

Title:

Illegal Migration! Why yes? Why no?

Category:

11-14 years

Group members:

Meagan Borg-23rd April 2003,

Kyzia Micallef- 5th February 2003

Samira Muscat- 5th February 2003

Shania Spiteri- 13th November 2003

School:

St Francis Secondary School Sliema

Link Teacher:

Ms Vanessa Cachia

Table of Contents:

	Page
1. Our Article	3
2. References and Acknowledgements	9
3. Proof of dissemination	11
4. Appendix 1: Sample of respondents	12
5. Appendix 2: Templates for questionnaires and interviews	13
6. Appendix 3: Data gathered from our research	14

Illegal Migration! Why yes? Why no?

By: Borg Meagan, Micallef Kyzia, Muscat Samira, Spiteri
Shania.

"Migrants and refugees are not pawns on the chessboard of humanity"
Pope Francis.

Migration, illegal or otherwise, is a serious problem worldwide. Everyone talks about it, from this Holiness the Pope to Donald Trump, from the European Parliament to talk show hosts. The whole world is suffering because of racism, ethnic conflict, terrorism and financial problems in Europe, which are all a product of migration.

'The tiny island of Malta has received 17,743 mainly African migrants these decades- the equivalent, in Britain, of 2.5 million people. And it is struggling to cope, Prime Minister Joseph Muscat says.'

(Colin Freeman, 21st July 2013; on behalf of the Telegraph)

Our investigation attempts to find out what Maltese people think about this issue and how it effects Malta and its population, in our quest to find a sustainable solution to what has become a serious problem.

Our investigation consists of 100 questionnaires which we gave out to males and females from different age groups. Our youngest respondents were 16 and the oldest one was 88.

We did not only give out questionnaires but we also interviewed Her Excellency the President of Malta's husband, Mr Edgar Preca.

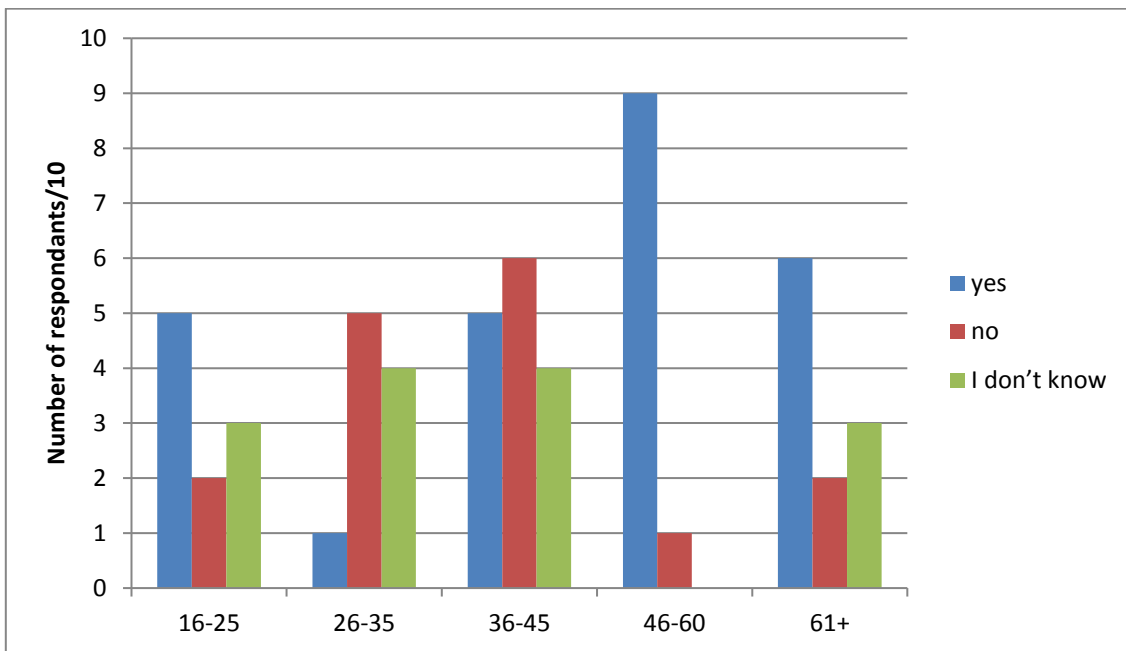


While we were giving out these questionnaires to our participants, we explained why we were doing the survey and we also explained all the questions and answered any questions that our participants came up with while completing these questionnaires. The questionnaires not only helped us complete our project but also helped us understand what people really think as we gave them the opportunity to tell us what they think about this topic and what they would do in certain situations.

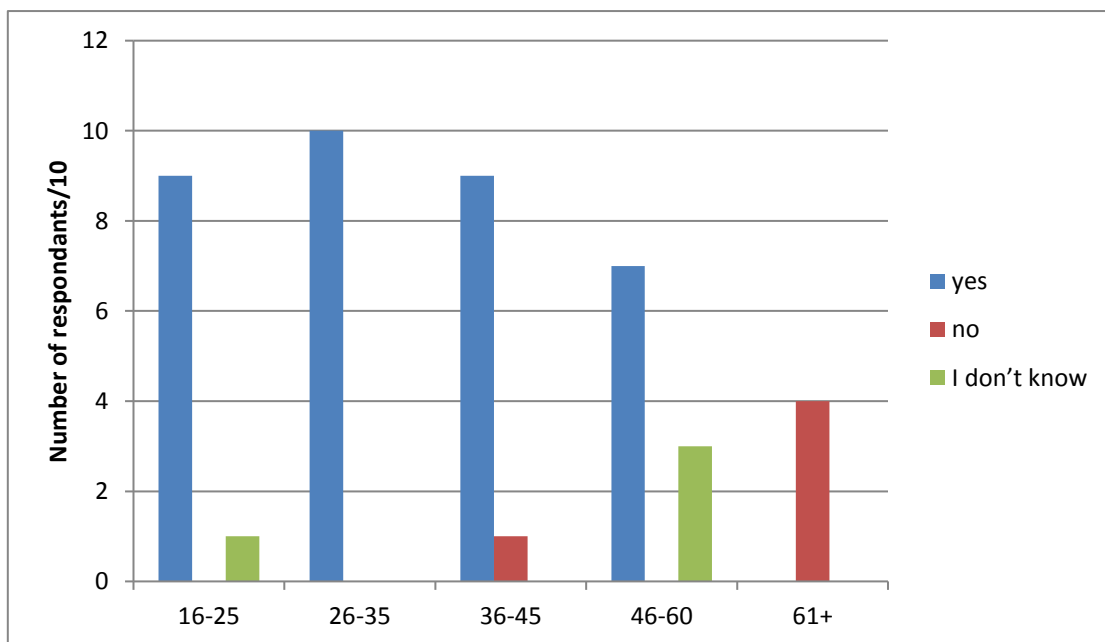
Most participants (89% in all) are aware that illegal migration is a serious problem worldwide. They have formed this opinion because they followed the news, and are aware that many countries are discussing this problem of illegal immigrants and all the deaths resulting from it. A large number of participants also think that illegal migration is a serious problem in Malta (83%), particularly since the amount is increasing every year. The majority of our participants agree

that we should send illegal migrants back to their country, though 26% do not know what to suggest.

Question 2: Do you think that illegal migrants should be sent back to their country? (Males)



Question 2: Do you think that illegal migrants should be sent back to their country? (Females)

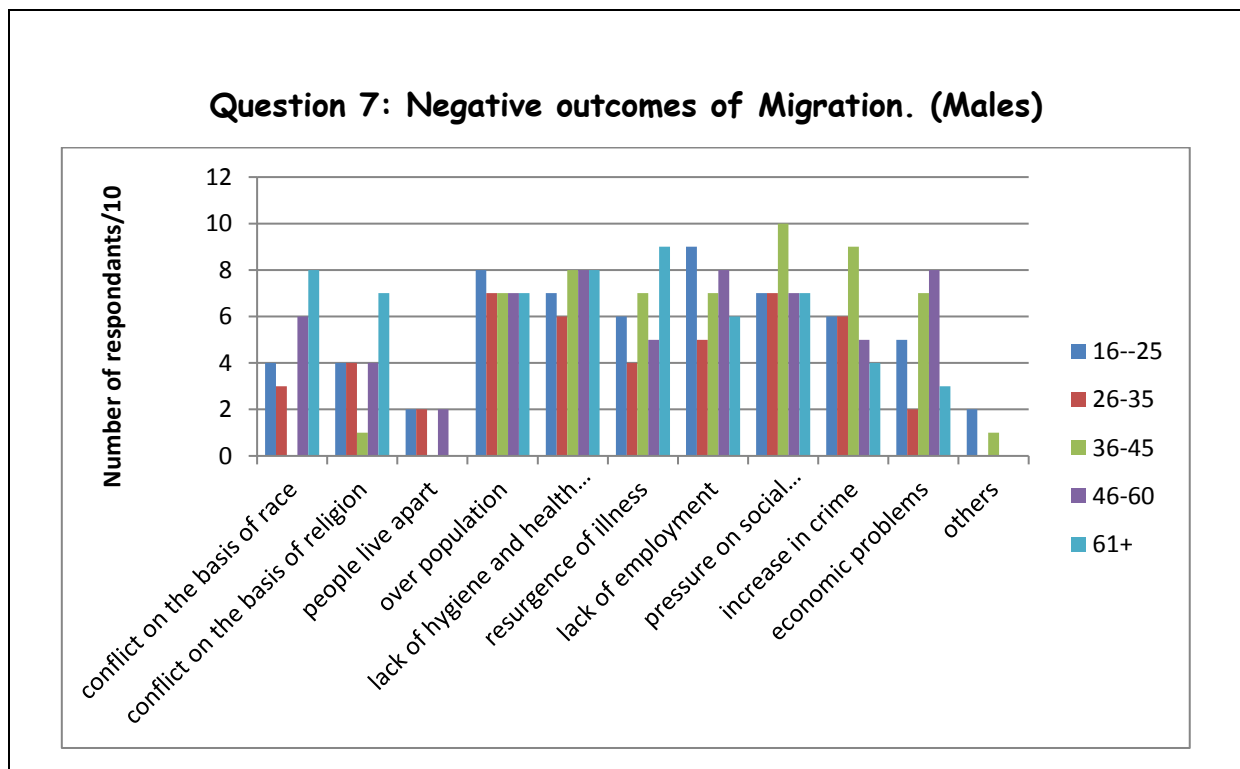


If these migrants give birth at sea, many participants disagreed that their children should have the opportunity to be given Maltese Nationality.

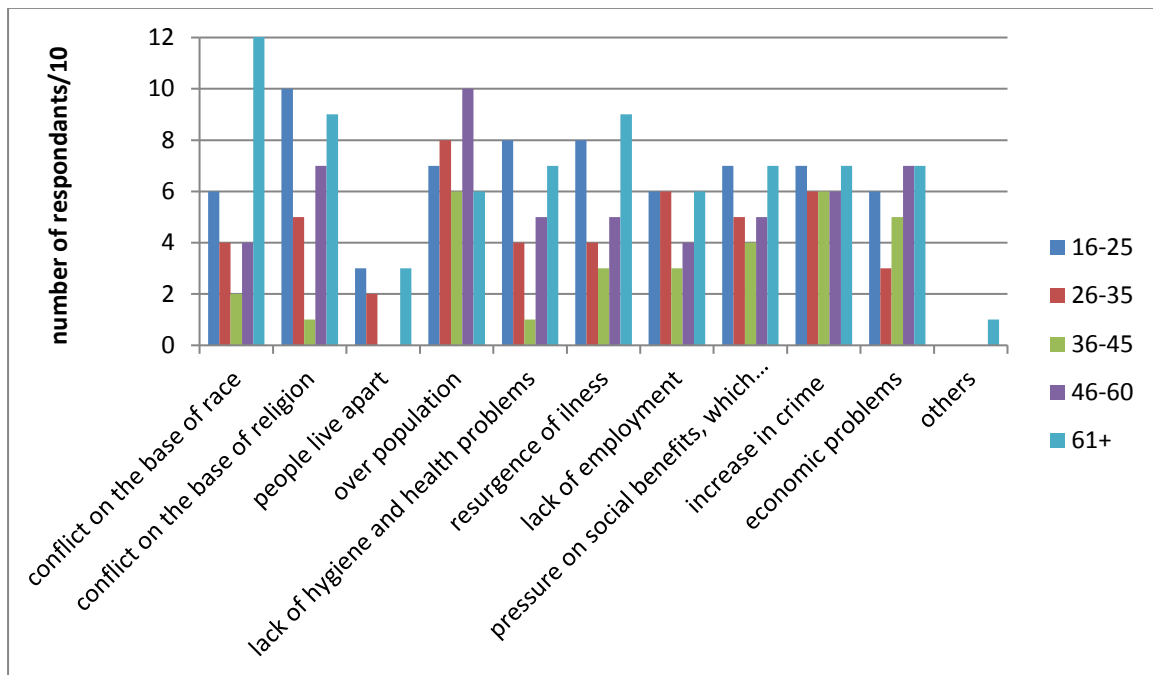


Migrants arriving in Malta, 6th October 2010

Most of our participants are against migration because they think that migrants have a negative effect on our country (64%). This is mainly because of racism, problems related to overpopulation, and economical issues.



Question 7: Negative outcomes of migration.(Females)



65% of respondents agreed that once migrants come to Malta they need to be employed, but then 55% complained that they are taking our jobs. 57% also think that there is a relationship between illegal migration and racism.

It is pretty obvious that migration is a serious problem. In fact, the International Organisation of Migration

'calculates the total annuals to Europe [in 2015 done] to be approximately 1,005,504 with just 3% coming by land, making it the highest migration flow since world war II.'

(Matthew Agius, 22nd December, 2015; on behalf of Maltatoday)

We cannot really stop illegal migration, but we do have to try to decrease it. However, any potential solutions have to be sustainable solutions which help host

countries but, at the same time, do not go against the rights of migrants. At present we are witnessing some very harsh actions in order to stop illegal migration (e.g. Donald Trump's ban of migrants from 6 Islamic countries and a Hungarian Mayor's ban of Islamic migrants and the practice of Islamic religion and culture in his town). However, we have to keep in mind that the right to security, to seek asylum, to receive protection, to have a job with a fair salary and decent conditions are basic human rights which are guaranteed to every human being by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights signed by the United Nations in 1948. No sustainable attempt to decrease migration should, therefore, go against these human rights.

The UNHCR identifies 3 Durable solutions:

- i. Voluntary repatriation to the country of origin
- ii. Local integration in the country of asylum
- iii. Resettlement/ relocation to a third country

None of these are easy, but this only highlights the importance of what Mr Edgar Preca told us. Even though he is aware that Malta is struggling to cope with the large number of immigrants in our country, racism and all other consequent problems, he insists that it is our Christian and our human duty to respect these migrants, the serious problems they have to face in their countries, their culture and their religion, and to always try to help whoever is in need. We agree with what Mr Preca told us, and we would like to end this report by asking schools (and every Maltese citizen) to promote and live the values of respect, tolerance and understanding, which are key values in a sustainable society.

References and Acknowledgements:

References:

Agius Matthew, 22nd December 2015, *Malta's total refugee and irregular migrant arrivals in 2015*

http://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/world/60554/maltas_total_refugees_and_irregular_migrant_arrivals_in_2015_105#.WMmMaPkrLIU

Freeman Colin, 21st July 2013, *EU immigration: 'Malta is the smallest state, and we are carrying a burden that is much bigger than any other country'*

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/malta/10192458/EU-immigration-Malta-is-the-smallest-state-and-we-are-carrying-a-burden-that-is-much-bigger-than-any-other-country.html>

United Nations, 1948, *Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

<http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>

Malta asylum trends- UNHCR Malta stats + graphs

<http://www.unhcr.org.mt/charts/>

Quotation: Pope Francis

https://www.google.com.mt/search?q=illegal+immigration+malta&rlz=1C1WZPD_enMT715MT715&espv=2&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEWjkt6b3mdHSAhVDNhoKHZoSAMwQ_AUIBigB&biw=1366&bih=662#tbn=isch&q=quotations+about+migration+pope*&imgrc=q9YxTHDAWI2z1M

Picture: Migrants entering Malta.

https://www.google.com.mt/search?q=illegal+immigration+malta&rlz=1C1WZPD_enMT715MT715&espv=2&source=lnms&tbn=isch&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEWjkt6b3mdHSAhVDNhoKHZoSAMwQ_AUIBigB&biw=1366&bih=662#imgrc=mRsCD_I88DOYGM

Acknowledgements:

We would like to thank Mr Edgar Preca for taking the time to help us with this research.

We would also like to thank all the respondents who kindly helped us by completing the questionnaires.

Proof of dissemination:

As required, our project is exhibited on the school premises and it is also accessible on the school website (www.saintfrancissecondary.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
16-25	26-35	36-45	46-60	61+	16-25	26-35	36-45	46-60	16+
yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs	yrs

Appendix 2: Template for questionnaire

Sex:

Male	
Female	

Age:

16-25	
26-35	
36-45	
46-60	
60+	

1. Are you aware that illegal migration is a serious problem worldwide?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

2. Do you think illegal migrants should be sent back to their country?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

3. Do you think illegal migration is a serious problem in Malta?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

4. Do you think Malta should accept illegal migrants?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

5. Do you agree that when illegal migrants give birth at sea, the children are given a Maltese Nationality ?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

6A) Do you think emigrants have a positive effect on our country?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

6B) Do you think migrants have a negative effect on our country?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

7A) Which of these positive outcomes of migration do we find in Malta?

Cultural diversity	
Tolerance and respect of difference	
Respect towards all human beings	
Others	

7B) Which of these negative outcomes of migration do we find in Malta?

Conflict on the basis of race	
Conflict on the bases of religion	

People live apart	
Over population	
Lack of hygiene and health problems	
Resurgence of illness such as TB, typhoid, cholera, etc.	
Lack of employment	
Pressure on social benefits, which aren't enough for everyone.	
Increase in crime	
Economic problems	
Other:	

8. Do you agree that these migrants need to be employed?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why?

9. Do you think illegal migrants are taking the jobs of Maltese people?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

Why ?

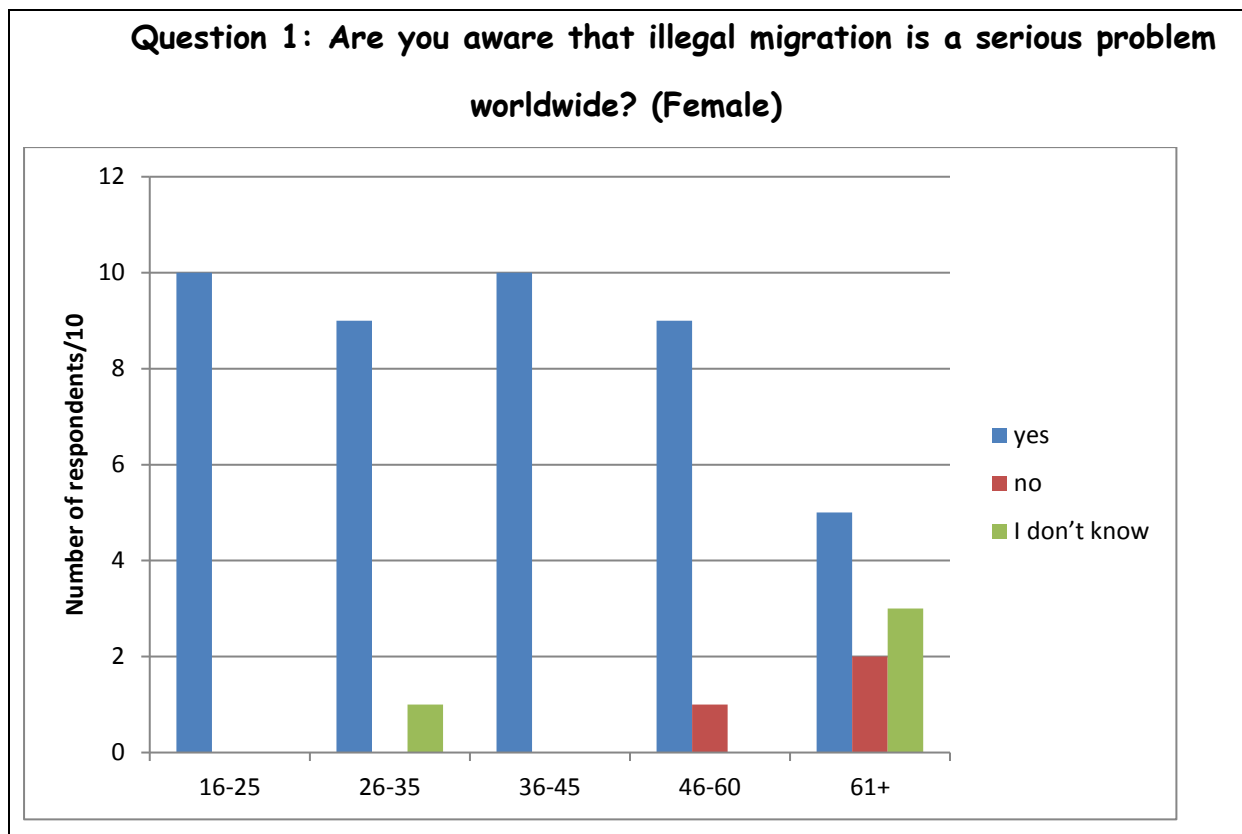
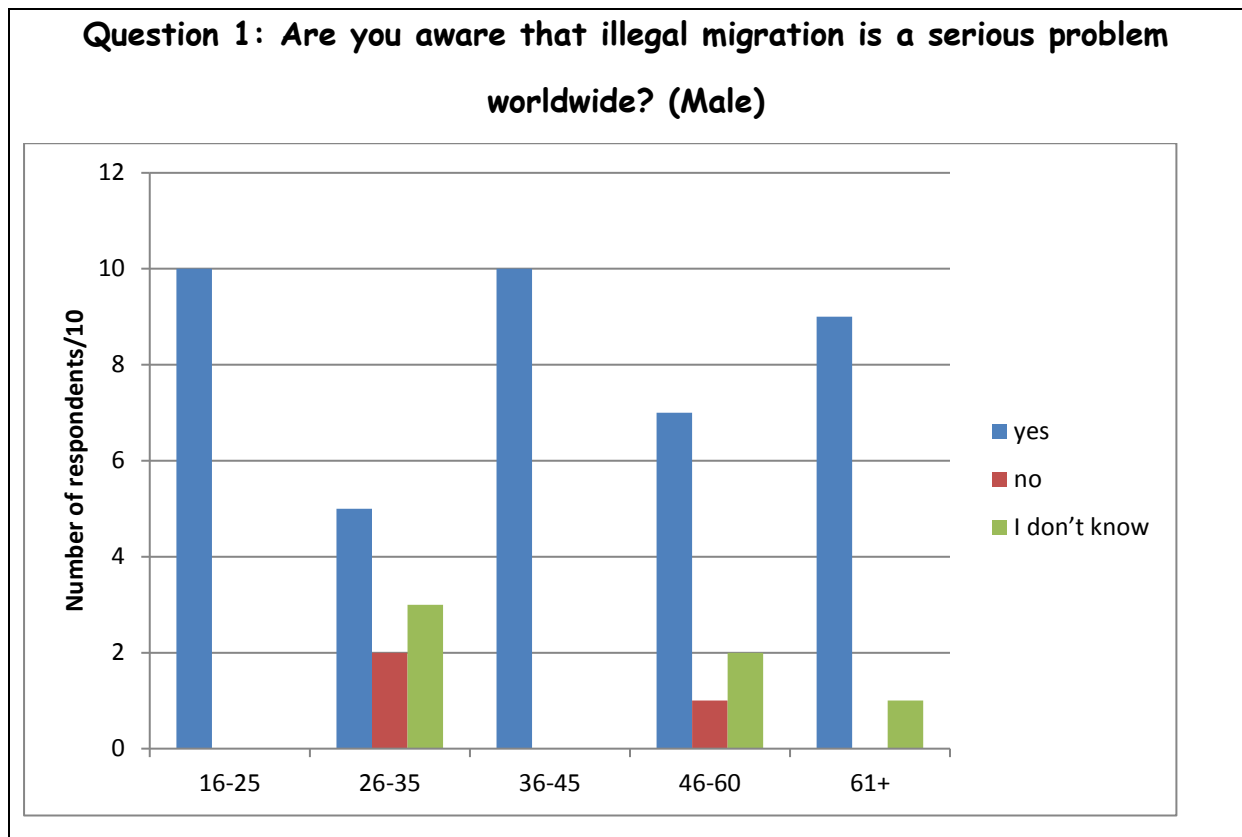
10. Is there a relationship between illegal migration and racism?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

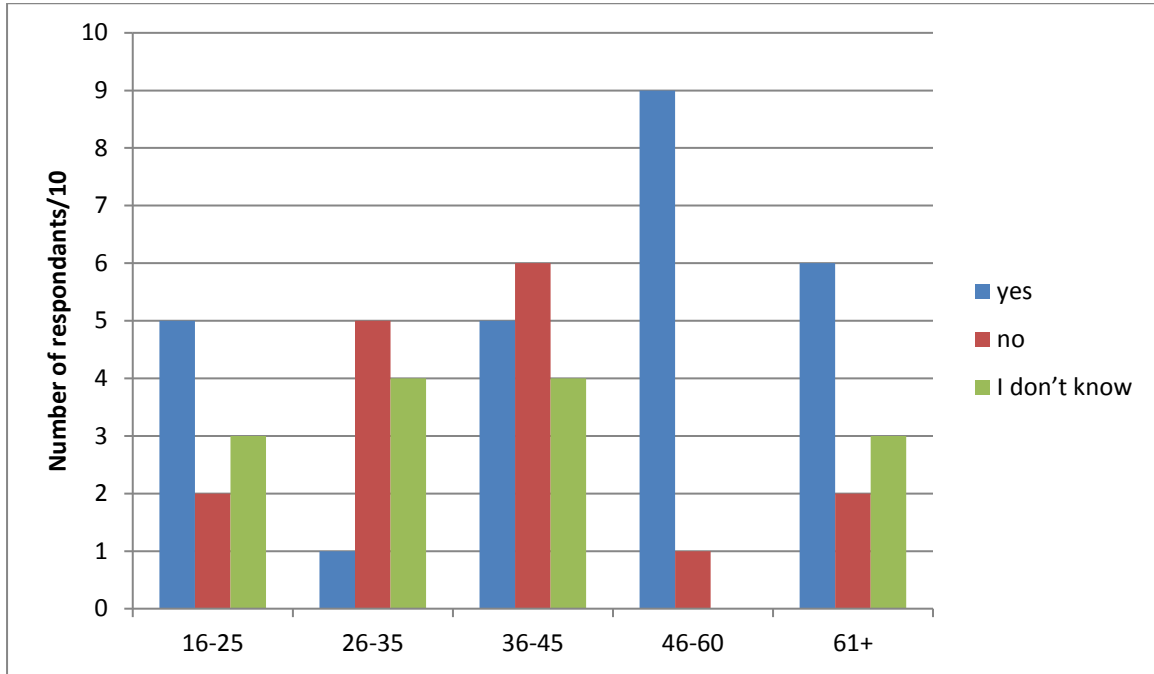
Why?

Thank you for your cooperation

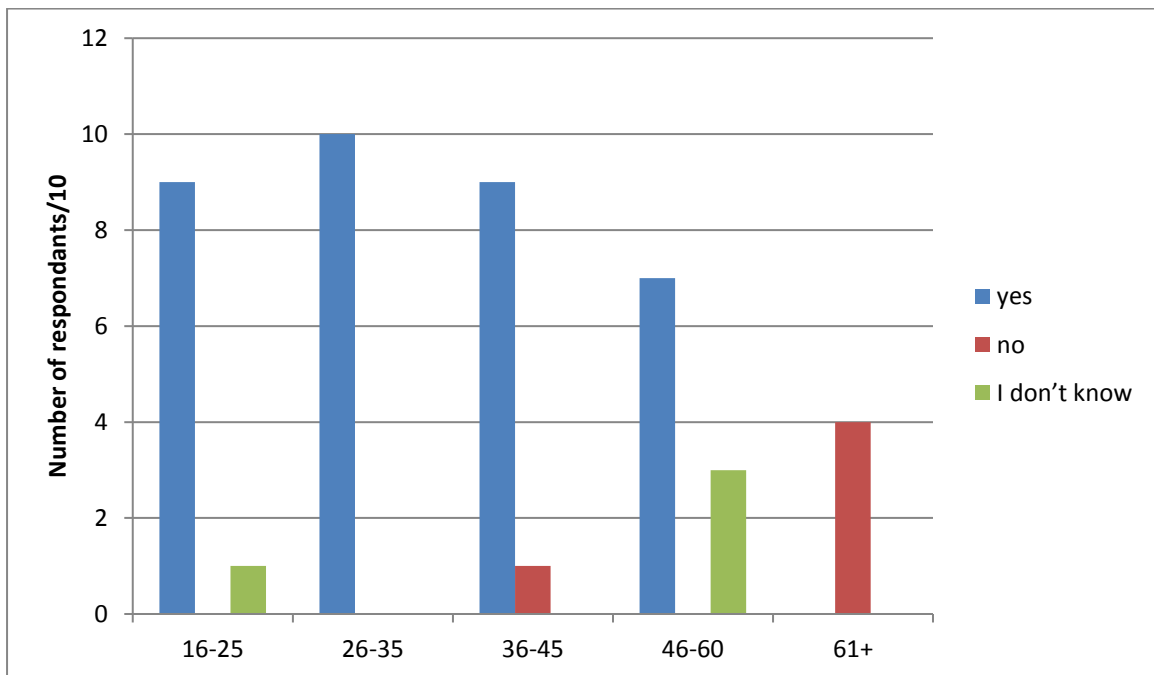
Appendix 3: Data gathered from our research



Question 2: Do you think that illegal migrants should be sent back to their country? (Males)

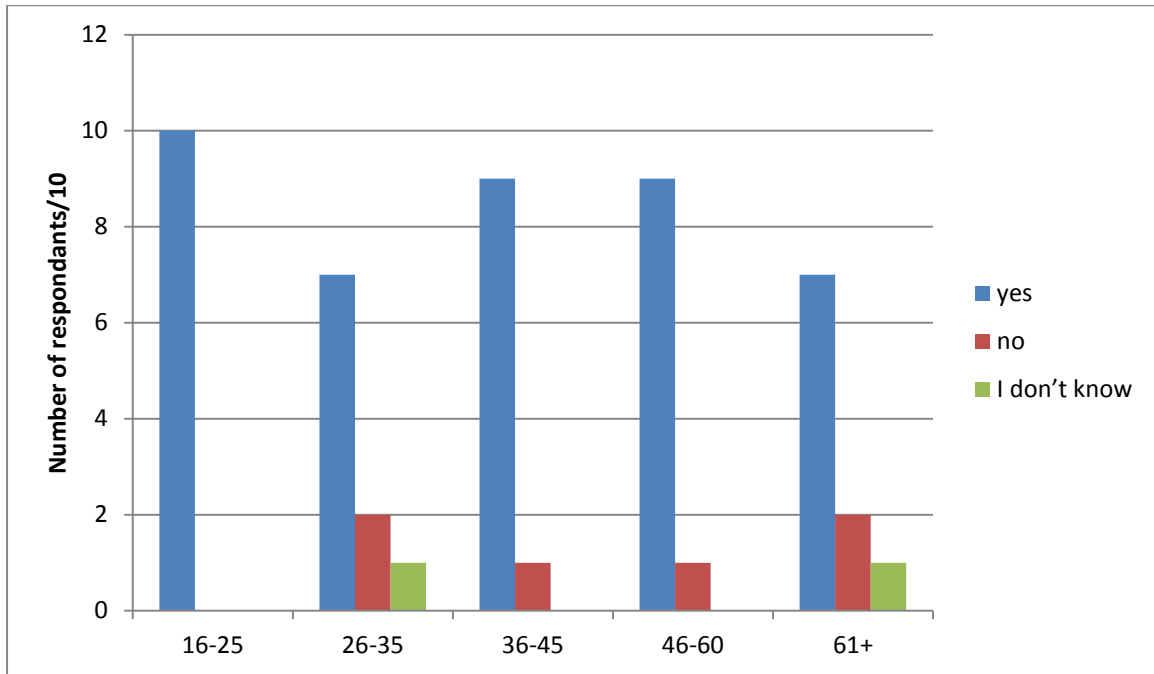


Question 2: Do you think that illegal migrants should be sent back to their country? (Females)



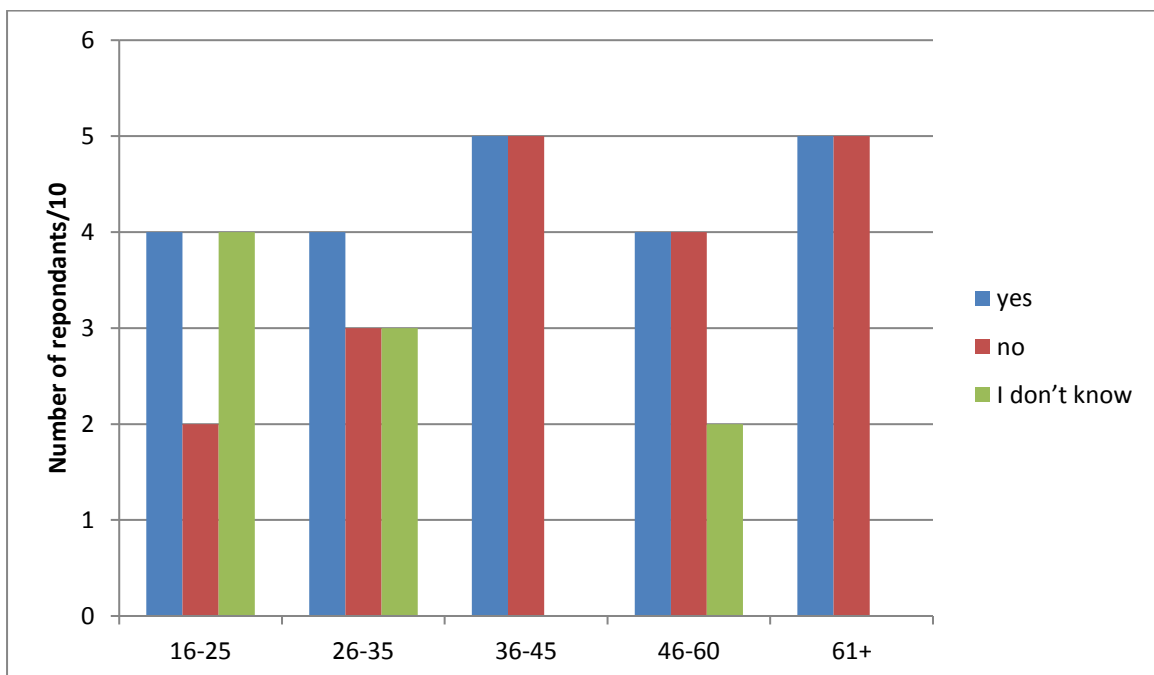
Question 3: Do you think illegal migration is a serious problem in Malta?

(Males)

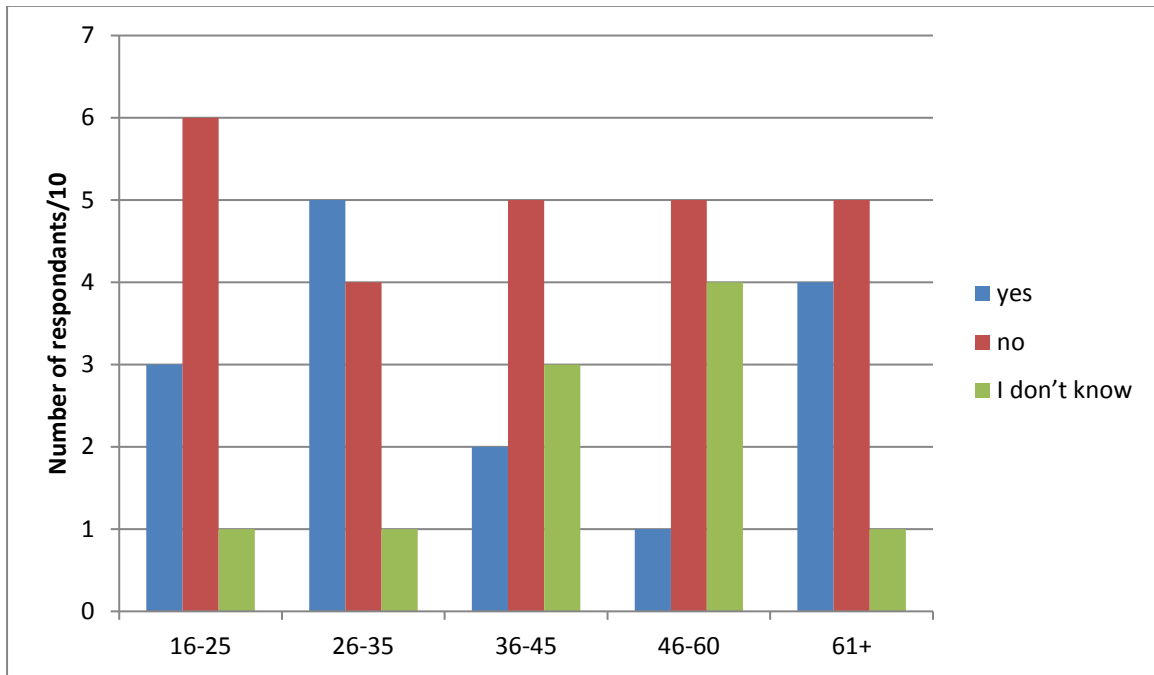


Question 3: Do you think illegal migration is a serious problem in Malta?

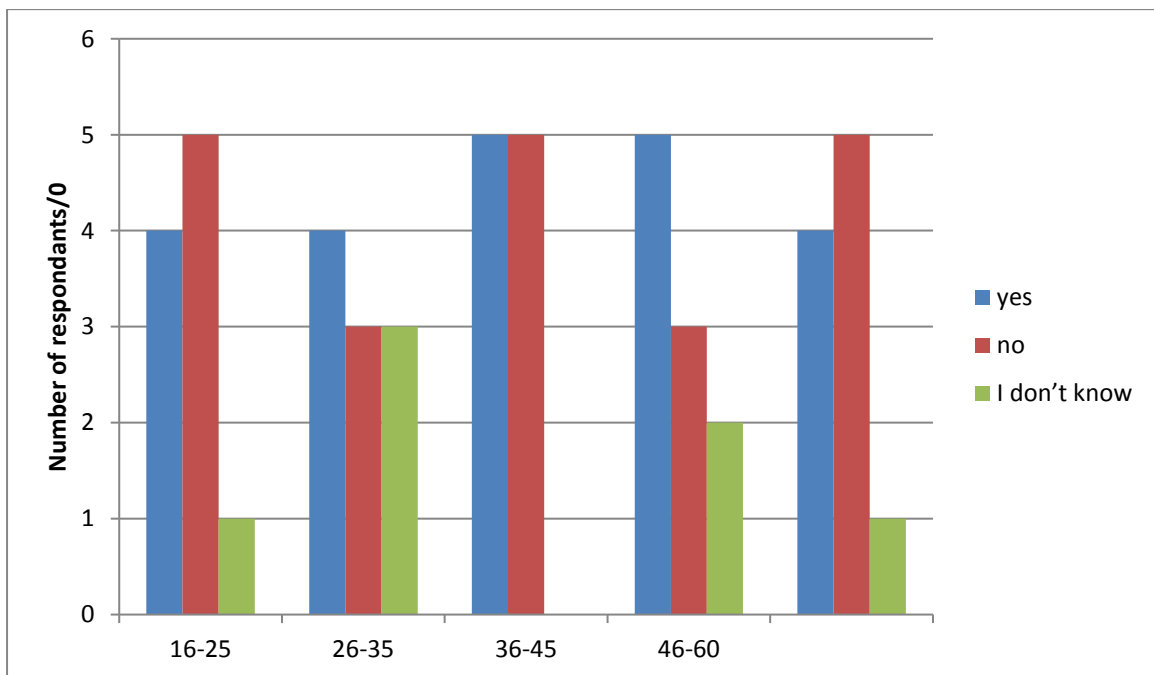
(Females)



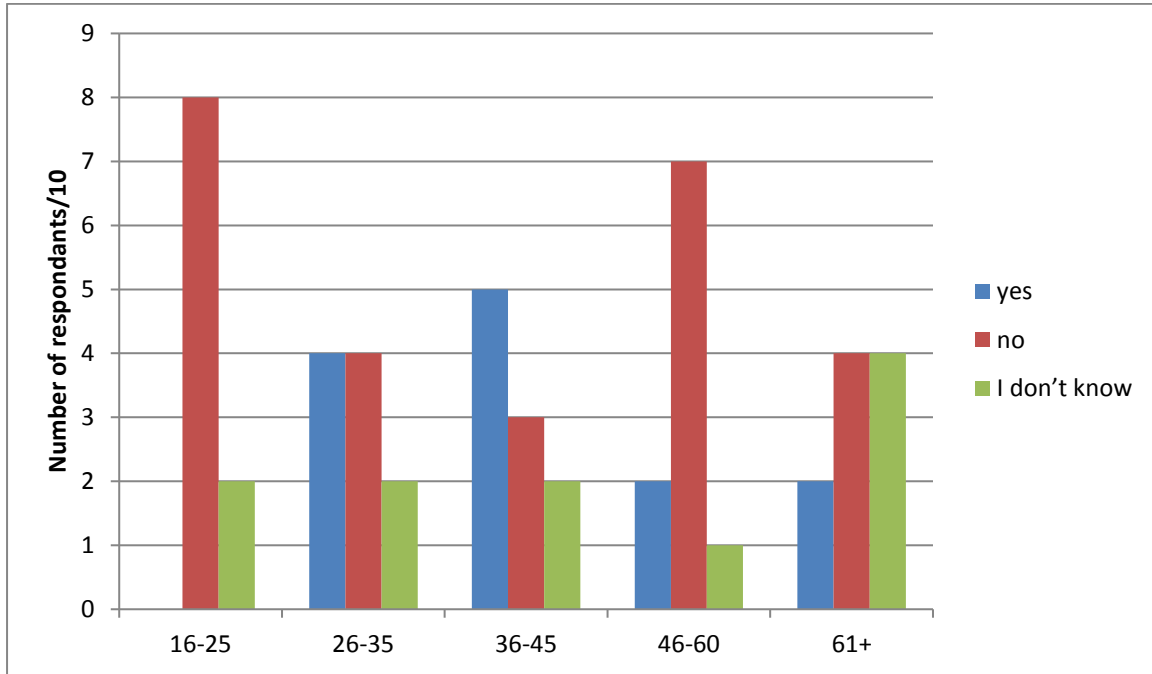
Question 4: Do you think that Malta should accept illegal migrants? (Males)



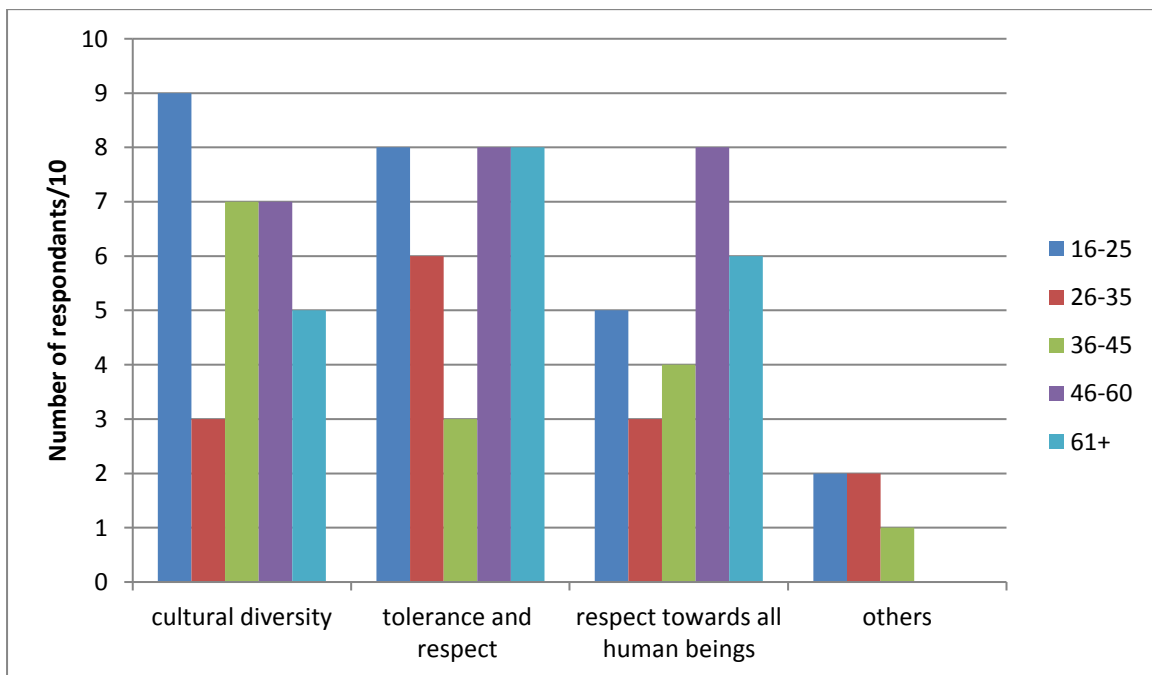
Question 4: Do you think that Malta should accept illegal migrants? (Females)



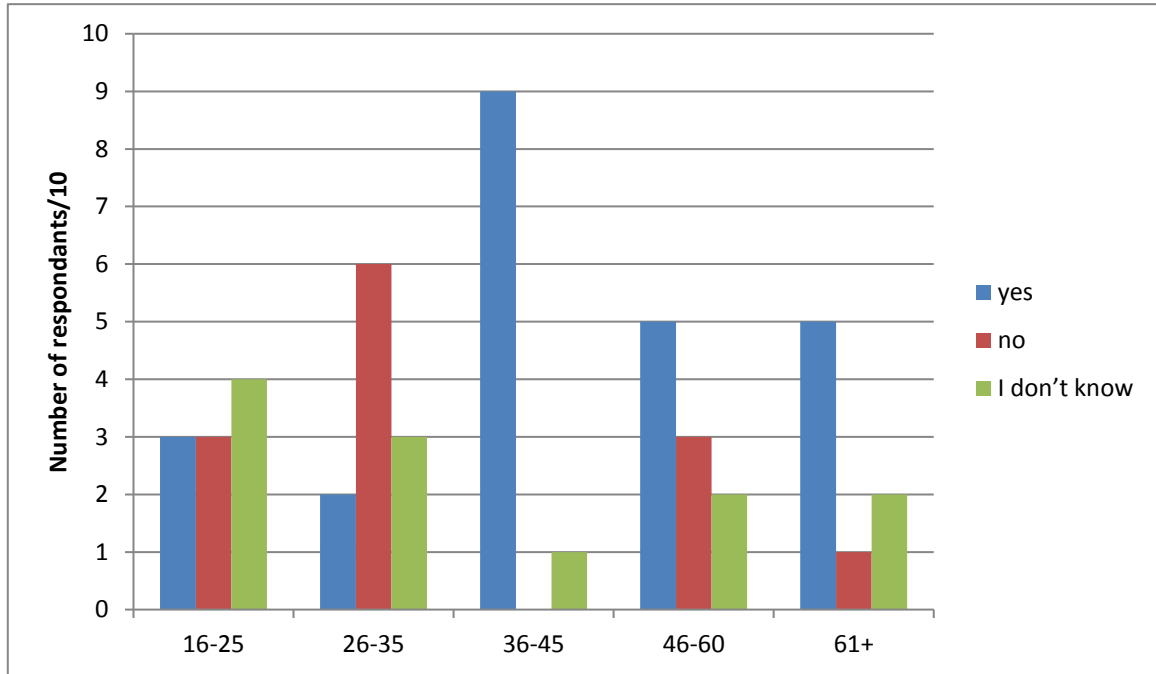
Question 5: Do you agree that when illegal migrants give birth at sea, the children are given a Maltese Nationality? (Males)



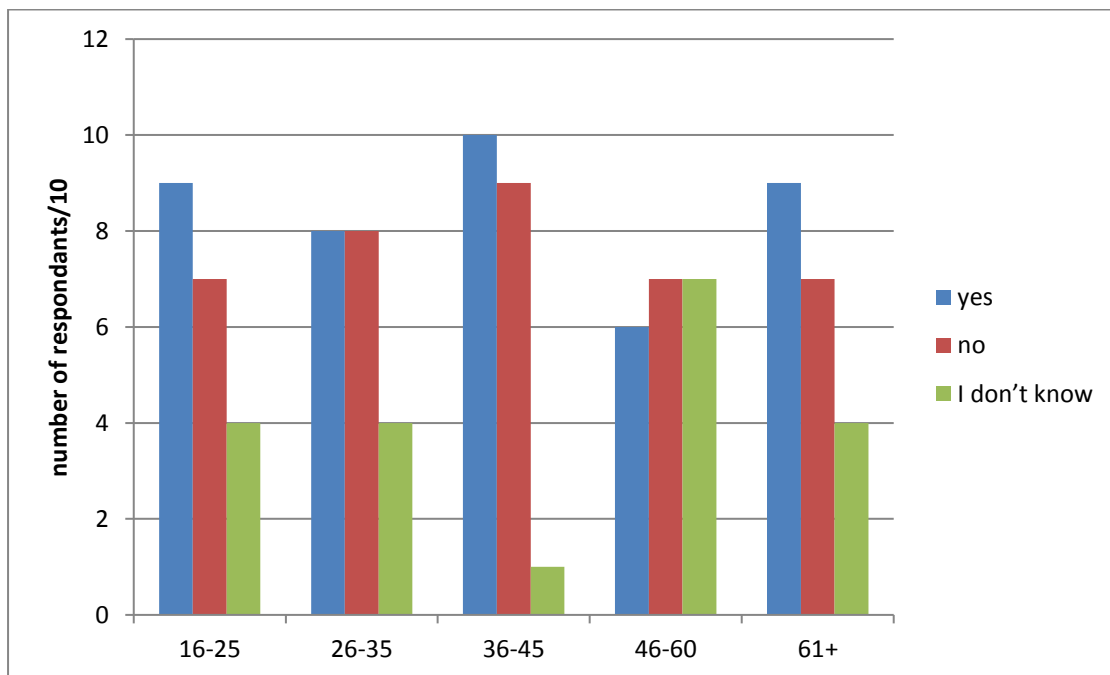
Question 5: Do you agree that when illegal migrants give birth at sea, the children are given a Maltese Nationality? (Females)



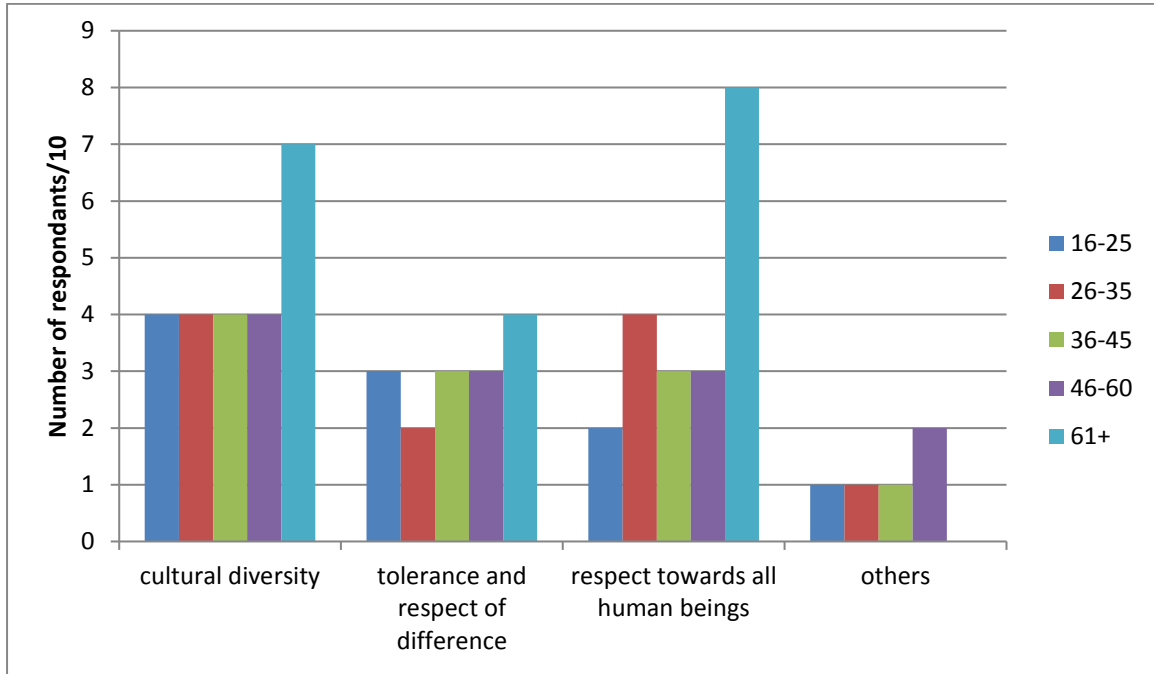
Question 6: Do you think emigrants have a positive effect on our country or a negative effect? (Males)



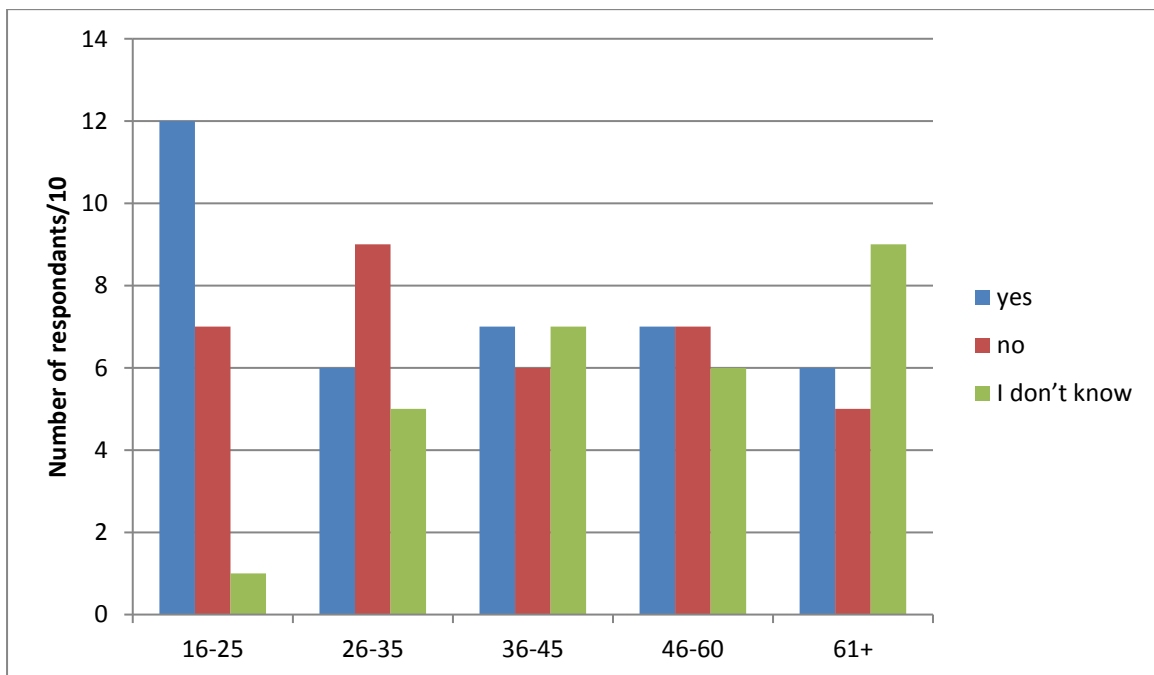
Question 6: do you think migrants have a positive or negative effect? (Females)



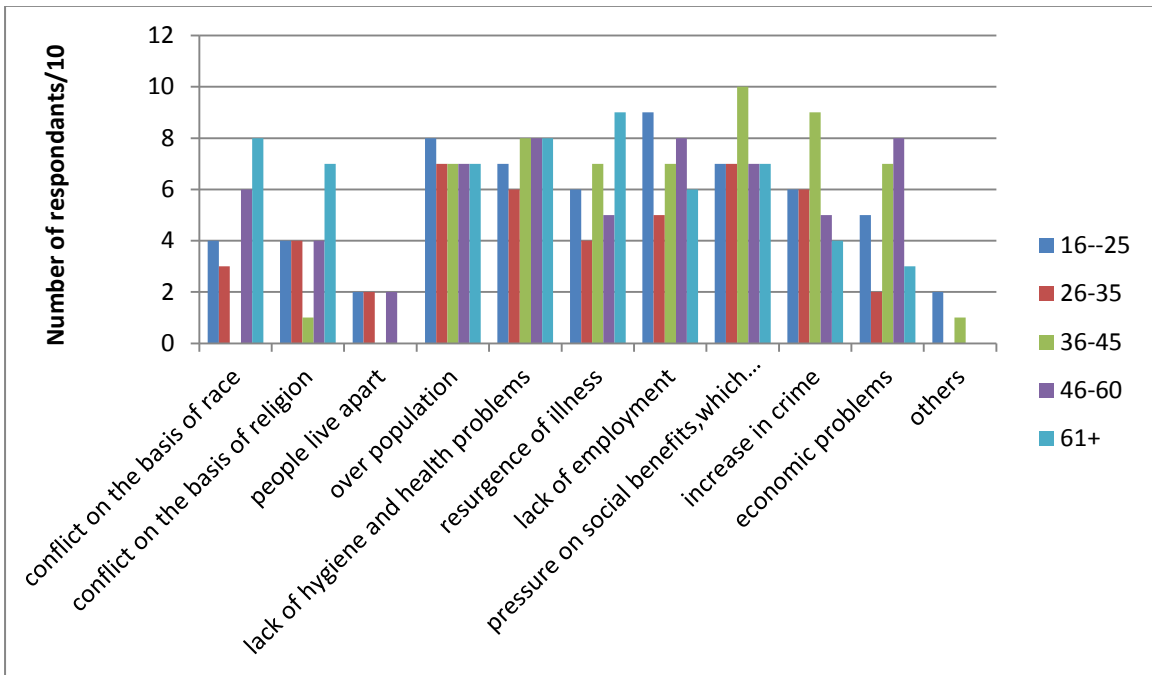
Question 7a: Which of these positive outcomes of migration do we find in Malta? (Males)



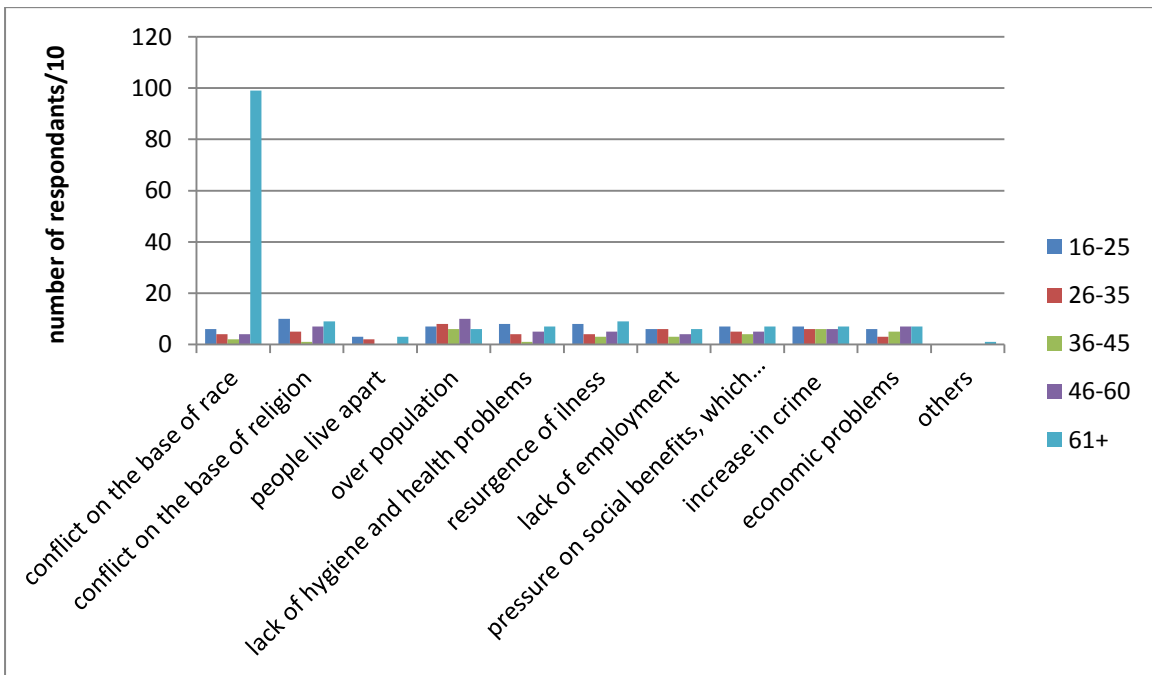
Question 7a: Which of these positive outcomes of migration do we find in Malta? (Females)



Question 7 b: Negative outcomes of Migration. (Males)

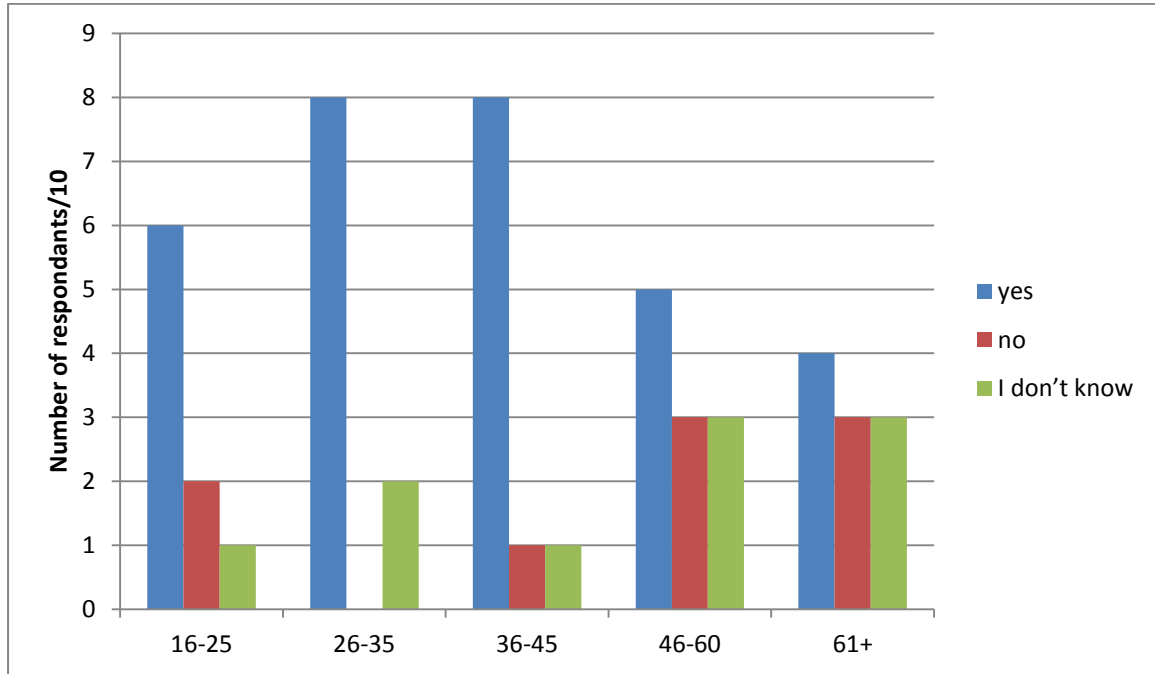


Question 7b: Negative outcomes of migration.(Females)



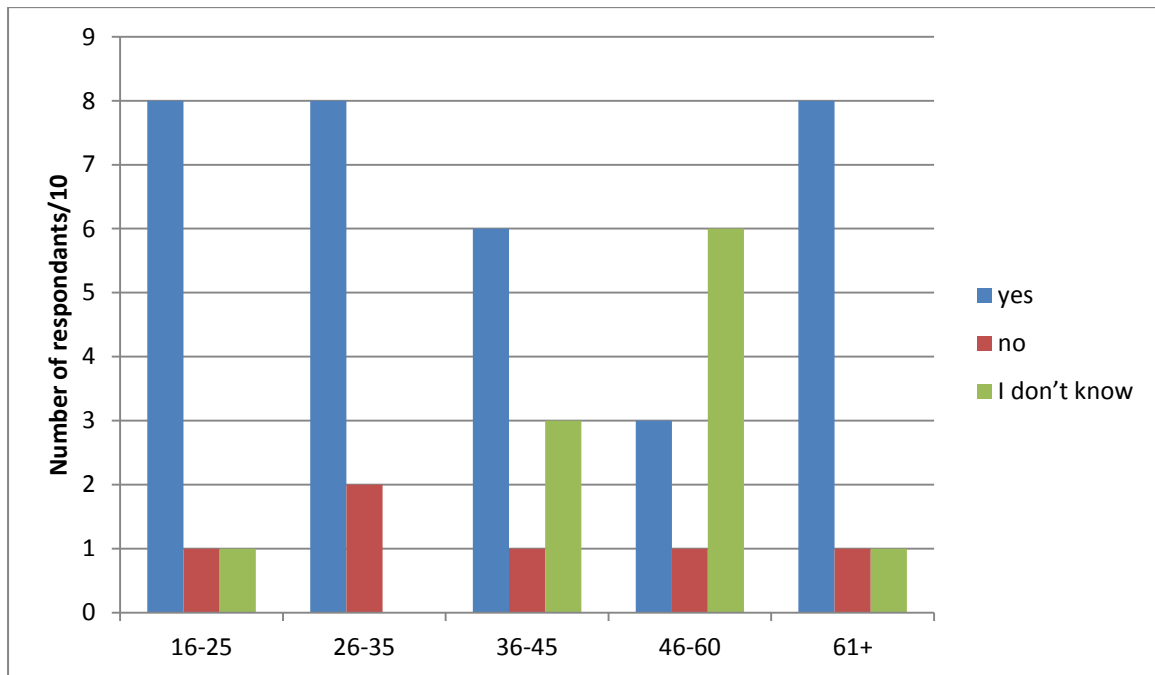
Question 8: Do you agree that these migrants need to be employed?

(Males)

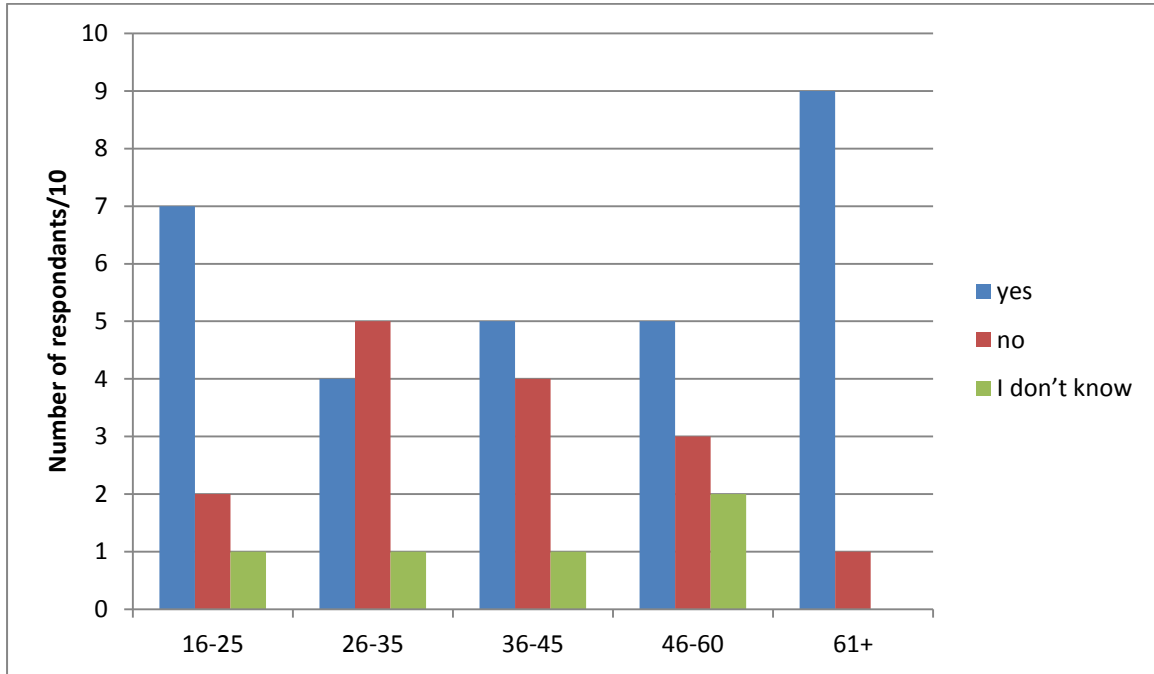


Question 8: Do you agree that these migrants need to be employed?

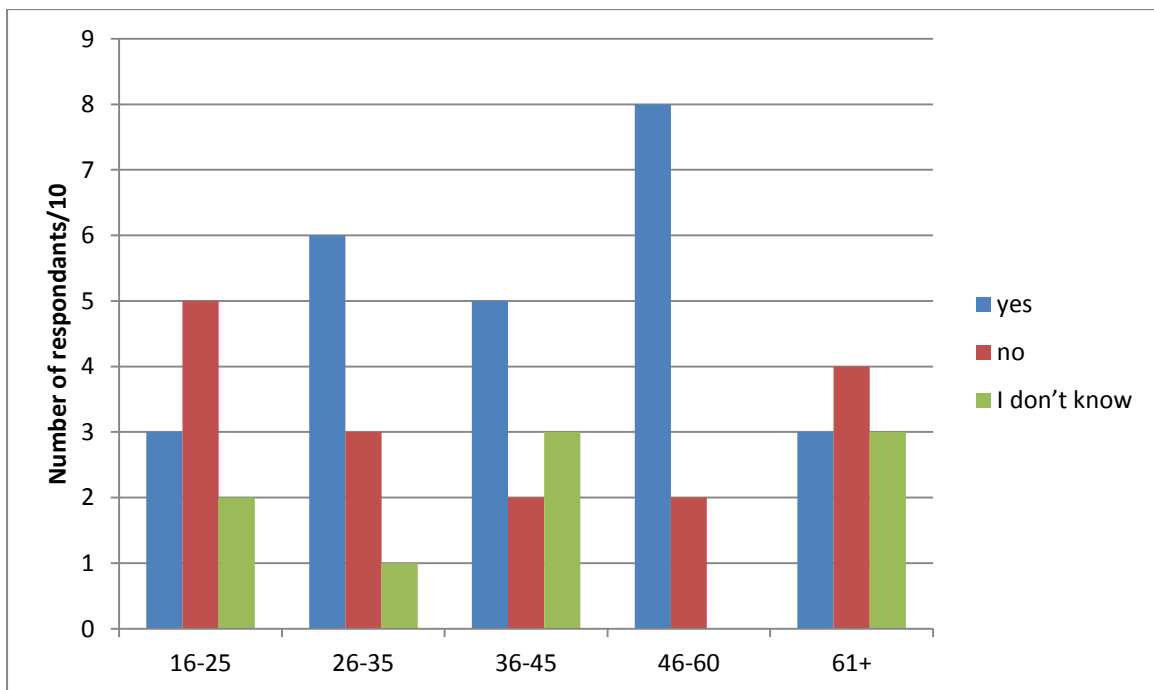
(Females)



Question 9: Do you think that illegal migrants are taking the jobs of Maltese people (Males)

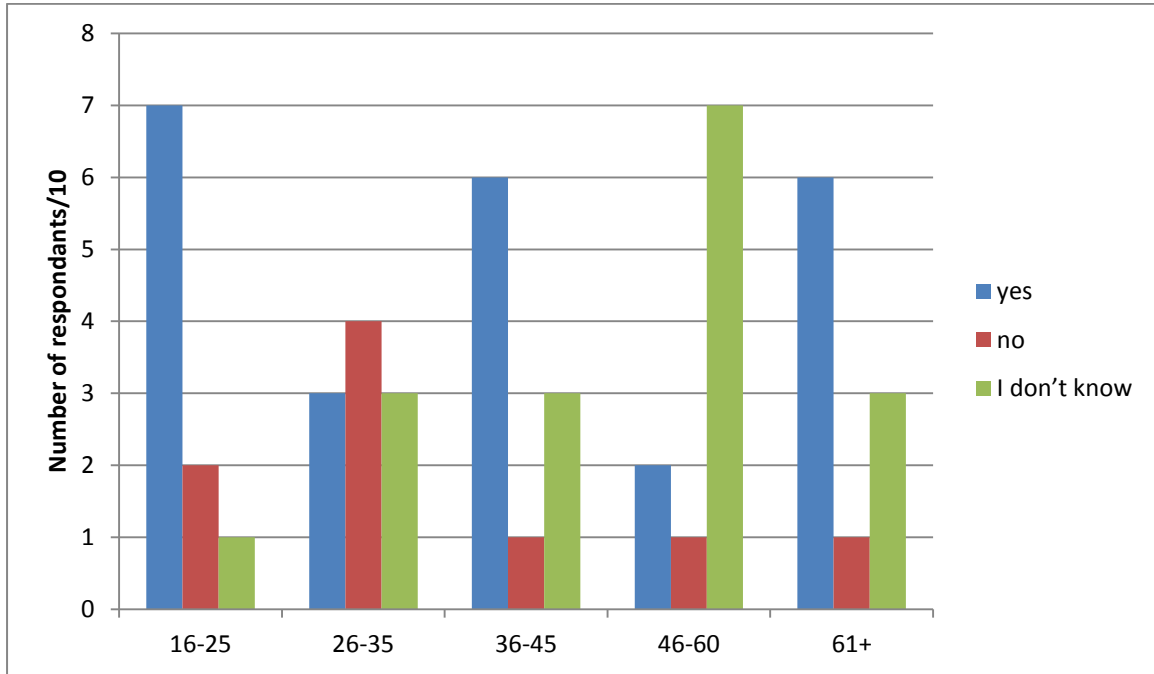


Question 9: Do you think that illegal migrants are taking the jobs of Maltese people? (Females)



Question 10: Is there a relationship between illegal migration and racism?

(Males)



Question 10: Is there a relationship between illegal migration and racism?

(Females)

