

## Profiles in Leadership



## Florence Nightingale

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## Florence Nightingale

Born: 1820 Died: 1910



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## Florence Nightingale

Born into a rich, upper-class well-connected English family on May 12, 1820.



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### Florence Nightingale

Inspired by a Christian divine calling, Florence committed herself to nursing.

In those days nurses had the reputation of being coarse, ignorant women, given to promiscuity and drunkenness.

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### Florence Nightingale

Florence officially announced her decision to enter nursing in 1845 bringing intense anger and distress to her family.

Between 1847 and 1853, Florence studied different hospital systems around the world.



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### Florence Nightingale

March 1854 brought the start of the Crimean War, with Britain, France and Turkey declaring war on Russia.

Nightingale was asked to become a nursing administrator to oversee the introduction of nurses to military hospitals.



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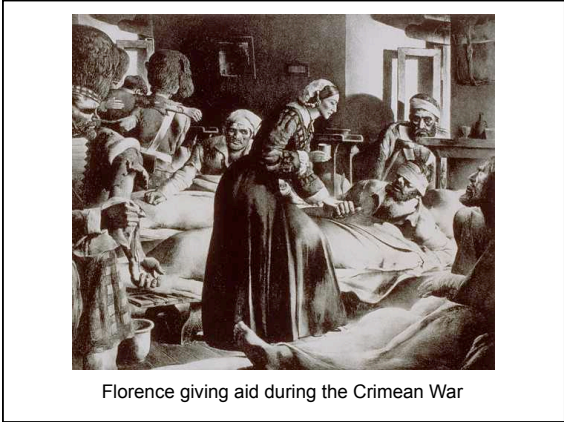
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Florence giving aid during the Crimean War

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### Florence Nightingale

Nightingale found the hospital conditions which resulted in soldiers lying on bare floors surrounded by vermin and unhygienic operations taking place.

This meant that injured soldiers were 7 times more likely to die from disease in the hospitals than on the battlefield.

Florence used mathematics to collect data to calculate the mortality rate in the hospitals. These calculations showed that an improvement in the sanitary methods employed would result in a decrease in the number of deaths.

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### Florence Nightingale

After the war she continued to illustrate the need for sanitary reform in all military hospitals.

In 1860, the Nightingale Training School and Home for Nurses based at St. Thomas' Hospital in London opened with 10 students.



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**Florence Nightingale**

Due to this school Florence achieved the transformation of nursing from its disreputable past into a responsible and respectable career for women.

Florence gave advice on army medical care in Canada and to the United States during the Civil War.




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**Florence Nightingale**

For most of the remainder of her life Nightingale was bedridden due to an illness contracted in the Crimea, which prevented her from continuing her own work as a nurse.

She continued to campaign to improve health standards.



Florence Nightingale  
English Hospital Administrator &  
Reformer of Nurses' Training  
1820-1910

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**Florence Nightingale**

She published over 200 books, reports and pamphlets.

The book "Notes of Nursing" was the first text book specifically for use in the teaching of nursing and was translated into many languages.



FLORENCE NIGHTINGALE

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**Florence  
Nightingale**

Nightingale died on  
August 13, 1910

Age 90.



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