram/HallofFame/20002004Inductees/carnegie5520.html>.

26. The History Makers. Gen. Clara Adams-Ender's Biography [Internet]. [citado em 2022 jun. 29]; Disponível em: <https://www.thehistorymakers.org/biography/gen-clara-adams-ender>.

27. Conselho Regional de Enfermagem de São Paulo - COREN [Internet]. Coren-SP. 2021 [citado em 2022 abr. 7]. Disponível em: <https://portal.coren-sp.gov.br/noticias/11-enfermeiras-negras-que-fizeram-historia-mas-nao-foram-reconhecidas>.

28. Fundação Biblioteca Nacional. O fim da República Café com Leite e a Revolução de 1932, [Internet]. 2020. [citado em 2022 jul. 5]; Disponível em: <https://www.gov.br/bn/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/o-fim-da-republica-cafe-com-leite-e-a-revolucao-de-1932>.

29. Tab Uol. Legião Negra: como a Revolução de 1932 possibilitou a afirmação do negro [Internet]. 2020 [citado em 2022 jul 2]; Disponível em:

<https://tab.uol.com.br/noticias/redacao/2020/07/12/legiao-negra-como-a-revolucao-de-1932-possibilitou-a-afirmacao-do-negro.htm>.

30. Câmara Municipal de Limeira. Projeto de lei nº 99/2015 Perpetua o nome de “Maria Soldado” (Maria José Bezerra) em uma das ruas, avenidas, praças ou logradouros públicos no Município de Limeira. [Internet]. 2015 Disponível em: <http://siave.limeira.sp.leg.br/arquivo?id=47262>.

31. Santos FBO, Rabelo ARM, França BD, Carregal FAS, Marques RC, Silva KL. Black women in nursing history: the cultural competence in Maria Barbosa Fernandes’ trajectory. *Rev Bras Enferm.* 2020;73(Suppl 4):e20190221. Doi: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1590/0034-7167-2019-0221>.

32. Fundação Nacional da Saúde. Cronologia Histórica da Saúde Pública [Internet]. Brasil; 2017 ago. 07 [citado em 2022 abr. 24]. Disponível em: <http://www.funasa.gov.br/cronologia-historica-da-saude-publica>.

33. Fundação Nacional da Saúde. Antecedentes Históricos da Funasa [Internet]. Brasil: Ministério da Saúde; 2017 ago. 07 [citado em 2022 abr. 24]. Disponível em: <http://www.funasa.gov.br/web/guest/antecedentes-historicos-da-funasa>.

34. Campos PF de S, Carrijo AR. Ilustre inominada: Lydia das Dôres Matta e enfermagem brasileira pós-1930. *Hist. cienc. saude-Manguinhos.* 2019; 26 (1): 165-185. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.1590/S0104-59702019000100010>.

35. Campos PFS. Memorial de Maria de Lourdes Almeida: história e enfermagem no Brasil pós-1930. *Hist. cienc. saude-Manguinhos.* 2013 abr-jun;20(2):609-625. Disponível em: <https://www.scielo.br/j/hcsm/a/BL6FwBCqCYKH6GMM3mcys5p/?format=pdf&lang=pt>.

36. Faculdade de Saúde Pública. Serviço Especial de Saúde de Araraquara - SESA [Internet]. São Paulo - SP - Brasil; 2022 Abr 27 [citado em 2022 abr 24]. Disponível em: <https://www.fsp.usp.br/site/institucional/mostra/635>.

37. Revista Brasileira de Enfermagem. Sobre a Reben [Internet]. 2018. [citado em 2022 Jul 7]; Disponível em: <https://reben.com.br/revista/sobre/>.

38. Mlourdes12. “Esc. M<sup>a</sup> de Lourdes Almeida 47 Anos Educando.” 2009. [Internet]. 2009 [citado em 2022 Jul 7]; Disponível em: <https://mlourdes12.wordpress.com/2009/11/30/54/>.

39. Araújo CCO, Osis SL, Perdomo SB. Resistência e resiliência de uma intelectual negra na enfermagem do Amazonas. *Pensar a Educação em pauta.* [Internet] 2021 [citado em 2022 abr. 8]:1. Disponível em: <https://pensaraeducacao.com.br/pensaraeducacaoempauta/resistencia-e-resiliencia-de-uma-intelectual-negra-na-enfermagem-do-amazonas/>.

40. Teixeira ER, Daher DV, Santana RF, Fonseca TC. Rosalda Paim: a nurse before her time. In: *Online Brazilian Journal of Nursing.* 2012 [citado em 2022 jul.

11] 11(2):408-17. Disponível em: <https://www.objnursing.uff.br/index.php/nursing/article/view/3967/html>.

41. Sena R, Silva KL. Izabel dos Santos e a formação de profissionais de enfermagem: capacidade de transformar o impossível em política pública. *Rev. Min. Enferm.* 2011;15(1):1-2. Disponível em: <http://reme.org.br/artigo/detalhes/1>.

42. Literafro. Mãe Stella de Oxóssi - Literatura Afro-Brasileira [Internet]. [citado em 2022 jul. 7]. Disponível em: <http://www.letras.ufmg.br/literafro/autoras/299-mae-stella-de-oxossi>.

43. Santana A, Lyrio A, Mancini G, Muniz T, Villarpando V. Enfermeira, escritora e mãe de santo: relembre história de Mãe Stella [Internet]. *Jornal Correio*. 2018 [citado em 2022 jul. 7]. Disponível em: <https://www.correio24horas.com.br/noticia/nid/enfermeira-escritora-e-mae-de-santo-relembre-historia-de-mae-stella/>.

44. Conselho Federal de Enfermagem. Morre D. Ivone Lara, enfermeira e ícone do samba brasileiro. [Internet]. 2018 [citado em 2022 jul. 8]; Disponível em: [http://www.cofen.gov.br/morre-d-ivone-lara-enfermeira-e-icone-do-samba-brasileiro\\_61989.html](http://www.cofen.gov.br/morre-d-ivone-lara-enfermeira-e-icone-do-samba-brasileiro_61989.html)

45. Letras. Conheça a biografia de Dona Ivone Lara, a nossa rainha do samba [Internet]. 2021 [citado 2022 jul 8]; Disponível em: <https://www.letras.mus.br/blog/dona-ivone-lara-biografia/>.

46. Moraes Filho IM, Sousa TV, Carvalho Filha FSS, Arantes AA, Fonseca PP, Silva MVRS. Eletroconvulsoterapia, implicações éticas, legais e a sistematização da assistência de enfermagem. *Glob Acad Nurs.* 2022;3(3):e269. Doi: <https://dx.doi.org/10.5935/2675-5602>.

47. Santos VJO, Costa JG, Brandão FAM, Moraes Filho IM. Mudanças de paradigmas realizados por mulheres negras na enfermagem. *REVISA.* 2022;11(4):276-82. Doi: <https://doi.org/10.36239/revisa.v11.n4.p276a282>.

48. Pereira MC, Oliveira MLC, Santos AM, Costa FCS, Calassa JQ, Arantes AA et al. Resgate histórico da enfermagem global, brasileira e goiana: uma revisão narrativa de literatura. *IJDR.* 2020;10(11):42239-42247.

**Correspondent Author**

Iel Marciano de Moraes Filho  
Paulista University  
SGAS South /Square 913 /Set B00913. ZIP: 7000-  
000- Asa Sul, Brasília, Distrito Federal, Brazil.  
[ielfilho@yahoo.com.br](mailto:ielfilho@yahoo.com.br)