Image Analysis Worksheet

Instructions: Take a close look at your postcard image with the four critical lenses. Consider the guiding questions to help you analyze and place the image in the larger historical and social context. Then note your analysis in terms of observations, inferences, and questions about the image.

Postcard Title: ____________________________________________________________

1. What is the image’s main message? Who is its creator/producer? What is its purpose? Who is the audience?

2. What time period is the postcard image from? At that time, what historical events happened, and what were the mainstream cultural and social trends? How does the image reflect them?

3. What are the symbols in the image? What do they convey and to whom?

4. Who and how are people depicted? What is their identity—gender, class, race/ethnicity?
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5. From whose perspective are the people illustrated? What power relationships does the image show? How does the image foster or change the norm and the existing power structure?

6. What information or image is missing? How does that absence further support the message of the image?

7. What ideas about nurses or nursing does the image communicate? What can you conclude about social rules, norms, power, and power structure that shaped this image?