



General questions

1. What problems can you identify in this story? Are solutions presented?
2. In what way might this story be relevant in your community?

Further exploration

1. What economic power dynamics are at play between foreign nurses and the recruiters?
2. Because of growing government backlogs in processing visas, providers began turning to staffing agencies, some of which are fronts for lucrative human trafficking. Does the U.S. have a responsibility to ensure safety for nurses coming to fill the nursing gap? Why or why not?
3. Even when the recruiter isn't a trafficker, the deals still can work to the nurses' disadvantage. Contracts often bind nurses to their agency for up to four years, with penalties reaching \$60,000 if they quit earlier. These provisions are never required of Canadian or European nurses. Why are nurses coming from poorer countries treated differently?
4. Should the U.S build more training facilities so that it does not depend on foreign countries, many of them poor, to fill its shortage of nurses? Why has this not happened?