Olivia Watson

**Gender Roles**

Jainism believes in religious equality between men and women. Women were included in religious practices in the form of nuns, from this culture earliest days. Jainism recognizes the rights of all living creatures; therefore they accept women to participate in their liberation. But although they believe in equality, some Jains believe a woman’s femaleness creates spiritual inequality. One group of Jains who believe this is Digamabara Jains. They believe in order for women to reach liberation, one must be reborn as a man first. And because of this belief, women are seen as second class citizens in the Jainism culture. Other gender role beliefs are that, its woman nature to care for children and other dependents. When it comes to the concerns of welfare of the children and the family, men and women roles are equally important.

**Nursing Implementation:**

Caring for Jainism would include the RN to be aware of the person’s belief and provide care around their beliefs.

(<http://www.bbc.co.uk/religion/religions/jainism/beliefs/women.shtml>)

(<http://www.rise-of-womanhood.org/women-in-jainism.html>)

**Cultural Healing Practices**

Jainism cultural healing process includes holistic healing. They believe healing of the body is a product of the process of spiritual purification. The healing process does not include praying to an external agency, ex. God or Idol Gods, for healing. When a person is ill, they focus them on doing their own healing. Family members and friends are also called upon to help with the healing. In Jainism the fundamentals of healing include: building the confidence of the ill, they would tell the person the illness is temporary and it can be cured. Jainism also believes that meditation can cure someone’s illness.

(<http://www.herenow4u.net/index.php?id=71933>)

**Nursing Implementation:**

A nursing implementation they should allow the patient quality time to pray or meditation. Also making sure family members and friends are able to accompany the patient in their time of illness.