

Title:

Where do we find child labour and how do we stop it?

Category:

11-14 years

Group members:

Abela Amy – 5th May 2003,

Catania Maria – 05th June 2003,

Mallia Marija-Daniela – 21st March 2003

Zammit Pia – 17th July 2003

School:

St Francis Secondary School, Sliema

Link teacher:

Ms Vanessa Cachia

Table of Contents

	Page
1. Our Article	3
2. References	8
3. Acknowledgements	9
4. Proof of dissemination	10
5. Appendix 1: Sample of respondents	11
6. Appendix 2: Template for questionnaires	12
7. Appendix 3: Data gathered from our research	17

Where do we find child labour and how do we stop it?

By: Abela Amy, Catania Maria, Mallia Marija-Daniela and Zammit Pia

‘Children should have pens in their hands not tools’,

said Iqbal Mashi, a boy who was assassinated in 1995 and had worked in a carpet



factory till the age of ten. This sentence, although simple, makes you stop and think about how many children around the world are being deprived of schooling, education and the simple things in life which we sometimes take for granted or even complain about, just so they can earn enough money to survive. Therefore, we decided to research this issue and find out whether Maltese people are aware

of this increasing problem.

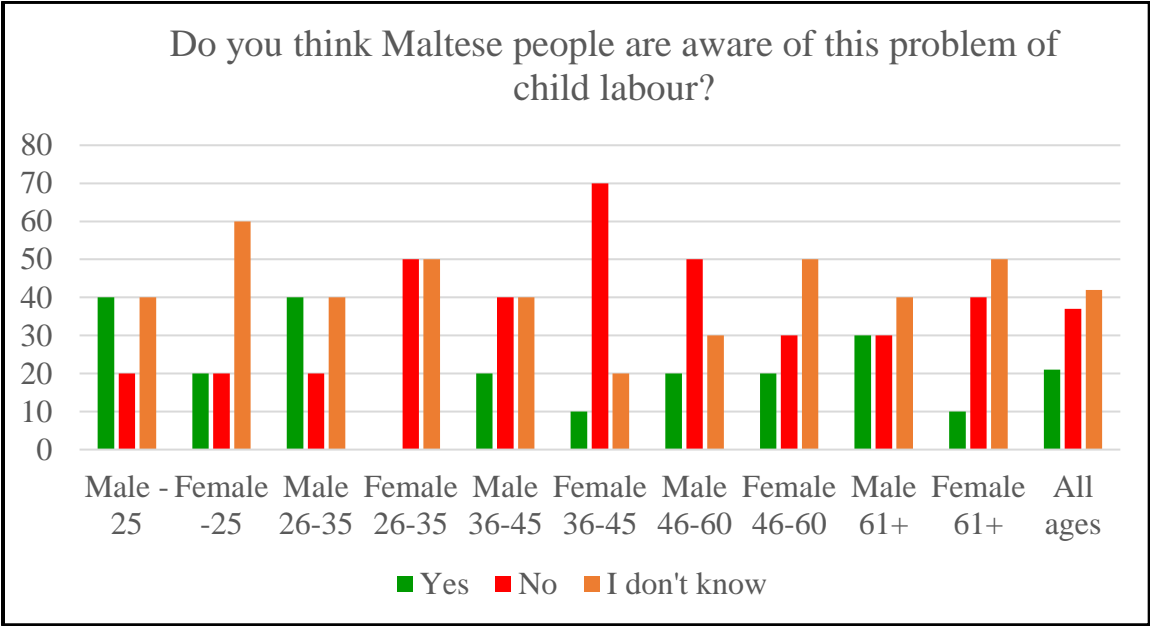
We completed this survey by distributing questionnaires to a hundred males and females of different ages. In the questionnaires we asked questions such as ‘Do you think child labour happens in Malta?’ and other questions which allowed us to investigate the attitude of Maltese people towards this issue.



Our analysis reveals that 31% of our respondents think that child labour happens in Malta, 40% think otherwise and 29% were unsure. Most respondents (62%) think that child labour mostly happens in Asia, 29% think it mostly happens in Africa, 5% place it mostly in Europe and 4% in America. On the other hand,

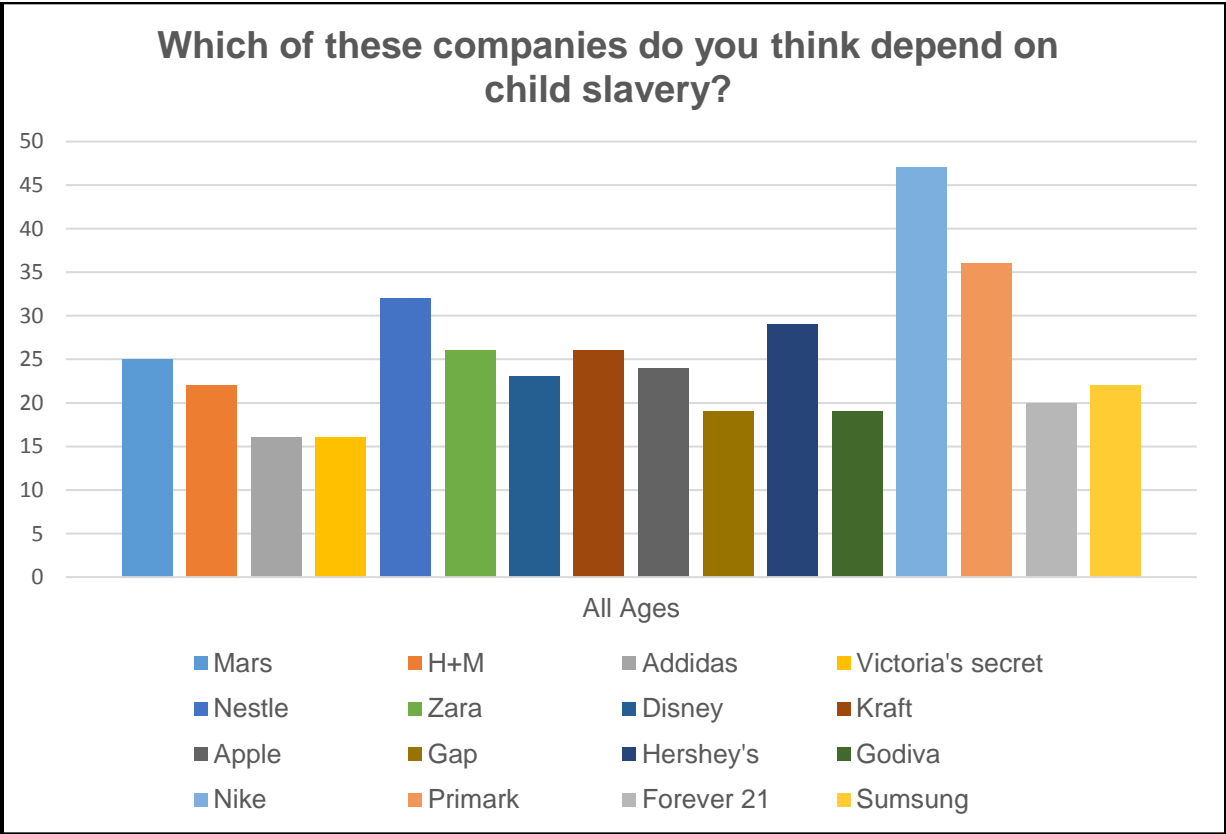
UNICEF reports that Sub-Saharan Africa has the largest incidence of child (5 – 14 years) labour (28%), followed by Middle East and North Africa (10%), East Asia and the Pacific (10%) latin America and the Caribbean (9%). This indicates that even people who know about child labour have various misconceptions about it. Then the question ‘Do you think child labour abroad affects Malta?’ was dominated by the response ‘Yes’ (66%) and most (49%) thought this was because ‘Every time we buy a product made by children, we condone child labour’. 16% answered ‘No’, mostly because Maltese children are not involved and the rest were unsure.

People in general seem to be unaware of which products are a result of child labour. 36% of our respondents do not know how many child-made products are sold in Malta, 30% think that quite a few of these products are sold here, 19% think that there are a few, whilst 15% think there are a lot. The question ‘Do you often buy child-made products?’ was again dominated by the response ‘I don’t know’ (68%) which suggests the need to raise awareness about this issue in Malta.



In fact, 42% of respondents are unsure if Maltese people are aware of child labour. Most respondents (78%) think that there should be more awareness, with 36% stating that awareness about child labour should take place through the media.

The people who completed the questionnaires were also given a question with a list of companies asking them ‘Which of these companies do you think depend on child slavery?’ The participants answered.



This further highlights the fact that many people are unaware of how their favourite brands make so much profit, and emphasises the need to raise awareness to counter this ostrich-like state of unawareness.

On a more positive note, given the question ‘If you know that a product is made by child labour, would you still buy it?’ 68% of respondents answered ‘No’.

The most common reasons for this answer were that if they were to buy these products they would be promoting child labour and because children should be left to play and go to school to get an education, not forced to work. However, there was a small percentage who said 'Yes', that they would still buy these items, as the product is good. Males aged 46-60 had a 100% 'No' because they do not like promoting child labour per principal and Females aged 46-60 had a 90% 'No' because they want to stop child abuse and child labour.

Our respondents also seem willing to change this situation. When asked 'Should products made by children be banned from shops?' 67% said 'Yes', 3% said 'No' and 30% did not know what to answer. A few people said that if these products were to be banned, there would not be any products. However, the others think that banning these would be a good idea to decrease exploitation. Some females said this would ensure nobody bought child labour products without knowing. And some males said child welfare is more important than the economy and that they deserve education, at least till the age of 16. (All the respondents' answers may be found in Appendix 2 overleaf.)

Have you recently purchased clothes? A delicious bar of chocolate? Coffee? There is a good chance that these products were made by child slavery. According to UNICEF,

'An estimated 150 million children worldwide are engaged in child labour.'

By being more careful what we buy we can help reduce this number. Children are meant to go to school at least till the age of sixteen and enjoy their childhood. Thus it is very important to raise awareness about child labour, but also about its solutions – decreasing poverty and providing sustainable education.



Children being forced to work in India.

Malala once said,

‘We realize the importance of our voice when we are silenced.’

As individuals, we can make a difference to these insidious practices. We have to act as a group to bring about change. We cannot do much alone if the rest of the world is promoting it. So spread the word in school presentations; pass it on to your friends and family. Stopping child labour isn't easy but we can help change children's lives.

References

Links to quotations:

D'Mello Jyothi, February 4, 2016, '*Iqbal Masih – The Little Hero*'

<http://www.quotemaster.org/Child+Labour#&gid=1&pid=4>

Unicef DATA, June 2016, '*Child Labour – Unicef DATA*'

<https://data.unicef.org/topic/child-protection/child-labour/>

Yousafzai Malala, 12th July 2013, '*The full text: Malala Yousafzai delivers defiant riposte to Taliban militants with speech to the UN General Assembly*'

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/the-full-text-malala-yousafzai-delivers-defiant-riposte-to-taliban-militants-with-speech-to-the-un-8706606.html>

wikiHow to Take Action to End Child Labor

<http://www.wikihow.com/Take-Action-to-End-Child-Labor>

Link to pictures:

Quotation:

<http://www.quotesofdaily.com/quote-on-child-labour/quote-on-child-labour-labour-quotes-quotesgram/>

Sidarth Trisal, May 27th 2016, '*5 steps on how to stop child labour in India*'

<https://www.google.com/mt/url?sa=i&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=images&cd=&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwiA8NTz2MfSAhVPHRQKHcgNBfMQjRwIBw&url=http%3A%2F%2Fblog.timetoswipe.com%2F5-steps-stop-child-labour-india%2F&bvm=bv.149093890,d.d24&psig=AFQjCNFmSKp3Qx6LvhuXnnXd-x7MR4L-uw&ust=1489089474014674>

OR

<https://blog.timetoswipe.com/5-steps-stop-child-labour-india/>

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the respondents who took the time to fill in our questionnaires.

We would also like to thank our teacher, Ms Vanessa Cachia, for her patience and guidance.

Proof of dissemination

As required, our project is exhibited on the school premises and it is also accessible on the school website (www.saintfrancisecondary.com).

We have also sent our report to *The Sunday Times* and *The Malta Independent on Sunday*, though we have no guarantee that it will be published.

Appendix 1: Sample of Respondents

100 respondents									
50 males					50 females				
10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
-25	26-35	36-45	46-60	61+	-25	26-35	36-45	46-60	61+
yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	yrs.	Yrs.	yrs.	yrs.

Appendix 2: Template for questionnaires

Where do we find child labour and how do we stop it?

A study carried out by Abela Amy, Catania Maria, Mallia Marija-Daniela and
Zammit Pia

Dear Respondent,

I am Maria Catania, a student at St Francis Secondary School, Sliema, and as one of our school projects this year, my friends and I are investigating whether Maltese people are aware of child labour and its impact or not. Our research involves distributing questionnaires to a number of people and I would greatly appreciate it if you could help me and my friends by completing the following questionnaire. It should only take a few minutes.

All data will be considered private and confidential, so please do not write your name anywhere on the questionnaire.

Thank you for your cooperation,

Maria Catania

Male Female

Age	
-25	
26-35	
36-45	
46-60	
61+	

1) Do you know what child labour is?

Yes	
No	
I'm not sure	

2) Do you think child labour happens in Malta?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

3) Where do you think child labour happens the most? (choose one)

America	
Europe	
Asia	
Africa	
Australia	

4) A. Do you think child labour abroad affects Malta?

Yes	No	I don't know

B. If yes, why?

Products are being bought, therefore increasing child labour.	
Every time we buy a product made by children, we condone child labour.	
Malta buys a lot of child labour products.	
Maltese children are also forced to work at times.	
Other: _____	

C. If no, why?

Maltese children are not involved.	
There is not enough information about this issue.	
There are not many products made with child labour.	
We do not really know which products are made by children.	
Other: _____	

5) How many child made products do you think are sold in Malta?

A lot	Quite a few	A few	I don't know

6) Do you often buy child made products?

Often	Regularly	Rarely	Never	I don't know

7) Do you think Maltese people are aware of this problem of child labour?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

8) A. Do you think there should be more awareness about child labour?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

B. Where?

In the media	
In schools	
Government campaigns	
Others:	

9) Which of these companies do you think depend on child slavery?

Mars		Nestle		Apple		Nike	
H + M		Zara		Gap		Primark	
Adidas		Disney		Hershey's		Forever 21	
Victoria's Secrets		Kraft		Godiva		Samsung	

10) A. If you know that a product is made by child labour, would you still buy it?

Yes	
No	

B. Why?

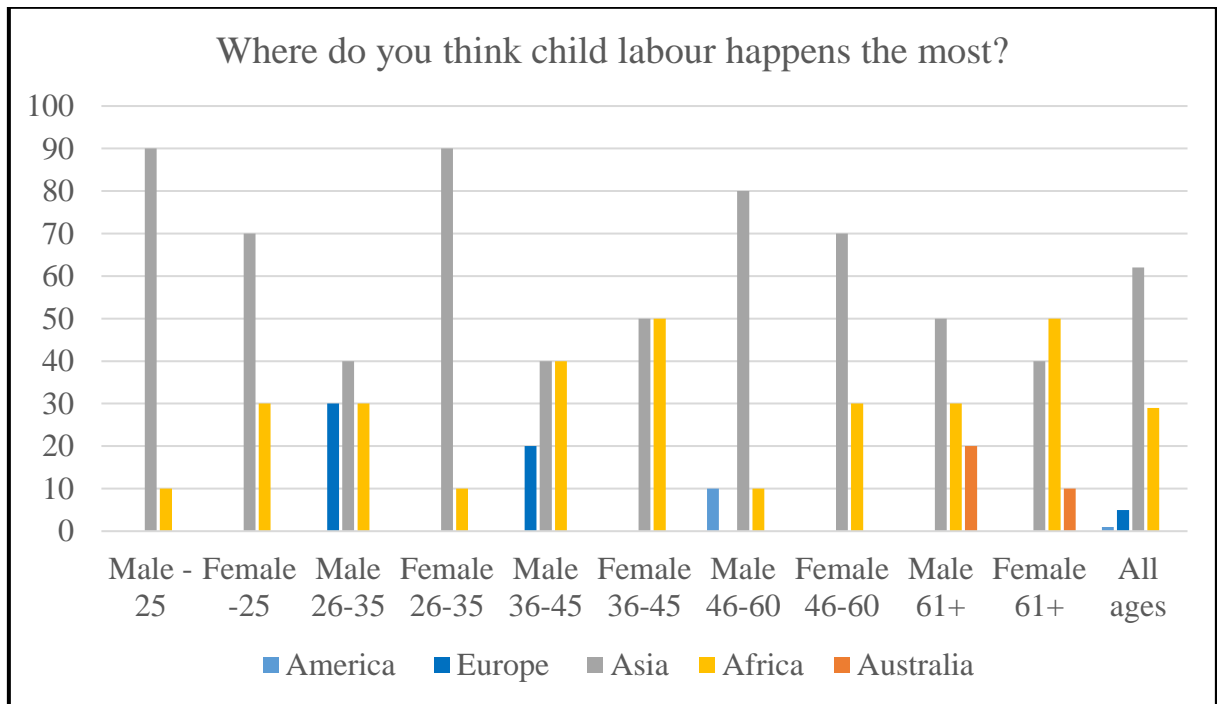
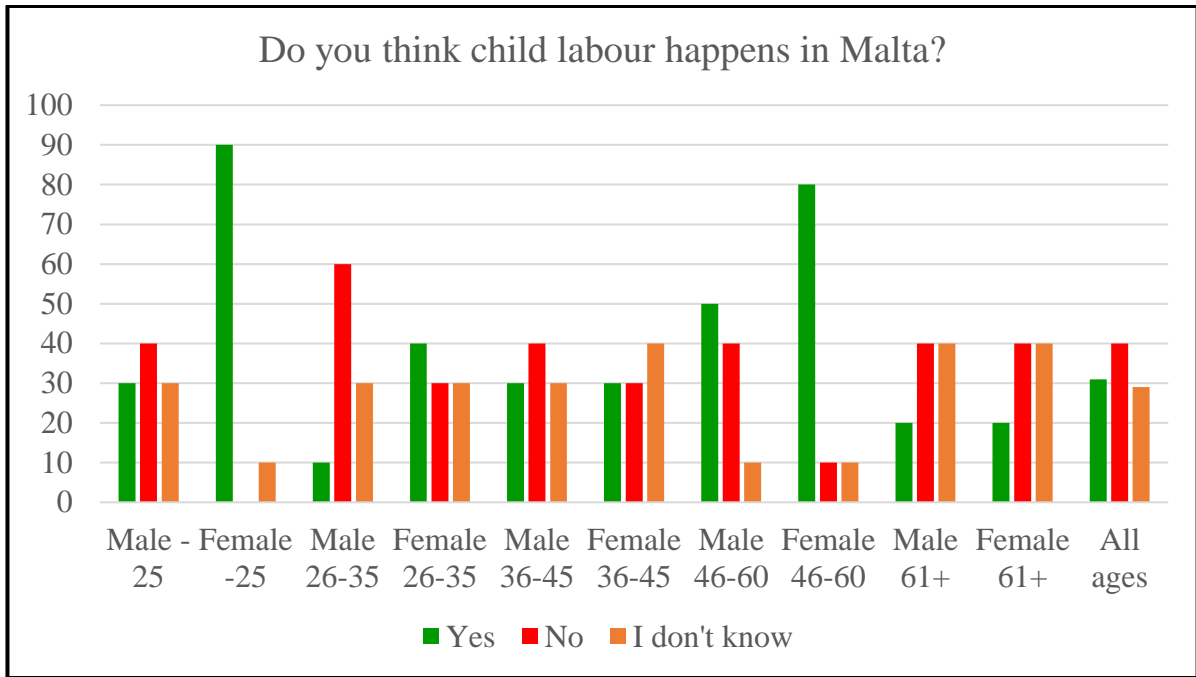
11) A. Should products made by children be banned from shops?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

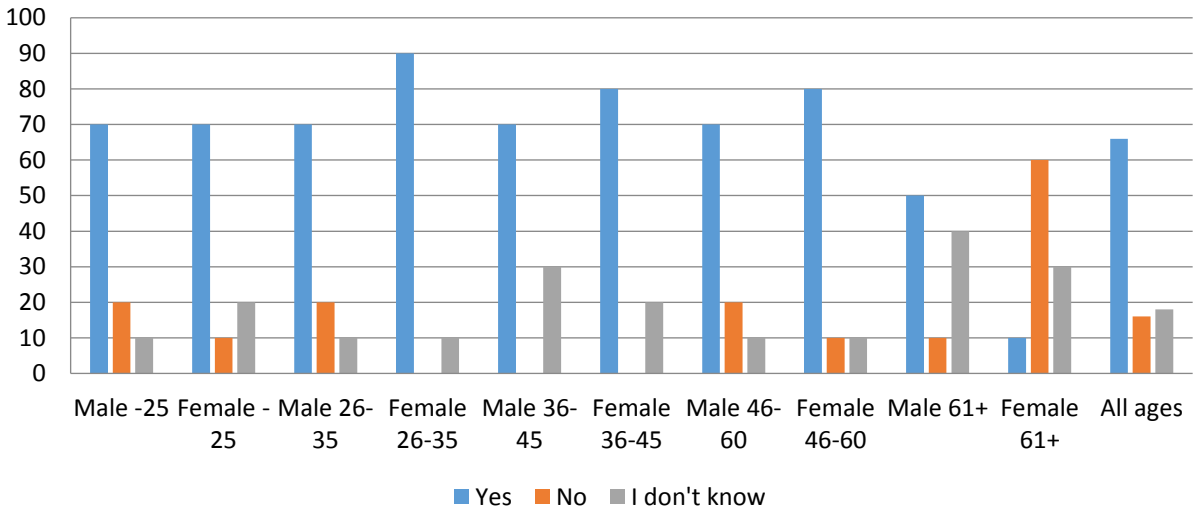
B. Why?

Thank you for your cooperation.

Appendix 3: Data gathered from our research

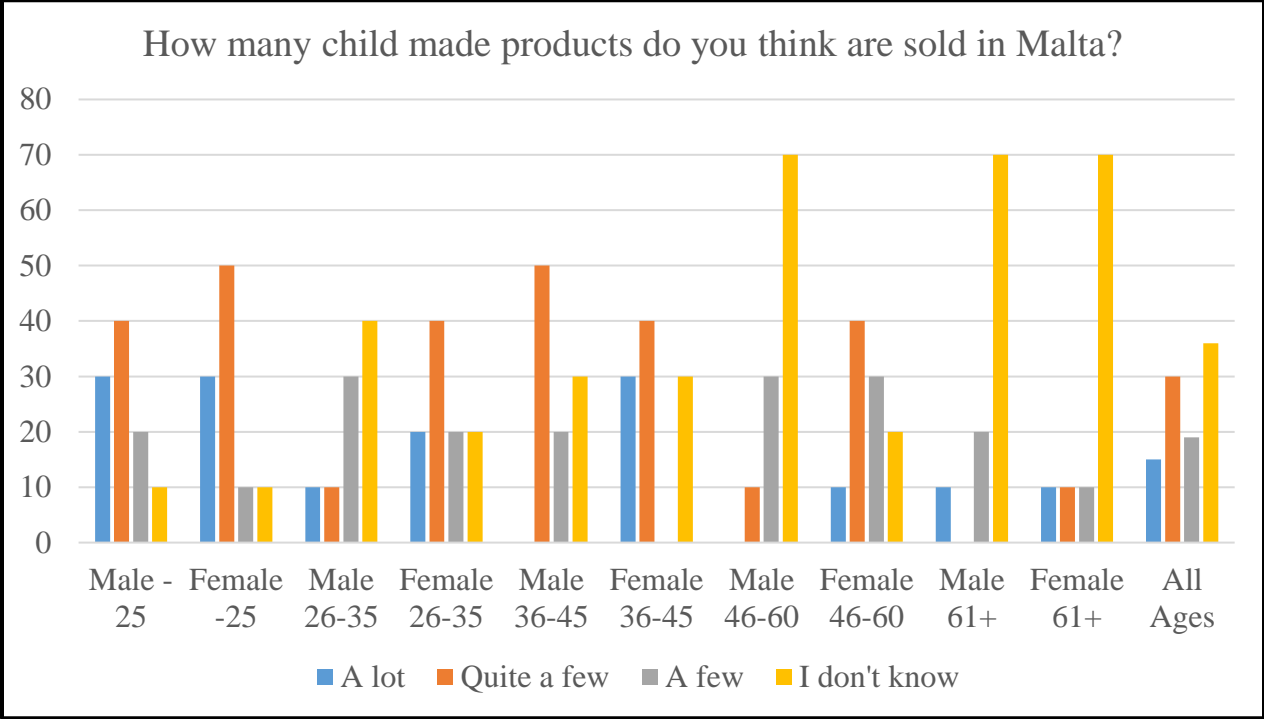
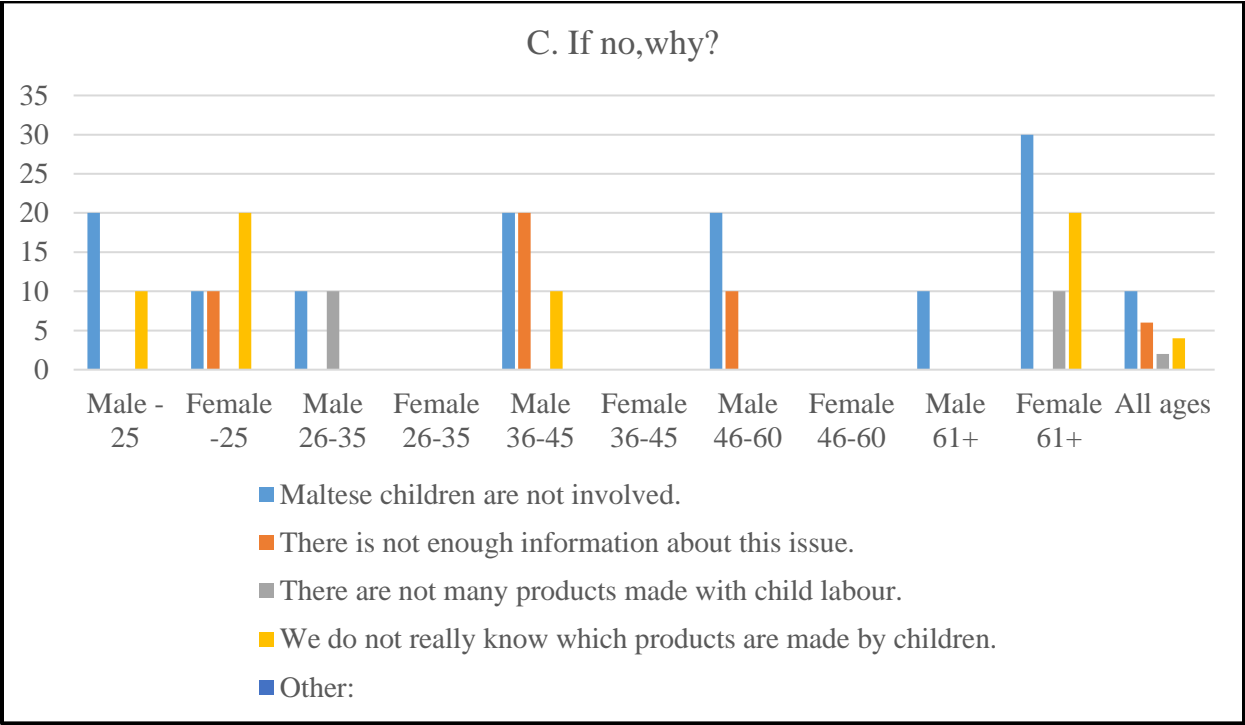


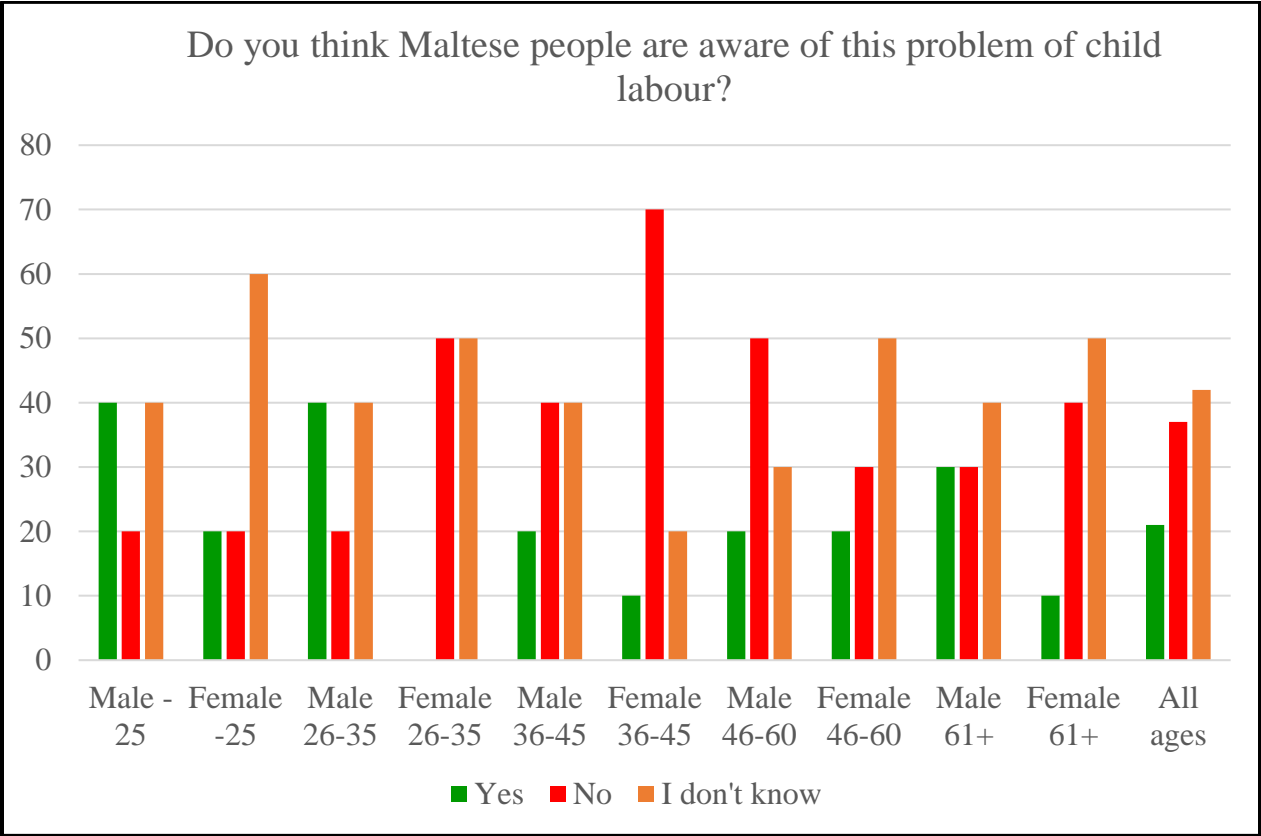
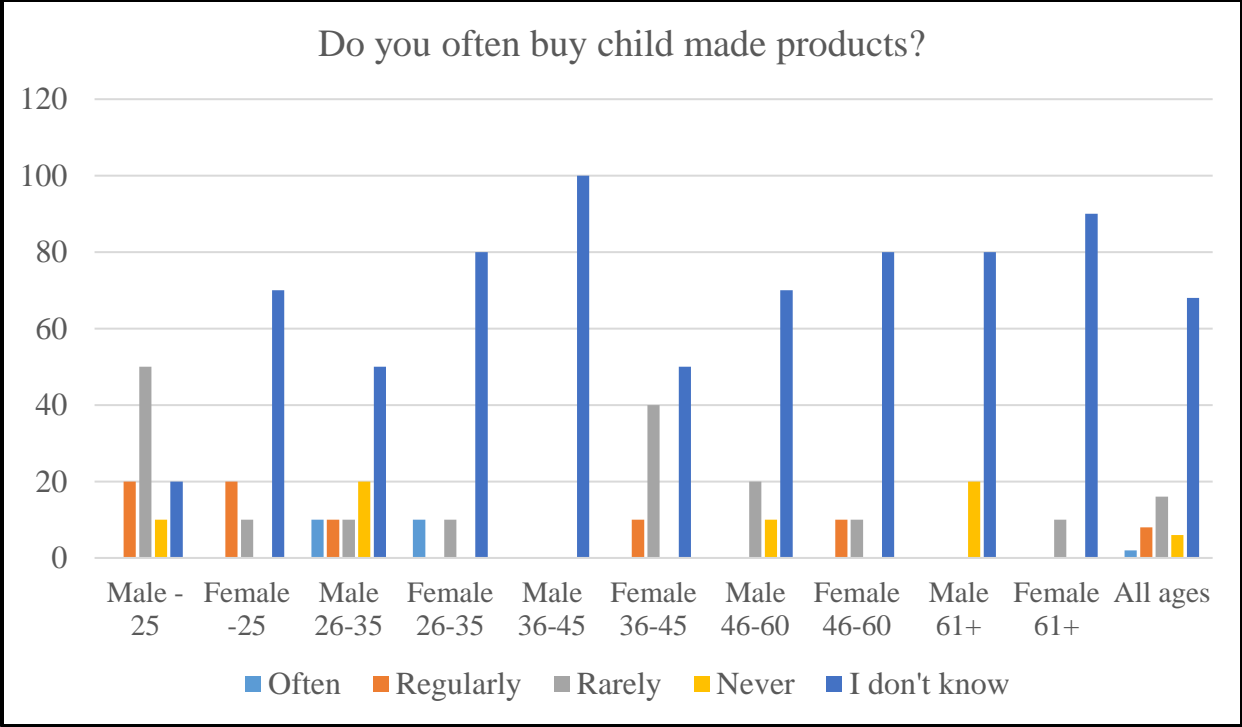
A. Do you think child labour abroad affects Malta?

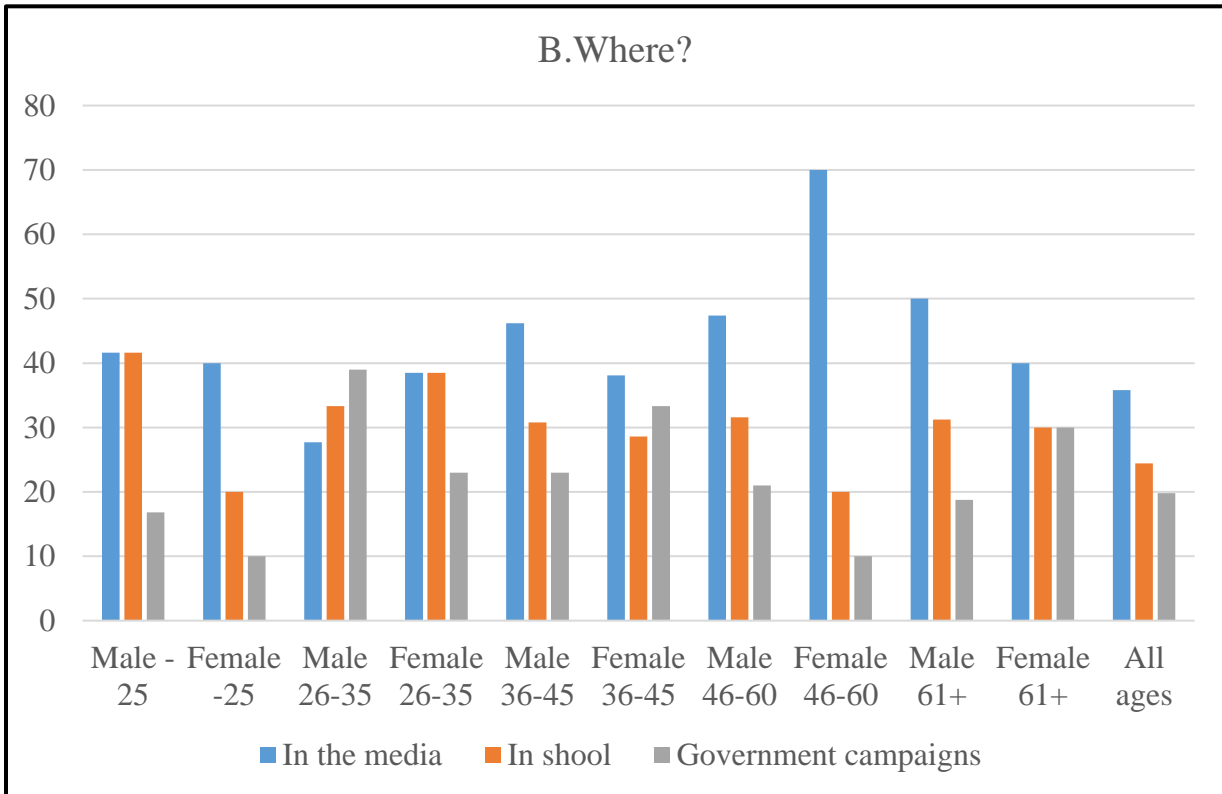
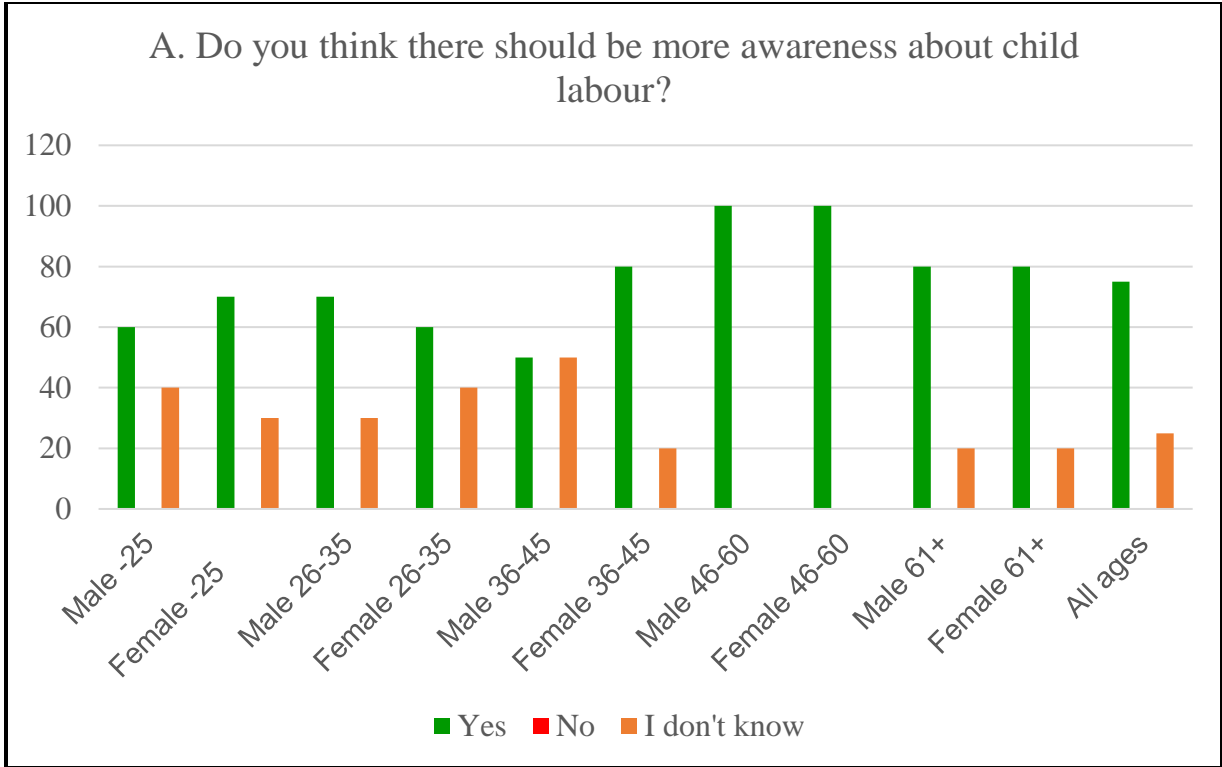


B. If yes, why?

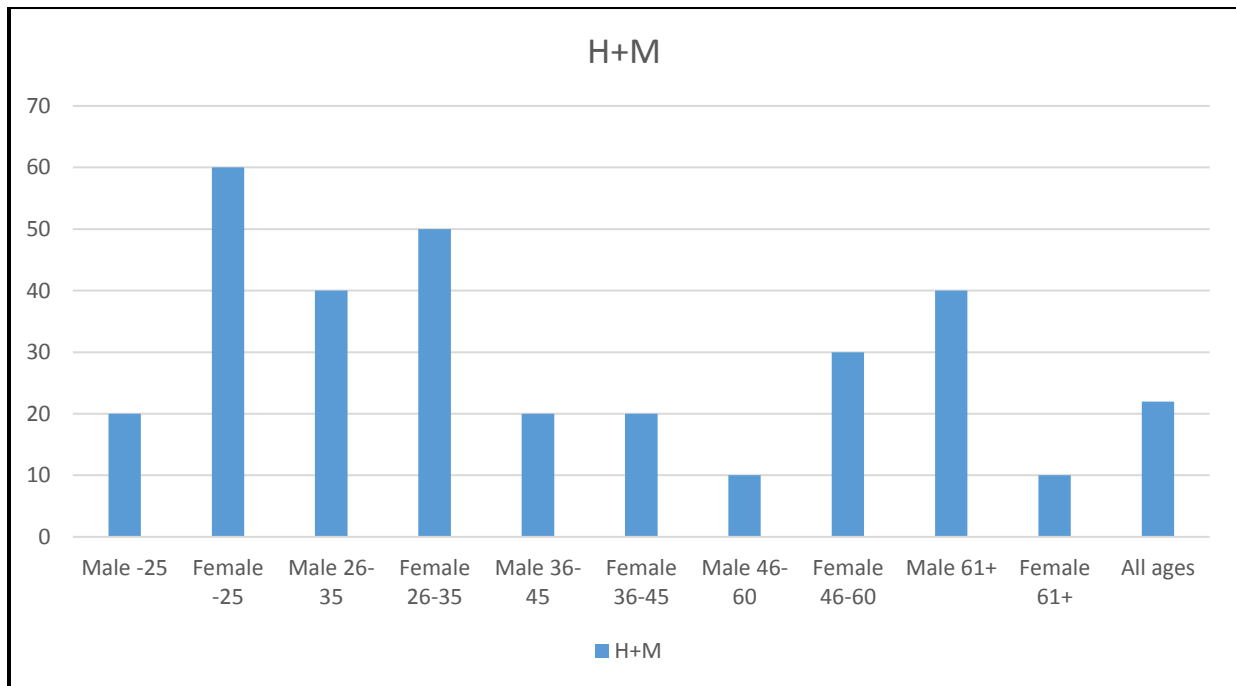
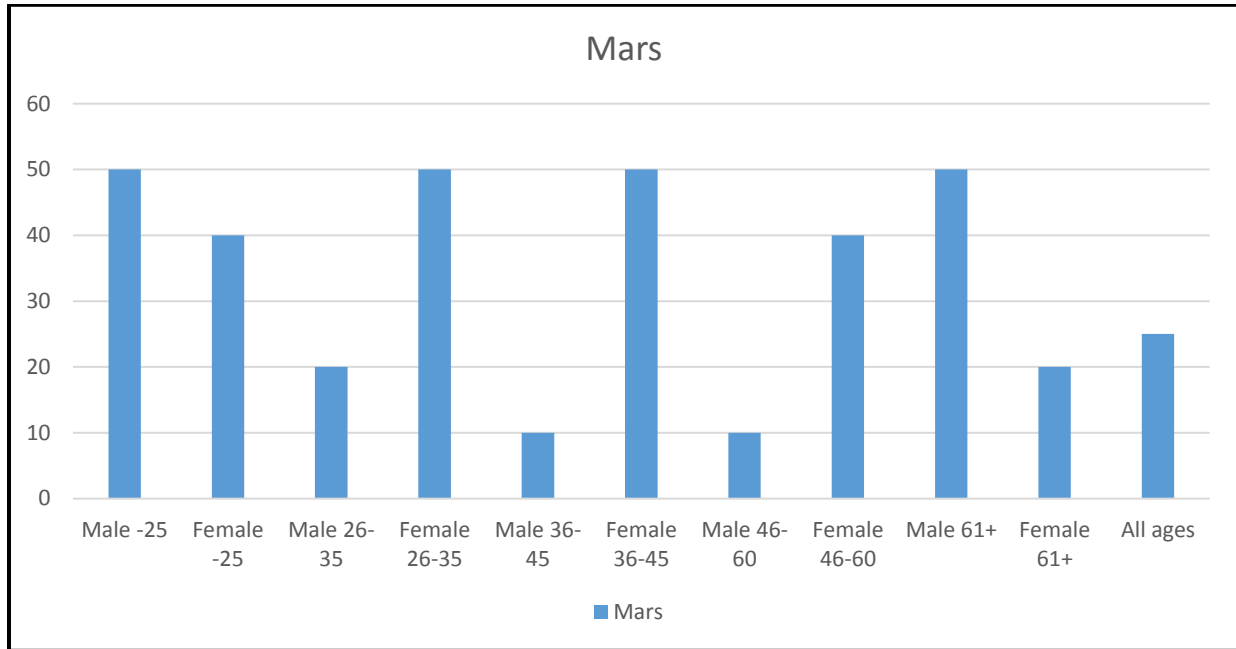


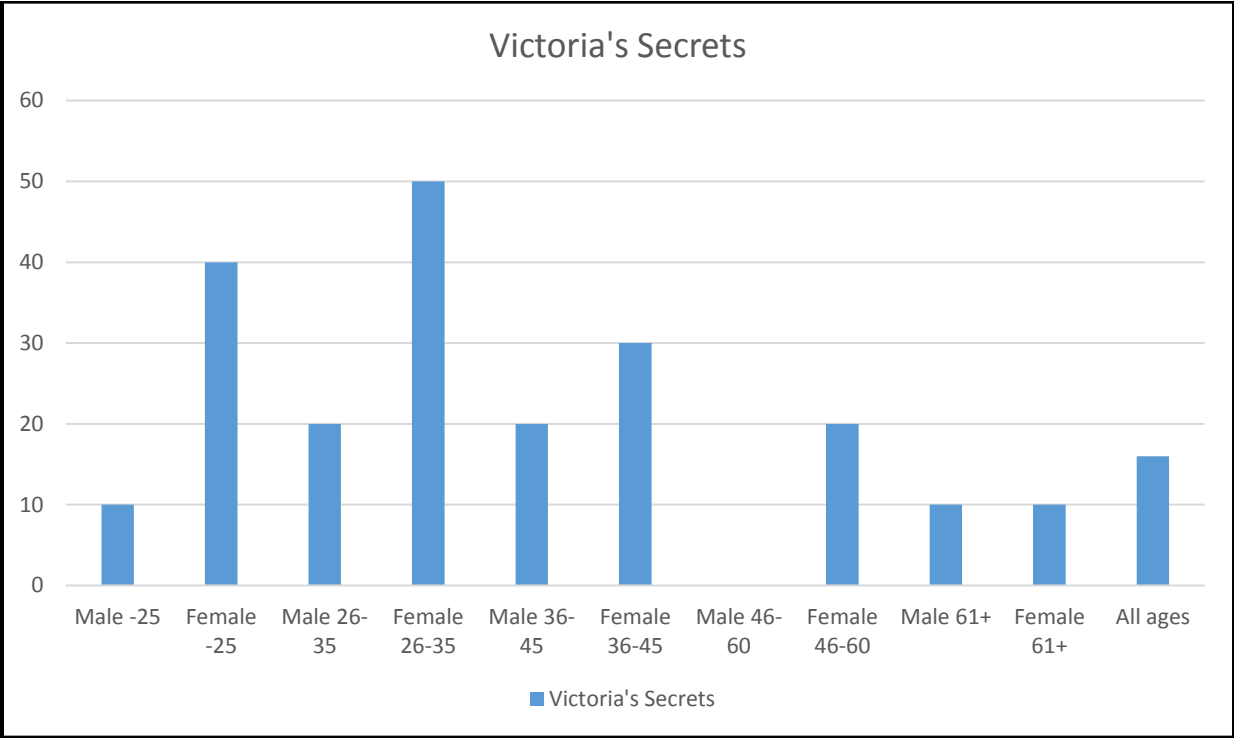
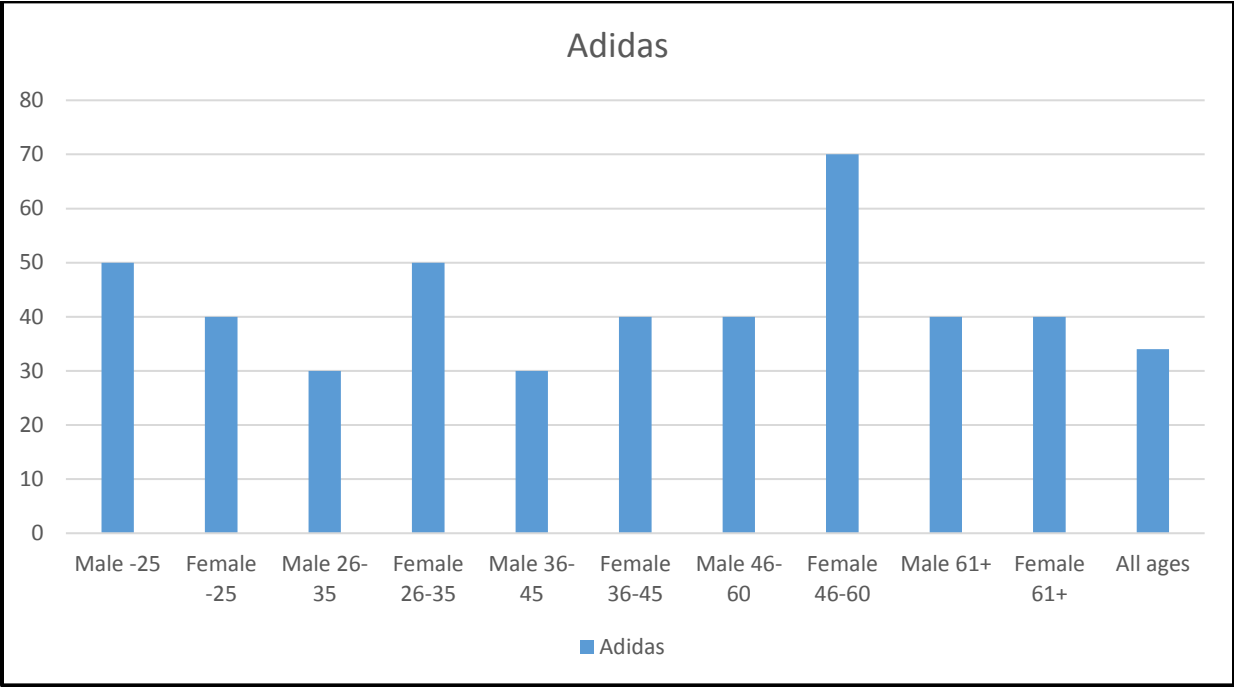


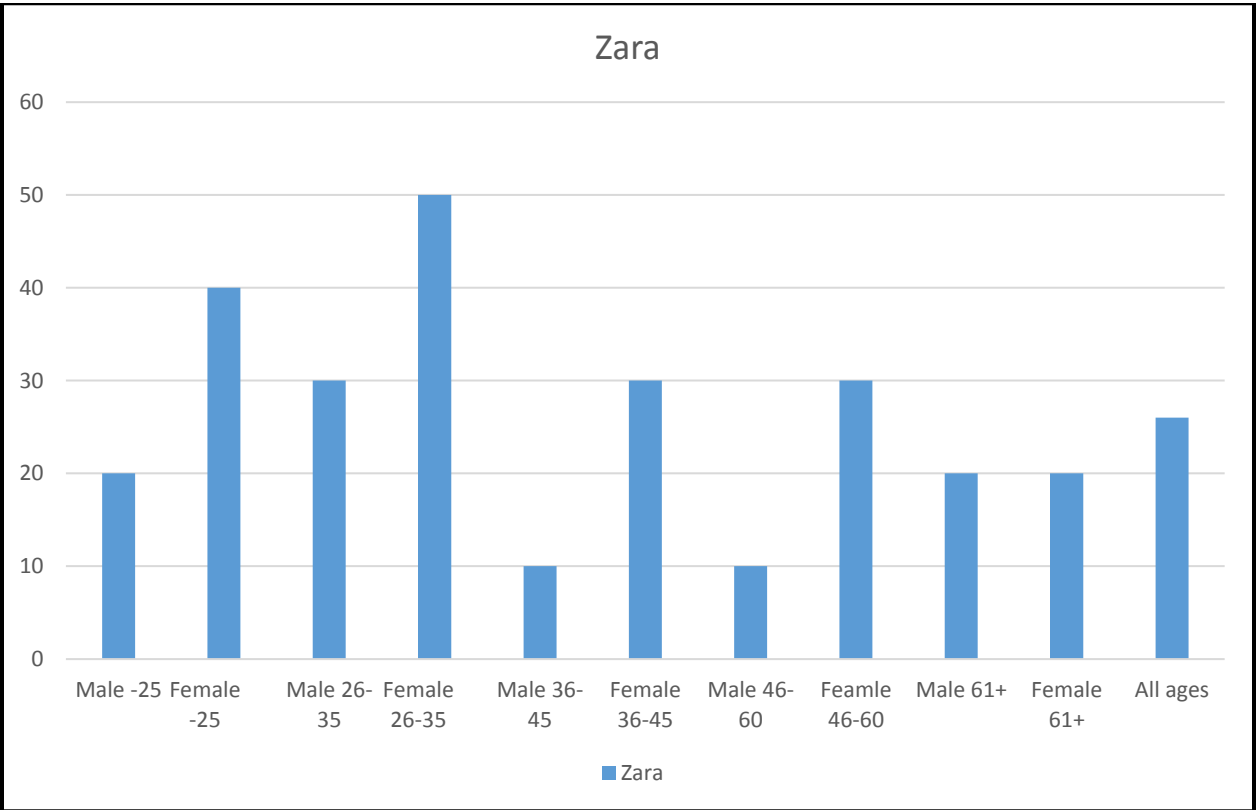
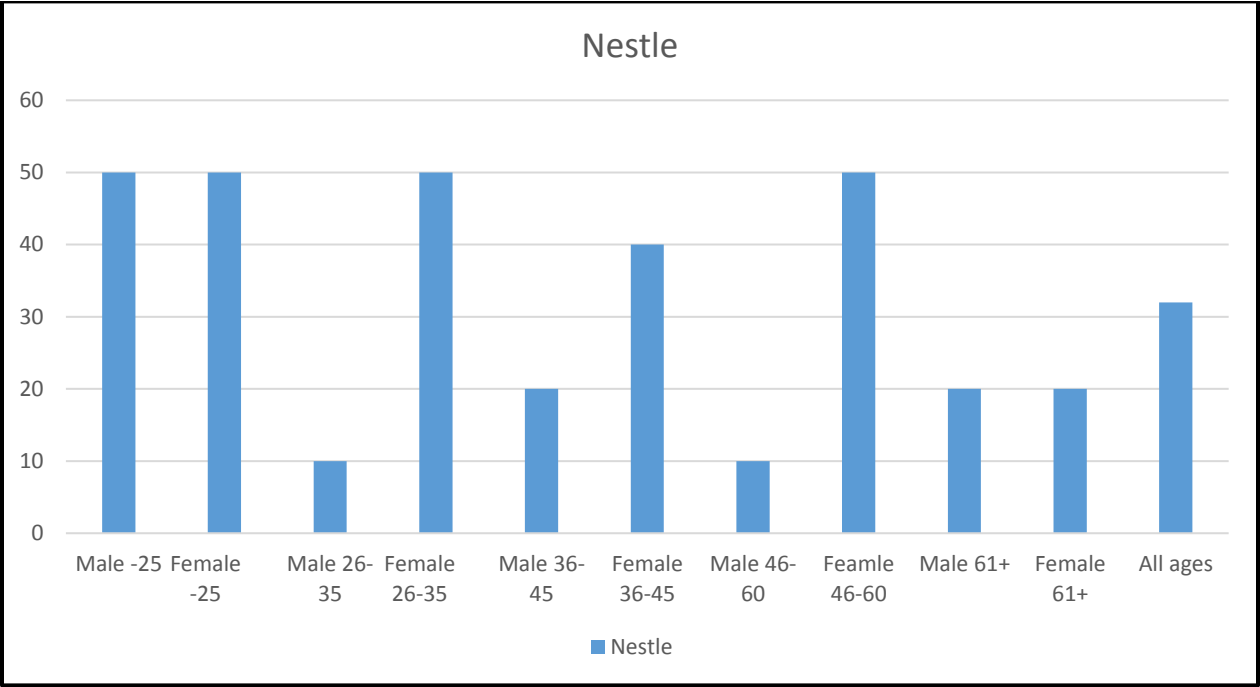


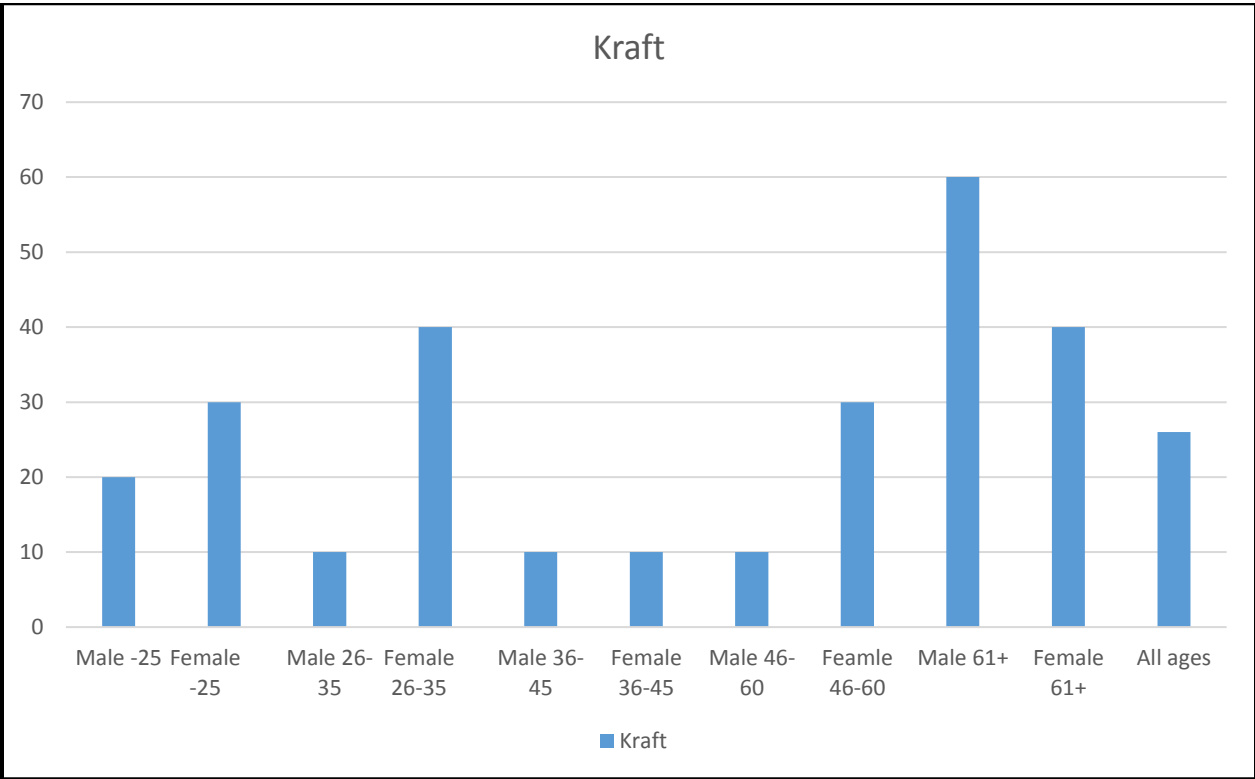
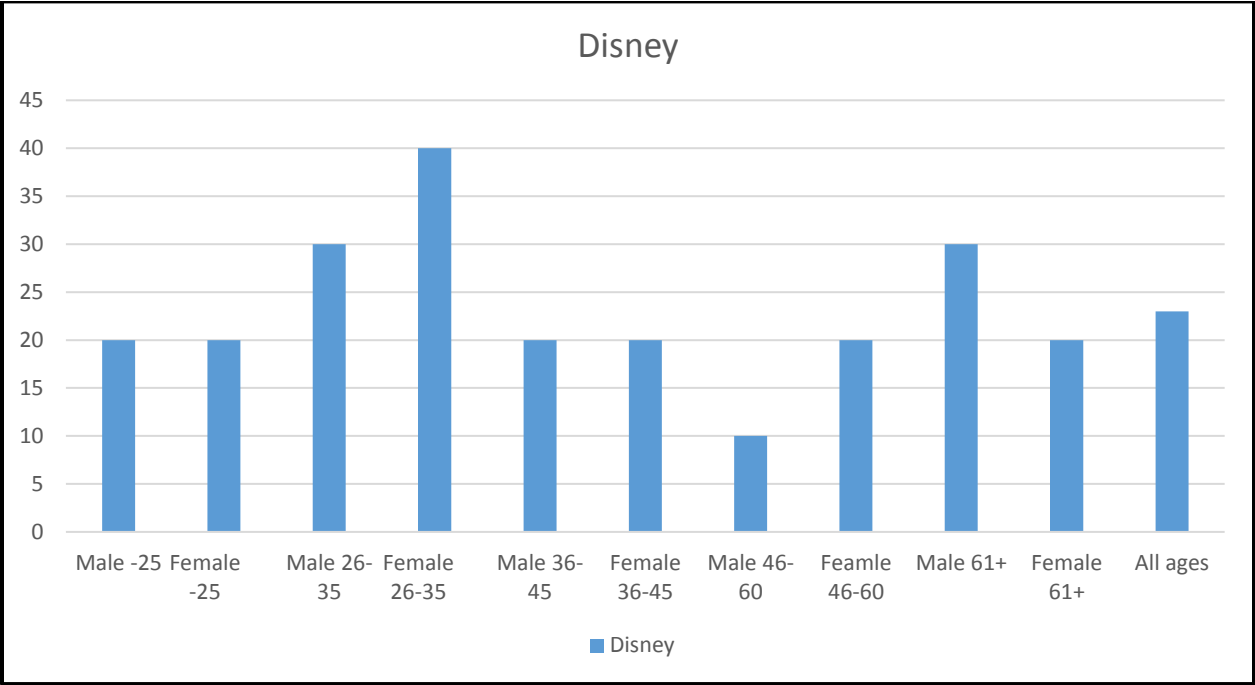


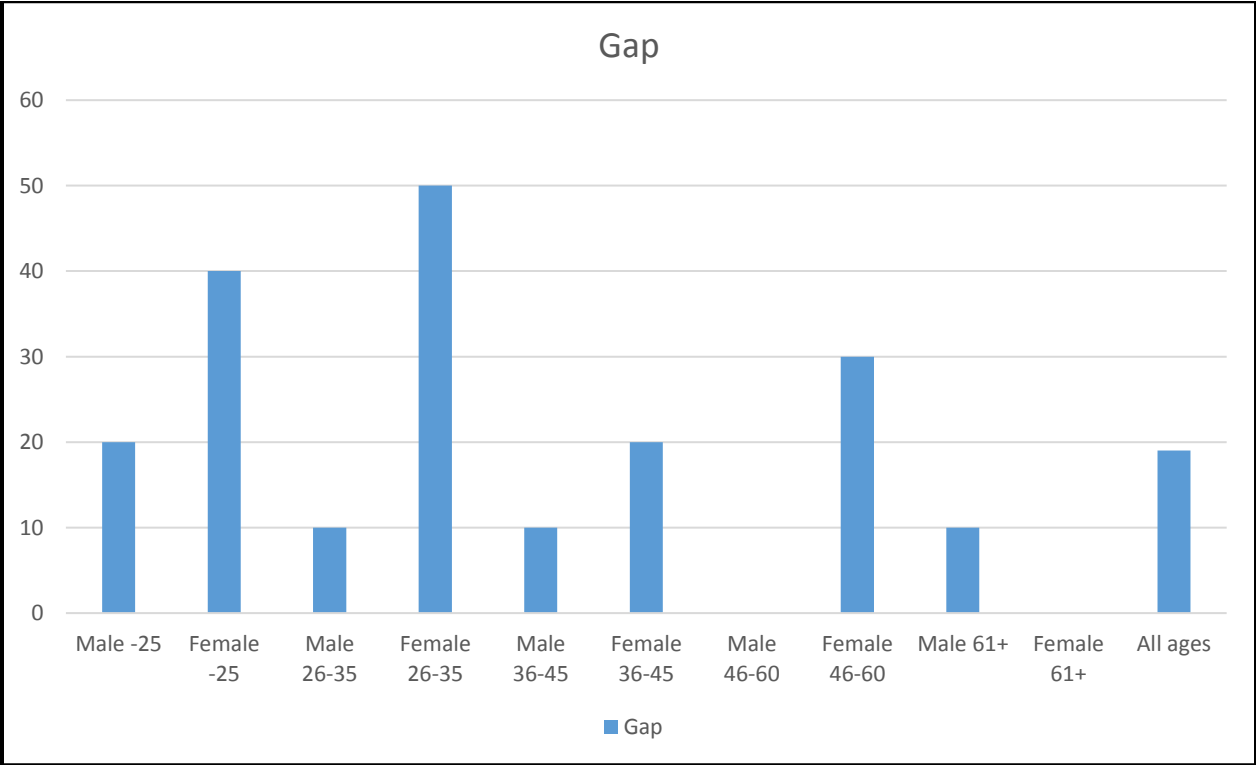
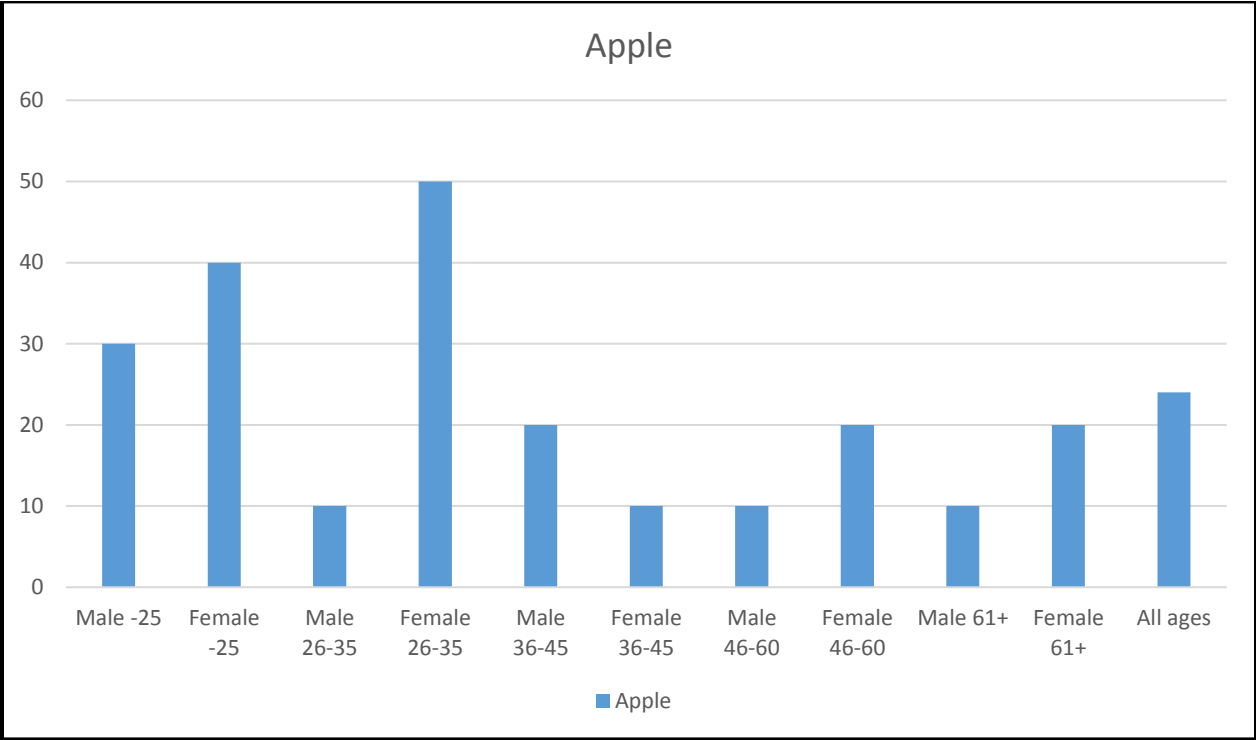
Which of these companies do you think depend on child slavery?

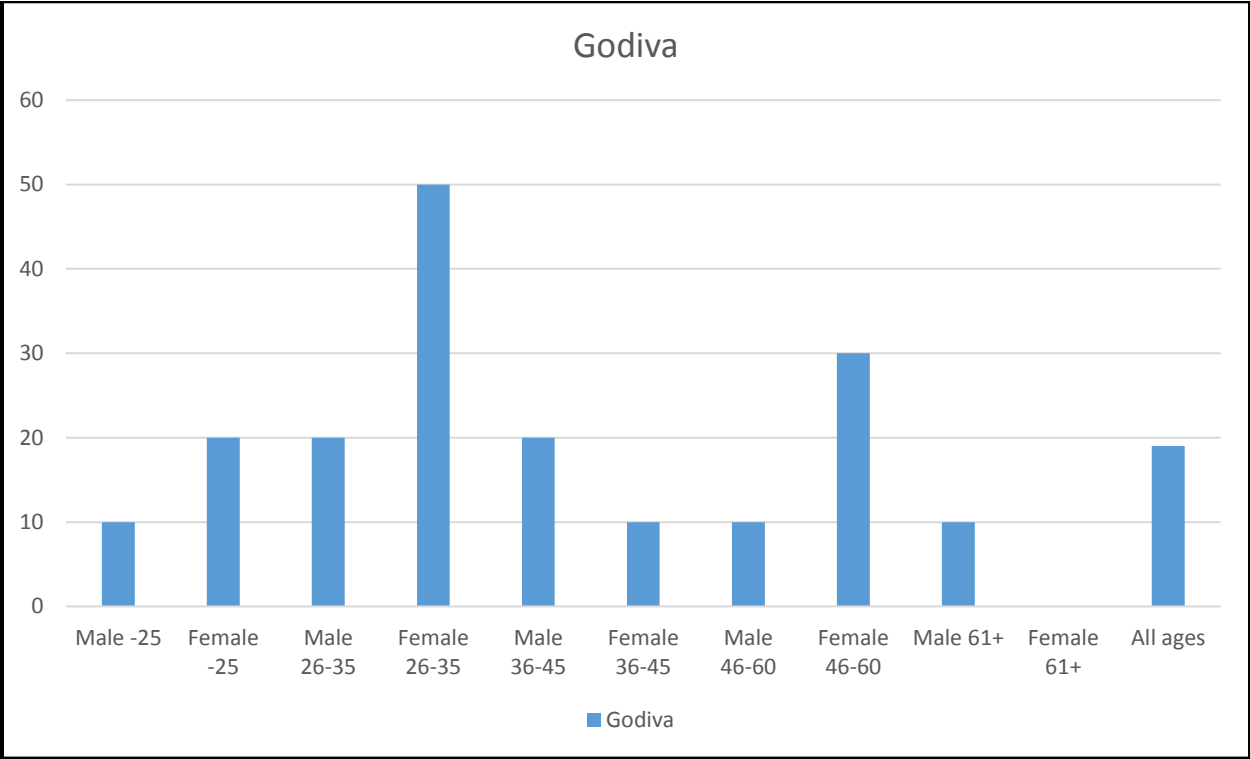
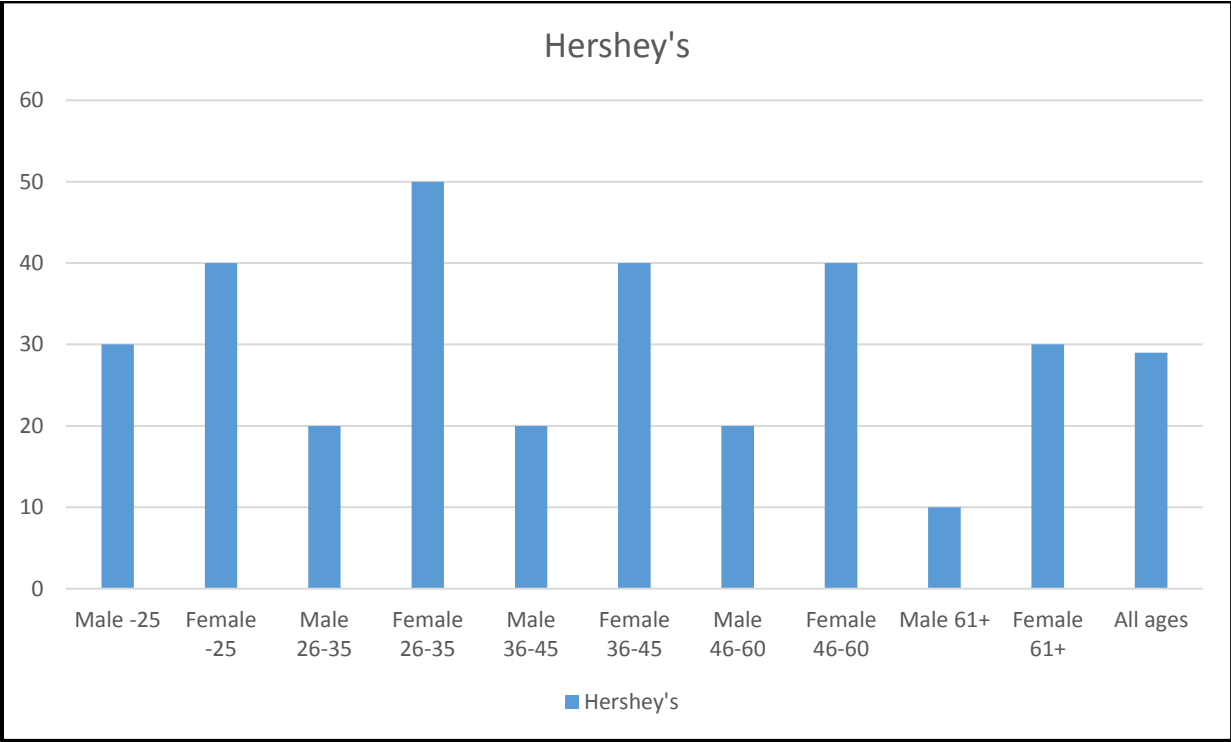


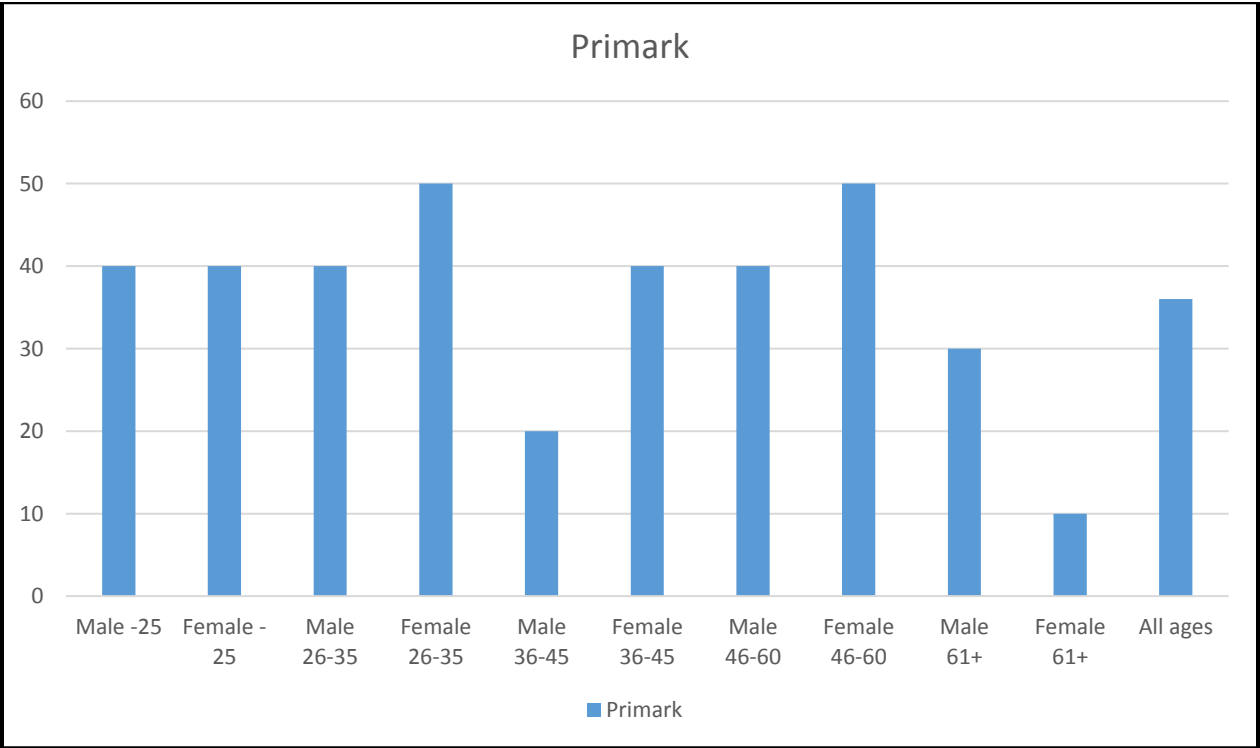
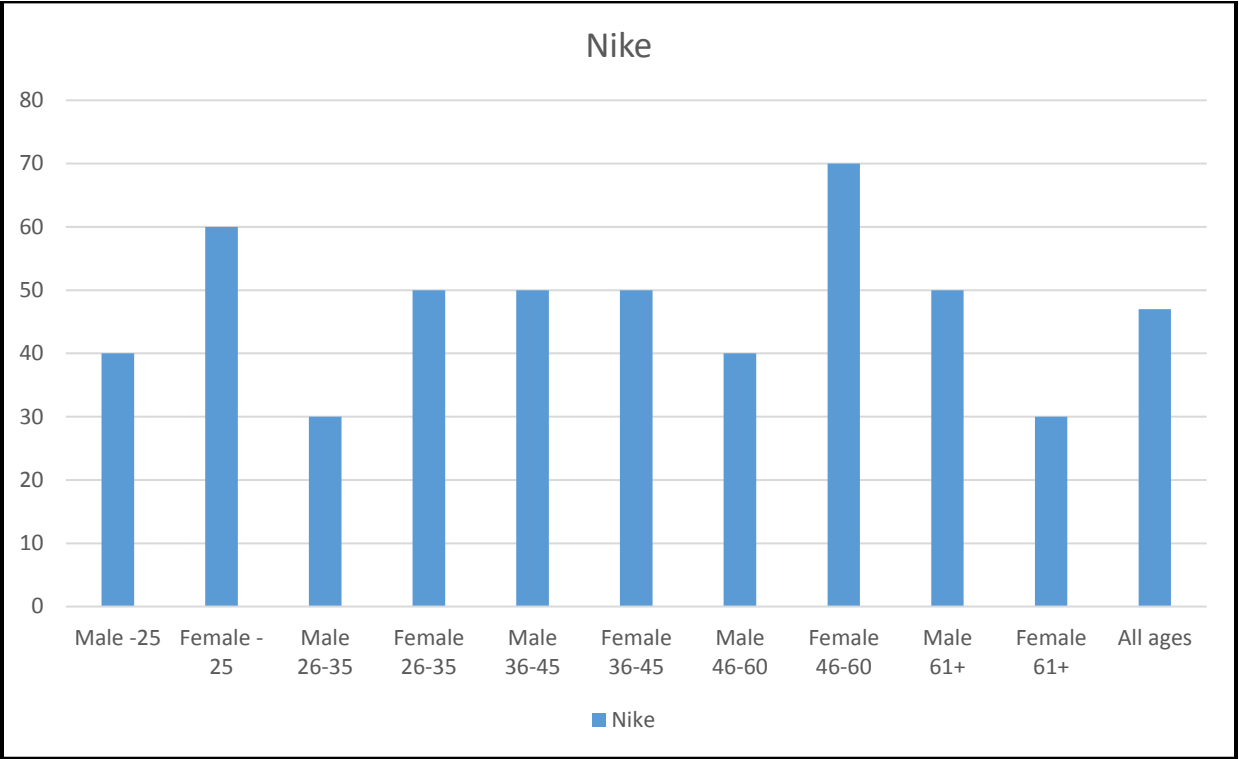


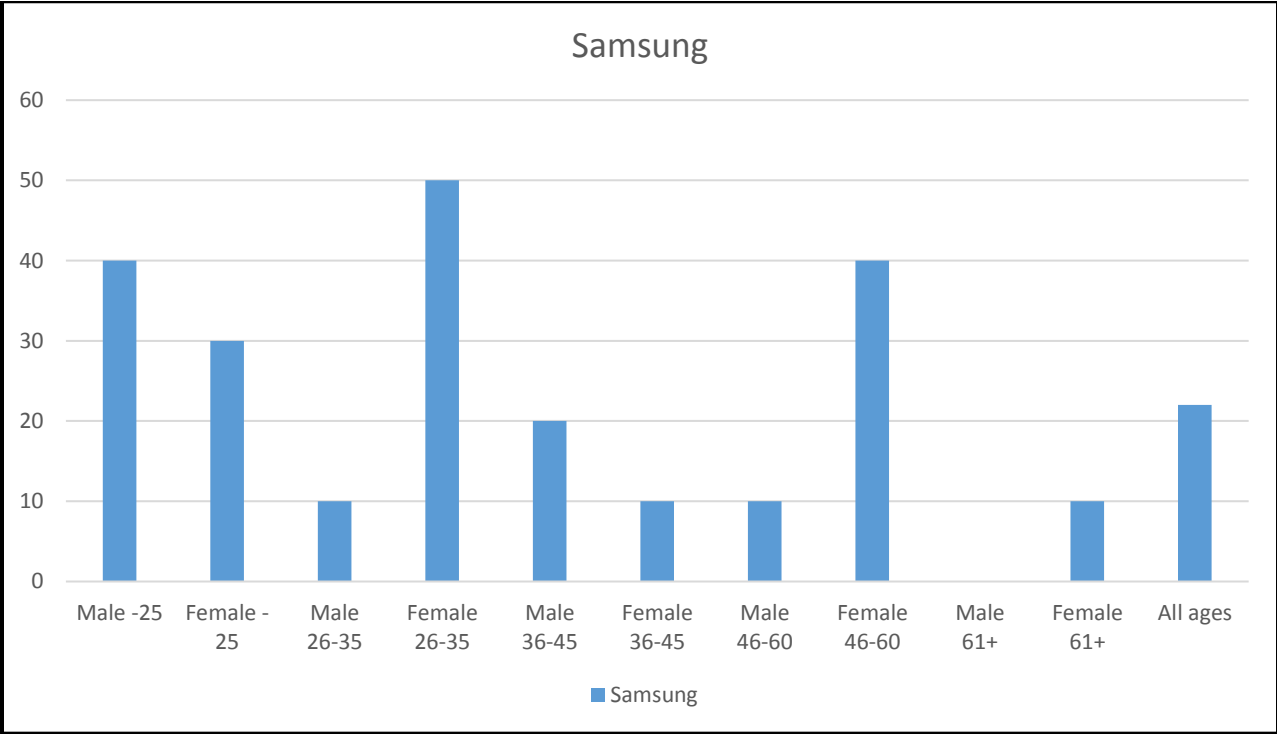
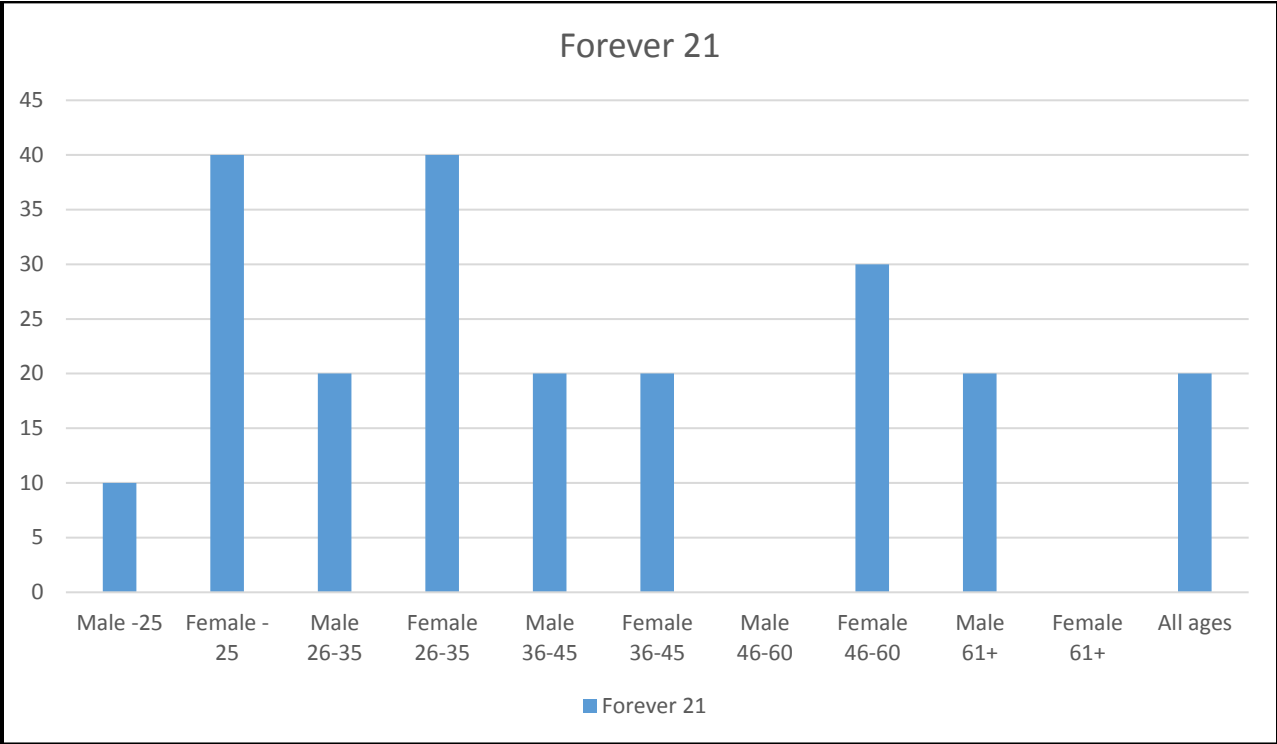














B. Why?

Male -25

- Satisfied with the service/product.
- If I buy it, I would be supporting an unjust system, so I don't buy it.
- There is little information about how the children are treated.
- If the product is necessary

Female -25

- As to decrease child labour we must decrease the dependency on child labour made products.
- Child labour should not be permitted
- I don't think many people including me will resist not buying very cheap clothing
- If more people buy these products the more the children have to work

- Because the product is good, useful and necessary

Male 26-35:

- Manufactured child labour

Female 26-35

- Should be learning at school and do not encourage
- product is good
- Would be promoting it
- No awareness
- I do not support it
- Affect children's living status

Male 36-45

- Made from child slavery
- Not to encourage it
- Stop child labour and child labour does not give a good childhood
- Not aware of child labour
- Price quality
- Promoting child labour

Female 36-45

- I'll be promoting child labour
- Children should play
- I would prefer a product not made by child labour

Male 46-60

- It promotes child labour
- Per principal

Female 46-60

- To stop child abuse
- So not to promote child labour
- Child labour should be discontinued

Male 61+

- Not to promote child labour
- If I am happy with the service

Female 61+

- Promote child labour
- If it suits me I still buy it

All ages

- Most wrote that if they were to buy these products, they would be promoting child labour. This is definitely not the message people want to deliver. Moreover, children should be living how children are supposed to be living: to play and go to school to get education. A child should not be working.
- However, there was a small percentage who would have still bought these items, saying that the product is good.



B. Why?

Male -25

- In order not to promote more children working in bad conditions instead of attending school
- It enforces the idea that child labour is acceptable
- Children shouldn't work. They should enjoy playing. If child is not playing and he/she is working therefore destroying his/her childhood
- These products might help reduce child labour
- Because it is not right but I am sure this will never change
- Children are kept for very long hours doing hard work

Female -25

- As this will surely eliminate the fact that fact that people buy these products (made by child labour) without knowing. These products would not be available
- You are also increasing child labour
- Children deserve to live their childhood and not work in these poor conditions
- Children should not work
- If they are banned from shops, people won't be able to buy them anymore, therefore decreasing child labour
- Because we would end up with no products at all

Male 26-35

- Morale standards
- Children should not work
- In order to safe ground
- Not many people know child labour

Female 26-35

- They deserve education at least age 16
- Should be enhancing creativity and developing talents
- Not to encourage
- Illegal and morally wrong
- Eradicate it
- Should be banned everywhere
- Depends on situation

Male 36-45

- Children are more important than the economy
- It's wrong
- Avoid encouraging child labour
- Bigger risk of exploitation
- Not ethical to sell products promoting child labour
- Children must go to school not to work

Female 36-45

- Because then there will be less products

Male 46-60

- If products are banned there will be less child labour
- Children are harmed
- Children should be at school

Female 46-60

- To stop child abuse
- To make people aware of child made products
- So children can go to school

Male 61+

- So as not to promote child labour

Female 61+

- Companies do not pay enough

- People will keep buying them

All ages

- According to the data collected, a few people said that if these products were to be banned, there would not be any products. The other think that banning these would be a good idea since there would be a greater risk of exploitation.