COLLEGE OF NURSING
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES
MANILA

NURSING 119

Windshield Survey
(Anderson and MacFarlane, 2008)

	Observations	Data
I. Community Core History 1. History • What can you glean by looking (e.g. old, established neighborhoods vs new subdivision)? • Ask people who are willing to talk: how long have you lived here? Has the area changed? • As you talk, ask if there is an "old-timer" who knows the history of the area		
2. Demographics • What sorts of people do you see? Young? Old? Homeless? Alone? Families? • What races do you see? • Is the population homogeneous?		
3. Ethnicity • Do you note indicators of different ethnic groups (e.g. restaurants, festivals)? • What signs do you see of different cultural groups?		
4. Values and Beliefs • Are there churches, mosques, temples? • Does it appear homogeneous? • Are the lawns cared for? With flowers? Gardens? • Signs of art? Culture? Heritage? Historical markers?		
II. Subsystems 1. Physical environment • How does the community look? • What do you note about air quality, flora, housing, zoning space, green areas, animals, people, human-made structures, nature beauty, water, climate? • What is the size (eg. square miles, blocks)?		

	Observations	Data
2. Health and Social Services • Evidence of acute or chronic conditions among population? • Presence of shelters? • Presence of traditional healers (e.g. curanderos, herbalists) • Are there clinics , hospitals, practitioners' offices, public health services, home health agencies, emergency centers, nursing homes, social service facilities, mental health services? • Are there resources outside the community but accessible to them?		
3. Economy • Is it a "thriving" community or does it feel "seedy"? • Are there industries, stores, places for employment? • Where do people shop? • Are there signs that food stamps are used/accepted? • What is the unemployment rate?		
4. Transportation and Safety • How do people get around? • What type of public and private transportation is available? • Do you see buses, bicycles, taxis? • Are there sidewalks, bike trails? • Is getting around the community possible for people with disabilities? • What types of protective services are there (e.g. fire, police, sanitation)? • Is air quality monitored? • What types of crimes are committed? • Do people feel safe?		
5. Politics and Government • Are there signs of political activity (e.g. posters, meetings)? • What is the governmental jurisdiction of the community (e.g. elected mayor, city council with single member districts)? • Are people involved in decision-making in their local government unit?		

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6. Communication • Are there "common" areas where people gather? • What newspapers do you see in the stand? • Do people have TVs and radios? What do they watch/listen to? • What are the formal and informal means of communication? •		
7. Education • Are there schools in the area? How do they look? • Are there libraries? • Is there a local board of education? How does it function? • What is the reputation of the school(s)? • What are the major educational issues? • What are the dropout rates? • Are extracurricular activities available? Are they used? • Is there a school health service? A school nurse?		
III. Perceptions 1. The Residents • How do people feel about the community? • What do they identify as its strengths? Problems? • Ask several people from different groups (e.g. old, young, field worker, factory worker, professional, minister, housewife) and keep track of who gives what answer. 2. Your perceptions • General statements about the "health" of this community. • What are its strengths? • What problems or potential problems can you identify?		

Note: Supplement your impressions with information from the census, police records, school statistics, chamber of commerce data, health department reports, and so on to confirm or refute your conclusions. Tables, graphs and maps are helpful and will aid your analysis.

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