

**Title:**

The effects of waste on land, air and sea

**Category:**

11 – 14

**Group members:**

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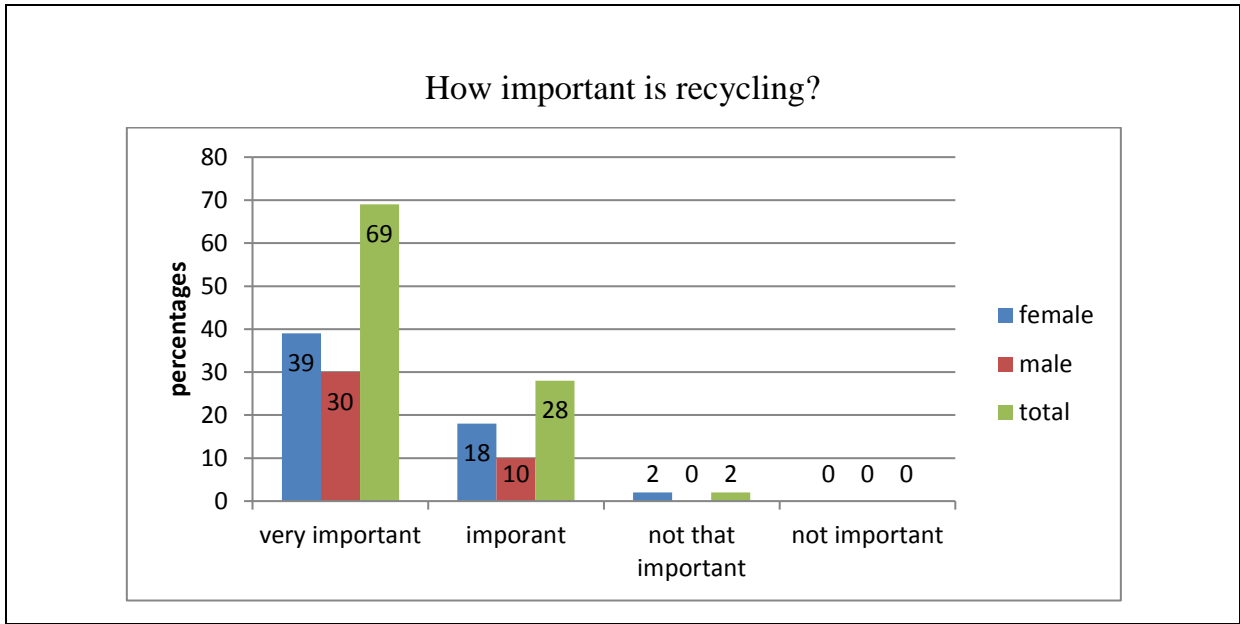
# **The Effects Of Waste On Land, Air And Sea**

**By: Aquilina Nicole, Borg Chloe, Briffa Shania, Debono Maria Milagros,  
Galea Vida and Vella Marea**

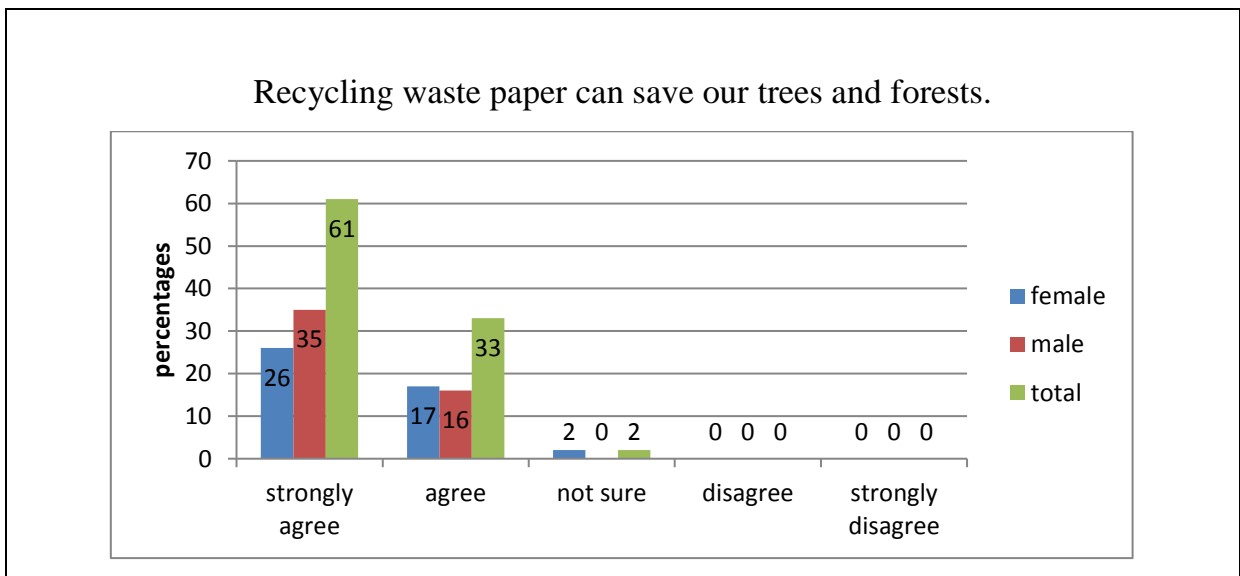
Our group carried out this research about waste, because we have been experiencing waste-related problems in Malta for a long time. Waste and Pollution are a problem at sea and also on land, and they also affect the air. They affect the health of human beings and result in animals and plants becoming extinct.

Our research is based on 100 questionnaires. We chose questionnaires because they are cheaper and less time-consuming than other research methods which makes them ideal for us students. We gave out all the questionnaires by hand. We chose a popular location where a lot of people go, which in our case was the capital city of Malta, Valletta, and asked a number of people of different ages to complete them for us. We gave out questionnaires as follows:

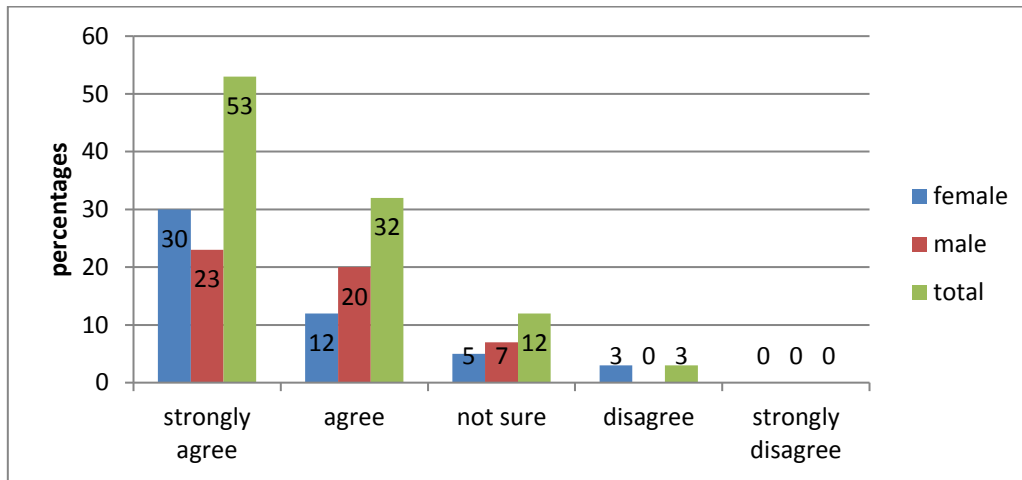
Our analysis shows that most of our respondents are aware of the importance of recycling (69% in all; 78% females, 60% males). However, although many people agreed that it is important to dispose of their waste properly they still think that we have a waste disposal problem (80%).



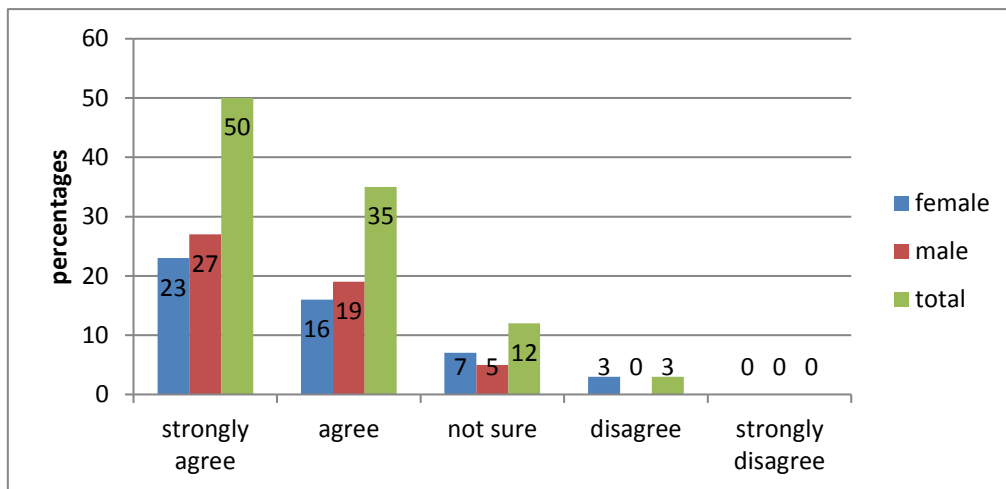
Our analysis shows that many respondents separate waste regularly, although others do not care about the environment (Often–24%, regularly – 54%, rarely – 19% and never – 2%), citing reasons such as ‘If you recycle you can prevent pollution’. ‘We could save a lot of trees; if everyone recycles the newspaper after reading it we can save about 30,000 trees.’ However, in spite of this positive result, only 21% of our respondents think that Maltese people separate and recycle waste enough while 56% do not think Maltese separate and recycle waste enough. In contrast, people strongly agree about the benefits of waste separation and recycling.



### Recycling waste can reduce illnesses and diseases.



### Recycling waste can improve tourism.



This indicates that people know what they should do and why, but often don't do it out of laziness, indifference, etc., which contradicts the answer of one respondent, who claimed "people in Malta take recycling lightly because not everyone knows how much damage waste causes".

Our analysis shows that 98% our respondents think that it is important to raise awareness about the importance of recycling. Many respondents (70%) suggested that we use media campaigns to do this. 62% suggested using schools as a tool to reach our future adult citizens. 60% of the people suggested using government campaigns, 64% suggested using law reinforcement, whereas 6% had different ideas such as giving out flyers. However, in reality, all of this is being done.

If we work together we can make the world a better place. As students in an Eko Skola, we are aware that hundreds of students are working hard to raise more awareness about different environmental issues and to try to bring about a positive change. The important thing is that we don't give up and keep persevering. Media campaigns sponsored by the government and organisations which work to improve the environment are also important. However, our investigation reveals that people are aware of the correct thing to do but lack the incentive to do so. Therefore, we may have reached a point where people need a negative incentive to take proper action – in the form of monitoring by the government and NGOS, resulting in fines and other negative sanctions for people who do not adopt environment – friendly practices such as waste separation.

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## **Acknowledgements:**

We would like to thank all the people who filled out the questionnaires.

We would also like to thank our parents for their help and support.

Finally, a huge thanks goes to our teachers, Ms. Marquita Galea and Ms. Vanessa Cachia, who helped us during the project.

## **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](http://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	60+	16-25	26-35	36-45	46-60	61+
years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years	years

## Appendix 2: Template for questionnaires

1) Gender:

Male		Female	
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2) Age:

16-25	
26-35	
36-45	
46-60	
61+	

3a) Do you think waste disposal is a problem in Malta?

Yes	
No	
I don't know	

3b) If yes, why? (You may tick more than one option)

It is bad for the Environment	
Waste can cause pollution of air, sea and land.	
It is contributing to global warming	
We produce so much waste we don't have space to dispose all of it.	
It results in a lot of health problems	
It is off-putting for tourists.	
Other	

4) How important do you think Recycling is?

Very Important	Important	Not That Important	Not Important

5a) How often do you separate waste for recycling?

Often	Regularly	Rarely	Never

5b) Why?

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6a) Do you think Maltese people separate and recycle enough?

Yes	No	I don't know

6b) Why?

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7a) Do you think it is important to raise awareness about the importance of recycling?

Yes	No	I don't know

7b) If yes how can we do it?

Media campaigns	
In schools	
Government Campaigns	
laws	
Others : _____	

8) To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

- Recycling waste paper can save our trees and forests.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

- Recycling waste can reduce illnesses and diseases such as breathing disorders, lung cancer etc.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

- Recycling waste can improve tourism and Cleaner air results in healthier people.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

- Waste separation and disposal should be closely monitored.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

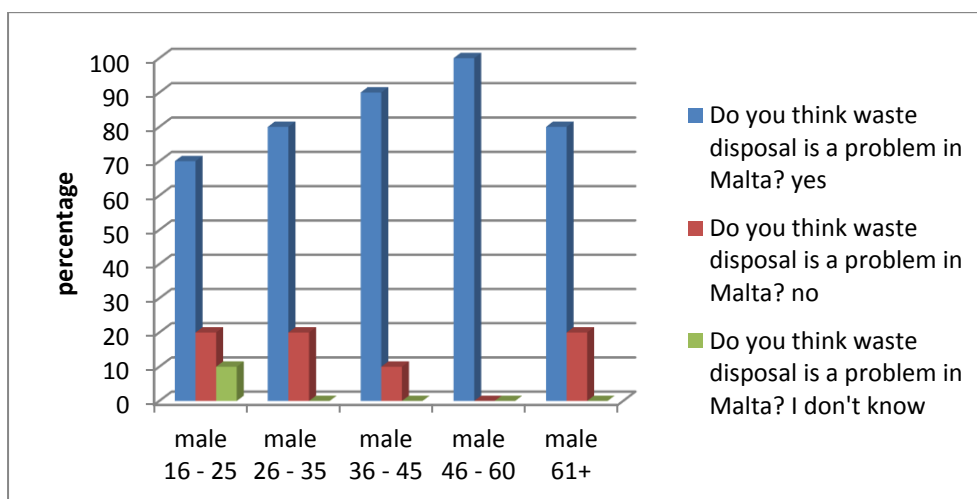
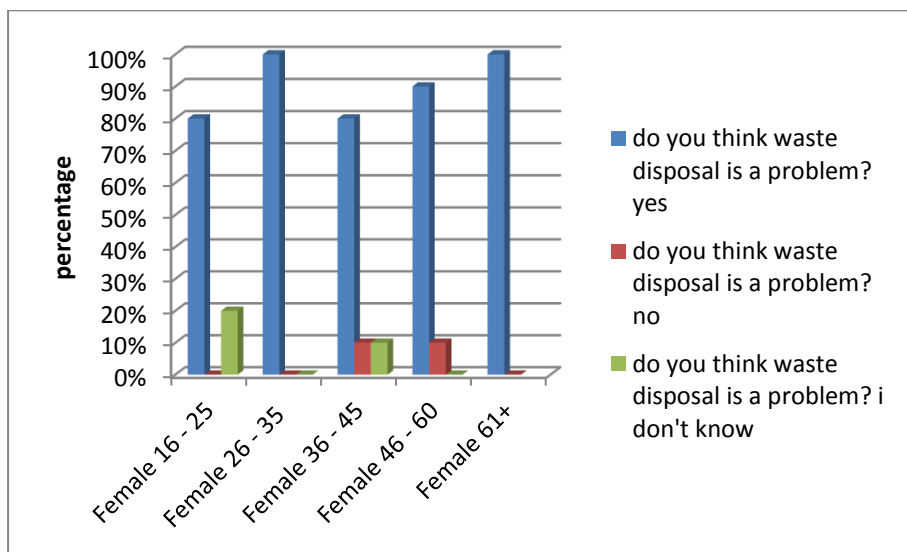
- If everyone does their part, we can make a difference.

Strongly Agree	Agree	Not sure	Disagree	Strongly Disagree

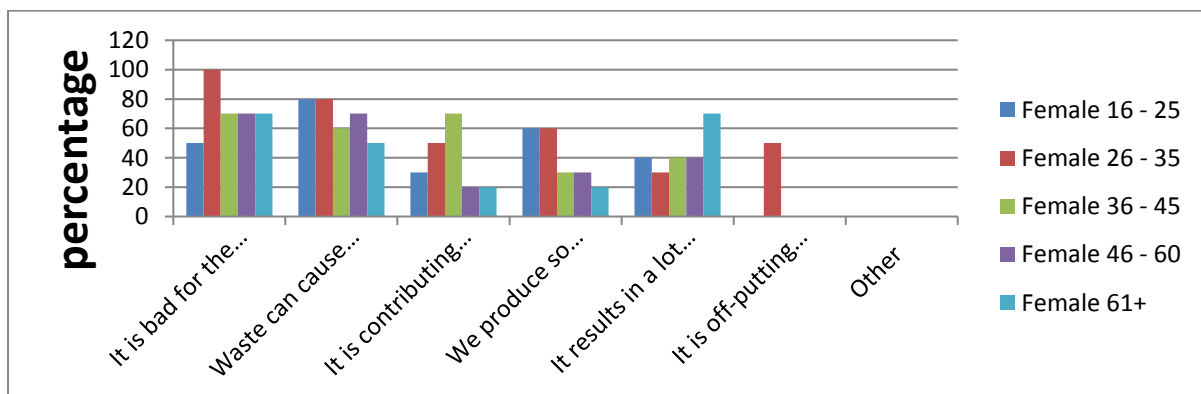
Thank you for your cooperation

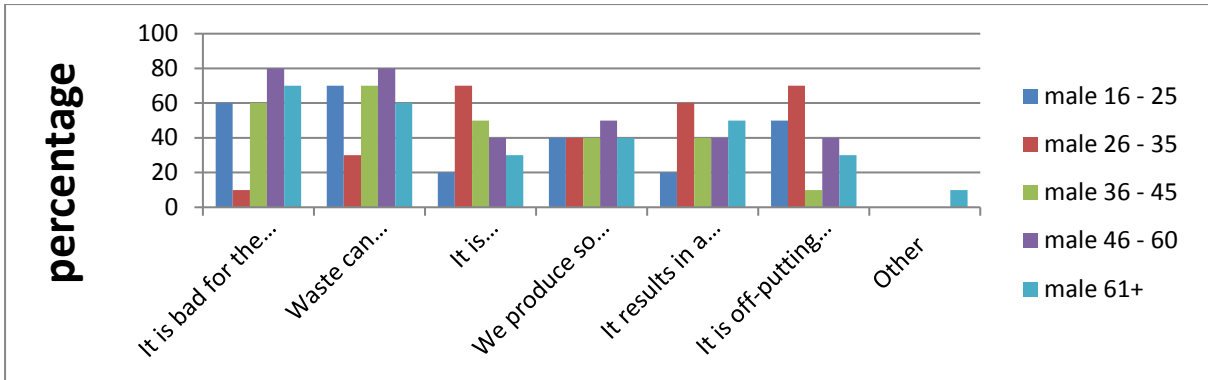
### Appendix 3: Data gathered from our research

#### 3a) Do you think waste disposal is a problem in Malta?

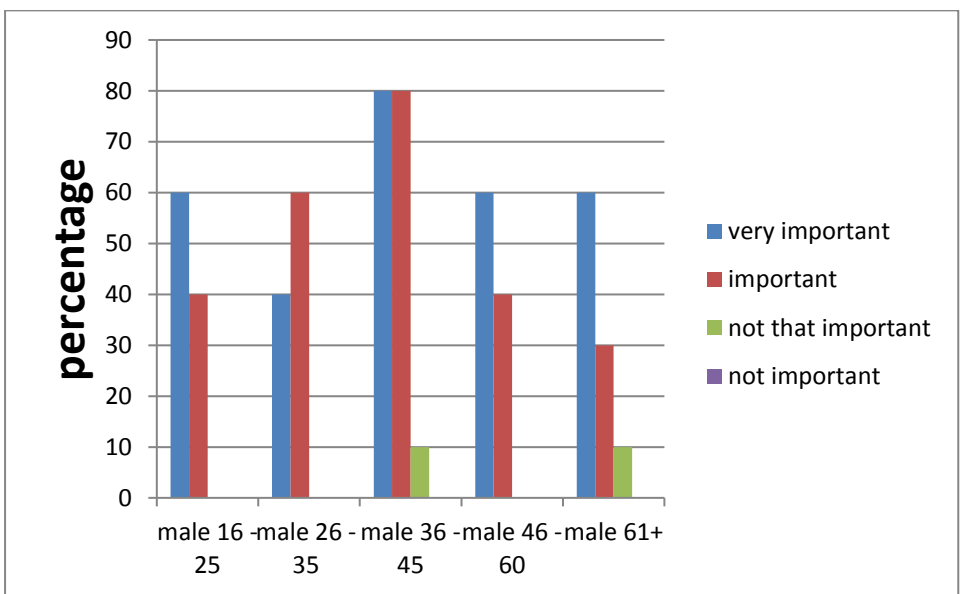
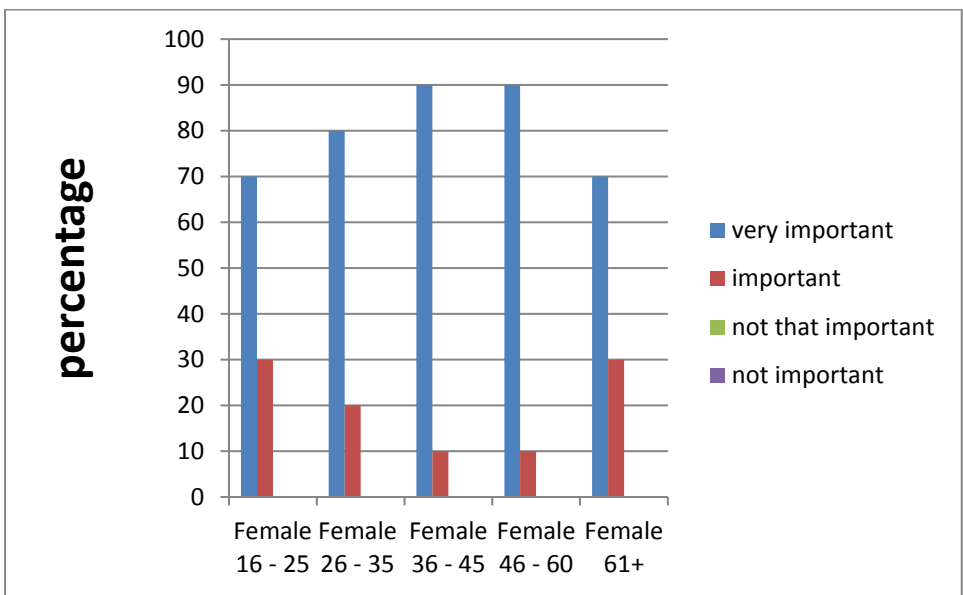


#### 3b) If yes, why? (You may tick more than one option)

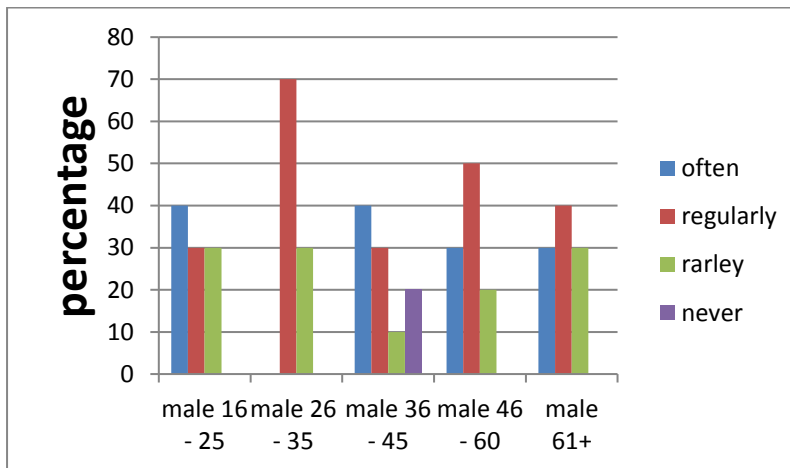
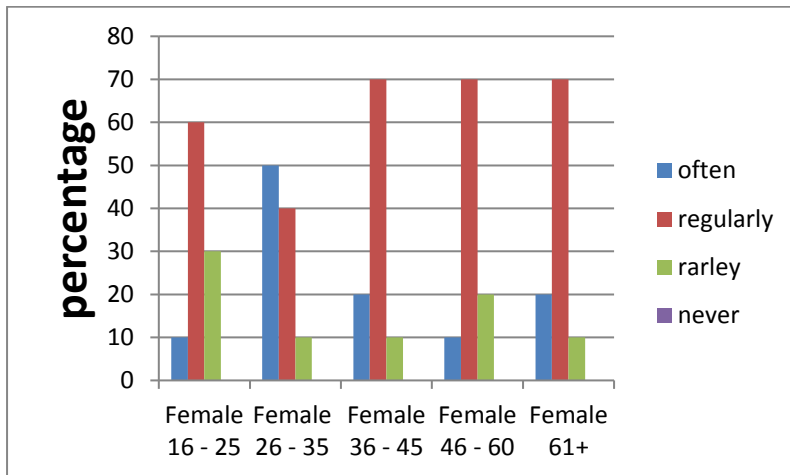




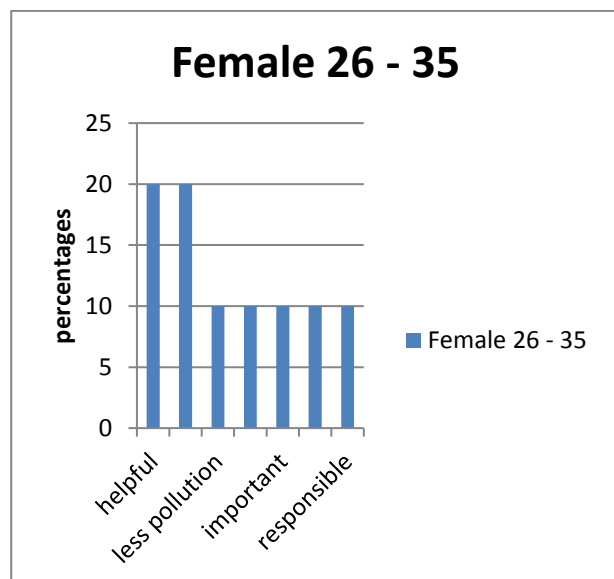
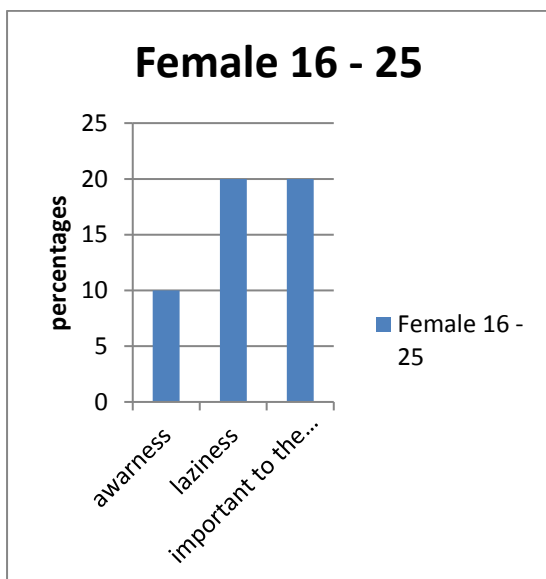
5) How important do you think Recycling is?



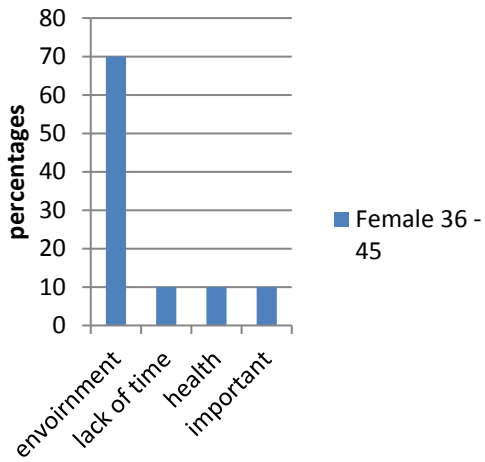
5a) How often do you separate waste for recycling?



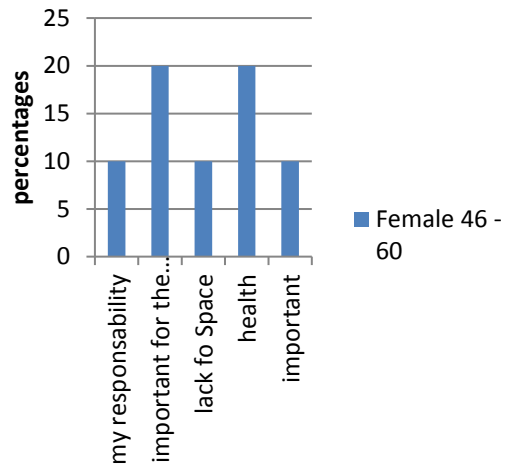
5b). Why?



### Female 36 - 45

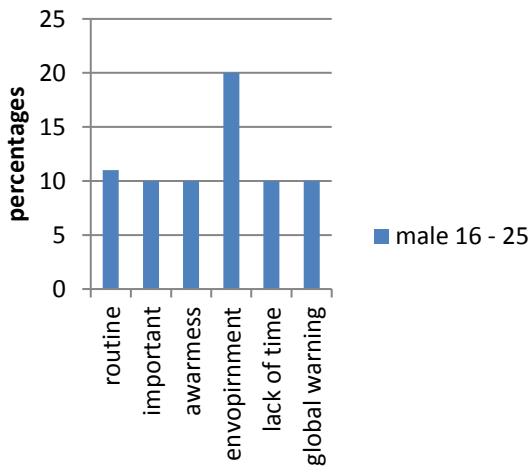


### Female 46 - 60

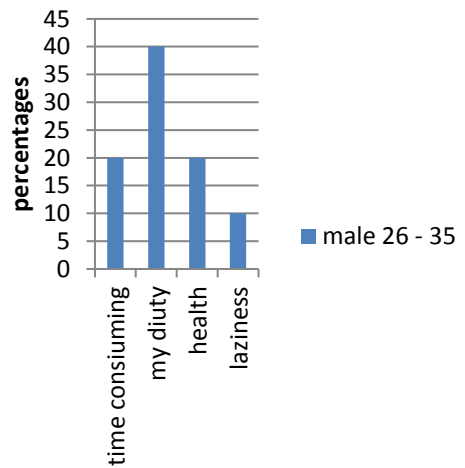


### 61+ Empty

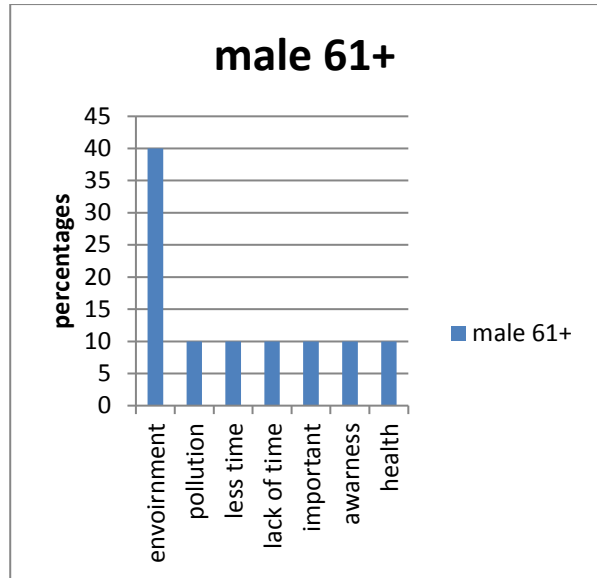
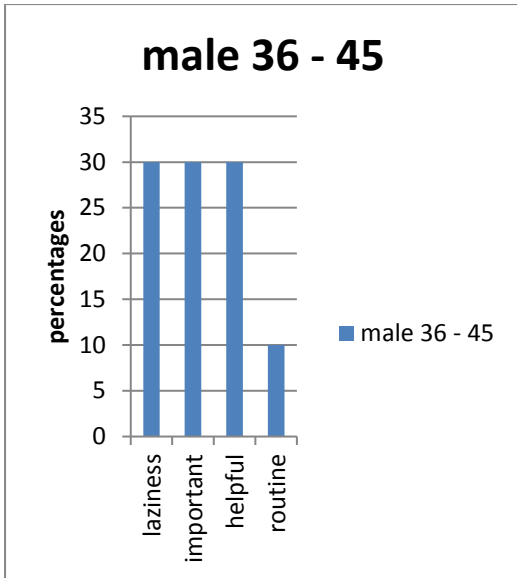
### male 16 - 25



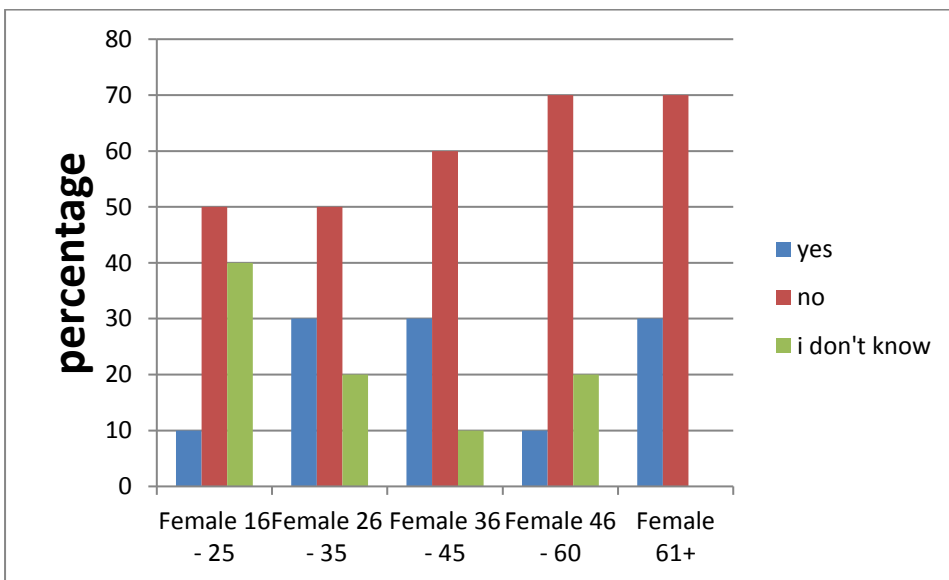
### male 26 - 35

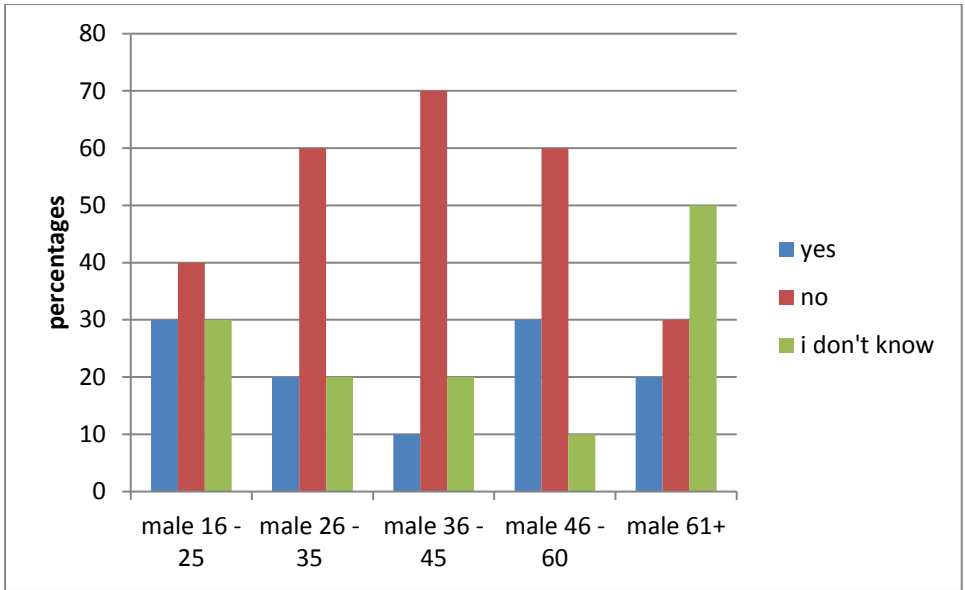




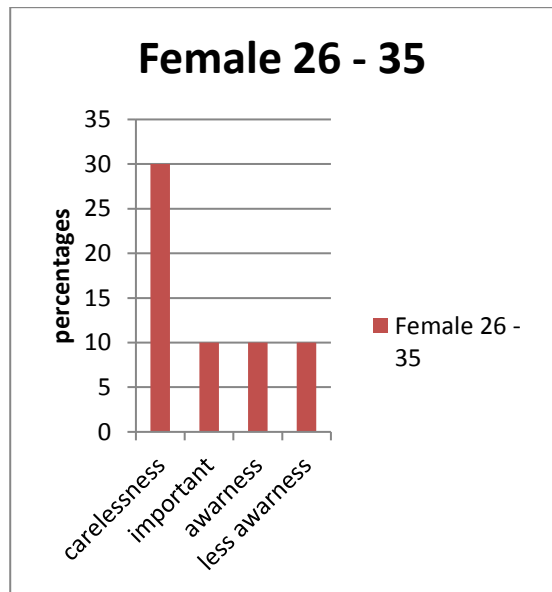
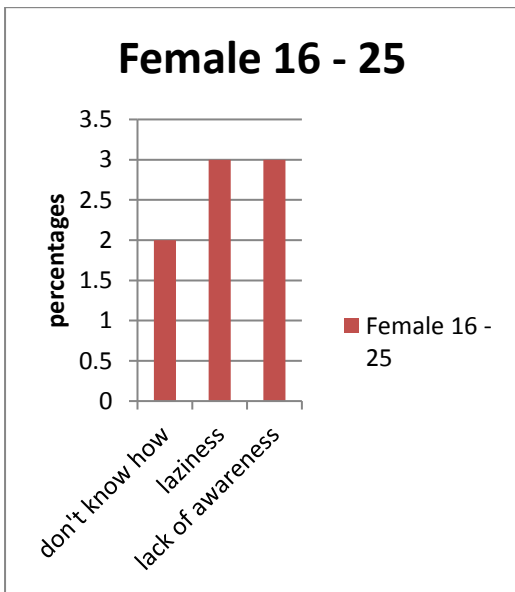


6a) Do you think Maltese people separate and recycle enough?

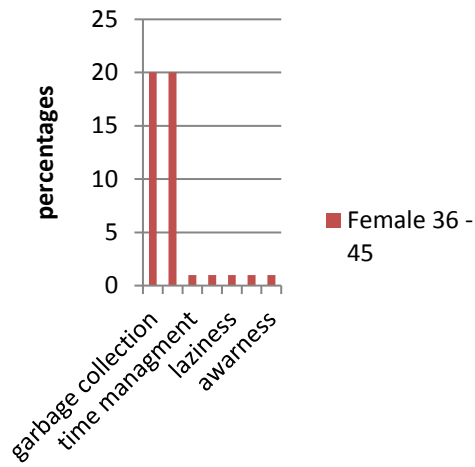




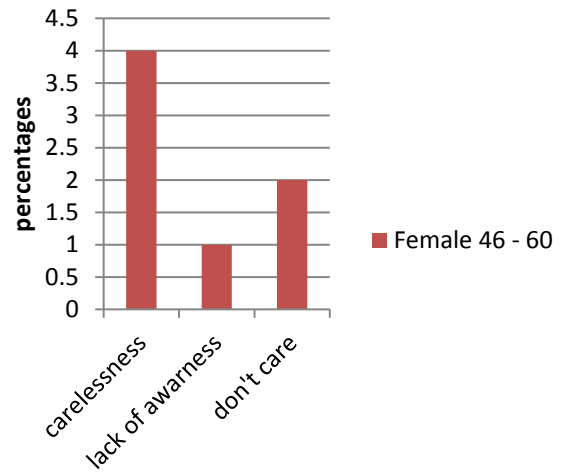
6b) Why?



### Female 36 - 45

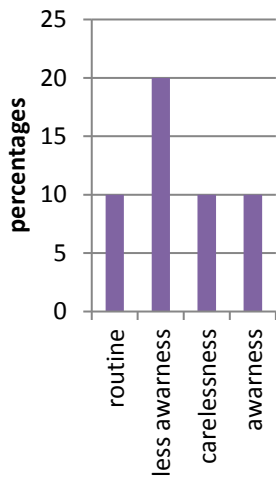


### Female 46 - 60

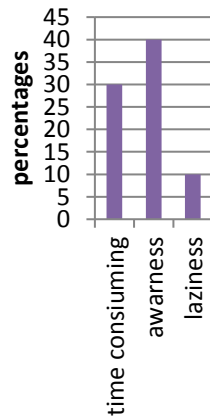


### 61+ Empty

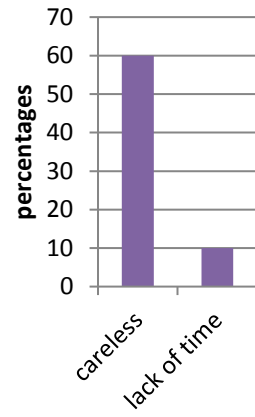
### male 16 - 25

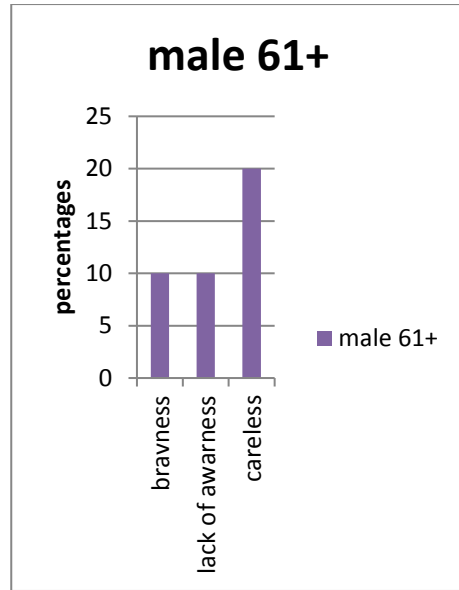
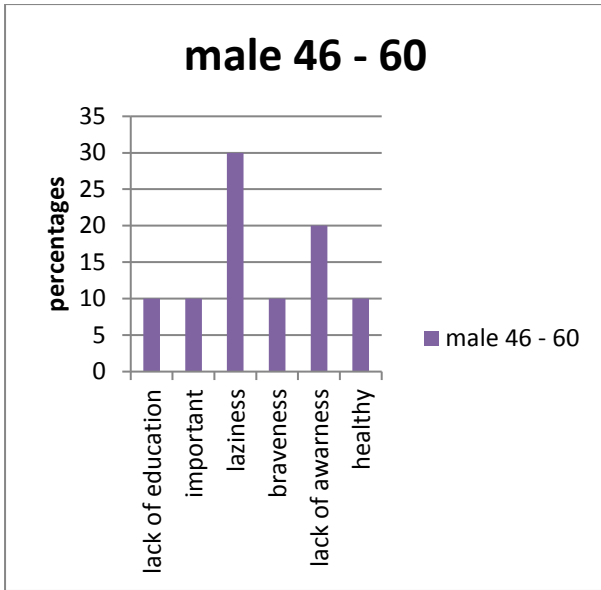


### male 26 - 35

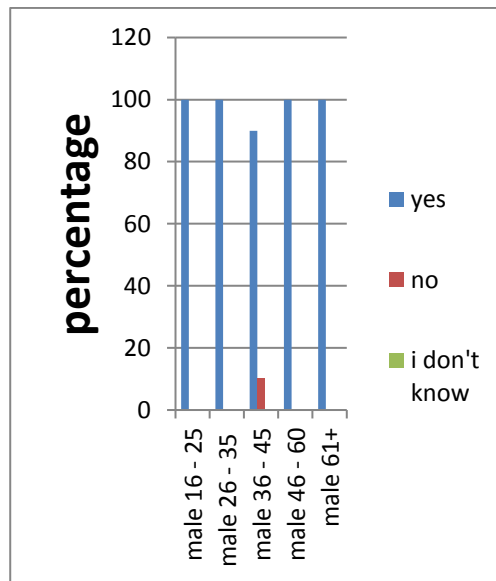
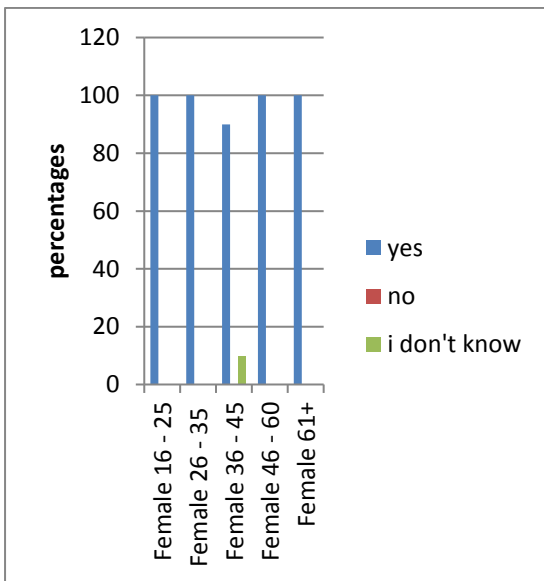


### male 36 - 45

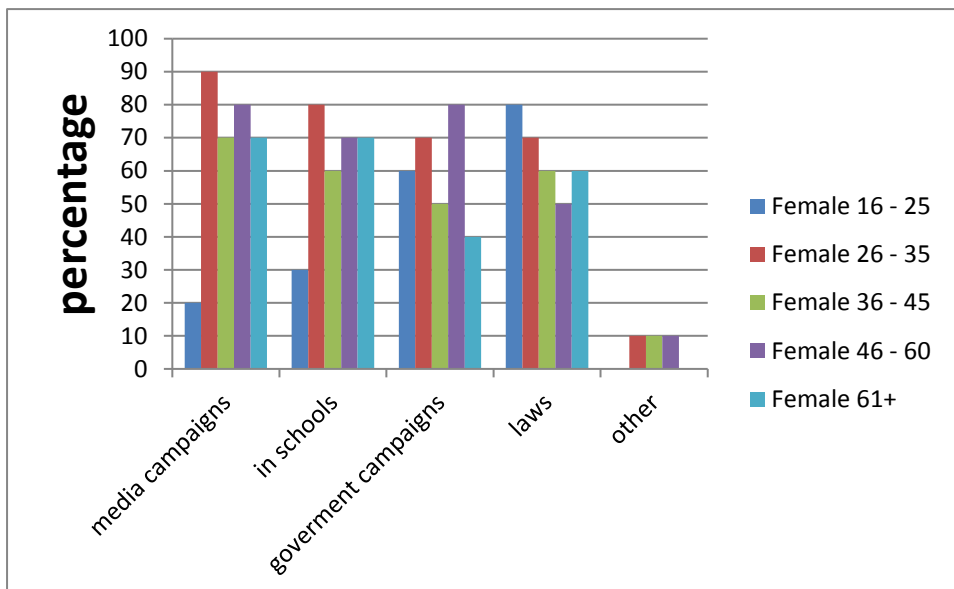
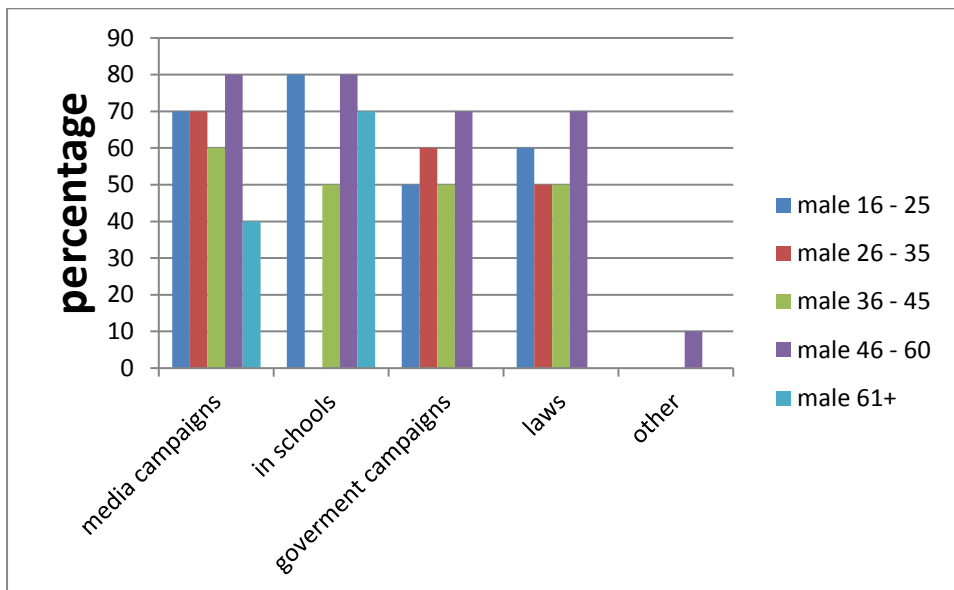




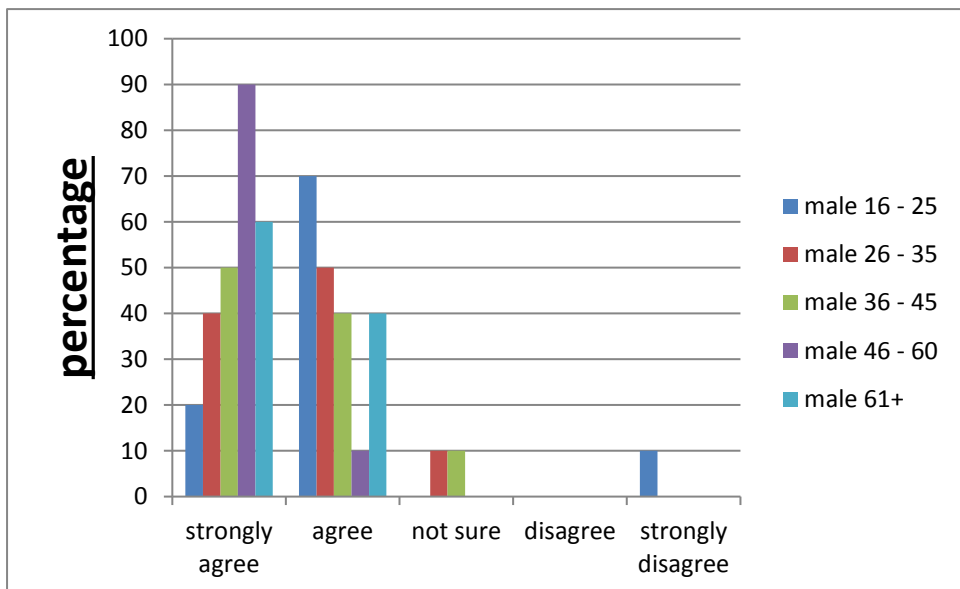
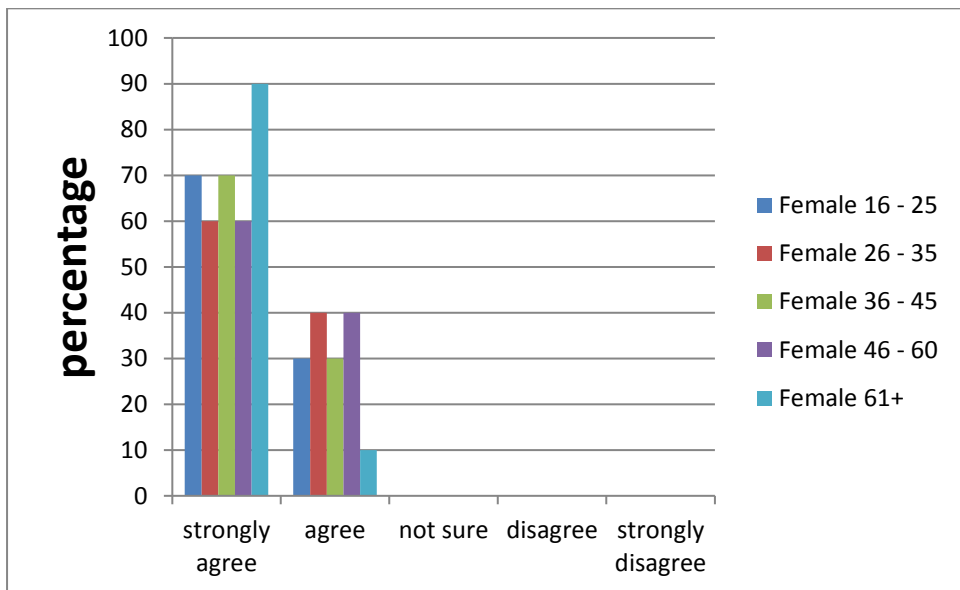
7a) Do you think it is important to raise awareness about the importance of recycling?



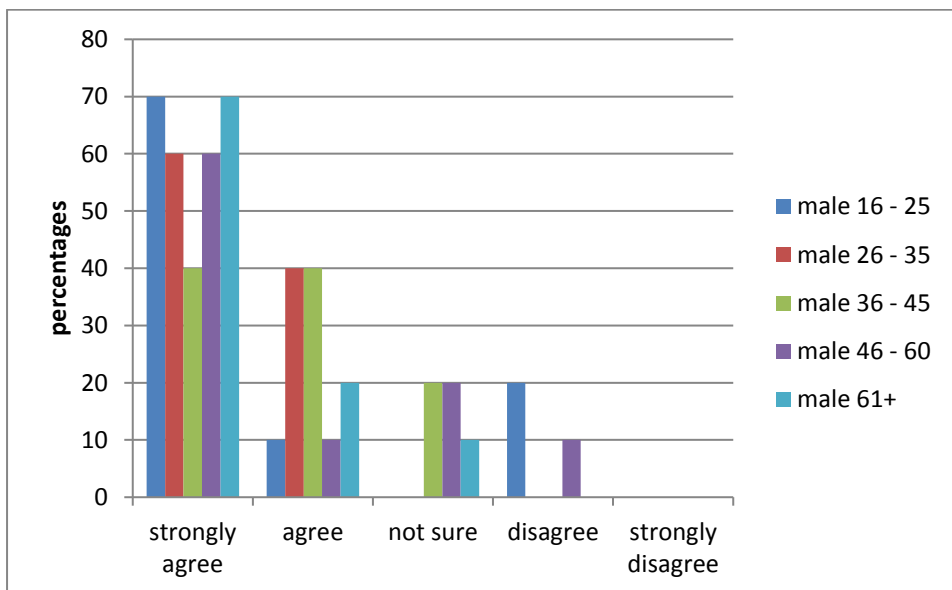
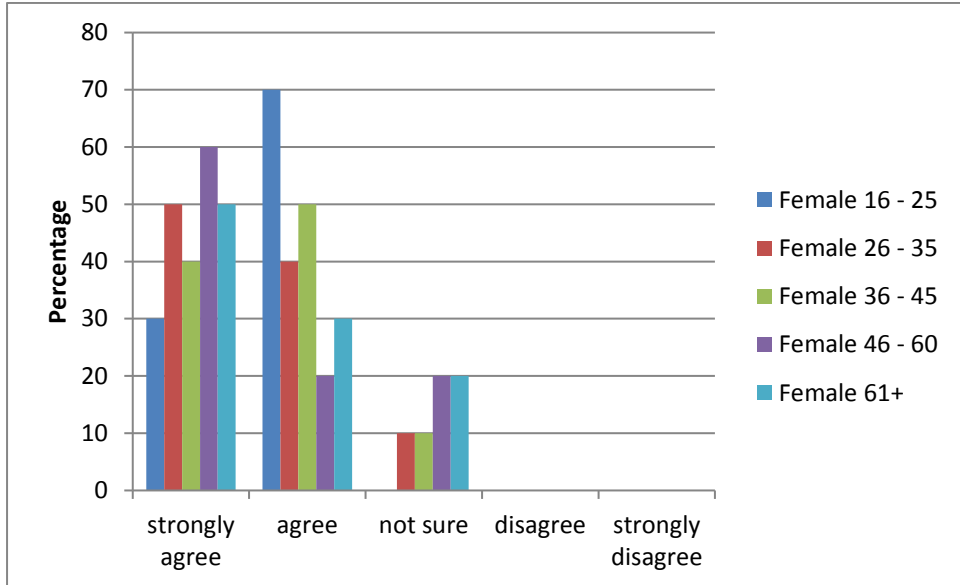
## If yes how can we do this?



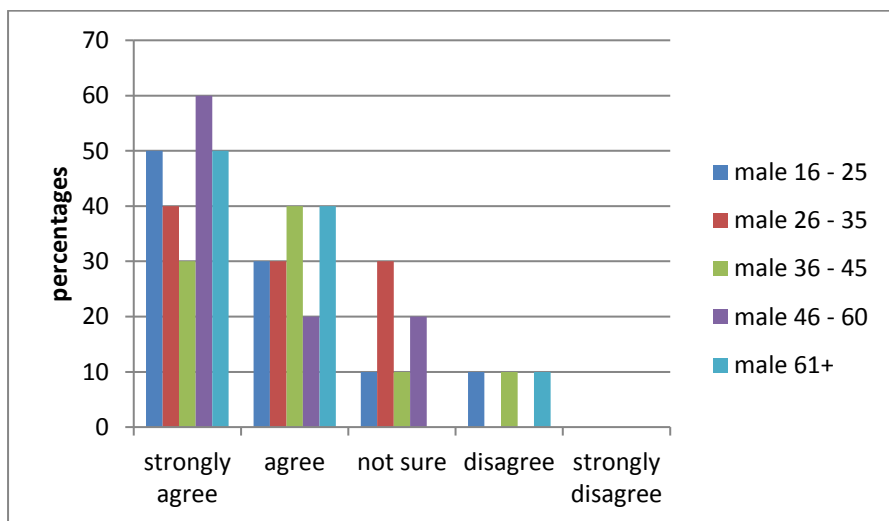
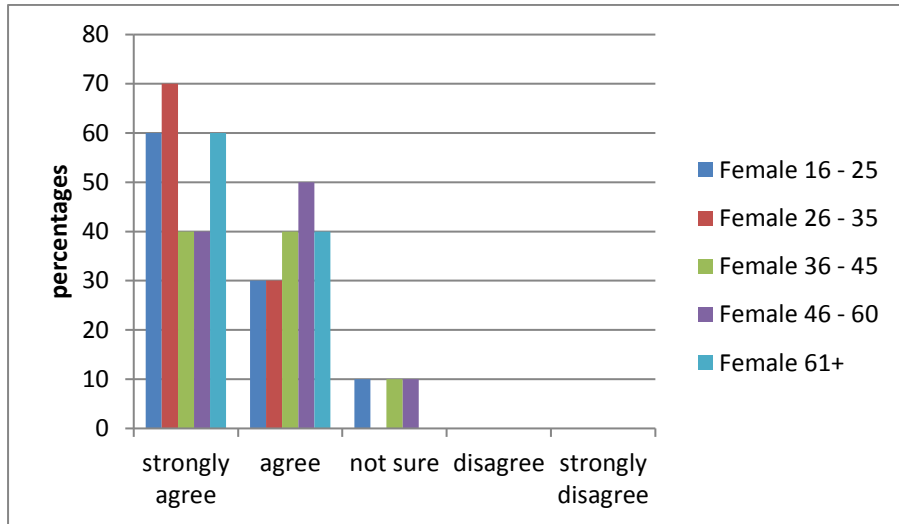
Recycling waste paper can save our trees and forests.



Recycling waste can reduce illnesses and diseases such as breathing disorders, lung cancer etc.

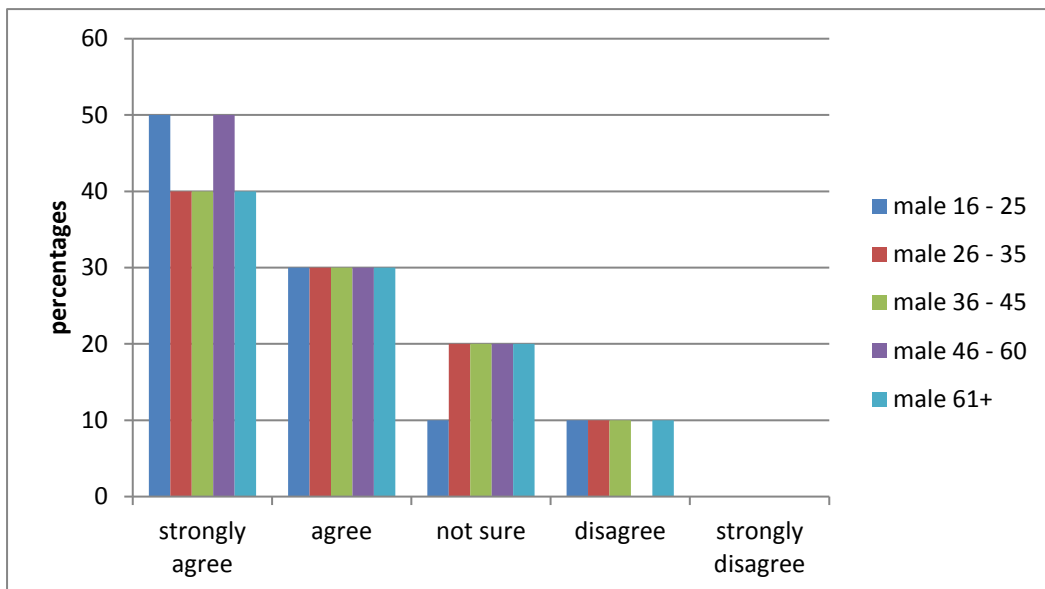
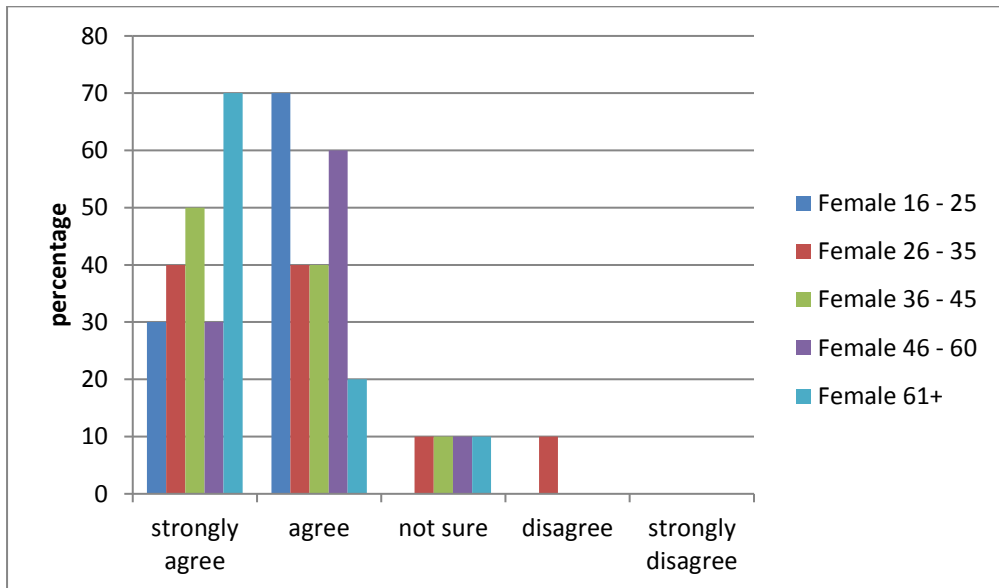


Recycling waste can improve tourism and cleaner air results in healthier people.

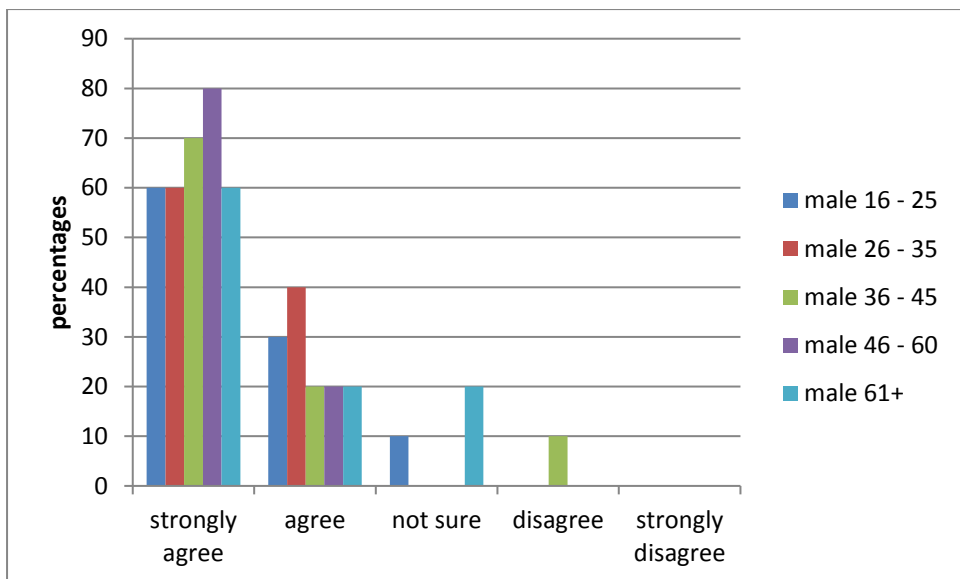
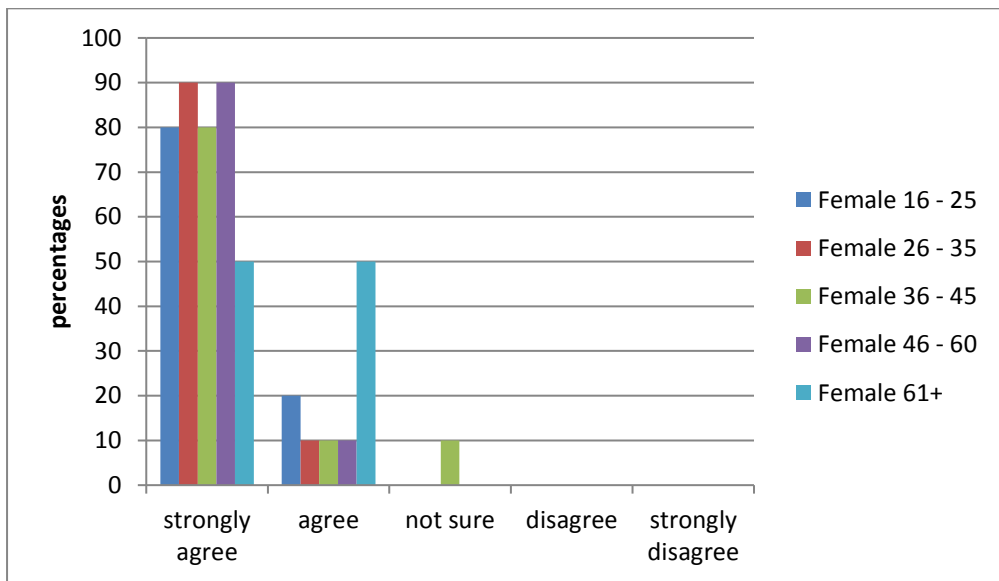




## Waste separation and disposal should be closely monitored

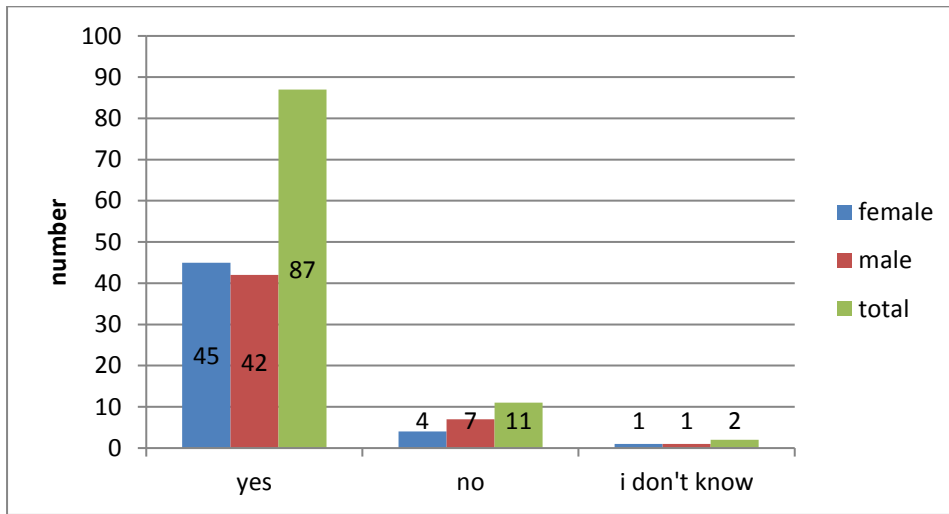


If everyone does their part, we can make a difference.

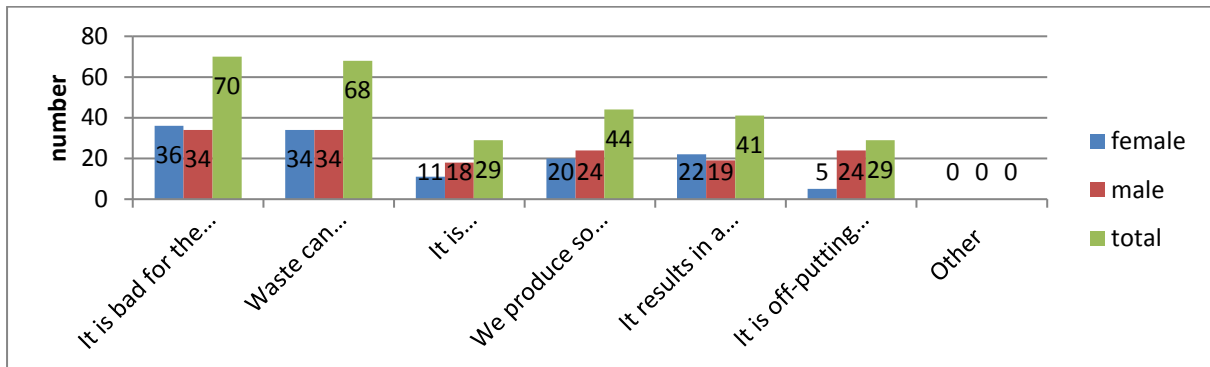


Total:

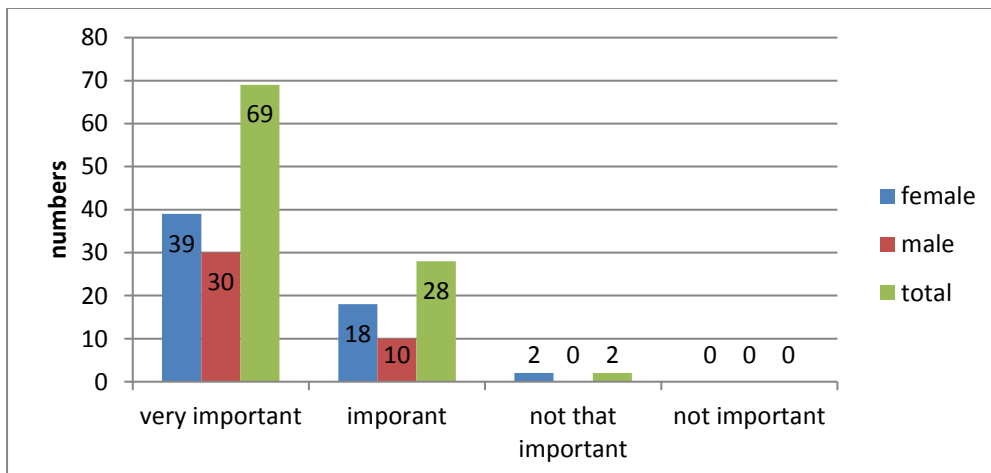
Question 3a.



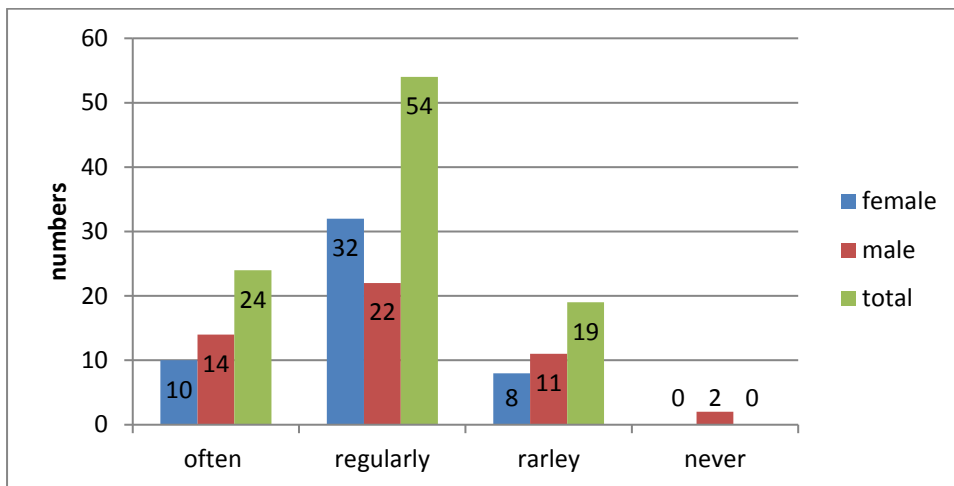
Question 3b.



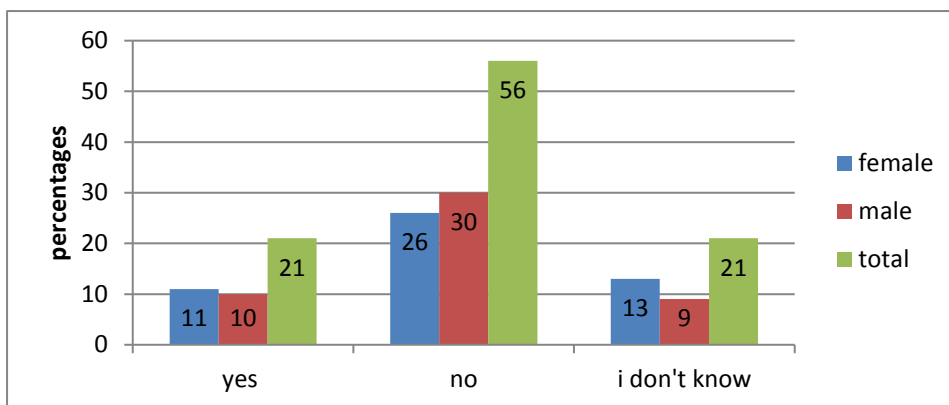
Question 4.



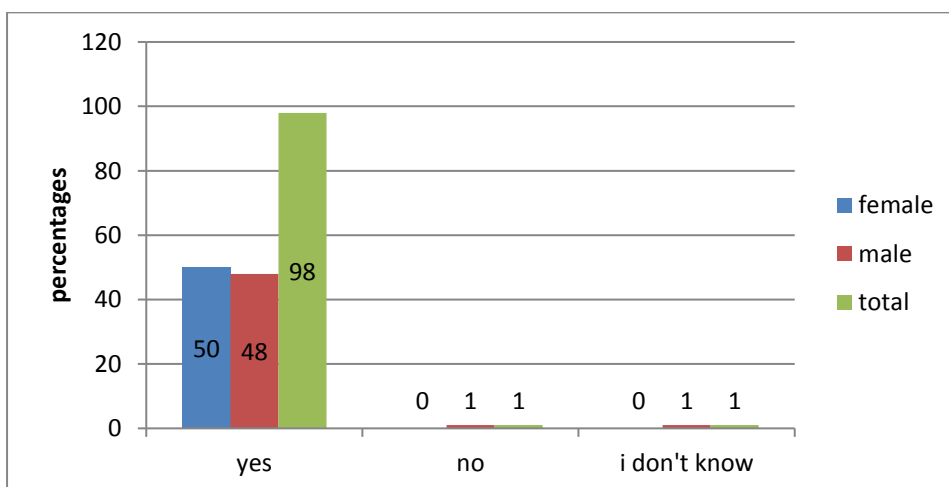
### Question 5a.



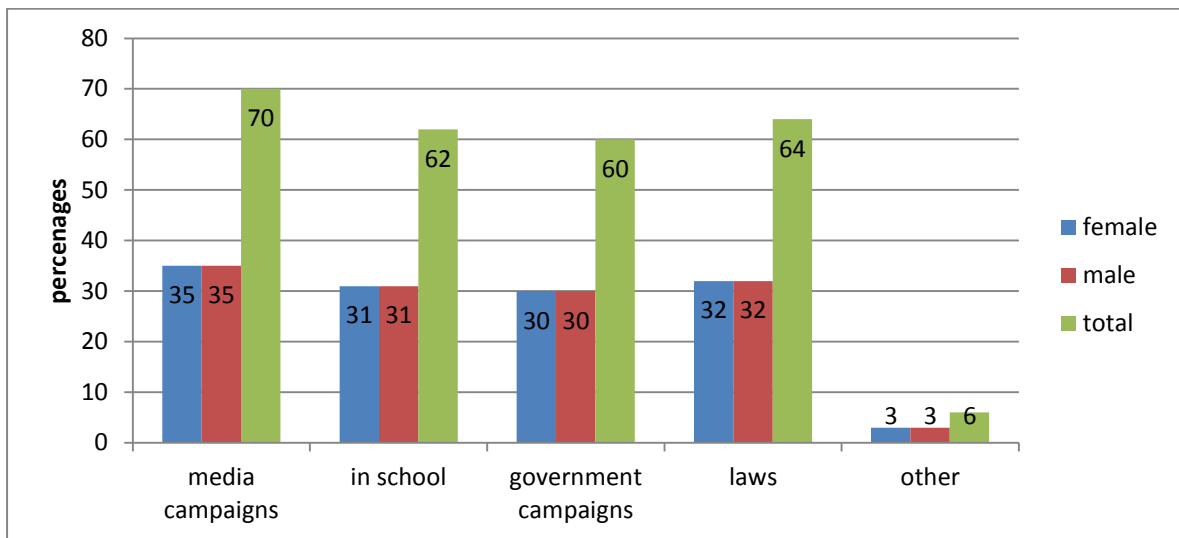
### Question 6a.



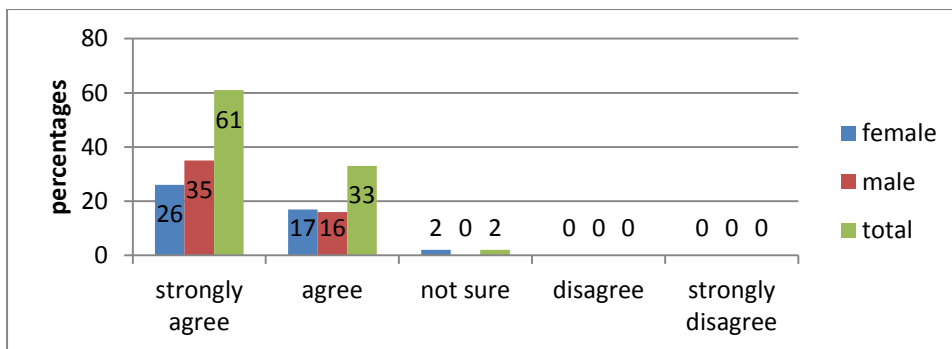
### Question 7a.



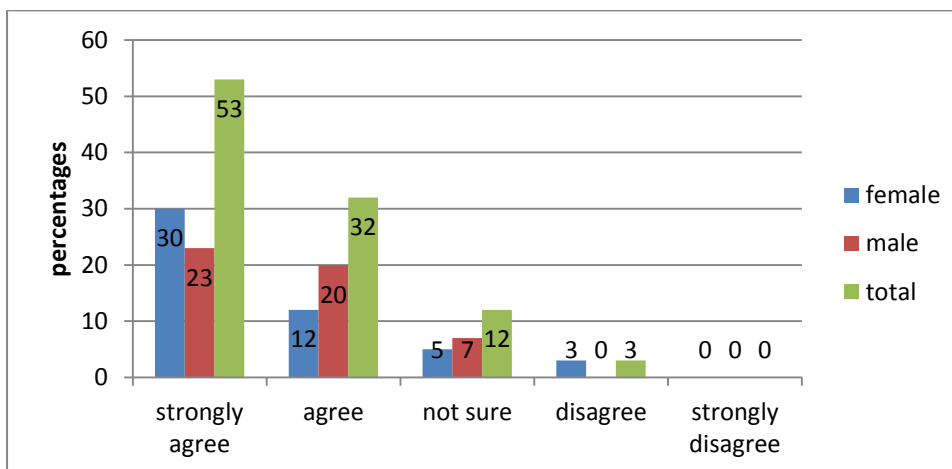
### Question 7b.



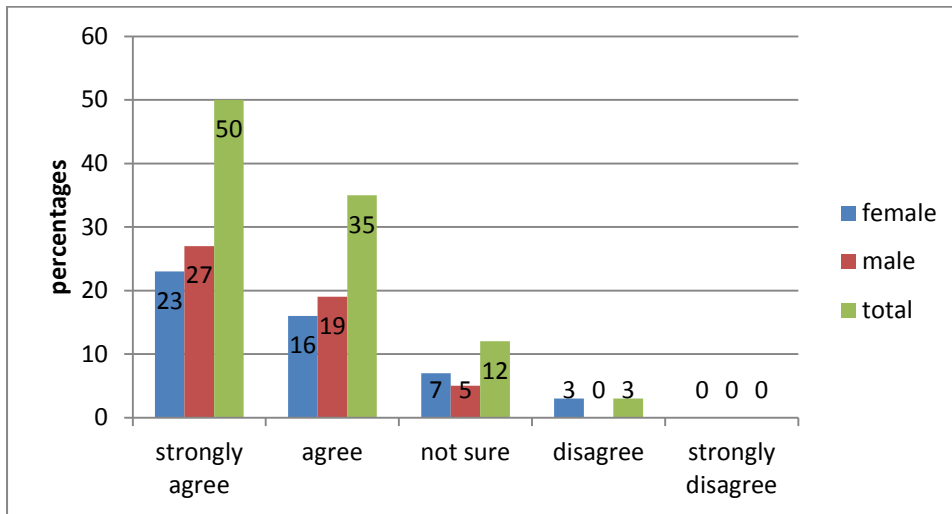
### Question 8a.



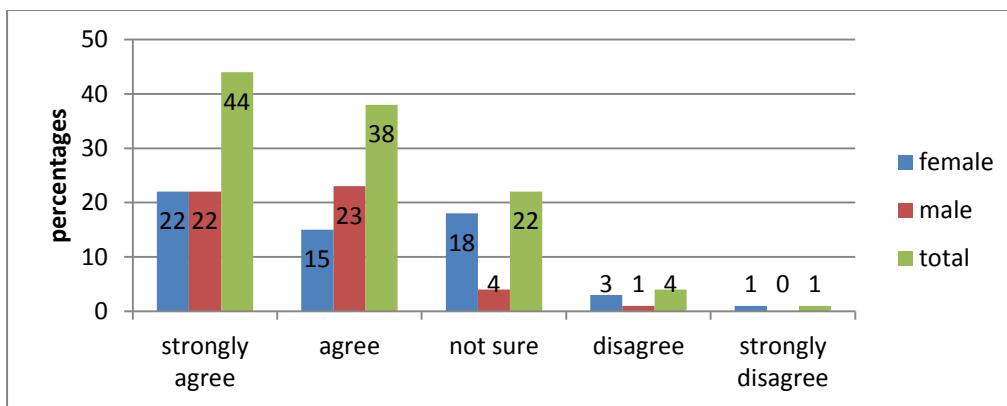
### Question 8b.



### Question 8c.



### Question 8d.



### Question 8e.

