

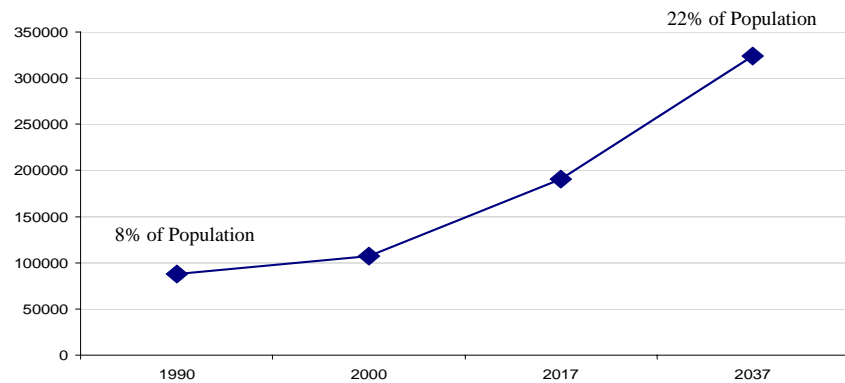
The Integration of the Elderly in the Family



Centre For Applied Social Research

Population Projection

Number of Persons Aged 60+ in Population
(CSO Projection)



Objectives of the Study

- Investigate the needs, expectations and lifestyle preferences of those currently over 60 years old.
- Investigate the desire and ability of adults living in family households, to care for the elderly within the household and their motives for doing so.
- Explore the possibilities and avenues for promoting the integration of the elderly in the family with reference to such issues as housing, safety, welfare benefits etc.
- Investigate the role and contribution of the elderly within the family
- Assess the expectations of adults currently aged, over 40 years old but not yet retired, regarding their preferred post-retirement lifestyles.
- Make recommendations with a view to improving the quality of life of the elderly.

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Basic Methodology

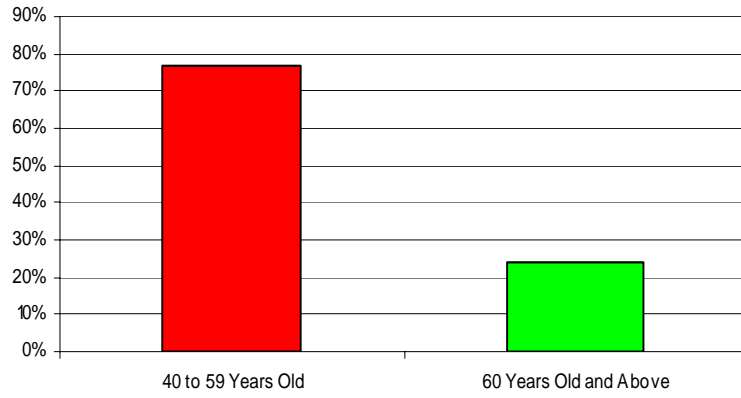
The study was implemented in the Island of Mauritius with a target population of 1,200 individuals aged 40 years old and above, living in private households. The sampling took into consideration the following parameters:

- (i) the geographical spread of the sample
- (ii) ethnic groups
- (iii) social class
- (iv) the age of the respondent
- (v) the gender of the respondent

Other key demographic factors of the respondent such as education, occupation and marital status, were captured by the survey Questionnaire.

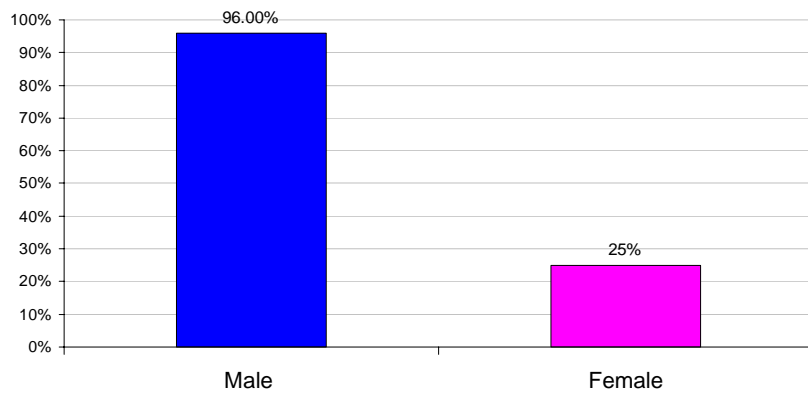
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Chart 1 Age Groups of Respondents

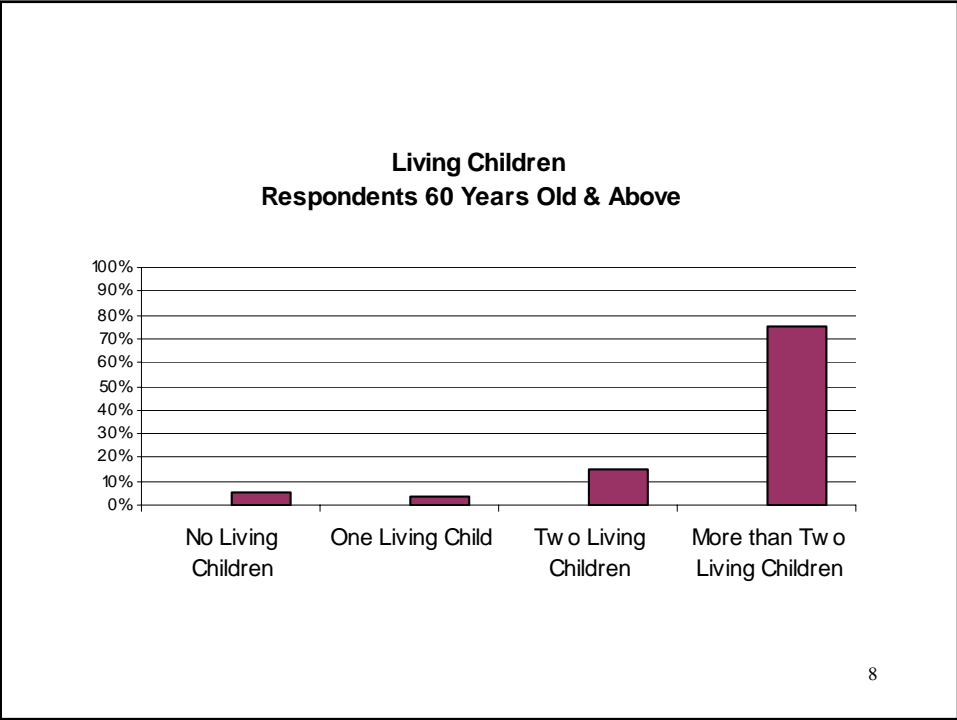
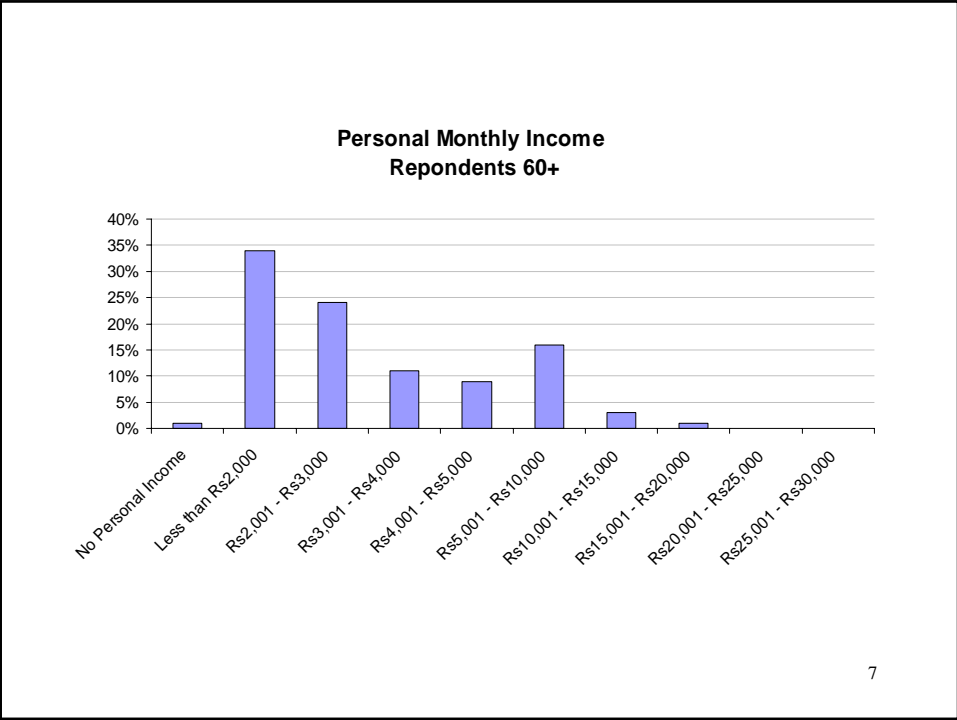


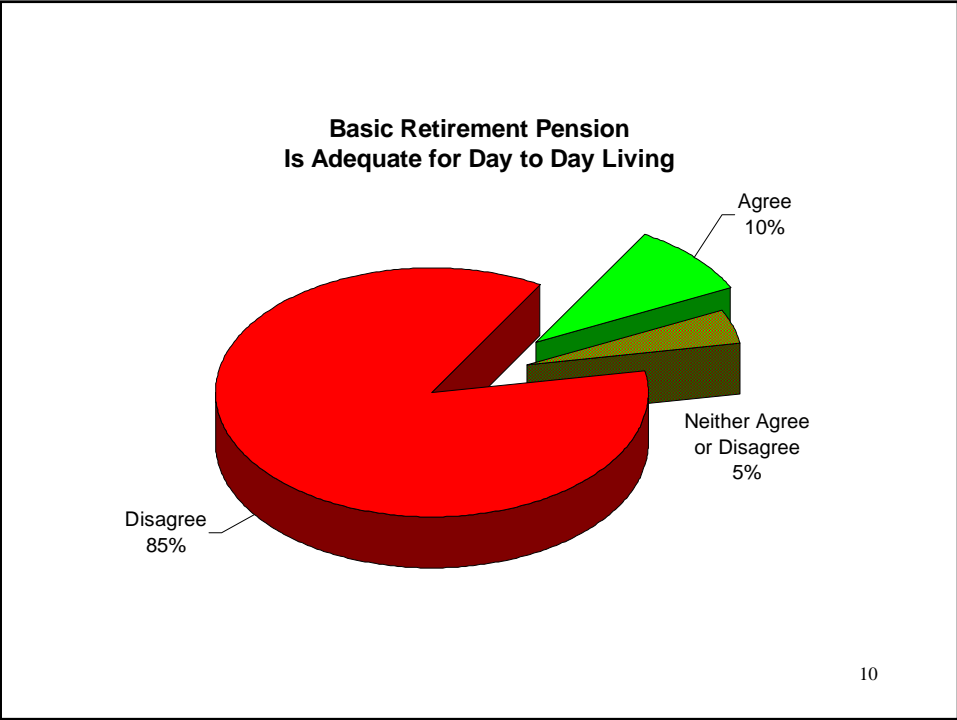
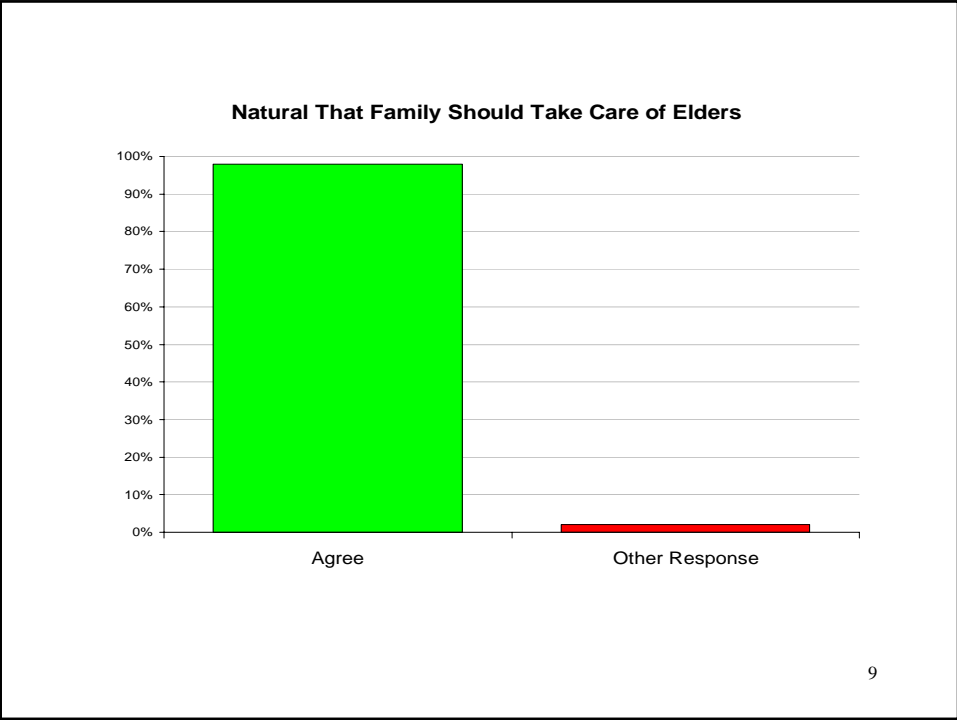
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Chart 3 Head of Household by Sex

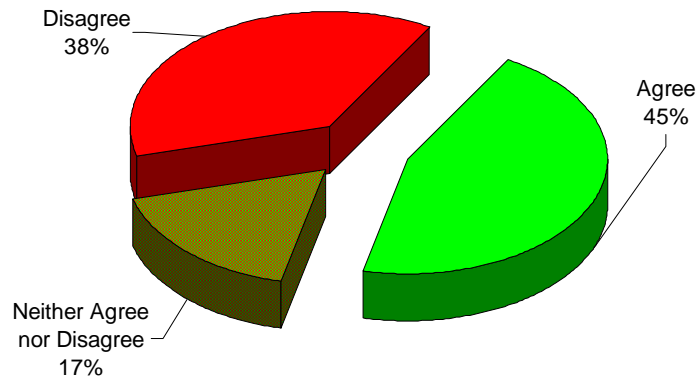


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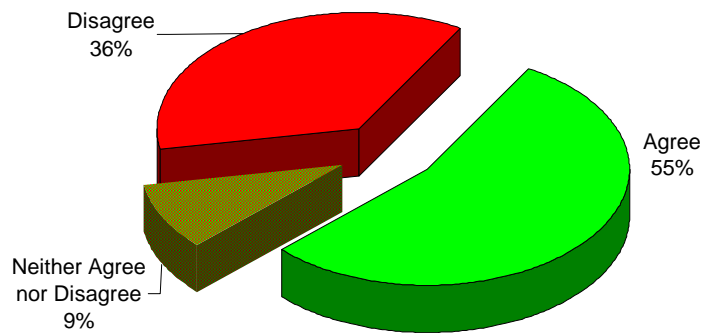


Current Social Services for Elderly Are Adequate



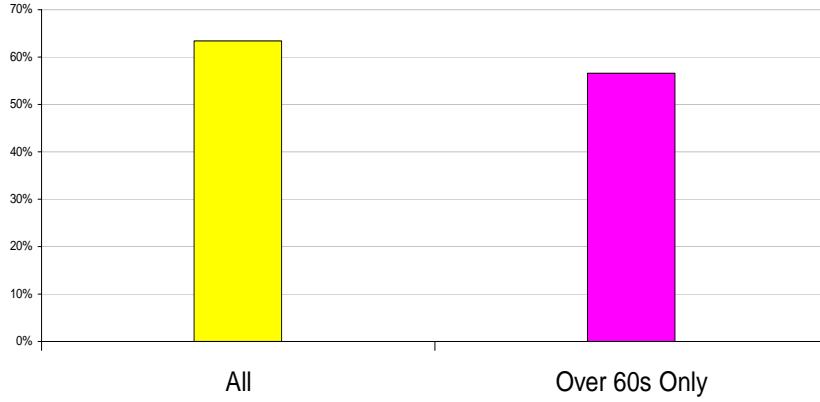
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Current Health Services For The Elderly Are Adequate



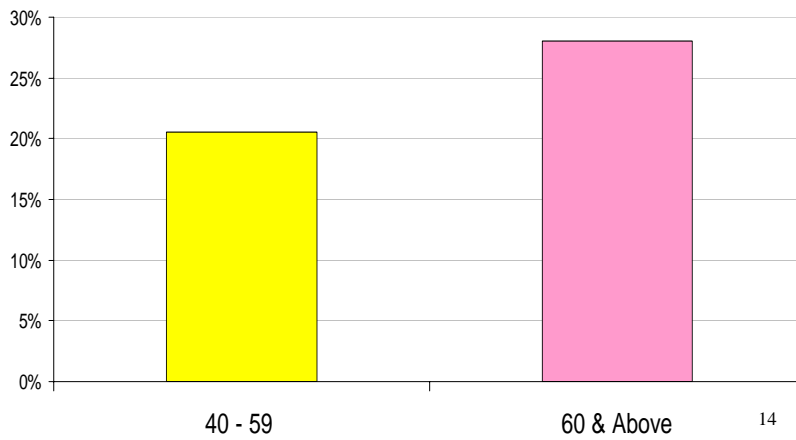
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**Elderly People Are Better Off Today
Than Elderly People Before**



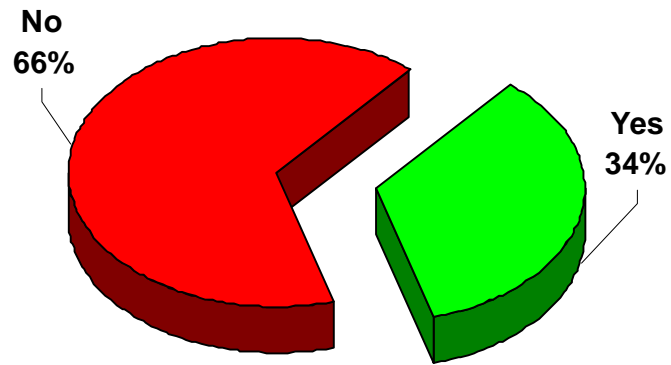
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**Agree That Retirement Age Should Be Increased
by Age Group**



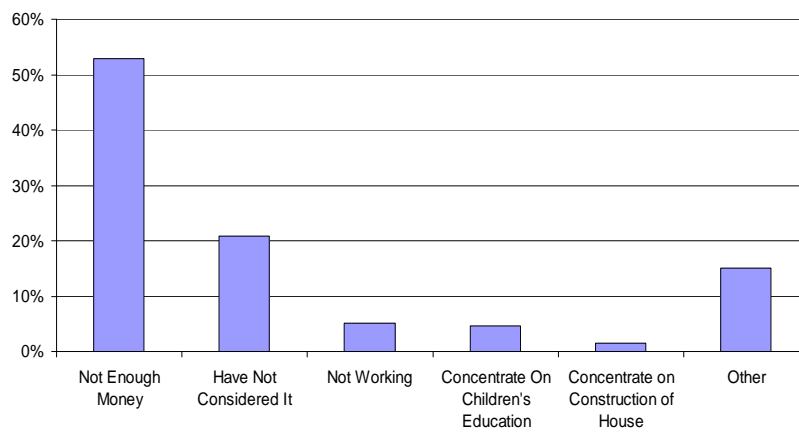
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Currently Made Any Provision for Retirement (40 - 59)



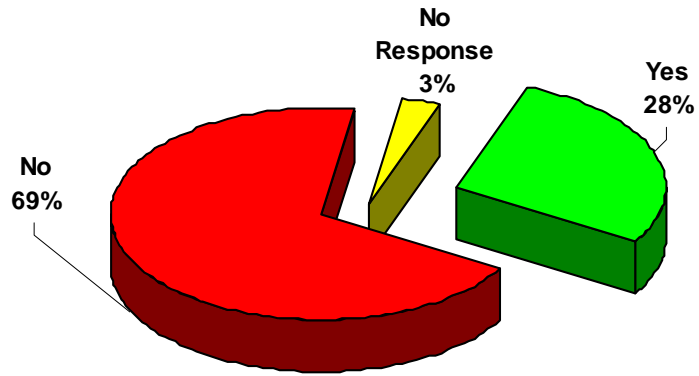
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Reasons For Not Making Provision



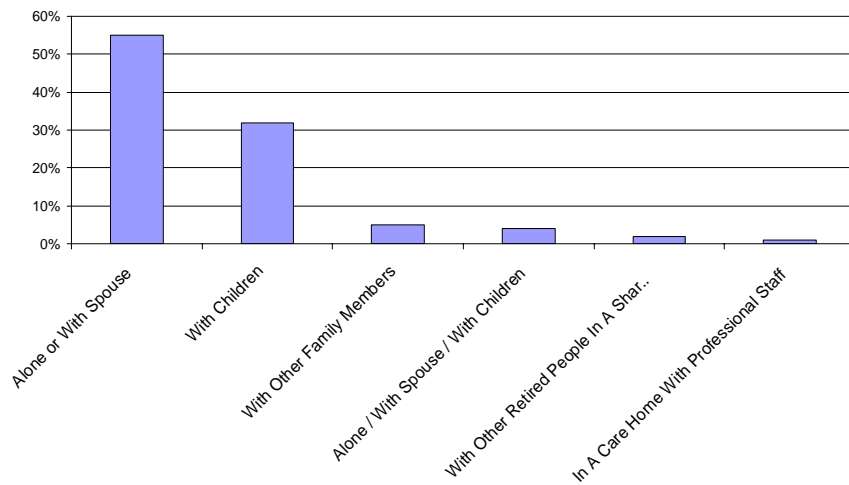
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Think That State Pension Will Provide For All Retirement Needs
 (40 - 59 No Provisions for Retirement Made)



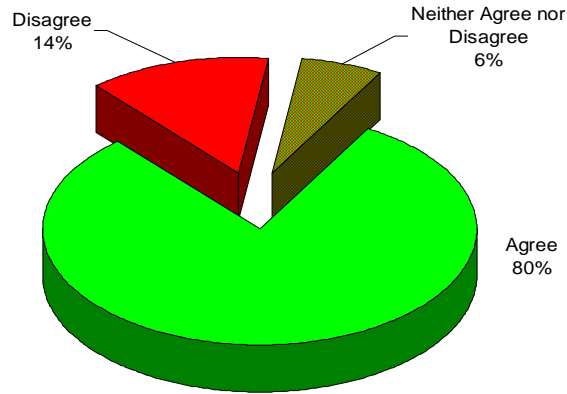
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Preferred Living Arrangement When Retired



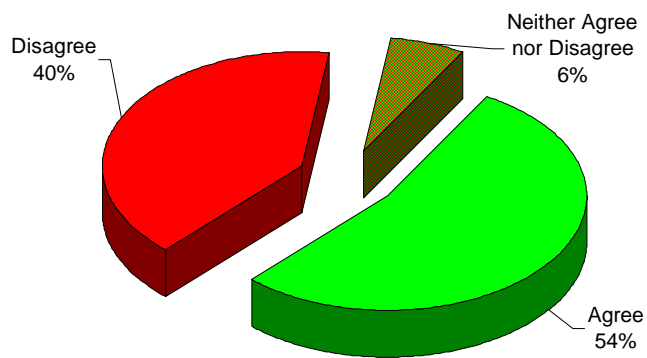
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**People Today Don't Place Enough Value
On the Part Grandparents Play in Family Life**



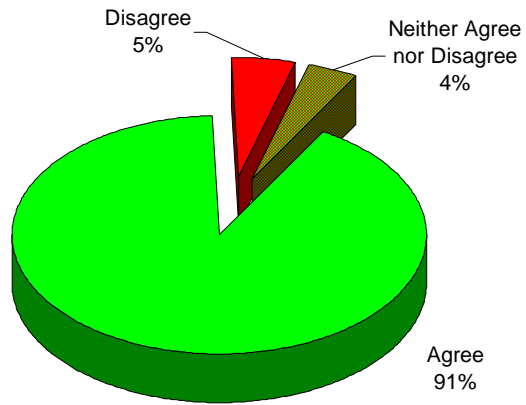
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**Grandparents Have Little To Teach Children Nowadays
(Selected Respondents)**



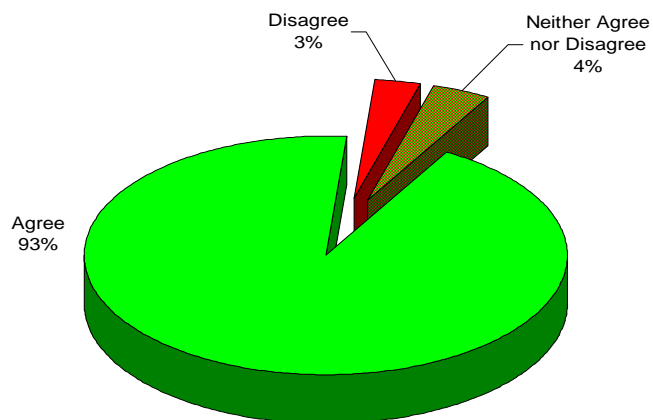
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**With So Many Working Families
Grandparents Need To Help More**



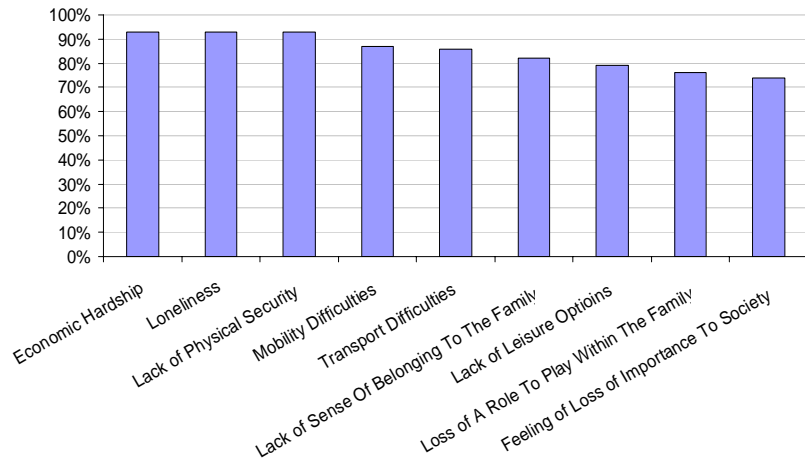
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**Older People Living On Their Own
Face Economic Hardship**



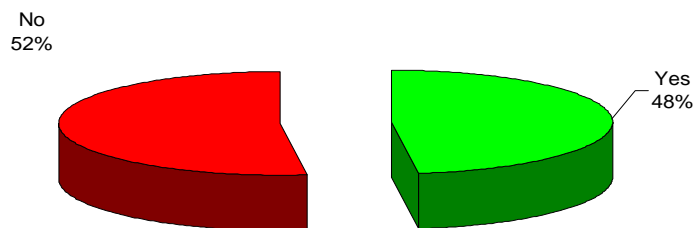
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Experiences of Older Persons Living Alone



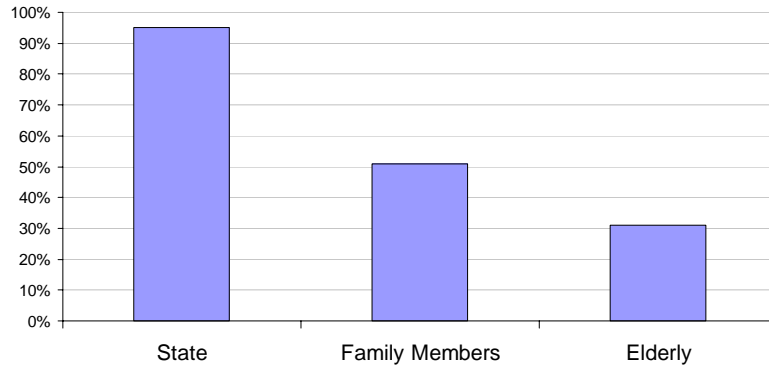
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Expect Financial Contribution Towards Care of Parents / Grandparents



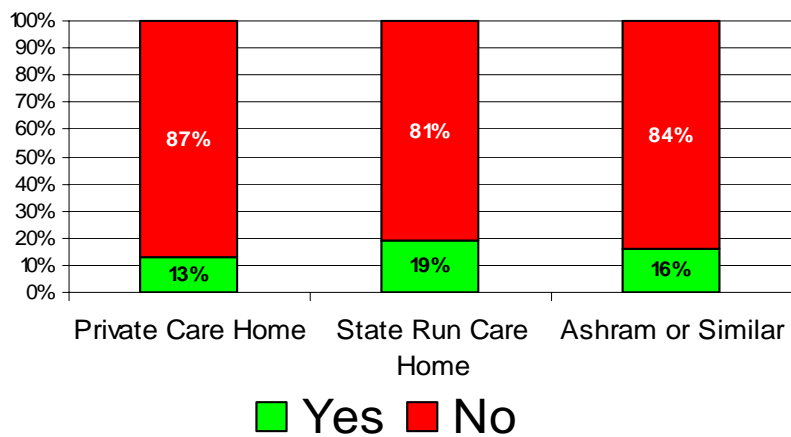
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**Expected Contributors To Care of Elderly
(Respondents Expecting Financial Contribution)**



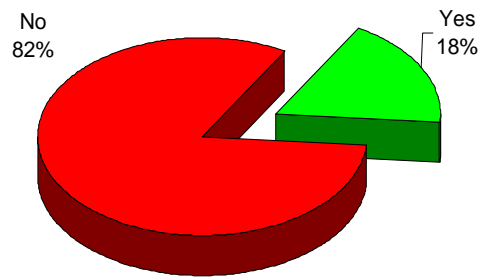
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**Would Consider Putting Elderly in Care Home
by Type of Facility**



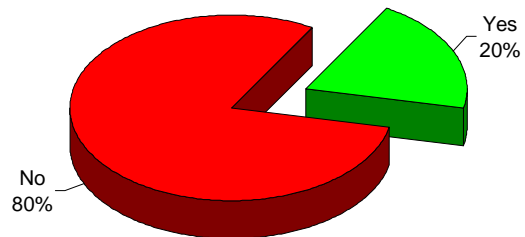
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**Elders Living With Respondents
(Who Would NOT Consider Putting Elders in a Care Home)**

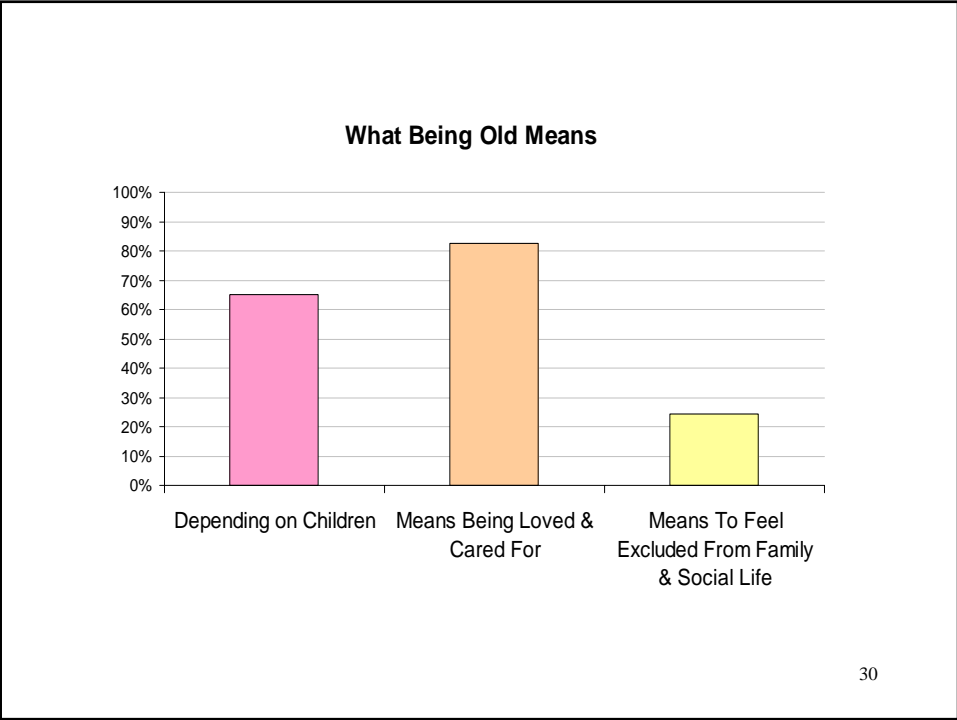
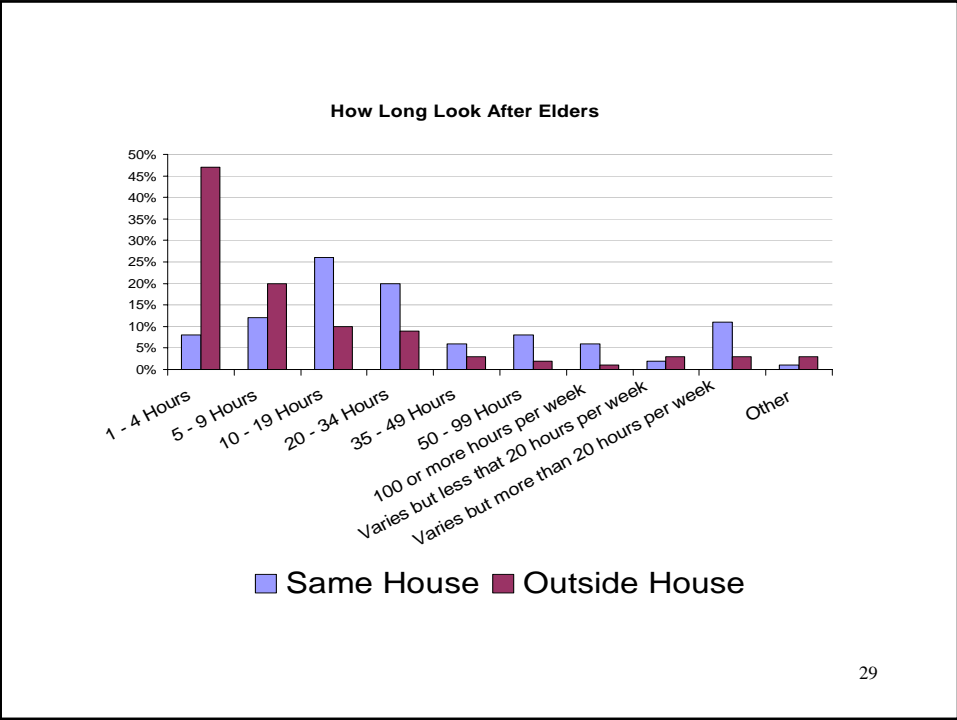


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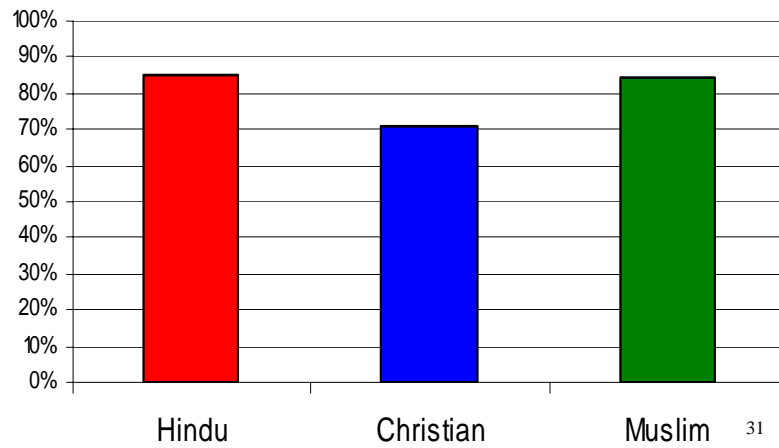
**Help to Look After Elderly Persons
Elsewhere**



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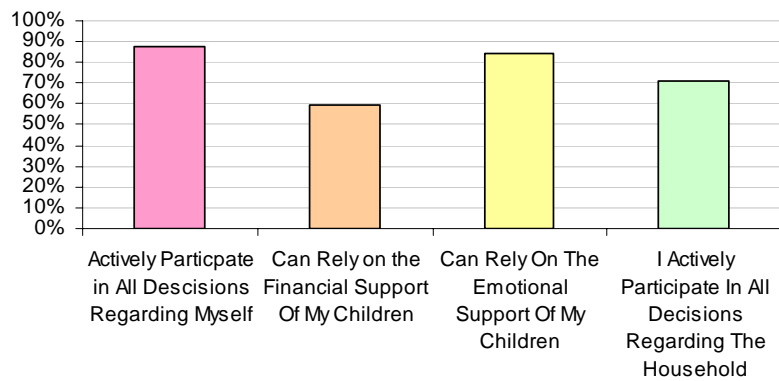


**People Don't Value The Part Grandparents
Play in Family Life
by Major Religions**



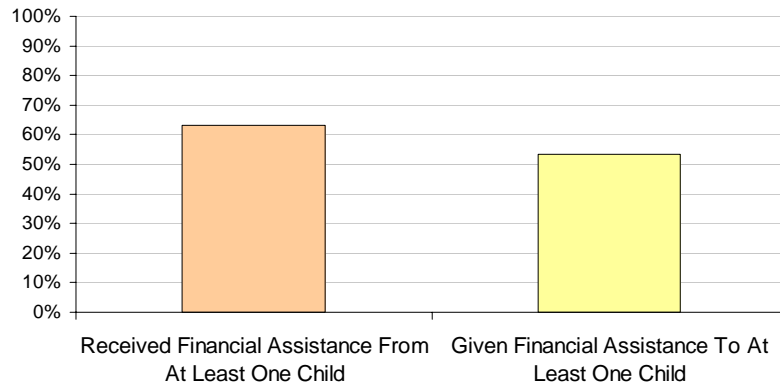
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Decisions & Support



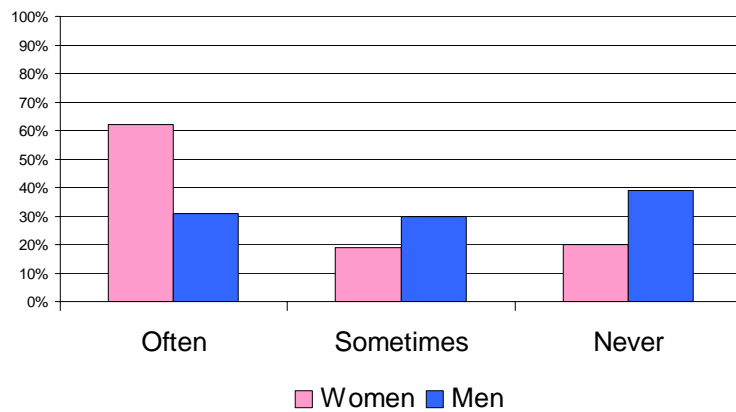
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**Received or Given Financial Assistance
(previous 6 Months)**

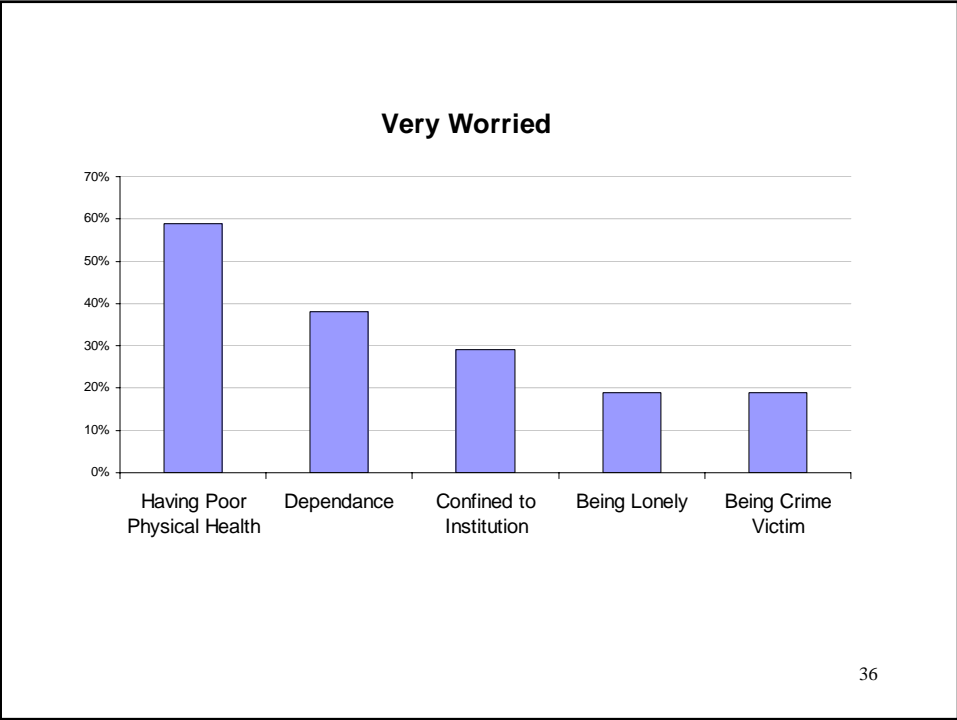
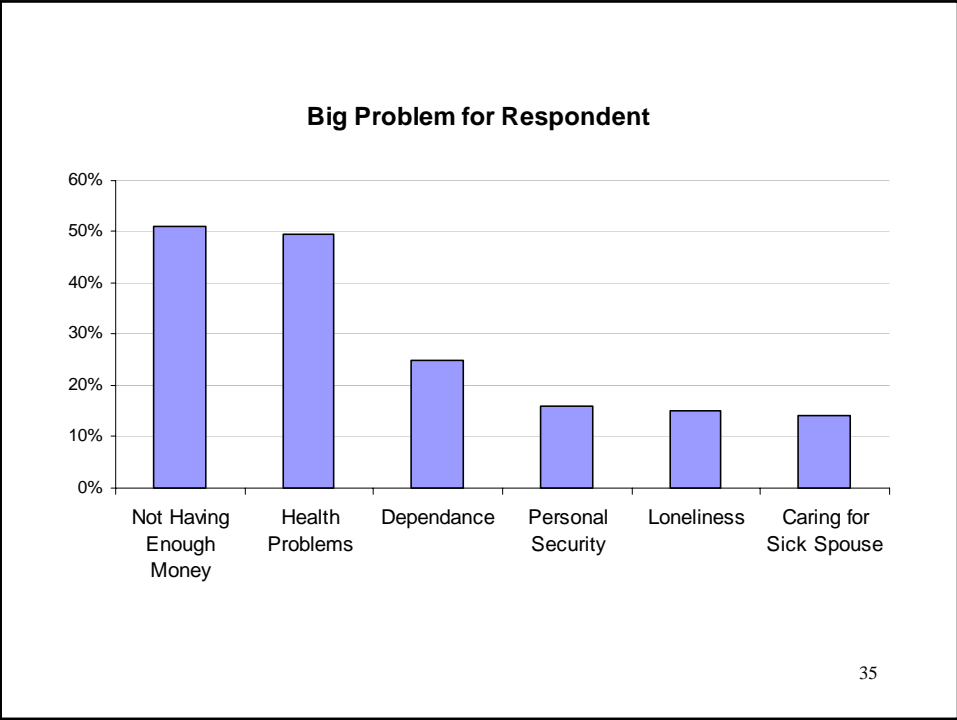


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**Participation in Housework
(Over 60s living with co-resident children) by Sex**



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- Very few respondents have faith in care homes as an option for old age
- Important for any assessment is made of the future care and accommodation needs of the elderly
- High rate of agreement with tax concessions for those who construct accommodation for older persons as an extension to the family home.
- Many older persons complained of feeling isolated *within* the family and feelings of isolation or integration are not necessarily determined by geographical proximity.
- Families have adopted a nuclear structure but there appears to be a desire to maintain older persons as an integral part of the family
- But sometimes an ulterior motive involved such as the availability of a grandparent for childcare
- More retired respondents than those yet to retire felt that the age of retirement could be increased

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- Many of the not yet retired have not made any provision for retirement
- Reasons include a shortage of income and procrastination
- Many respondents over 40 but under 60 years old that have made no provision expect the State to be source of financial provision after retirement
- There is a general willingness to keep the elderly integrated within the family.
- Informing people of the issues of retirement and care for the elderly are crucial
- Distaste for care homes displayed means any provisions made for the elderly needs to focus on maintaining the personal independence of older persons and encouraging ways and means of assisting families to maintain close contact with senior citizens.

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The End

Thank You Very Much