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A pattern of the farm being a higher priority than self care.

- One informant was literally crawling to his tractor and had to use two hands to turn the key in the ignition to start the tractor during fall harvest.

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A pattern of doing by agrarian elders.

- "I Failed at retirement"
- "I like to stay busy. I'd go nuts I guess if I couldn't do something you know"

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A pattern of economic uncertainty throughout Agrarian elder's adult lives.

- "the farmer is way down here at the bottom of the totem pole and all the other people you know they get their fair share but the farmer gets what's left over and believe me that's not very much"

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- When faced with acute illness in peak work seasons agrarian elders tend to attempt to work through the problem rather than seek out health care
- Agrarian elders attempt to cope with illness by working
- Agrarian elders tend to put up with pain or ignore it rather than taking medication, not related to economics.
- Agrarian elders tend to minimize the health and safety risks on the farm.

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- Theme Two: Agrarian elder men and women are interdependent with their spouse, family, and God to promote their health and well being.*
- Even though the patterns of freedom and self reliance conflict with the concept of collectiveness it is very present in this cultural group
 - Agrarian elders also depend on each other for their health decisions
 - Agrarian elders are very religious and spiritual people

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- Agrarian elder's families are very close knit. History of working and playing together brought the family closer together. Families remained very close knit and interdependent after the children grew up and moved out onto their own
- Marriages tend to be life long commitments for agrarian elders

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Theme Three: *To Agrarian elder men and women care is the physical and emotional presence of others during both health and illness*

- Physical and emotional presence of the provider
- A non caring nurse is one who does not take time with the elder
- Agrarian elders perceive care by maintaining relationships with their family members through frequent contact

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- Helping or doing for each other is very important in regard to care for agrarian elders
- The elders show their care for their adult children who are farming by helping with the farm work
- Sharing food is one way of doing for others or showing care for Agrarian elders
- Agrarian elders are not demonstrative in showing their care physically

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Culture Care Preservation and/or Maintenance

- Nurses need to understand the importance of spending time and establishing relationship rather than just providing physical cares for Agrarian elders.
- Agrarian elders live very spiritual lives. To many of them it is integrated into everything that they do. Many believe that prayer during illness helps restore them to health. It is important for nurses to be sensitive to their spiritual needs and practices.
- It is important for nurses to recognize that Agrarian elders rarely truly retire unless they have severe physical limitations.
