ABSTRACT

Increasing knowledge about and to deepen understanding of human beings’ innermost motive to care for another human being in ones’ home is the main purpose of this study. In addition, the present study aims to visualize caring for the patient in family care and family care home. The research questions are: 1. What is the innermost motive to care for another human being in ones’ own home? 2. What is caring for the patient in family care and in family home care?

The theoretical perspective of the study proceeds from caring science being human science and has grounds in the knowledge and fundamentals which derive from the department of caring science at Åbo Akademi. The empiric part of the study is based on written narratives by family caregivers and nurses on titles which were submitted in advance. The studies nature is hermeneutic and the methodology is based on Gadamer’s philosophical hermeneutics. By interpreting the texts through this method the intention is to achieve knowledge and understanding of the significance and truthful of the caring reality which is central to this study.

The result of the study shows that the innermost motive to care for another human being in ones’ own home is grounded in an awareness of being called to serve in love and in a wish to be there for the other human being. At the same time the act of serving can be caring for the family caregiver herself. The natural everyday life where the patient is settled in the home, where he can live in freedom, work and rest and tie lifelong relationships is caring for him. The home has a fundamental significance on both the patient and the family caregiver. The home constitutes a beautiful authentic meeting human to human where one human creates purpose in another’s life.