

RESUMO - COMPROMISSO SOCIAL DO MÉDICO CATÓLICO

INTEGRATING FAITH AND MEDICAL TRAINING: AN EXPERIENCE REPORT ON LEADING A CATHOLIC STUDENT GROUP AS A MEDICAL STUDENT

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Introduction: Contemporary medical education has been guided by an emphasis on practicality and a focus on technical, scientific, and anatomical-biological aspects, neglecting essential dimensions of holistic care, such as spirituality and ethical values. In this context, there is also a weakening of the moral and spiritual development of university students, who often face challenges in preserving and integrating their faith into their academic and professional trajectories. The integration of faith and medical practice has been widely recognized as relevant and essential for the humanization of healthcare and the improvement of its quality, contributing to the development of empathetic and morally oriented competencies. **Objective:** The objective of this study is to report the experience of a medical student in leading a Catholic student group, highlighting the contributions to ethical, spiritual, and professional formation. **Methods:** This is a descriptive study, in the form of an experience report, based on the experience of leadership in a university religious group, involving the organization of educational meetings, discussions on medical ethics, spirituality,

and clinical practice, as well as integration activities among members and other participants of the Catholic Church (friars, priests, and other young people of the community). Results: The analysis was conducted in a qualitative and reflective manner, considering the impacts of this experience on academic and personal development. It was observed that participation and leadership within the group helped reinforce values such as empathy, ethical responsibility, and a sense of purpose in medical practice. The experience fostered a deeper understanding of the intrinsic value of life, in addition to enhancing arguments and expanding knowledge about the Catholic faith and its ethical role in medicine, leading to greater participant engagement in bioethical discussions and a greater appreciation of the spiritual dimension in patient care. Furthermore, the group provided emotional support and strengthened the sense of belonging, fostering a balanced approach to academic demands, while also establishing itself as a supportive space for understanding that the Catholic faith can be lived out in daily life and integrated inseparably into students' lives. Conclusion: It is concluded that the integration of faith and medical education, through religious student groups, constitutes a significant strategy for the development of human and professional competencies, particularly for the training of physicians who are fully committed to patient care. By valuing the spiritual dimensions of existence, this experience fosters a more conscious medical practice guided by respect for human dignity in its entirety, as a divine creation.

Palavras-chave: ethics; medical; religion and medicine; education; medical; student.