



## Permanent challenge for a healthy environment

Marli Teresinha Gimenez Galvão<sup>1</sup>

For over a century, Florence Nightingale, a precursor of modern nursing, promulgated the importance of the adequate environment for disease prevention, treatment of diseased and their recovery. He highlighted, among others, the importance of clean air and environmental hygiene. Concerning the disease prevention, considered necessary care residences about air, water, sewerage, cleaning and illumination.

In current times, the concepts expanded, the wounds arising from lack of water and sanitation, demonstrated care urgently in the wide mode environment, and prevention in the residential areas and peridomicile.

The environmental impacts on the most popular health and which also jeopardize human health are related to the lack of water, lack of basic sanitation, chemicals, noise, and climate changes, biodiversity loss, soil degradation. However, there is a lack of knowledge of the health effects, of electromagnetic fields, of pharmaceuticals and some infectious diseases, whose transmission and dissemination can be influenced by climate changes.

Therefore, it is urgent to review and discuss crucial issues of the risks attributed to the human health environment. Nursing, as a social and scientific role, is an important player in the development of actions to mitigate, interfere and reduce the grievances of people and communities due to an unsatisfactory environment. Therefore, it is necessary instrumentalization of prevention and health promotion measures.

In recent years, Brazil has suffered a major crisis of Public Health, enhanced by the lack of access to sanitation services, especially Dengue, caused by the mosquito *Aedes aegypti*. In 2014, the Chikungunya was noticed and, in 2015, proved the presence of Zika, both transmitted by the same vector, the *Aedes* genus mosquito. The main action against mosquitoes is to avoid reproduction in environments where water accumulates. Such diseases are the result of lack of drainage of urban fluvial water, inadequate solid waste management, the absence of basic sanitation, as well as the lack of water supply worsened by the hydric crisis, which forces people to store water in households, creating the possibility of mosquito outbreaks.

Notably, a clean environment is effective for the health and well-being of people. However, the interactions between human health and the environment are complex and difficult to change, since the occurrence of an event can be fast, but often, to restore the favorable condition is difficult.

With the severity of problems in this year, the Fraternity Campaign will perform the development of the central theme "Sanitation", with the participation of Baptist, Presbyterian, Catholic, Lutheran churches, among others. Considering the impact that this issue will bring in all the churches and therefore, the communities, it is expected that the Civil Society and the Country's Classes, discuss the expansion and improvements to a fairer and healthy environment for people.

Referring since environmental needs exposed by Florence, until today, the knowledge must transpose the disciplines and reach the reality of the Country and individuals, without fear of realizing that environmental problems are secular, but joining forces and integrating actions can transform the unpredictable.

<sup>1</sup>Universidade Federal do Ceará, Chief Editor. Fortaleza, CE, Brazil.

The exposed about environmental issues and given the importance represented by the nurses and professionals who serve the community, and that are directly or indirectly included in the area of Public Health and the consolidation of the Unified Health System, it should reflect about the contributions of these professionals.

In this context, the Rene Magazine understands that a healthy environment is challenging and will present in Editorials of 2016, contributions to science to help to maintain a healthy environment for everybody health.