The aim of this study is the understanding of a sincere respect for human beings of different cultures. The research questions are: 1. What is respect from a nursing/caring transcultural perspective? 2. How is respect described and understood from a nursing/caring transcultural perspective? 3. What can a nurse do in order to show respect?

The general methodology is hermeneutics. Knowledge is derived by induction. The theoretical approach of the study proceeds from the assumptions and the tradition that have been developed by the Department of Caring Science at Åbo Akademi University. The study is humanistic-scientific and qualitative. A systematic literature review of fifteen caring/nursing scientific transcultural articles has been presented. The data found in the articles have been analyzed according to the hermeneutical method of Per-Johan Ödman.

A genuine understanding consists of equal treatment, verbal and non-verbal communication, kindness and love – all based on cultural knowledge and acceptance as well as a holistic view of the human being. Melting together the horizon of the text and the understanding of the respondent makes it possible to reach existential interpretation and hermeneutical understanding. The result of this study shows that sincere respect really is to see and to confirm the unique human being, something that always will require cultural competence, good communication and a holistic view of the human being.