Clara Barton and Florence Nightingale were both famous nurses during the 1800’s, but they did have some contrasts. Their families were almost complete opposites. Their nursing careers were equivalent.

In their families, Florence Nightingale and Clara Barton had similarities and differences. Florence had only one sister, while Clara had both sisters and brothers. Florence’s family despised the very idea of her becoming a nurse because female nurses had very little respect. Clara, on the other hand, was encouraged by her family because she had nursed her brother back to health after he fell off a roof. Both Clara and Florence lived during the 1800s and never married. Although their families were different, they went on to improve the reputation for nurses.

Clara Barton and Florence Nightingale each had a unique nursing career. Florence went straight to becoming a nurse and even set up a hospital, but Clara first was a school teacher and decided to set up a school for some poor children. Florence went up courageously to the front lines to nurse for the British during the Crimean war and Clara went bravely to the front lines during the American Civil War on the Union side. It took some time for Florence to earn respect, and even after that, there were barriers. For Clara, she had trouble convincing the government to allow her to go to the front lines, but they eventually let her. Florence Nightingale is famous for earning more respect for female nurses, however Clara Barton is famous for starting the American Red Cross. Their nursing careers are unmatched.

Clara’s and Florence’s families did vary and were also comparable in some parts. Clara and Florence both were dedicated nurses who changed nursing in war.