

Perception on gender and the role of girls and boys in a post Covid scenario in Rajasthan



Budget Analysis and Research Centre Trust
(www.barctrust.org)

Objective

This initiative was anchored by BARC Trust, Jaipur and NSS, Rajasthan with the support of UNICEF to understand people's perception on gender and gender roles of girls and boys in the post Covid scenario in Rajasthan in 2022.

Methodology

- ☐ The perceptions were collated across 17 districts (Alwar, Barmer, Bikaner, Bharatpur, Churu, Dholpur, Dungarpur, Dausa, Jalore, Jaipur, Jodhpur, Kota, Nagaur, Pali, Sawai Madhopur, Sri Ganganagar, Udaipur) of Rajasthan.
- ☐ A tool was prepared to collect the first hand thoughts of boys, girls, men and boys in various age groups. The questions were put in a google form for ease of collation.
- ☐ The tool was administered by NSS volunteers of selected colleges of these districts. These NSS volunteers and their programme officers were oriented on the subject and their role before hand
- ☐ The collective analysis was shared back with the students of the respective colleges and formed the basis of their further deliberation on actions that can be led by them to address some of the issues identified.

Social Category, Age and Gender wise distribution of the Respondents

	Male					Female				
	Schedule Tribe	Schedule Caste	Other Backward Caste	General	Total	Schedule Tribe	Schedule Caste	Other Backward Caste	General	Total
11-14 year	31	65	242	159	497	42	51	208	137	438
15- 19 year	63	125	355	276	819	40	122	287	225	674
20-35 year	71	143	407	311	932	36	99	295	238	668
More than 35 year	32	109	306	232	679	16	113	255	205	589
Total	197	442	1310	978	2927	134	385	1045	805	2369

Social Category not stated - 26

Grand Total - 5322

Area, Age and Gender wise distribution of the Respondents

	Urban		Rural	
	Male	Female	Male	Female
11-14 years	278	223	217	215
15-19 years	494	383	327	293
20-35 years	529	389	406	280
More than 35 years	385	324	293	266
Total	1686	1319	1243	1054

Area of living not stated= 20

Grand Total - 5322

Findings of the study

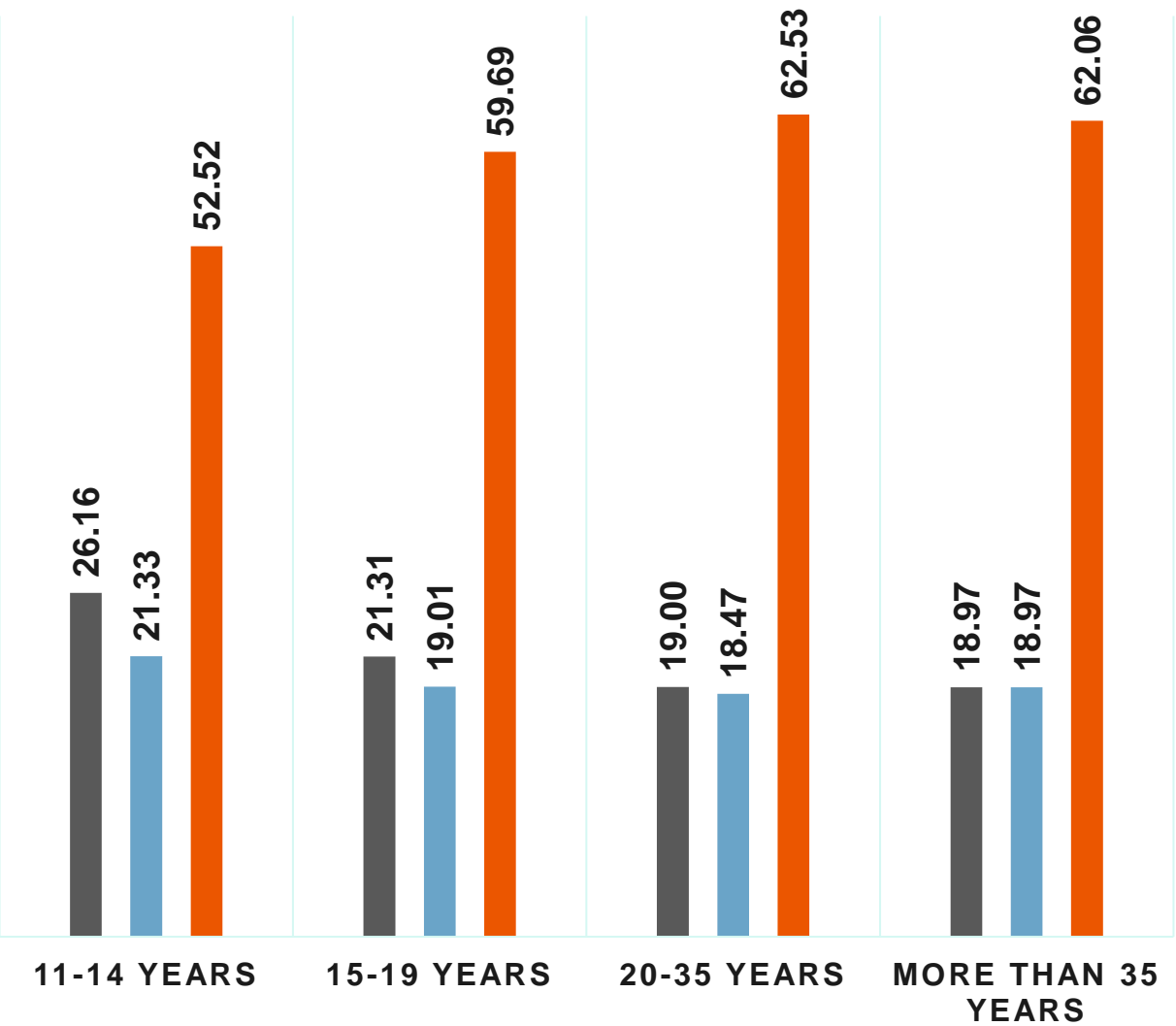
- We present here the findings of the study.
- The findings have been categorised according to the various gender issues like masculinity, control over the women's lives, vistas of opportunity or challenges in taking benefits of the opportunities for women, decision making, and finally, violence against women.

Masculinity - Still a strong value?

S. If someone hurts the honor of a boy / man, then he should fight strongly in every way. (अगर कोई किसी लड़के/पुरुष के सम्मान को ठेस पहुंचाता है तो, वह उसका हर तरह से डटकर मुकाबला करे)

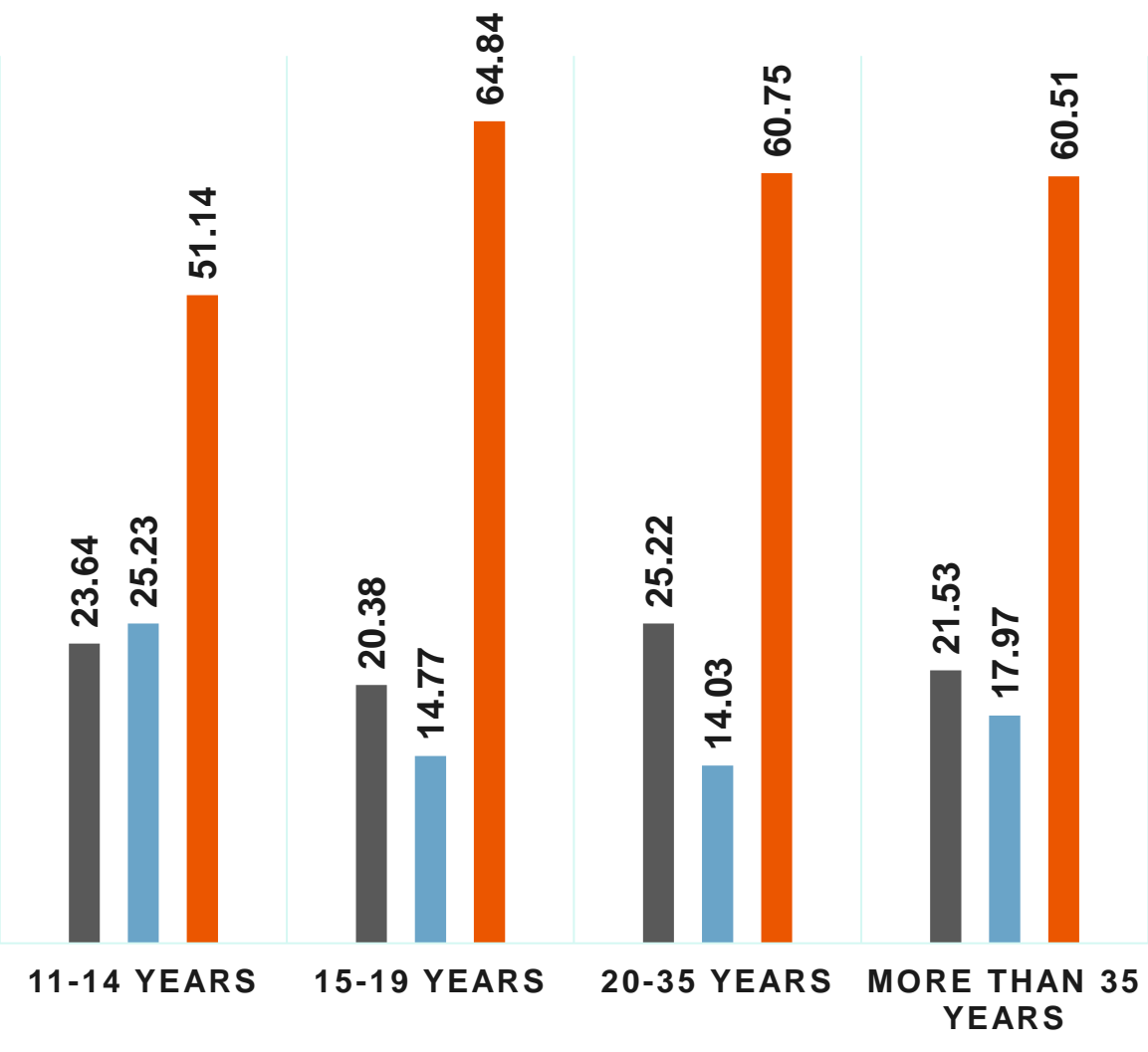
MALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree

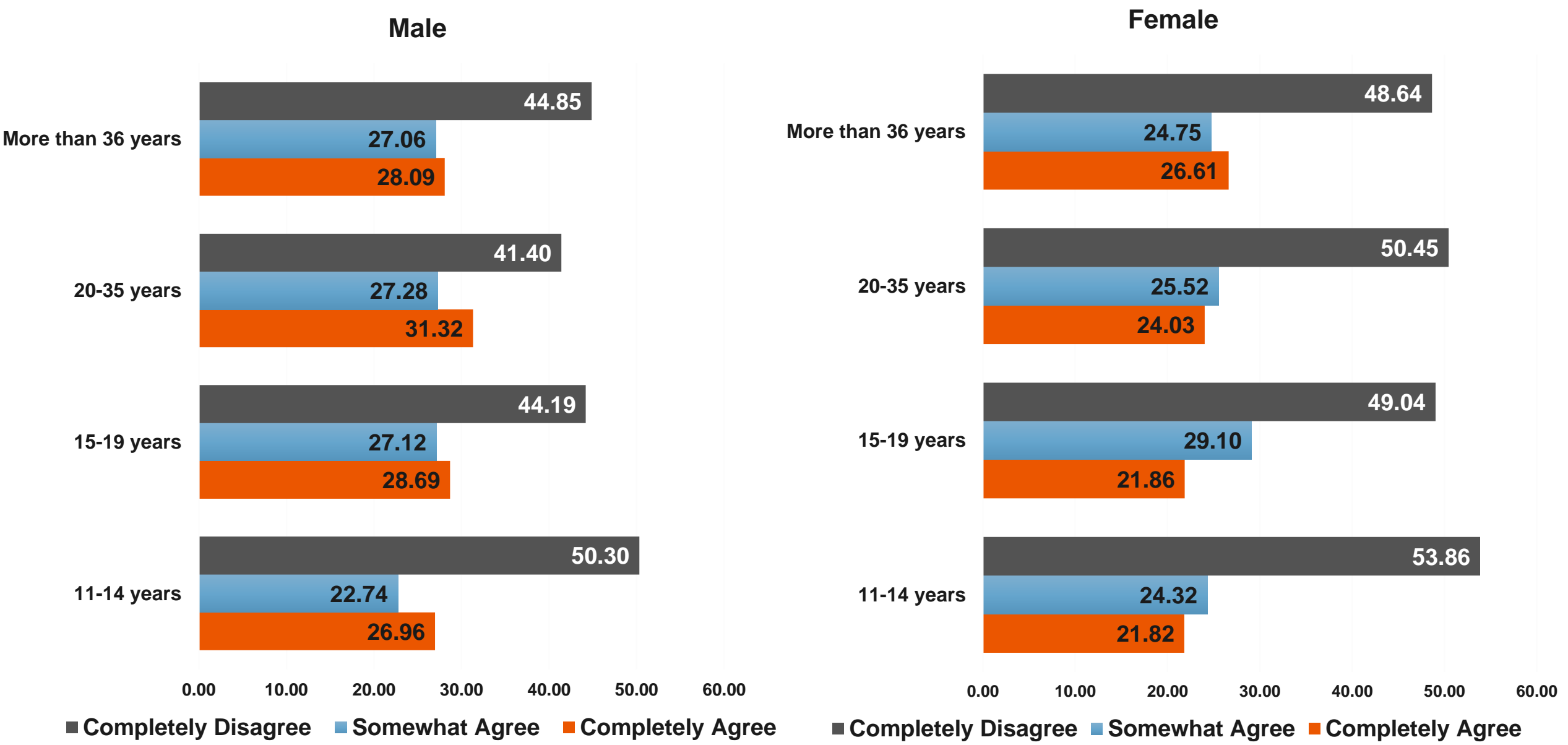


FEMALE

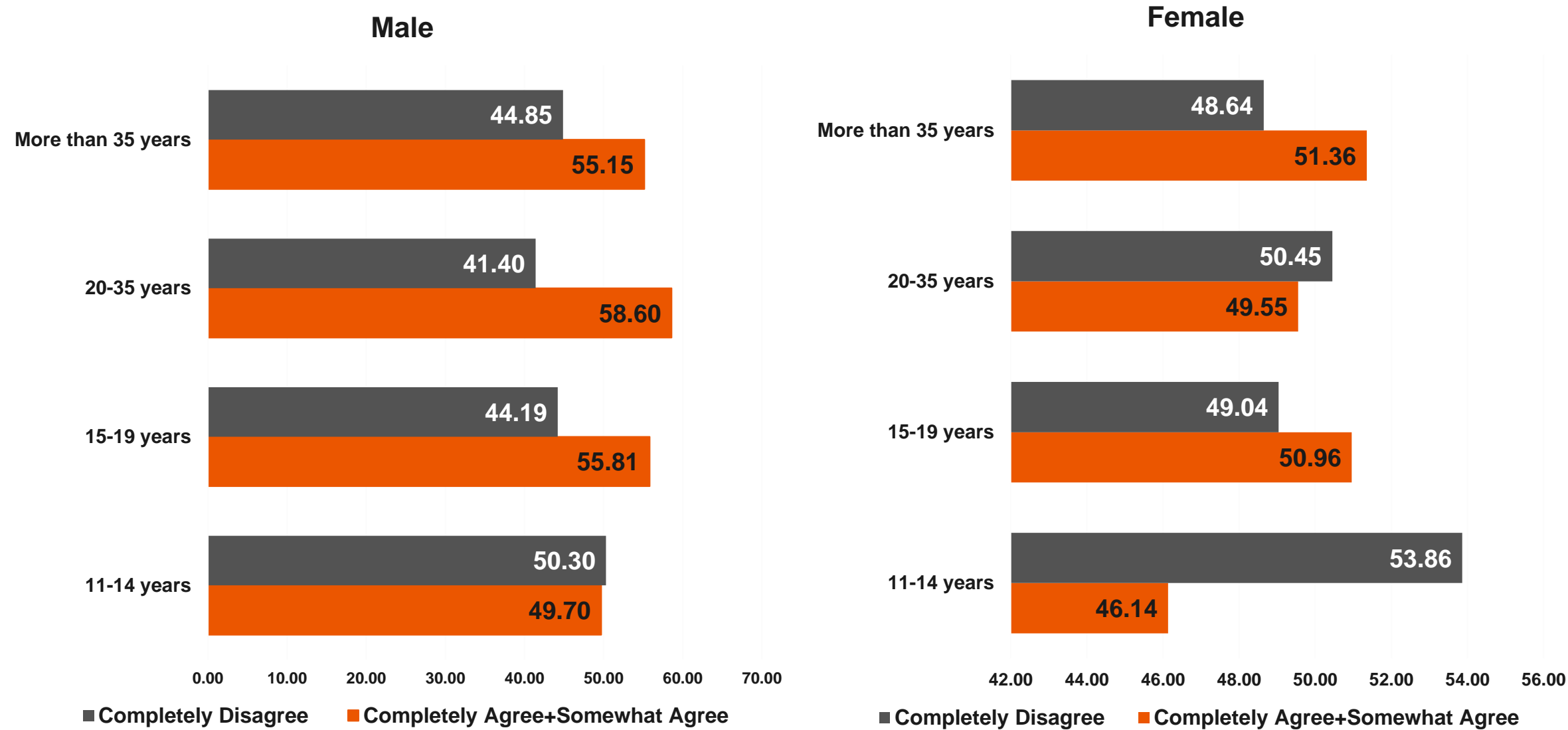
■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree



S. It is a sign of a weak person to retreat in the event of a fight.(किसी लड़ाई या झगड़े की स्थिति में पीछे हटना, कमज़ोर लोगों की पहचान है)



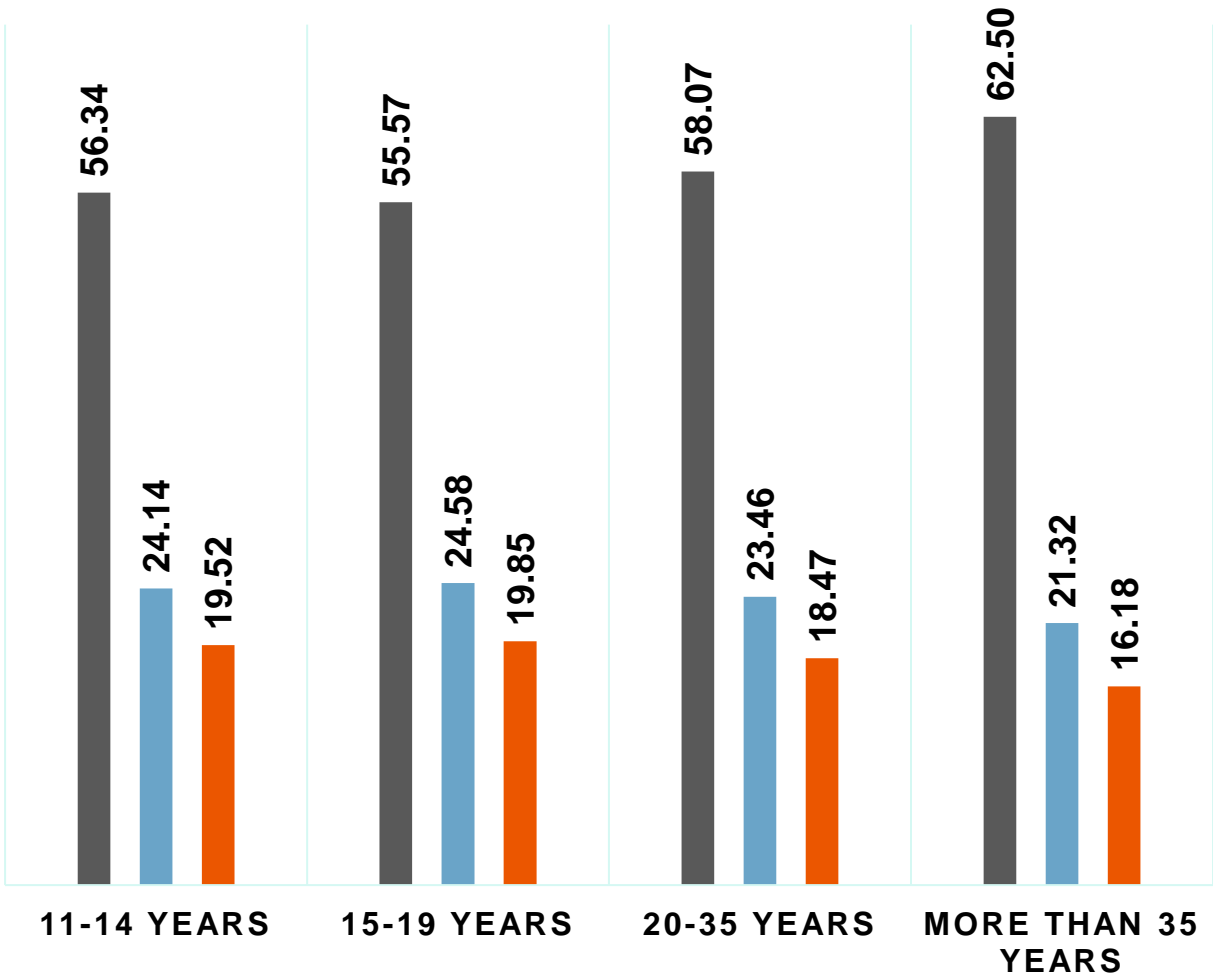
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S. There are only two possible options to settle a fight... either hit or get beaten by someone. (झगड़े को सुलझाने के लिए, केवल 2 विकल्प ही होते हैं... या तो पिटाई करें या पिट जाएँ।)

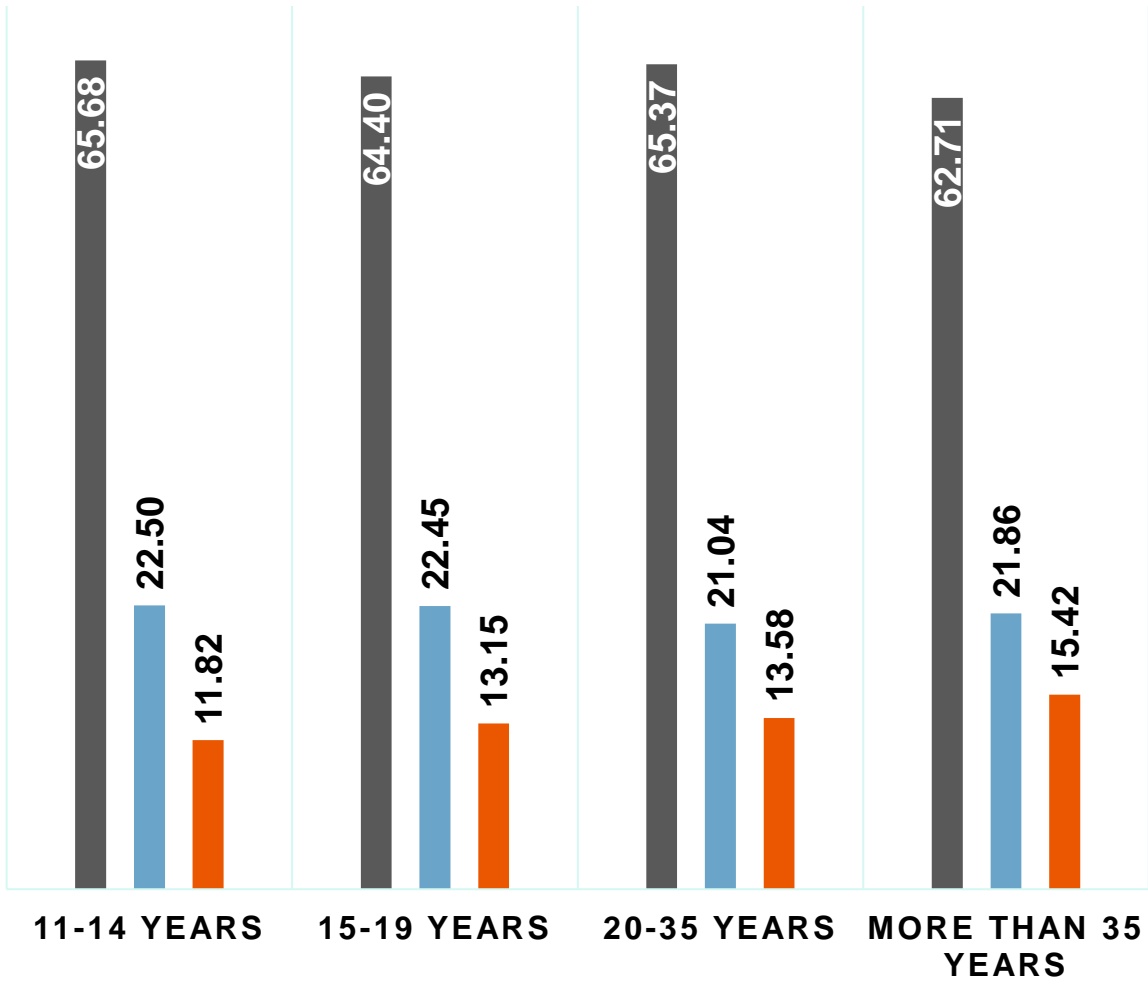
MALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree

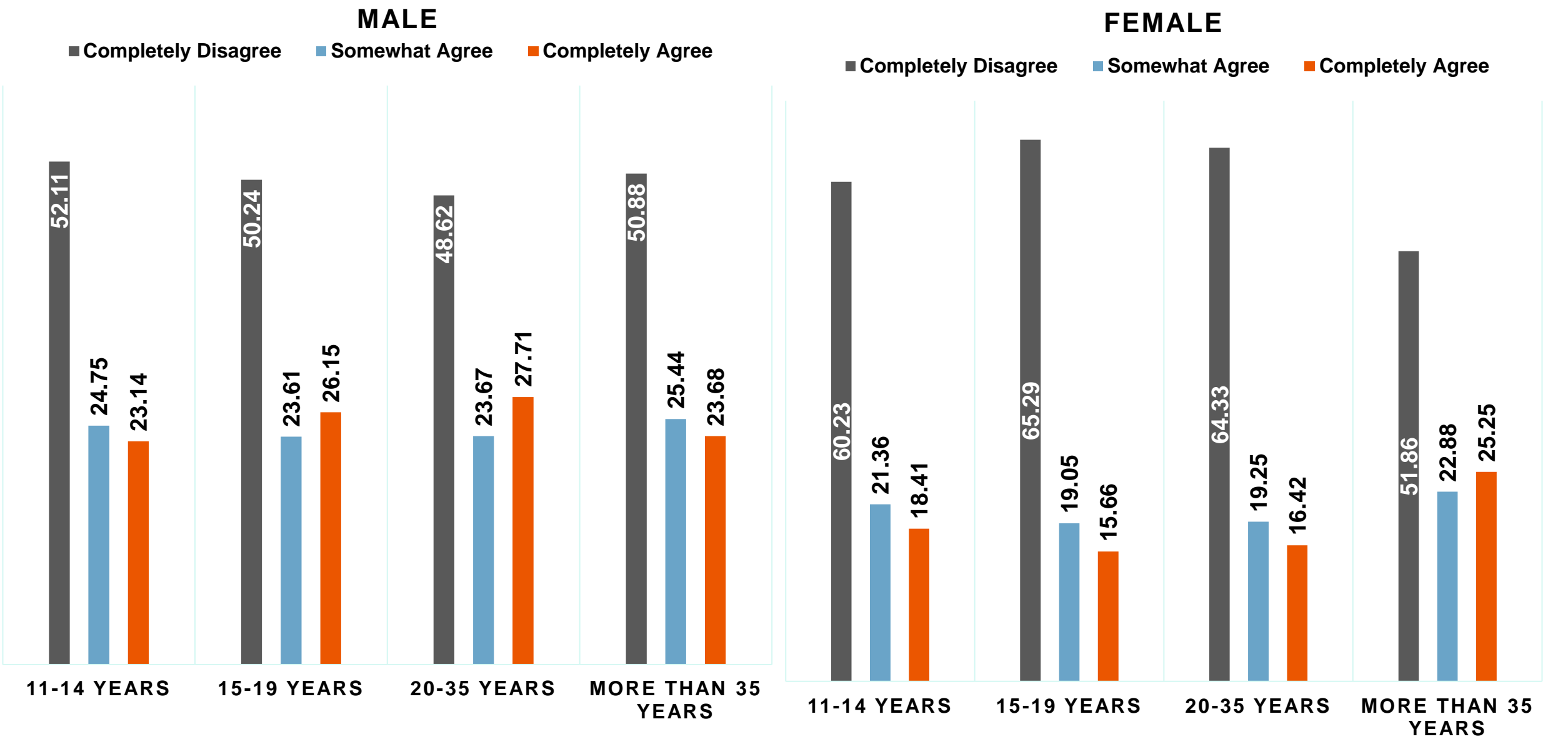


FEMALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree

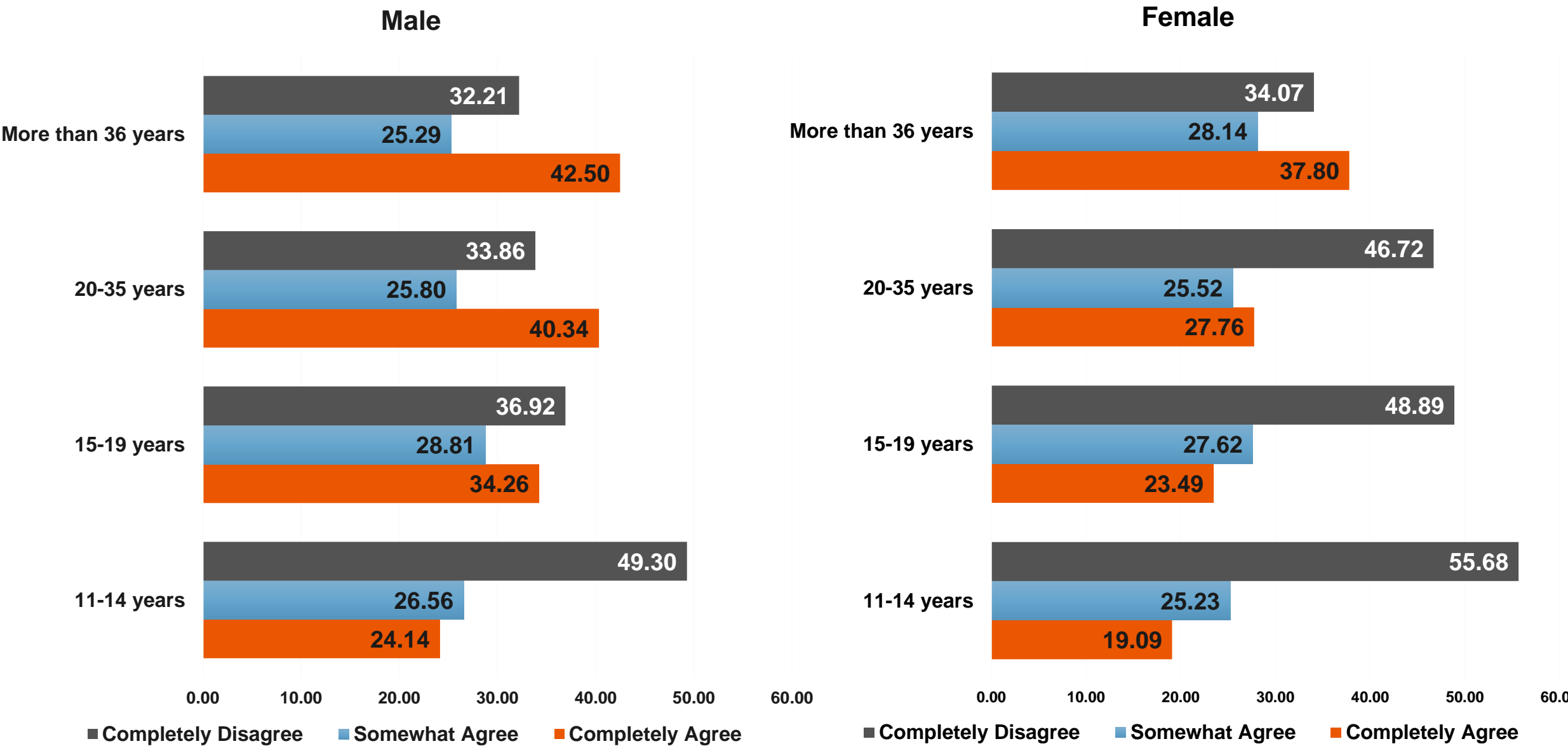


S. The real men are tough and strong. (असली पुरुष वह ही कहलाते हैं जो कड़क और ताकतवर होते हैं |)

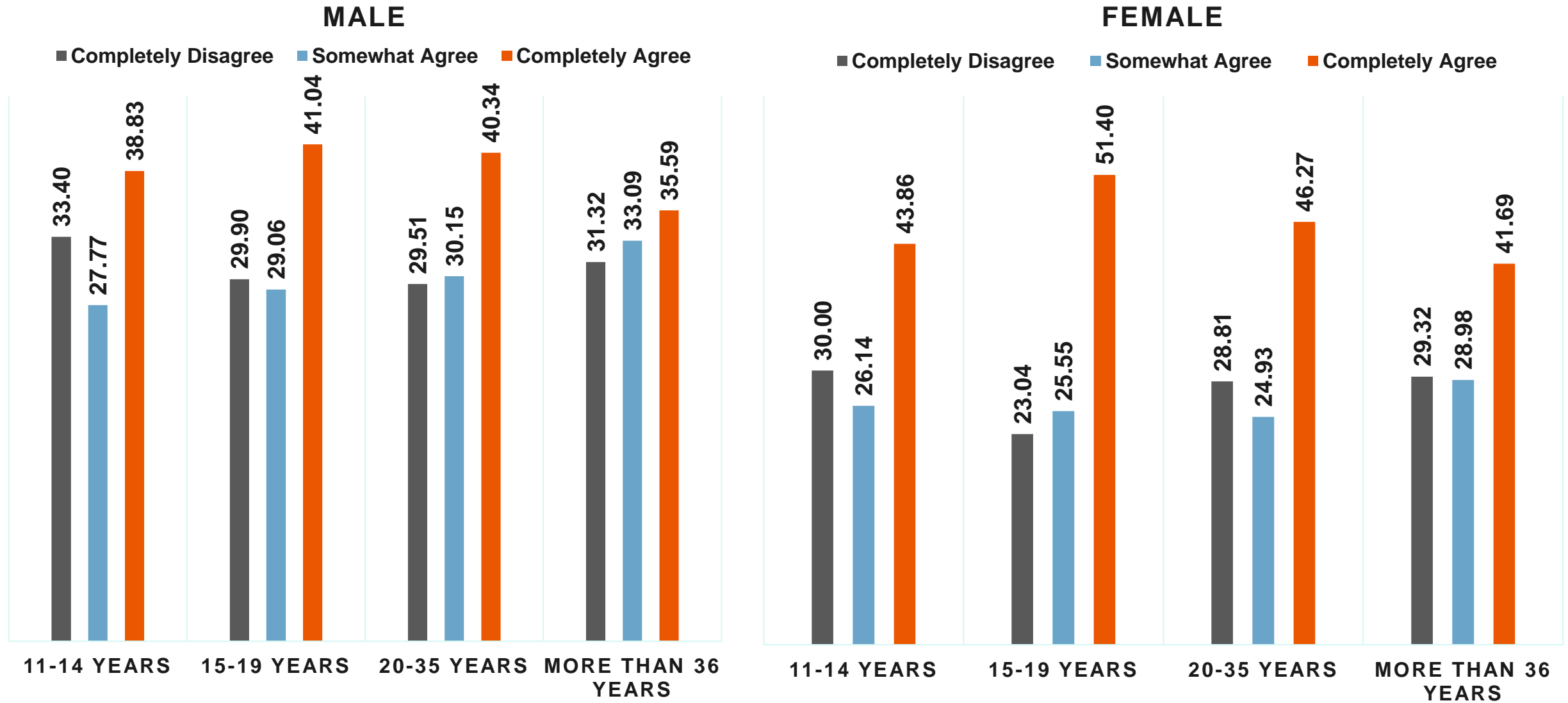


S. Men should earn more than working women of their homes.

(पुरुषों को अपने घर की कामकाजी महिलाओं से अधिक कमाना चाहिए)

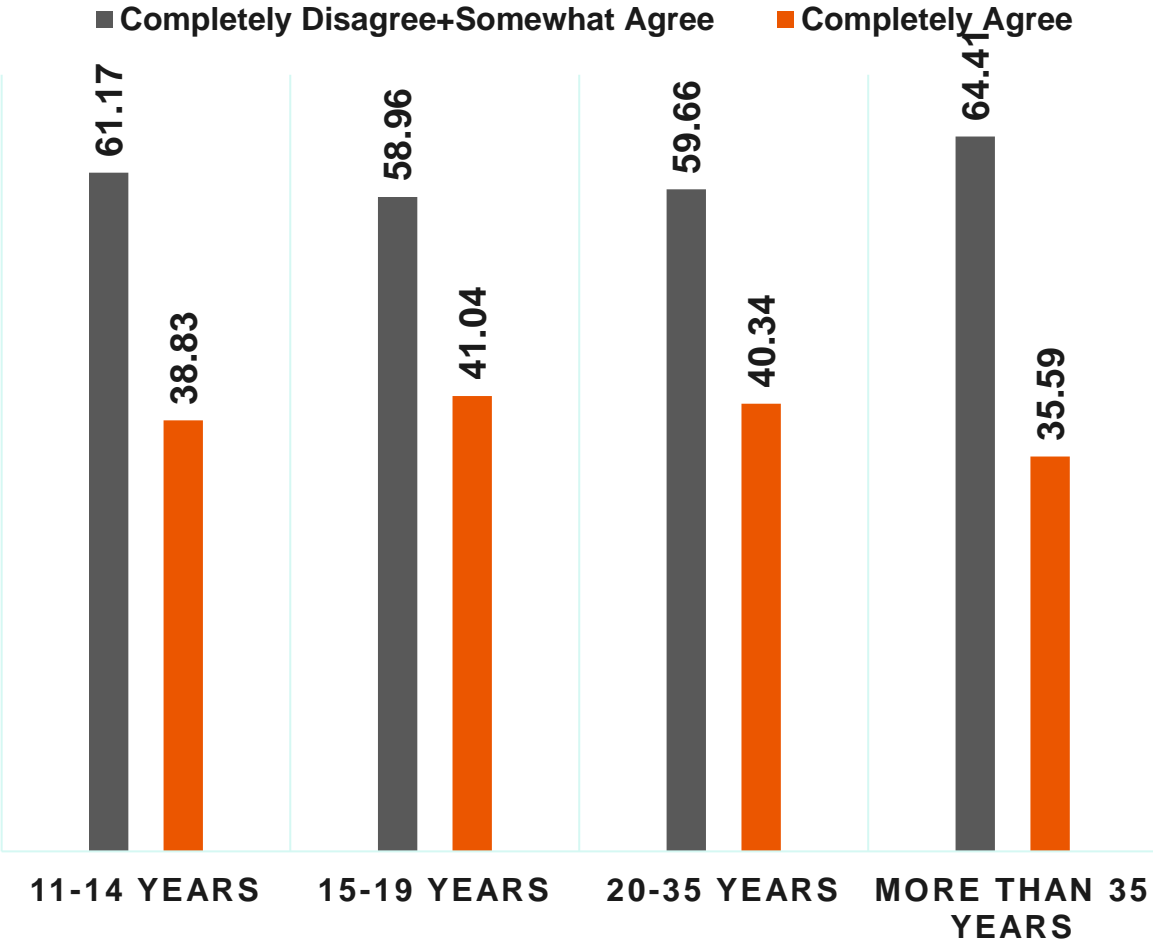


S. Generally, parents can still depend on their daughter for their financial needs even after her marriage. (आमतौर पर बेटी की शादी के बाद भी माता-पिता अपनी वित्तीय आवश्यकताओं के लिए बेटी पर निर्भर रह सकते हैं)

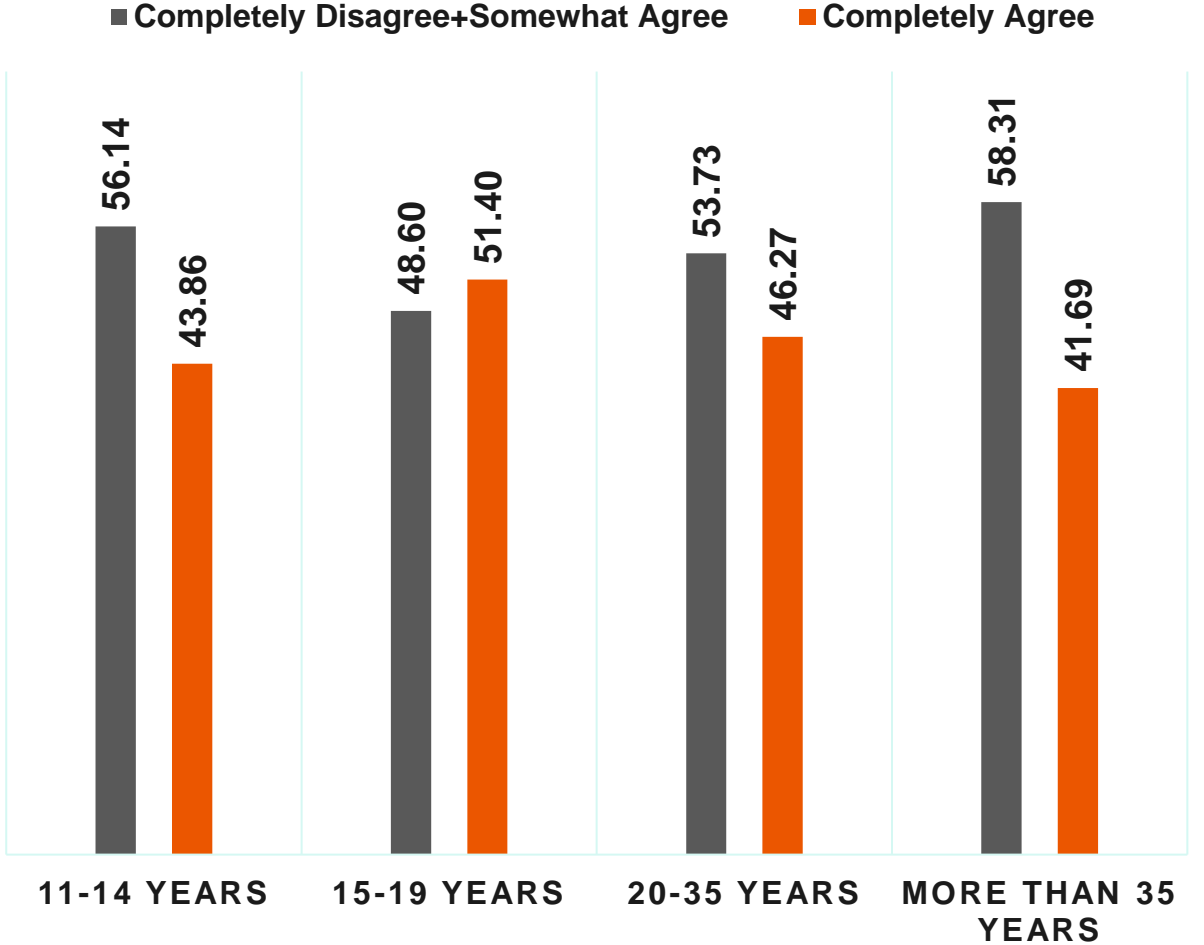


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MALE



FEMALE



Parents can depend on married daughters Vs. Boys should be educated more than girls because boys can support in old age

Parents can depend on married daughters ↓	Boys should be educated more than girls because boys can support in old age →	Male Respondents			Total
		Completely Agree	Somewhat Agree	Completely Disagree	
Completely Agree		531	297	326	1154
Somewhat Agree		269	443	175	887
Completely Disagree		322	221	361	904
Total		1122	961	862	2945

Parents can depend on married daughters ↓	Boys should be educated more than girls because boys can support in old age →	Female Respondents			Total
		Completely Agree	Somewhat Agree	Completely Disagree	
Completely Agree		404	260	433	1097
Somewhat Agree		160	323	143	626
Completely Disagree		175	150	329	654
Total		739	733	905	2377

Parents can depend on married daughters Vs Boys education should be given priority over girls education

Parents can depend on married daughters ↓	Boys education should be given priority over girls education →	Male Respondents			Total
		Completely Agree	Somewhat Agree	Completely Disagree	
Completely Agree		368	203	583	1154
Somewhat Agree		162	363	362	887
Completely Disagree		189	241	474	904
Total		719	807	1419	2945
Parents can depend on married daughters ↓	Boys education should be given priority over girls education →	Female Respondents			Total
		Completely Agree	Somewhat Agree	Completely Disagree	
Completely Agree		226	129	742	1097
Somewhat Agree		104	258	264	626
Completely Disagree		83	176	395	654
Total		413	563	1401	2377

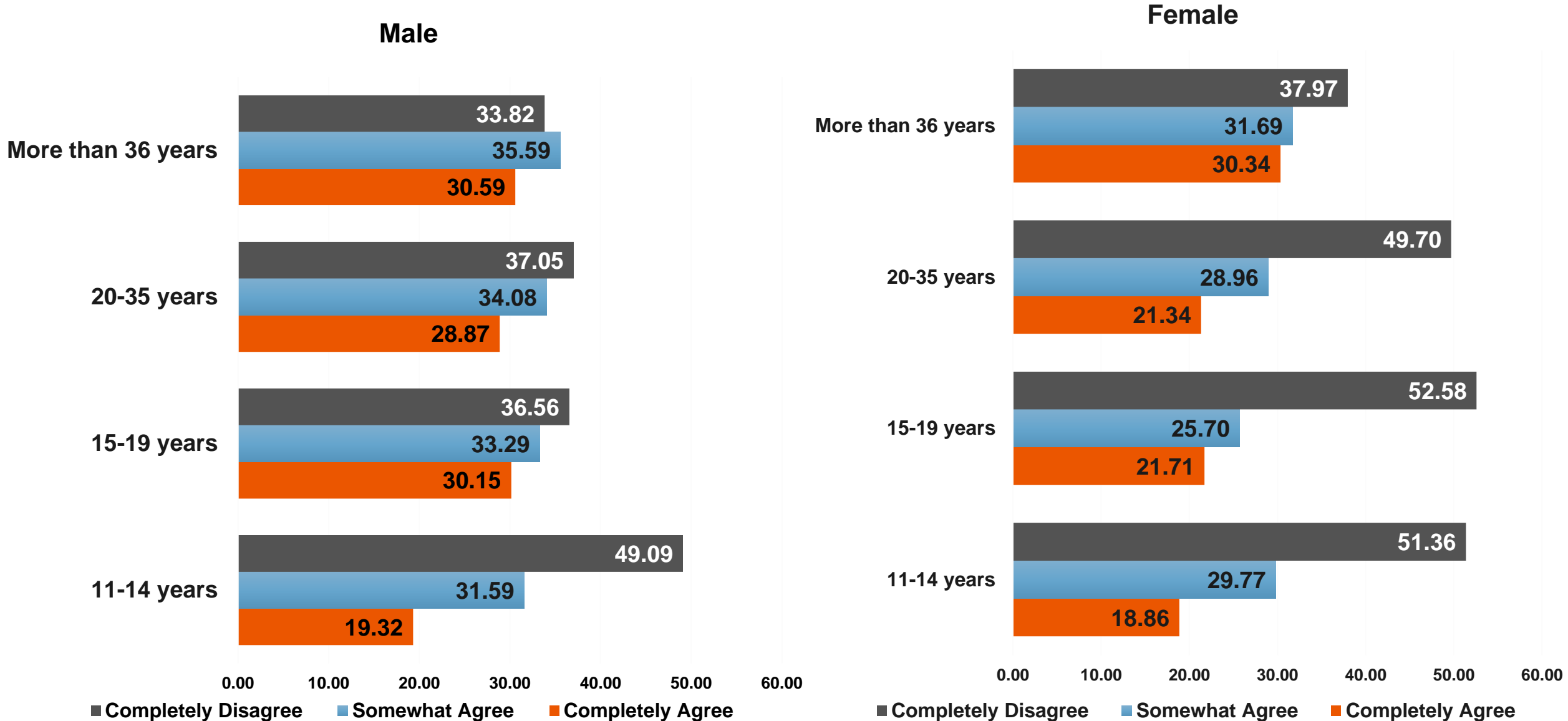
- The research results show that violence is not supported as a means of conflict resolution by both men (58%) and women (64%). Slightly more of the adolescent and youth (11 to 35 years) males seem to support adopting violence than the older males.
- Also, toughness or strength is not seen as a sign of masculinity by half of the men (50 %) and majority of women (60%) respondents. However, more of the youth (15 to 35 years) and more of older women (more than 35 years) seem to admire the toughness and strength in men.
- Still when it comes to the honour of men, both men (59%) and women (60%) seem to be thinking that it still needs to be protected, even by force. Also, this gets reinforced as the men grow older, as more of the older men (20 to 35 years and more than 35 years) believe in protecting honour anyhow.

- One place where there is a clear distinction between the mindset of men and women is financial matters. Way more women (46%) than men (36%) disagree with the statement that men in the family should earn more than them. Also, more women (46%) than men (39%) believe that it is alright for them to support their parents financially after getting married.
- These findings are telling signs that women do not see earning more than their male counterparts as demeaning and they are comfortable being the primary breadwinners of the family. Also, these findings tell that the patriarchal conception of women being a *paraya dhan* is losing its appeal among women.

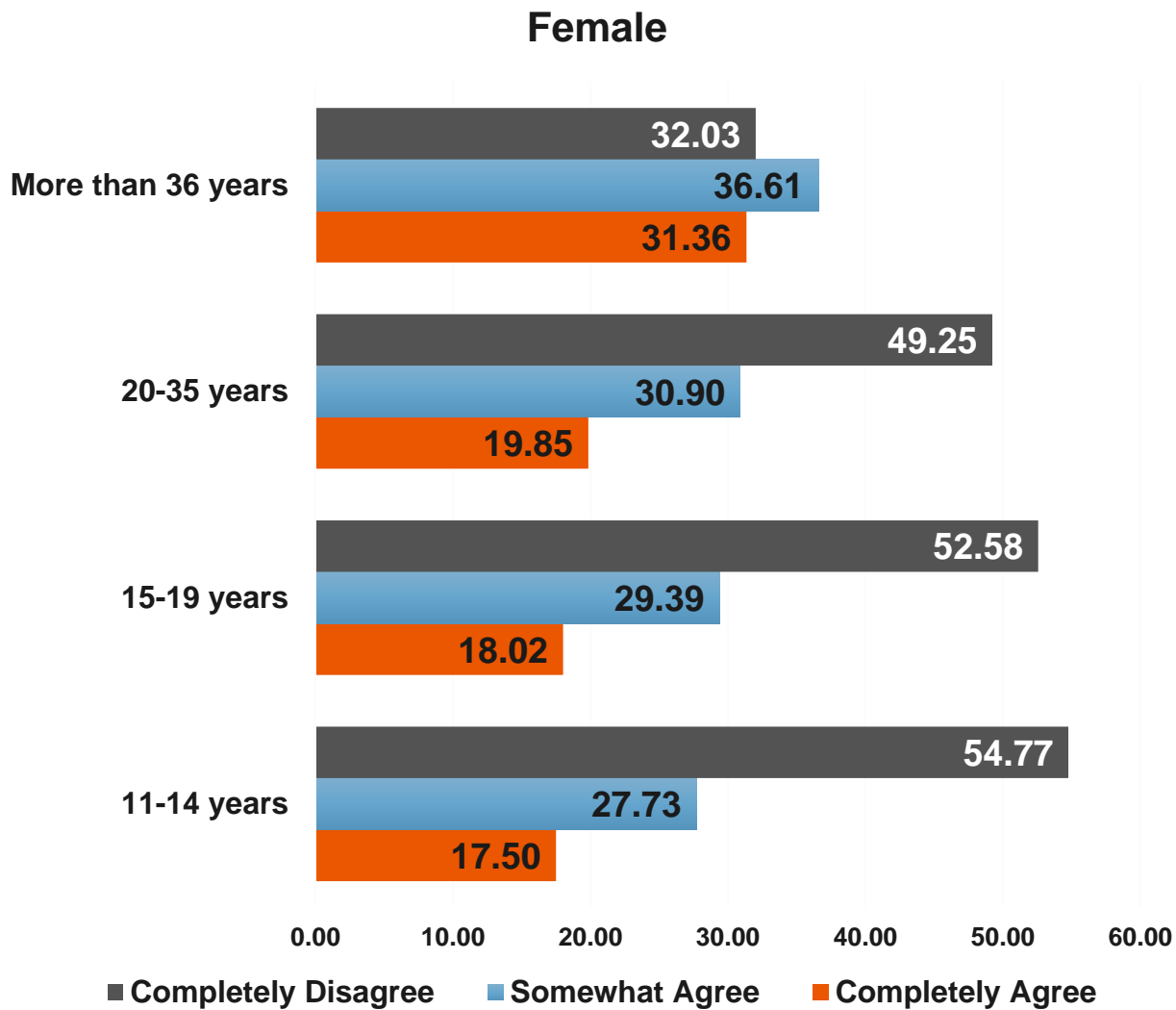
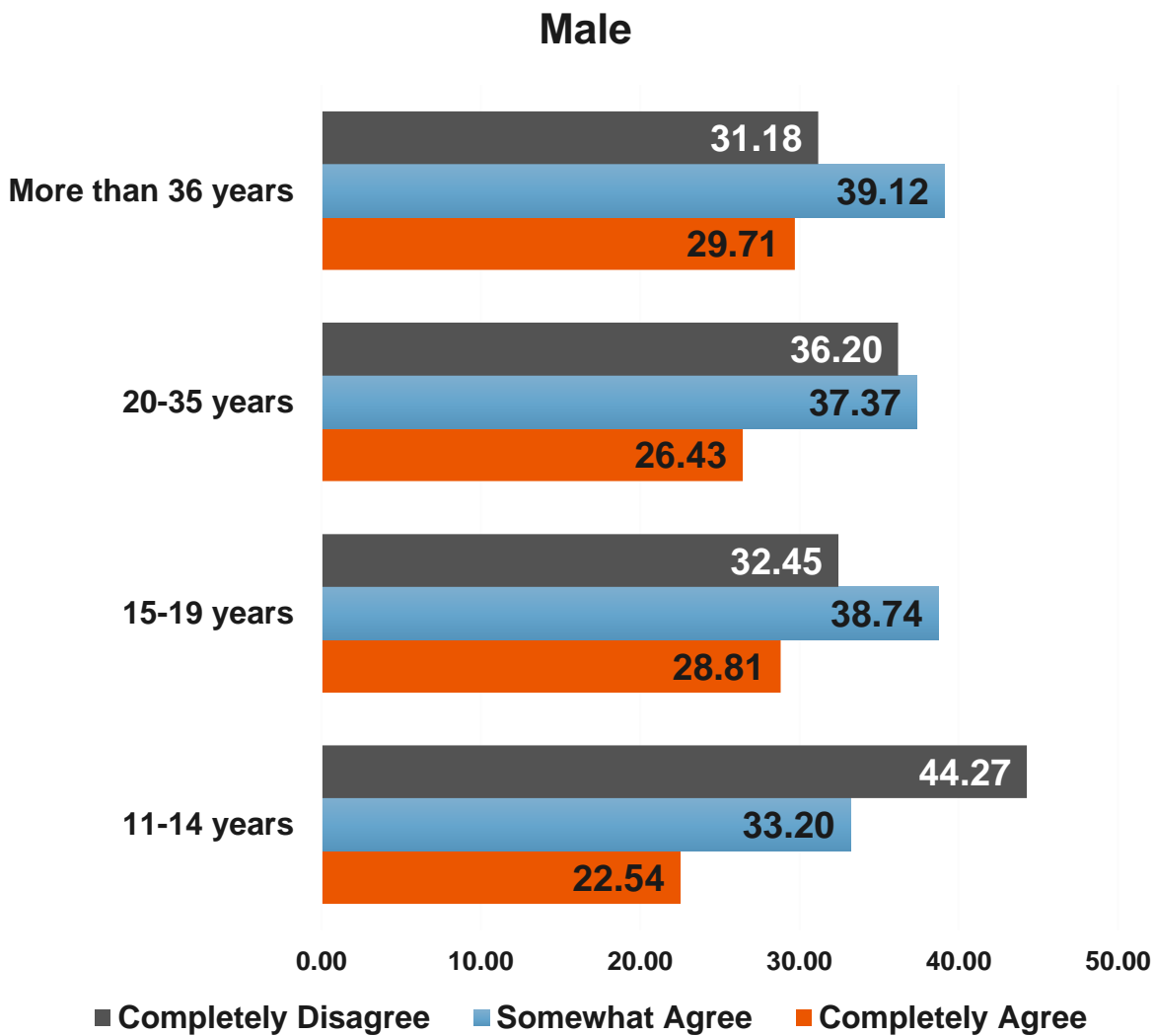
Who controls women's lives?

S. Women and girls need someone to protect them throughout their lives.

(महिलाओं और लड़कियों को जीवनभर संरक्षण देने वाले की आवश्यकता होती ही है)



S. Girls often get involved in unwanted relationships when they get mobile phones, which hurts the prestige and honor of the family. (लड़कियों को मोबाइल मिलने पर लड़कियाँ अक्सर अवांछित रिश्तों में फंस जाती हैं, जिससे परिवार की प्रतिष्ठा और सम्मान को ठेस पहुँचती है)

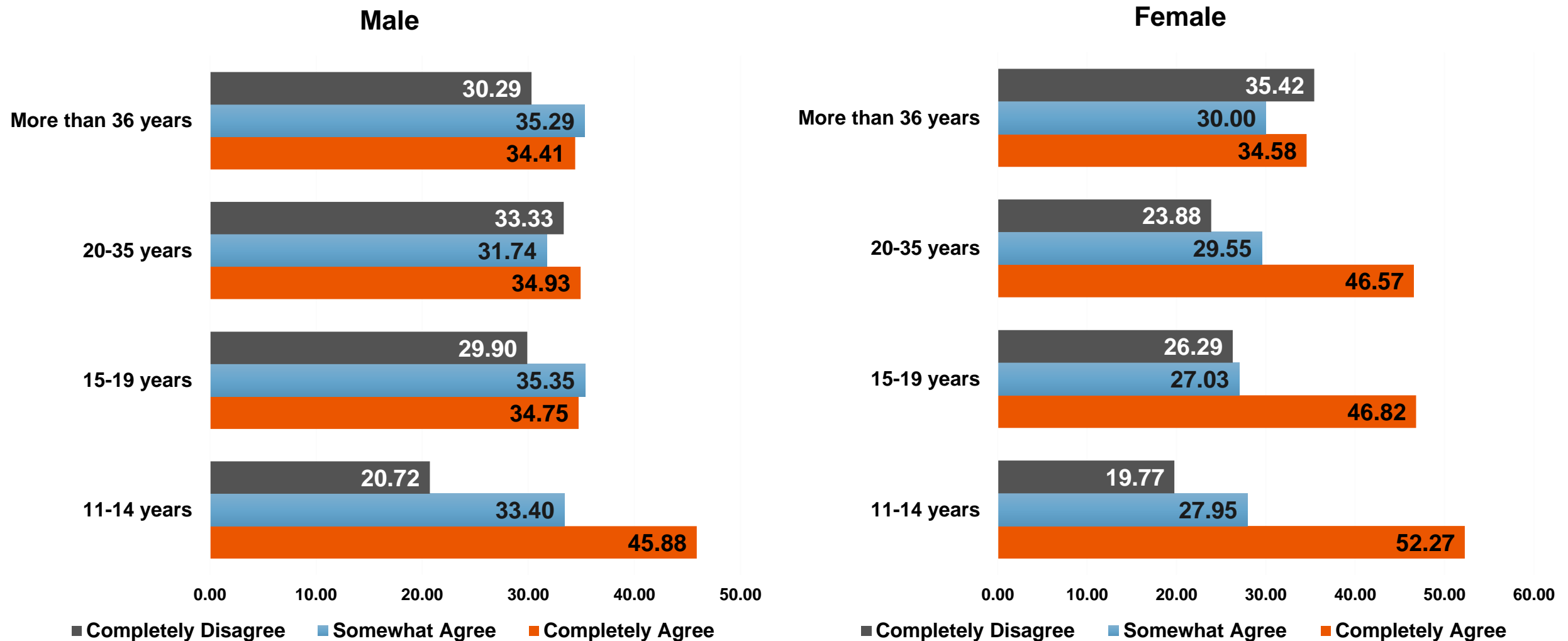


- **These findings show that women and girls are still not trusted with their independence and there is a strong tendency of controlling them.**
- **Interestingly the women themselves, though less than men, believe that they needed to be controlled. Almost 23% of women completely agree that they need protection through out their lives while almost 29% of them somewhat agree with it.**
- **However, it is the women in the older age group, i.e. women more than 35 years old have the highest (35%) agreement with the above notion than women in younger age groups like 11-14 year (18%), 15-19 year(21%) and 20-35 year(21%).**
- **Similarly, 22% of women and girls completely agree and 31% somewhat agree that giving mobile phones to girls will lead them to get into unwanted relationships which will bring disrespect to their families.**
- **Here too, women in the older age group, i.e. more than 35 years (31%) old have the highest agreement with the above notion than women in younger age groups like 11-14 years (17%), 15-19 years (18%) and 20-35 year (19%).**

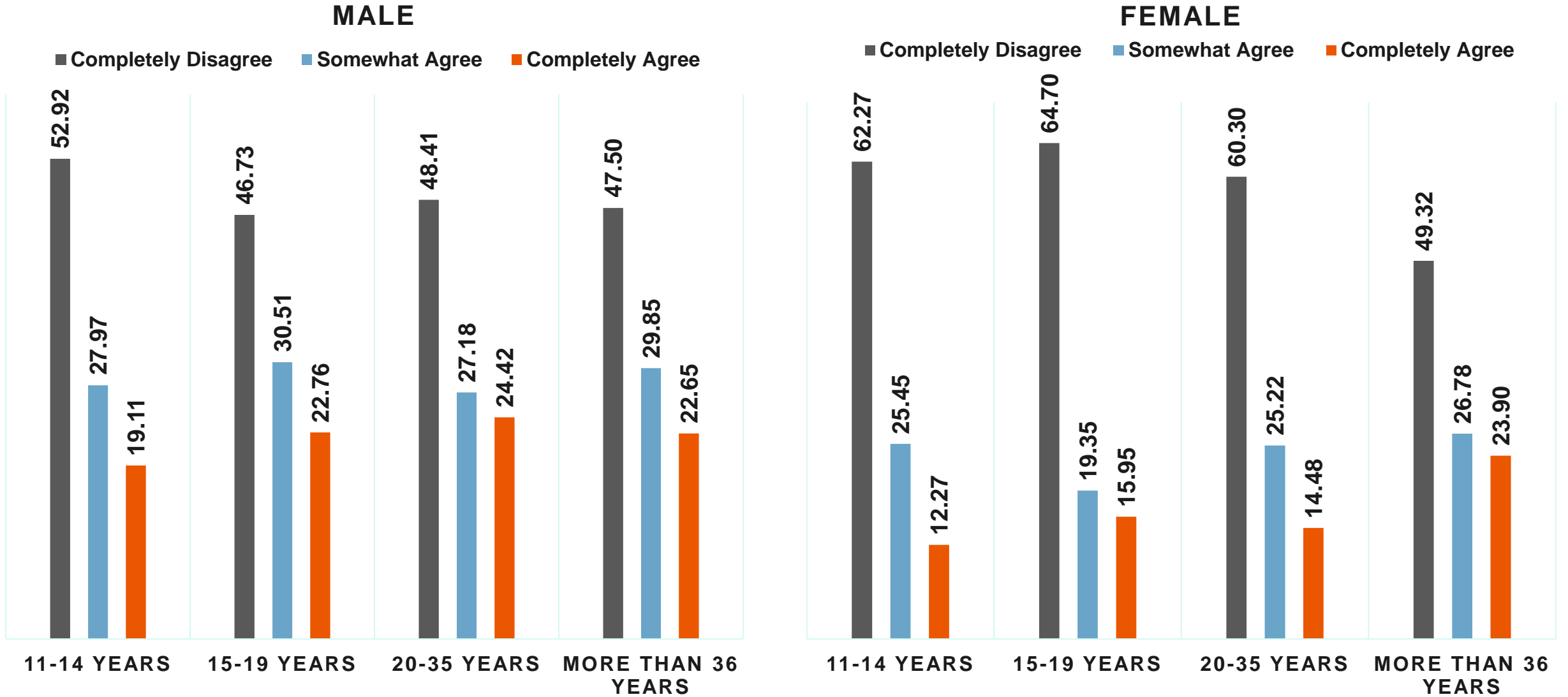
- **There is a clear distinction between the level of freedom associated with boys and girls. More percentage of men believe that girls (55%) should take permission before going out of the home than boys (50%). Though it is same for both boys and girls (50%) in case of women respondents.**
- **It is important to mention here that with decreasing age of the respondents, the believe in the notion of seeking permission before going out is also coming down for both boys and girls. However, this decrease in percentage is more for boys than for girls.**
- **This shows the double standard nature of our society where there are different rules for boys and girls.**

Vistas of opportunities: Role of women/girls in society

S. Teaching and nursing are the most suitable jobs for girls as they can balance it well with their domestic responsibilities. (लड़कियों के लिए पढ़ाने का काम और नर्स का काम सबसे उपयुक्त नौकरी है क्योंकि इससे वे अपनी घरेलू जिम्मेदारियों के साथ भी अच्छे से संतुलन बनाए रख सकती हैं।)

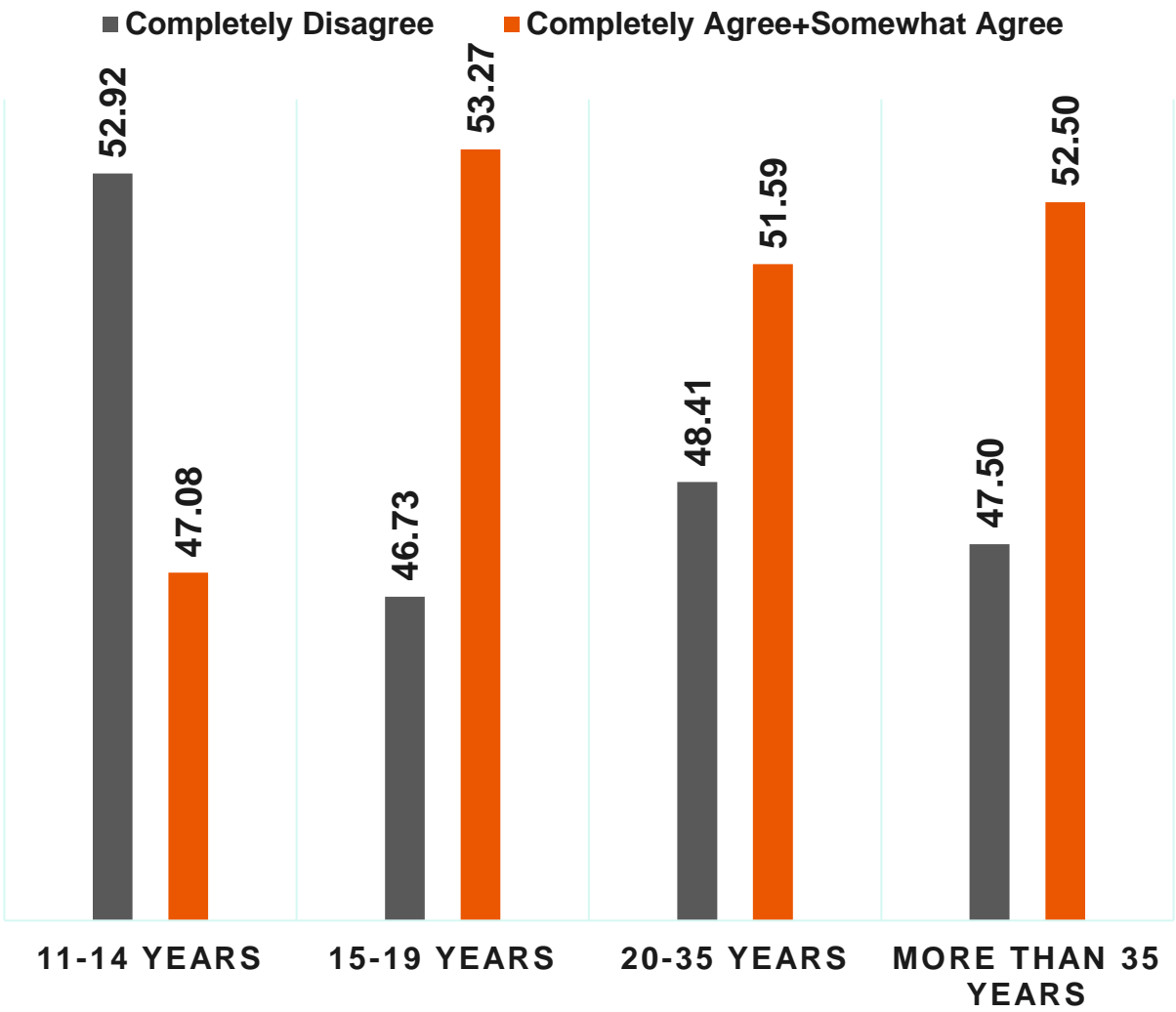


S. It is a girl's job to help with household chores like cleaning, cooking, taking care of siblings.
(घर के काम में हाथ बंटाने के काम, जैसे - सफाई करना, खाना बनाना, भाई-बहन की देखभाल करना एक लड़की का काम है।)

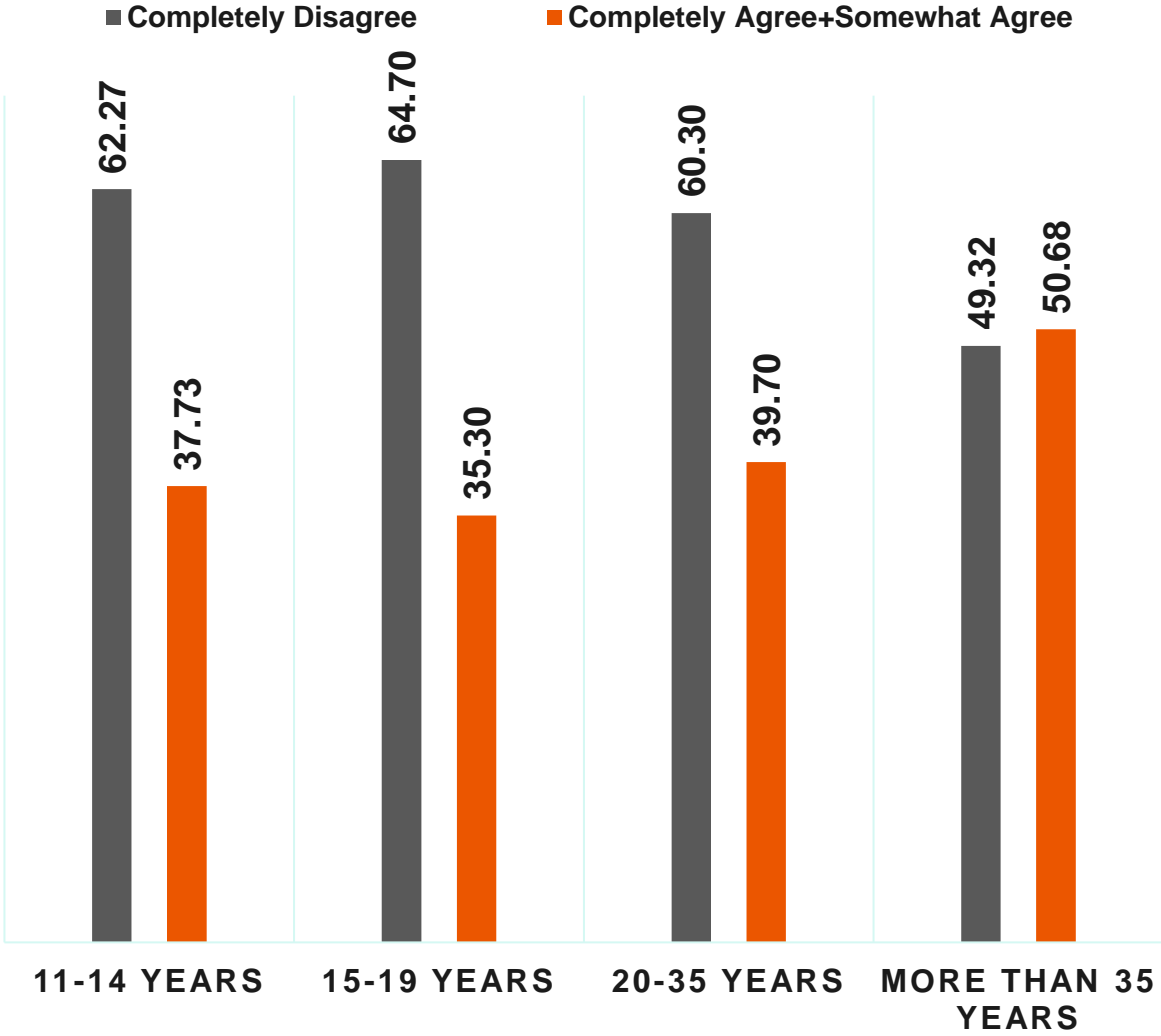


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MALE

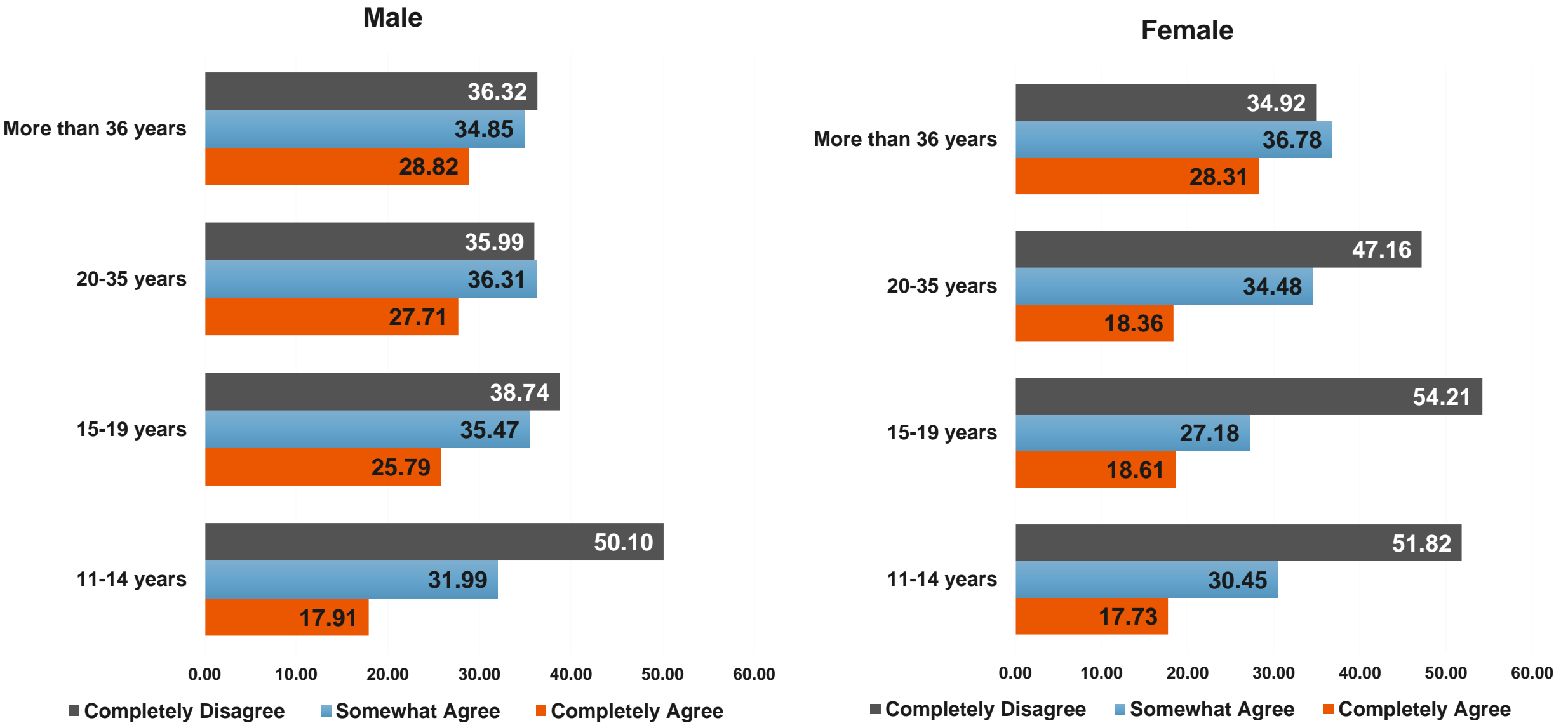


FEMALE

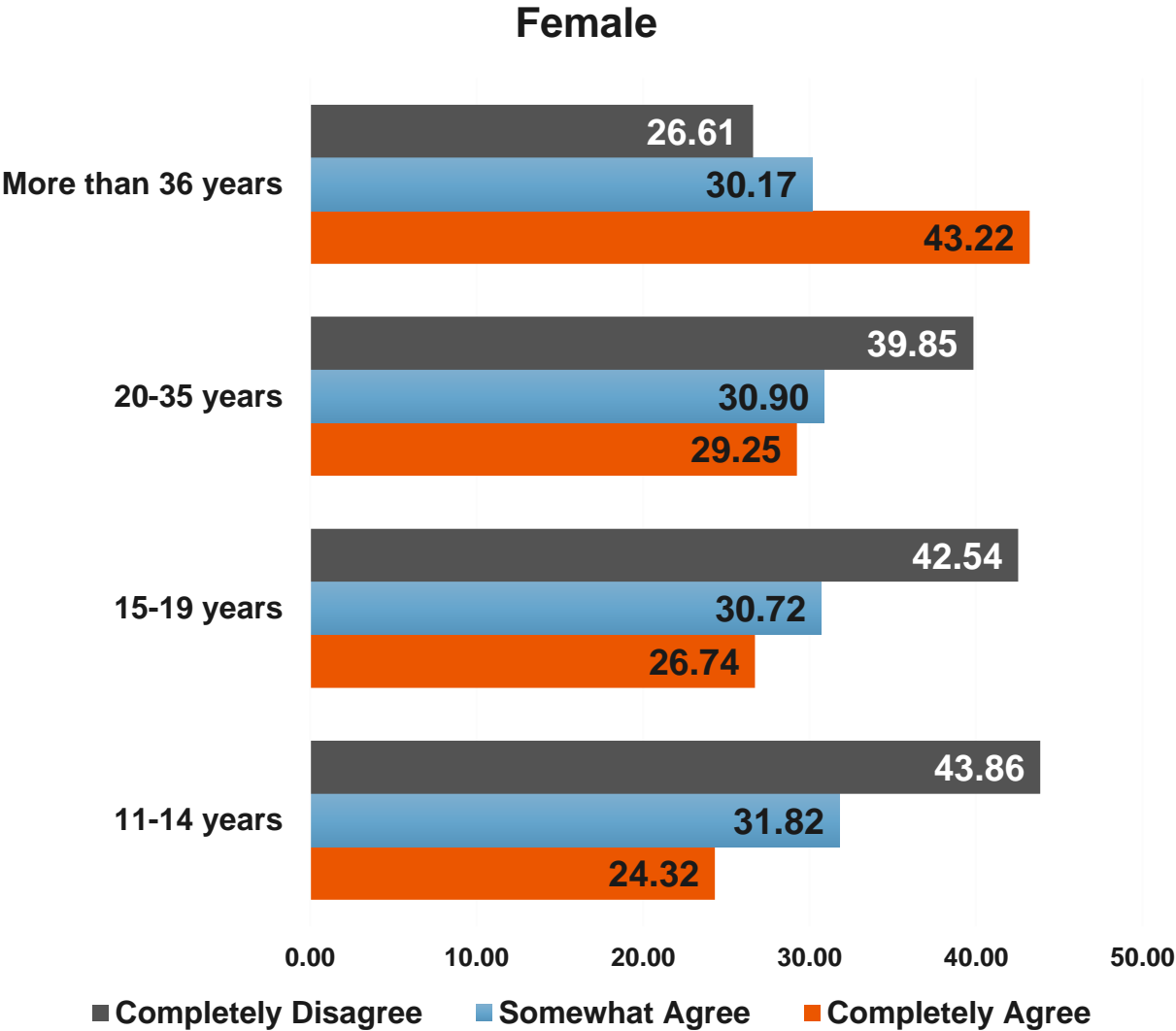
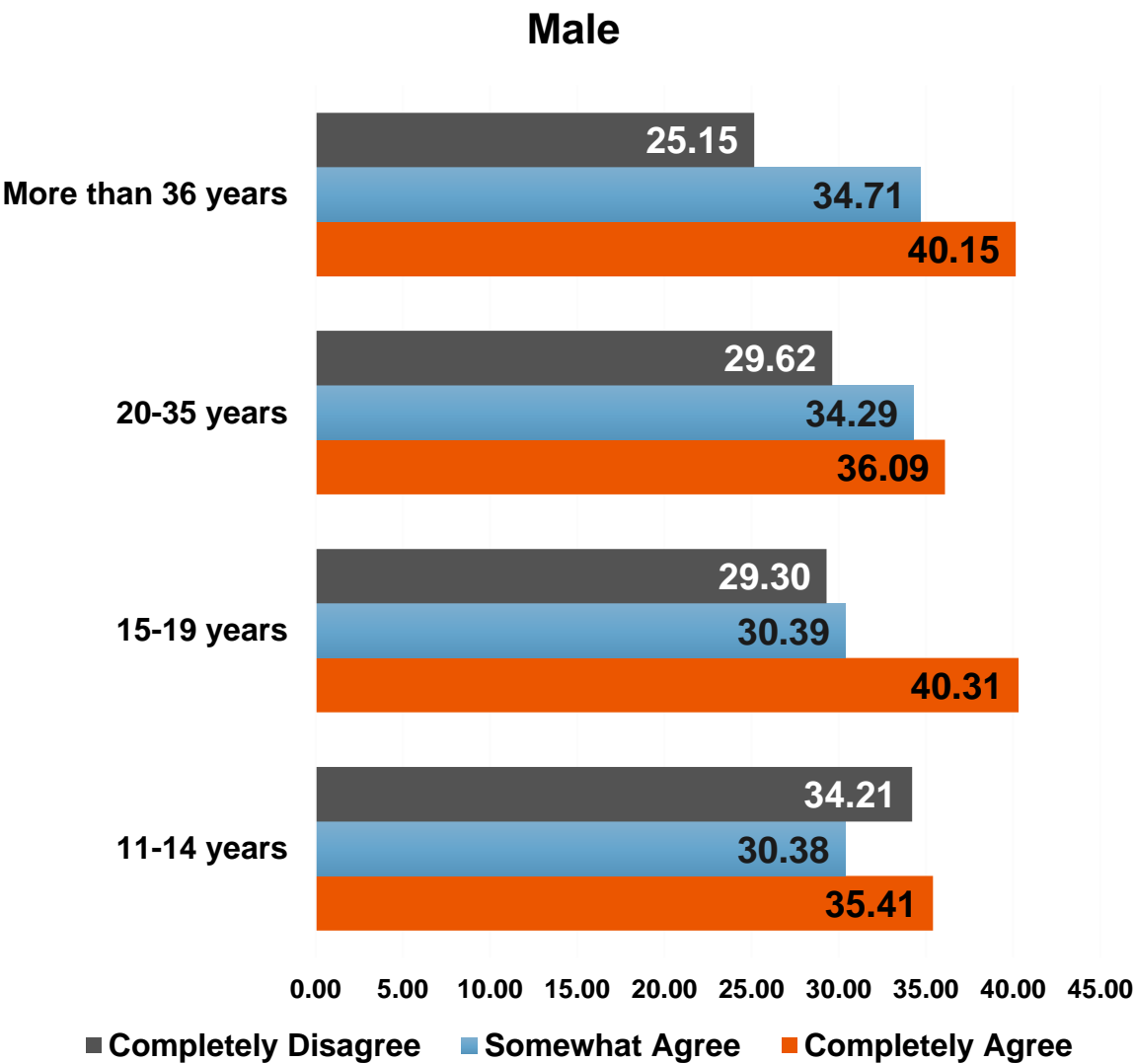


S. Girls should give more priority to their family responsibilities than job/career.

(लड़कियों को अपनी नौकरी/ करियर से ज्यादा पारिवारिक जिम्मेदारियों को प्राथमिकता देनी चाहिए।)



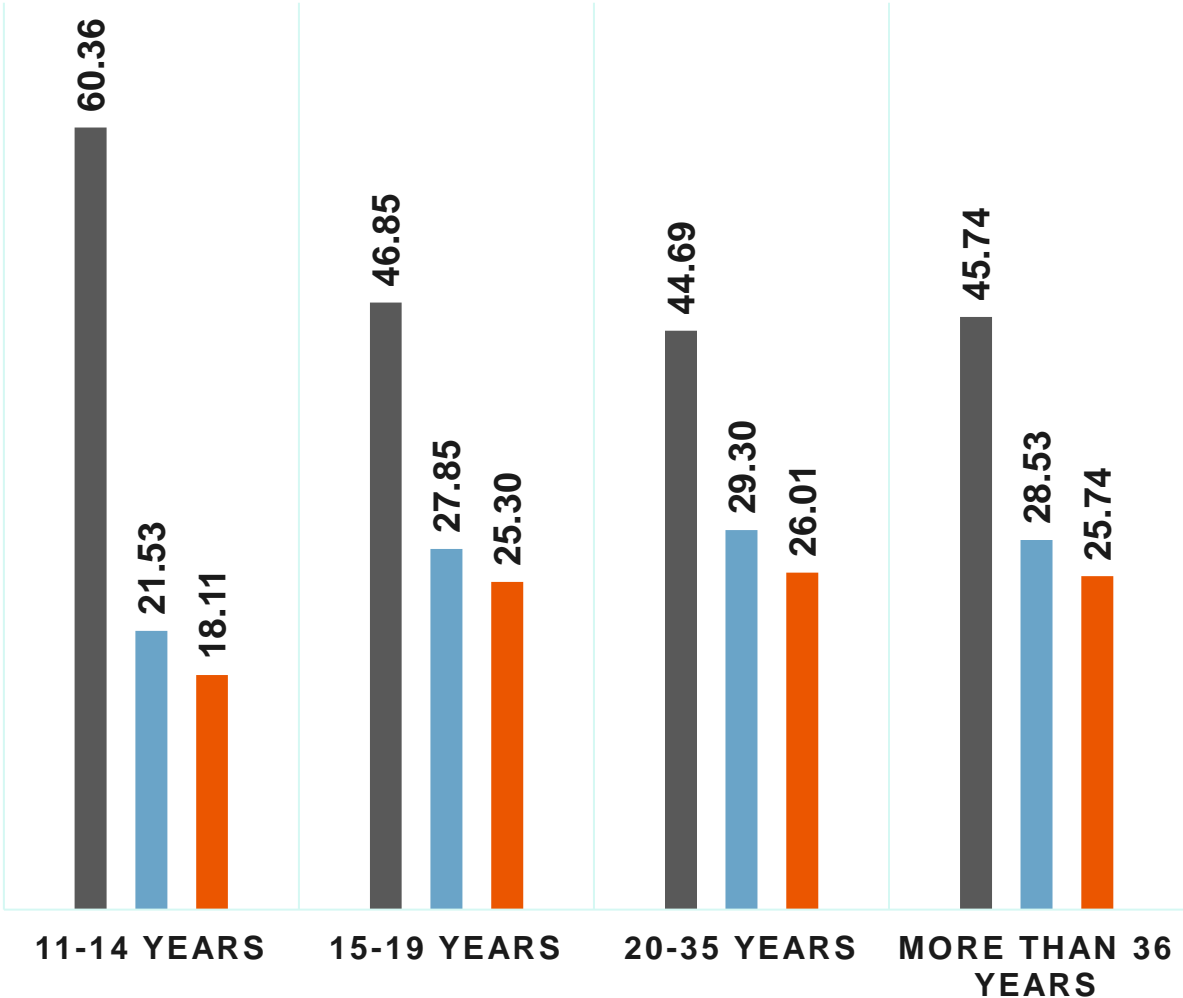
S. The most important reason for educating boys more than girls is that when their parents get old they can take better care of them than girls. (लड़कों को लड़कियों से अधिक शिक्षित करने का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण कारण यह है कि जब उनके माता-पिता वृद्ध हो जाएँ तब वे उनकी बेहतर देखभाल कर सकें |)



S. If there is a need to choose, then boys' education should be given priority over the girls' education. (अगर चुनने की ज़रूरत पड़े तो लड़कियों की शिक्षा की तुलना में लड़कों की शिक्षा को प्राथमिकता दी जानी चाहिए।)

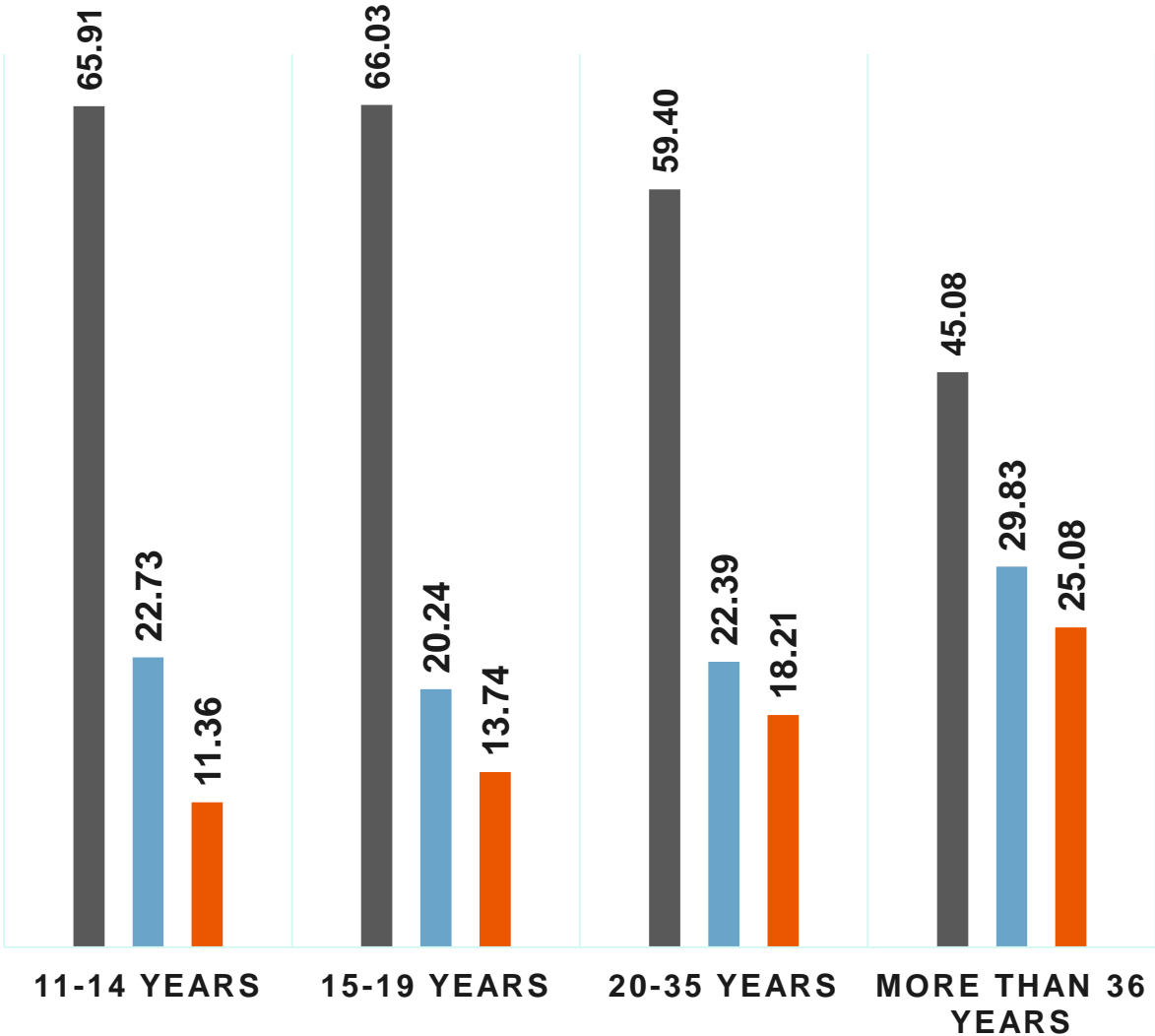
MALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree



FEMALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree



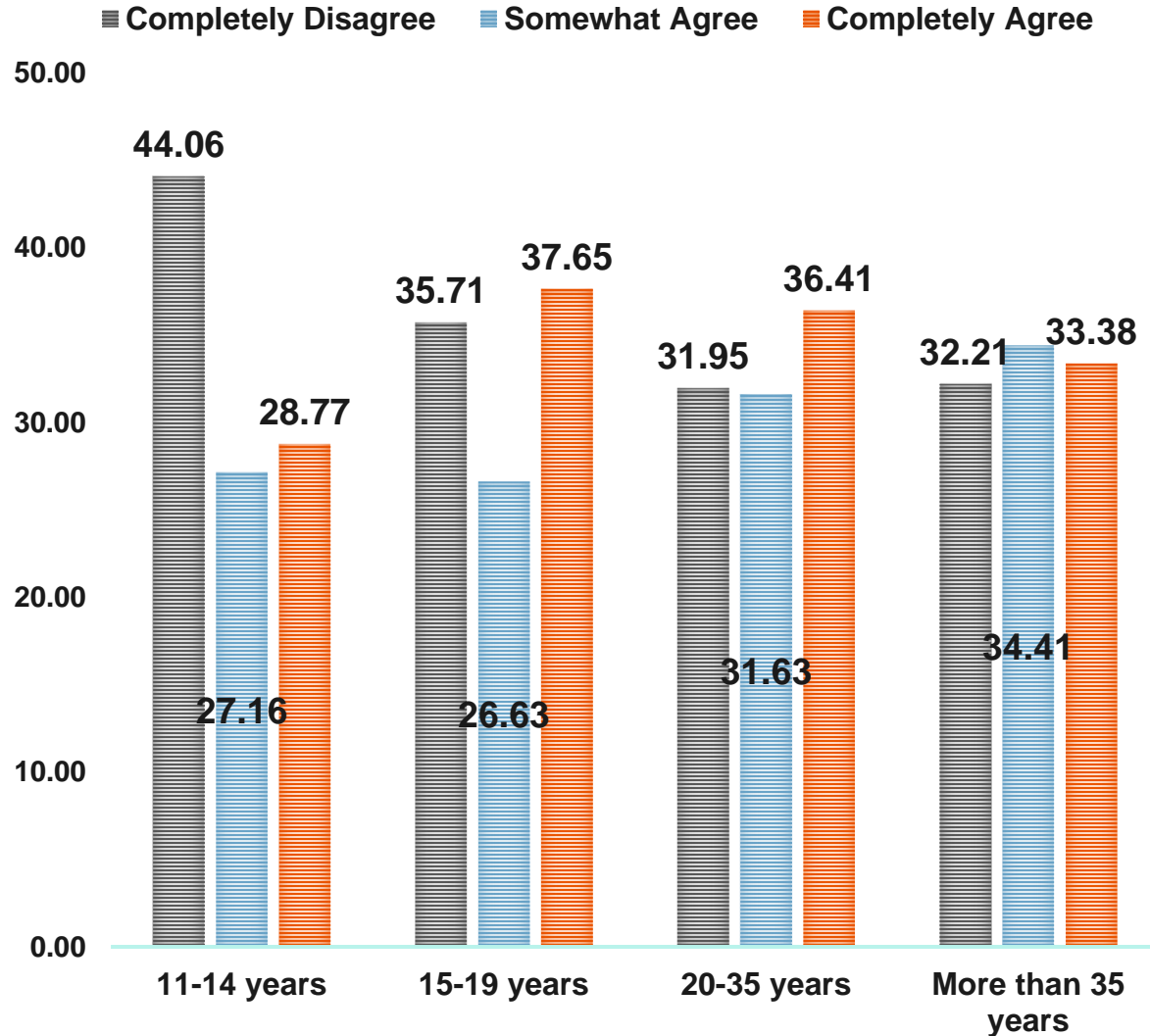
- **A large number of men (48%) and women (59%) completely disagreed with the gender-assigned roles of women at home like cleaning, cooking and taking care of the small kids.**
- **However, a large number of men (26%) and women (21%) completely agreed and somewhat agreed [men (35%) women (32%)] with the perception that women should give more priority to their family than their jobs/careers.**
- **Also, the job which is seen as suitable for women are the ones which don't take a lot of their time away from home and are still preferred by both, especially more by women (45%) than men (37%).**
- **These findings show that women's work is still not seen as important as that of men. This finding contradicts the response of men and women in this research who claim that women's primary responsibility is not the home, while it is shown through other questions that it very much is and also unequally distributed between men and women.**

- When it comes to educating girls, there seems to be an understanding among both men (48%) and women (59%) that it's not good to prefer boys' education over that of girls'.
- However, this looks like more of a preach than practice because the same group of respondents either completely agreed [men(38%); women(39%)] or somewhat agreed [men(32%); women(30%)] that boys should be educated more than girls because they can better take care of their parents in their old age.
- This shows that the reasons for educating boys and girls are completely different. While boys' education is seen by parents as an investment in the future, girls' education not so much.

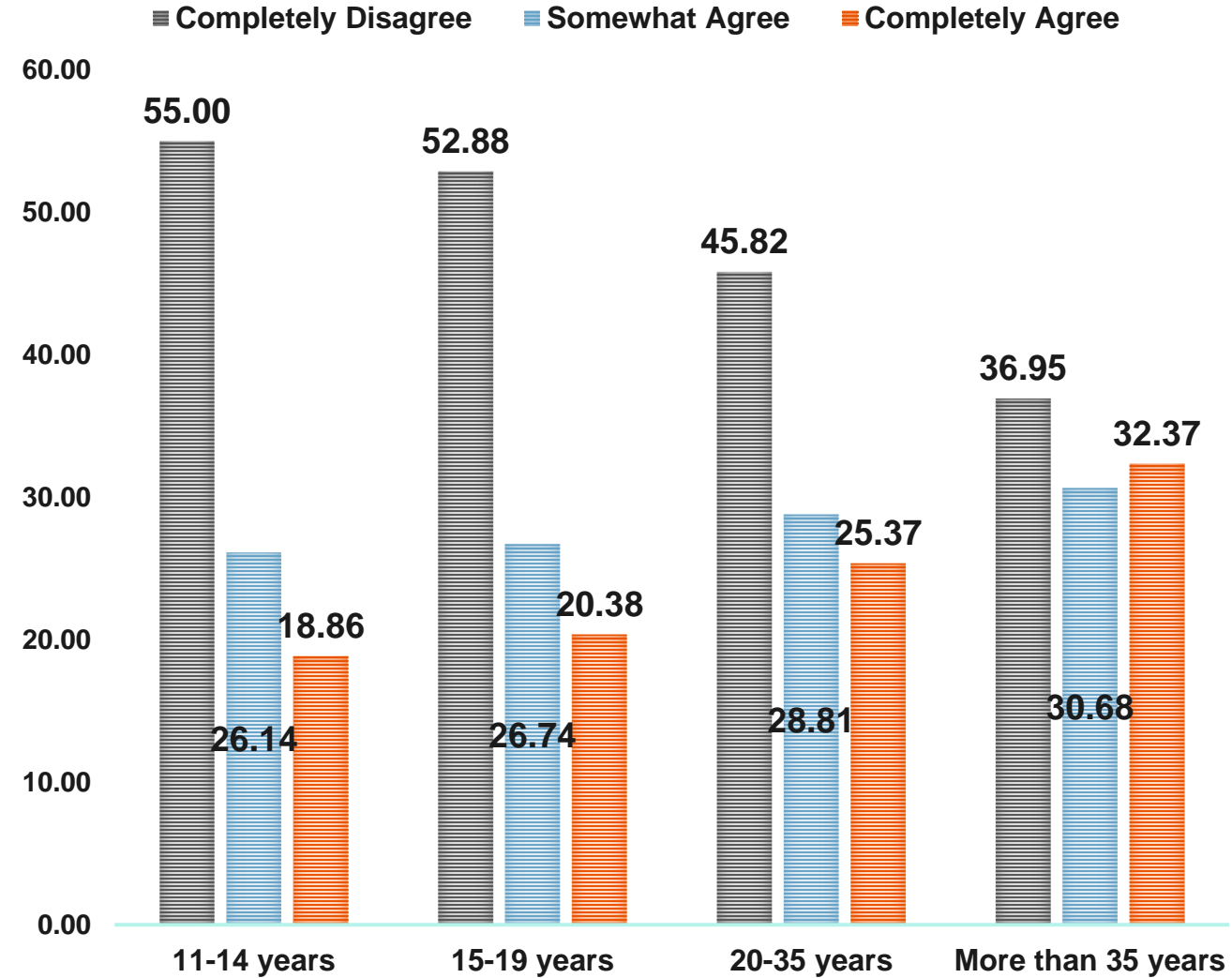
Who takes decisions?

S. Men (grandfather/father/brother/husband etc.) should be the final decision makers for the household decisions. (घर गृहस्ती से जुड़े फैसलों में आखरी निर्णय पुरुष (दादा/पिता/भाई/पति इत्यादि) को ही लेना चाहिए)

MALE

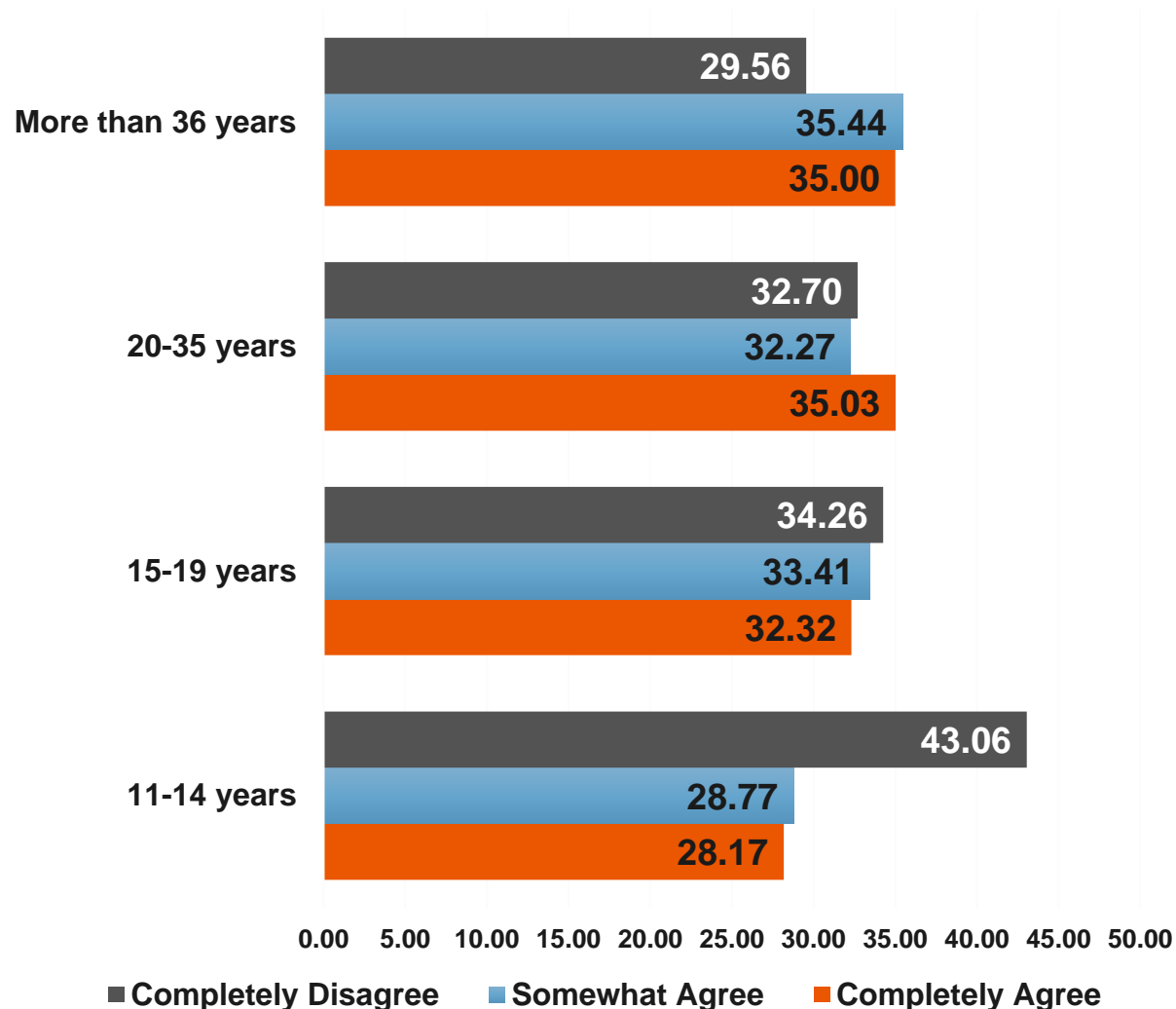


FEMALE

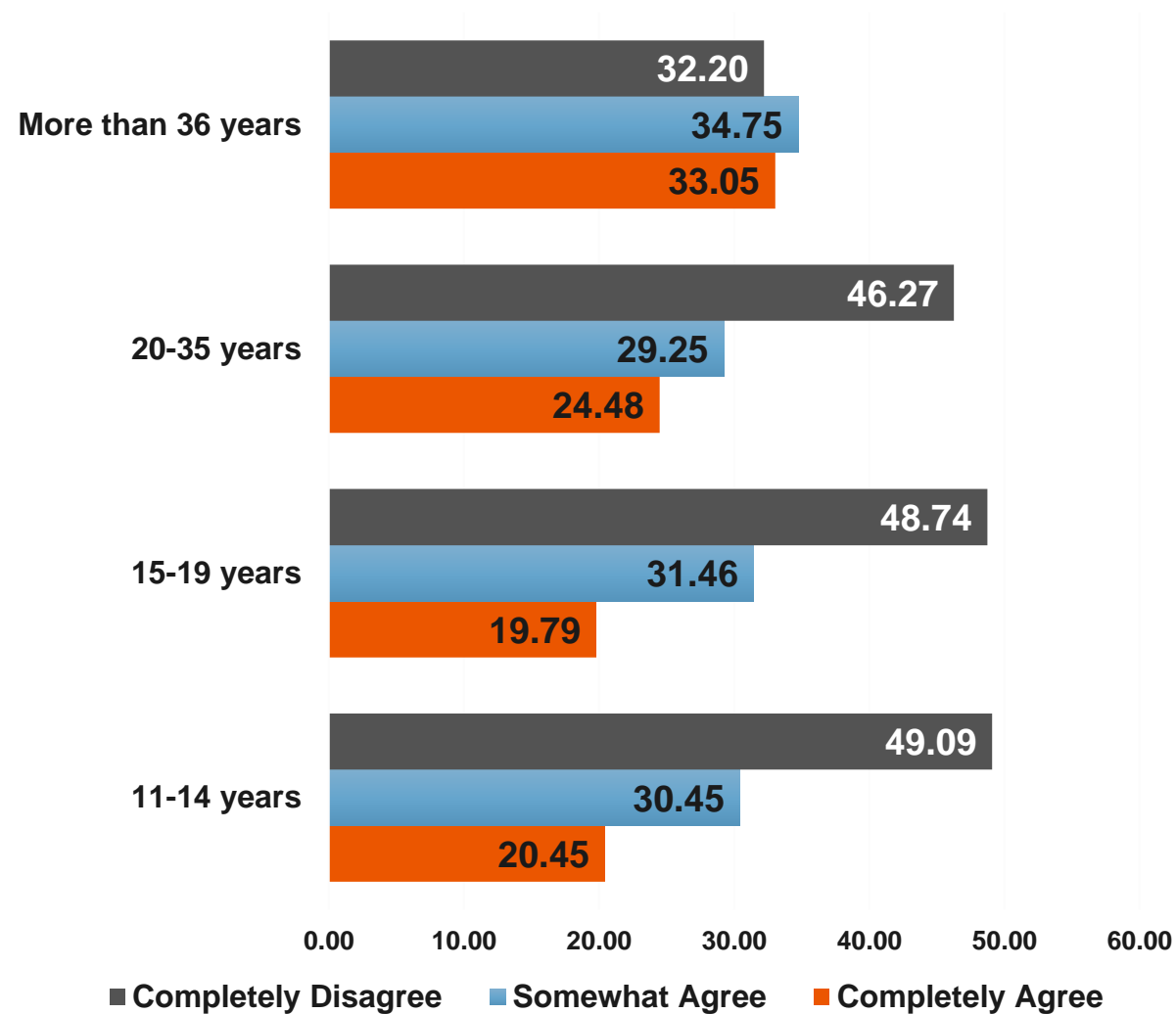


S. Generally, men should decide about the major household expenses and purchases. (आमतौर पर घर के बड़े खर्चों व खरीदारी करने के फैसले पुरुषों को लेना चाहिये)

Male



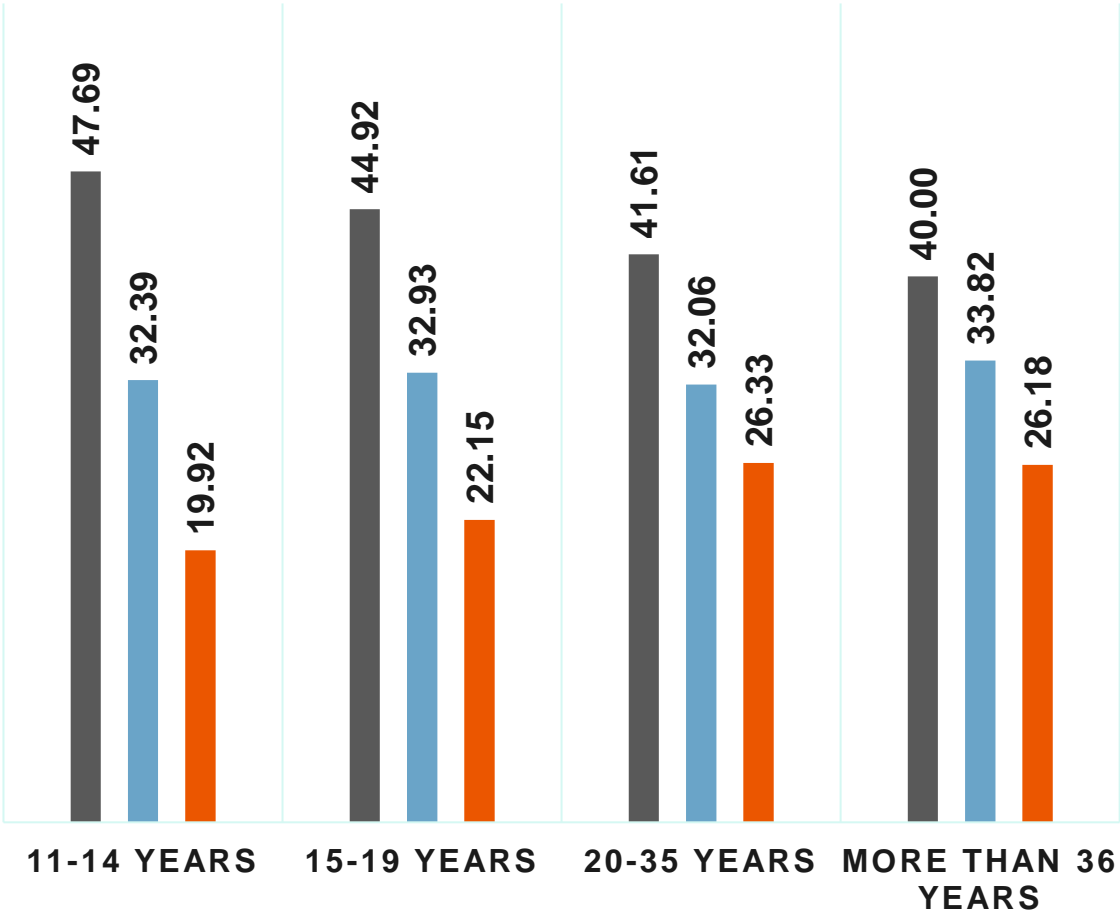
Female



S. Men should generally decide about the expenditure on the daily utilities of the house hold.
(आम तौर पर दैनिक घरेलू जरूरतों के लिए खरीदारी के फैसले पुरुषों को लेने चाहिए)

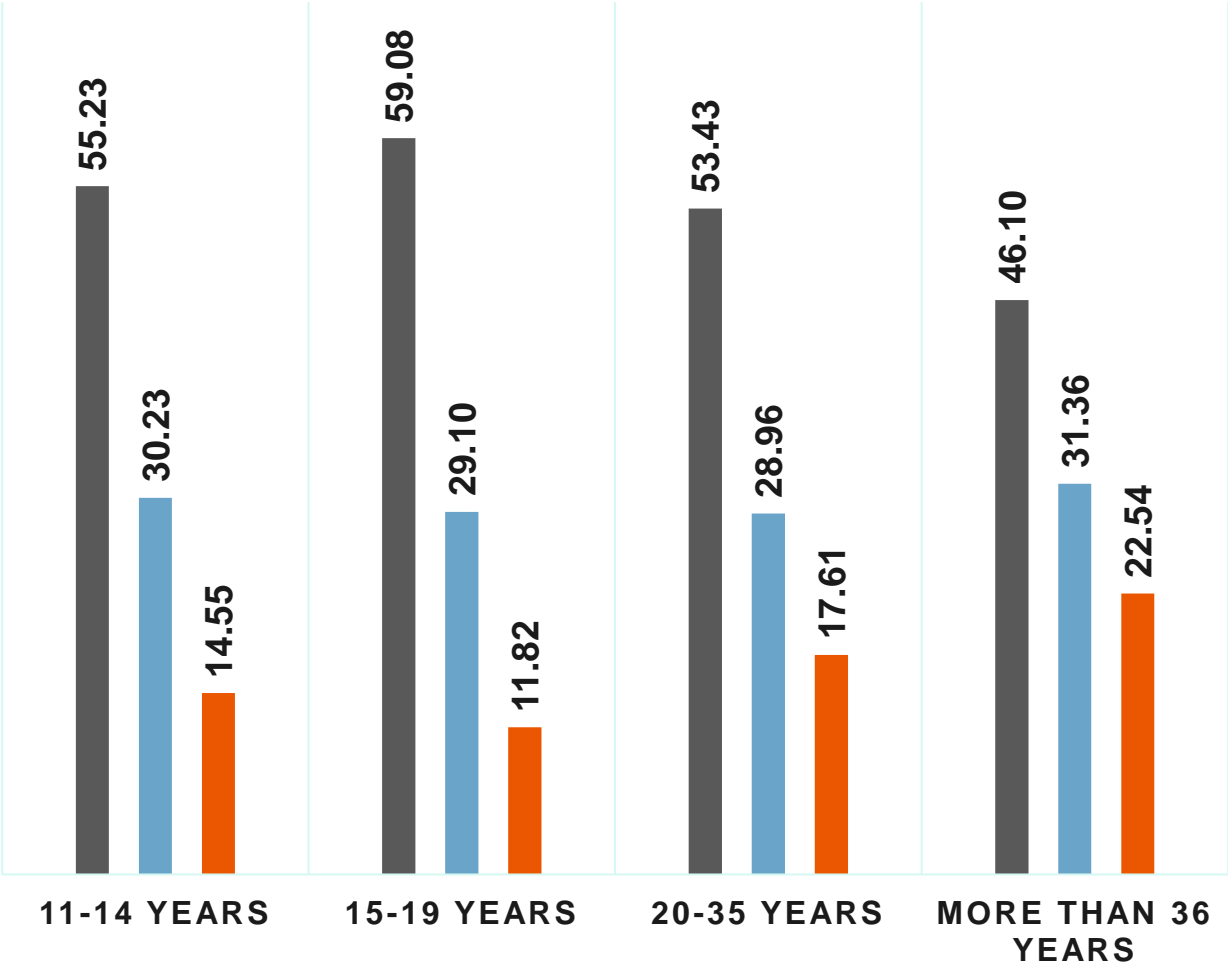
MALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree

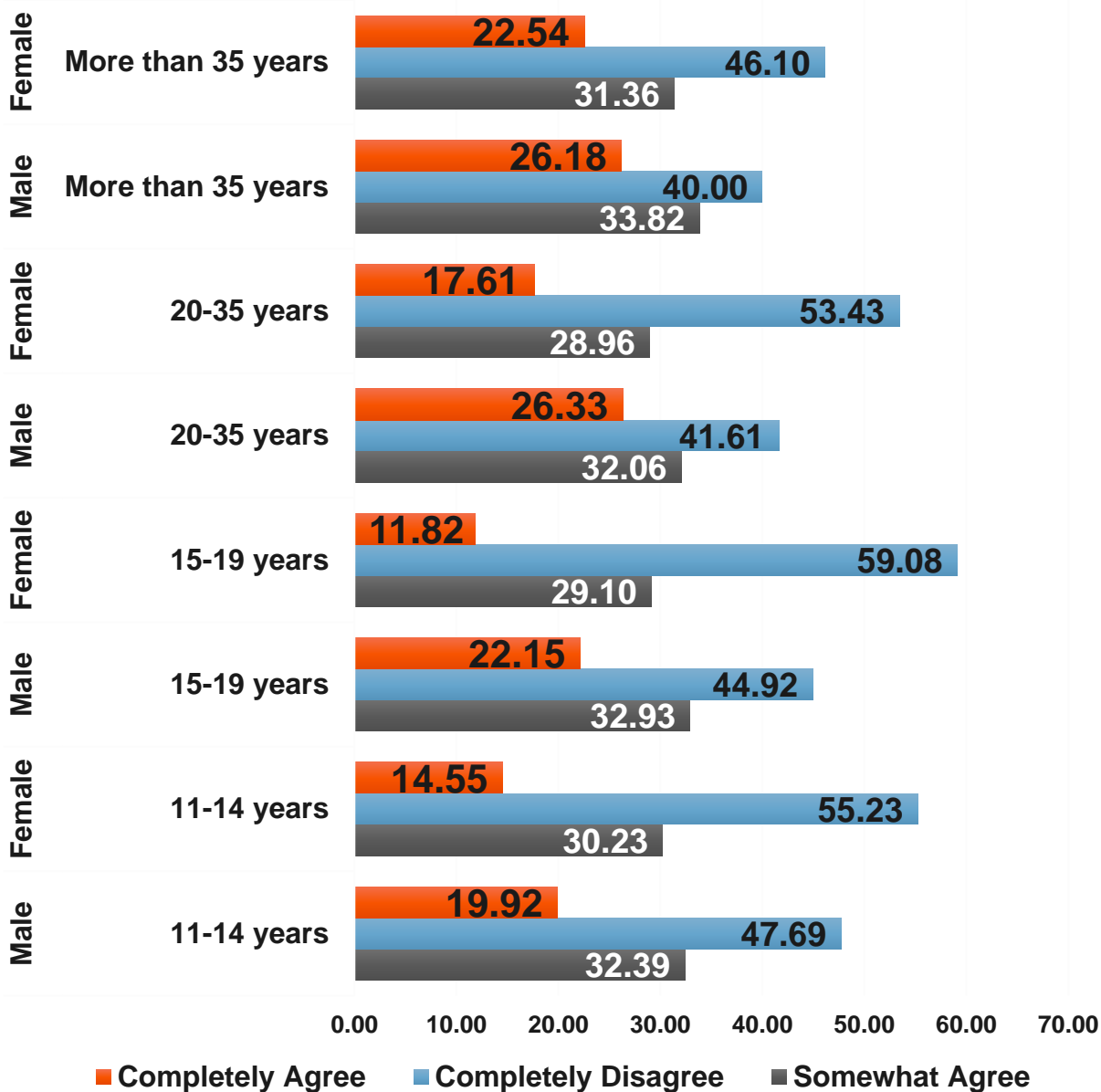


FEMALE

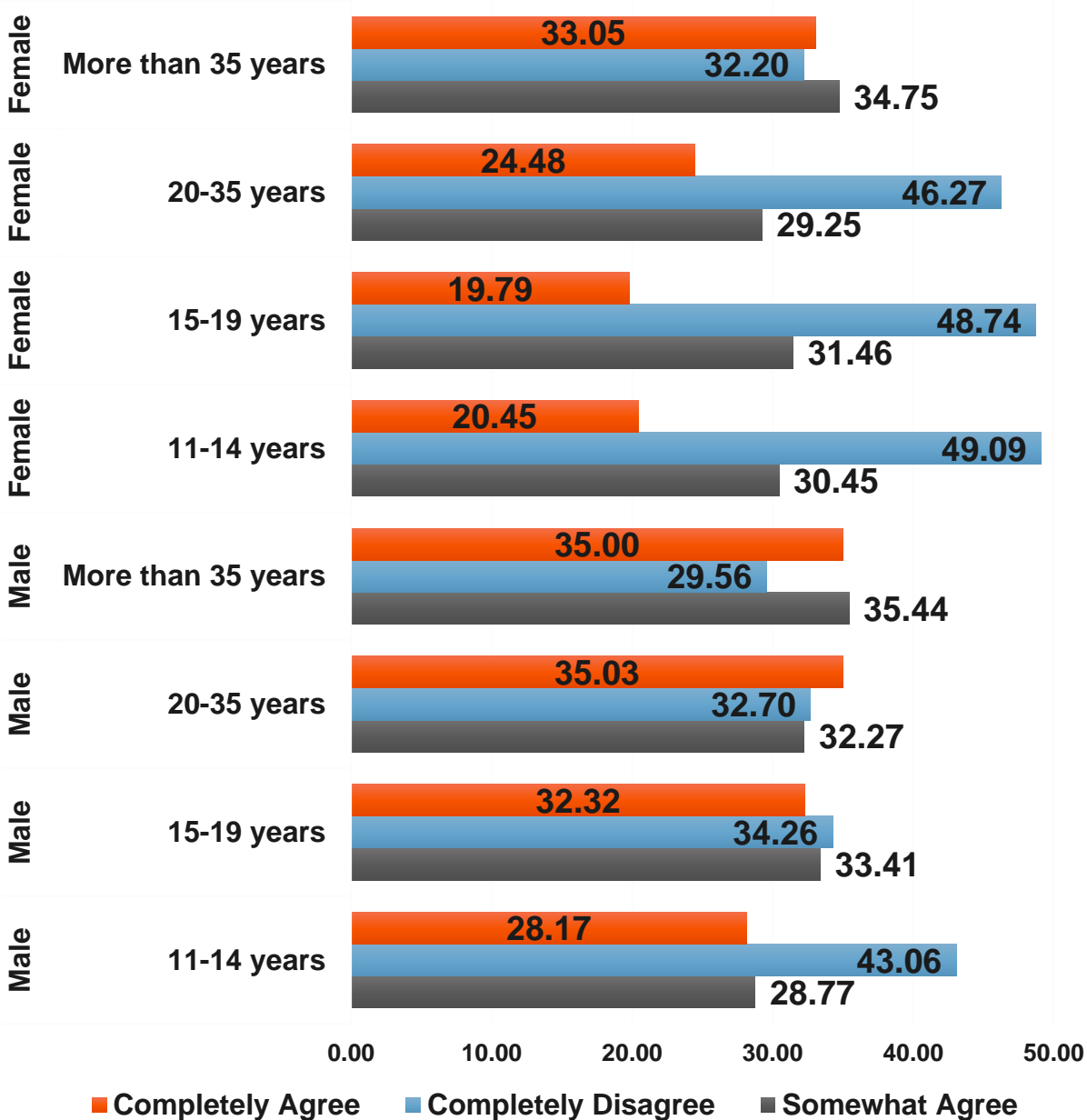
■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree



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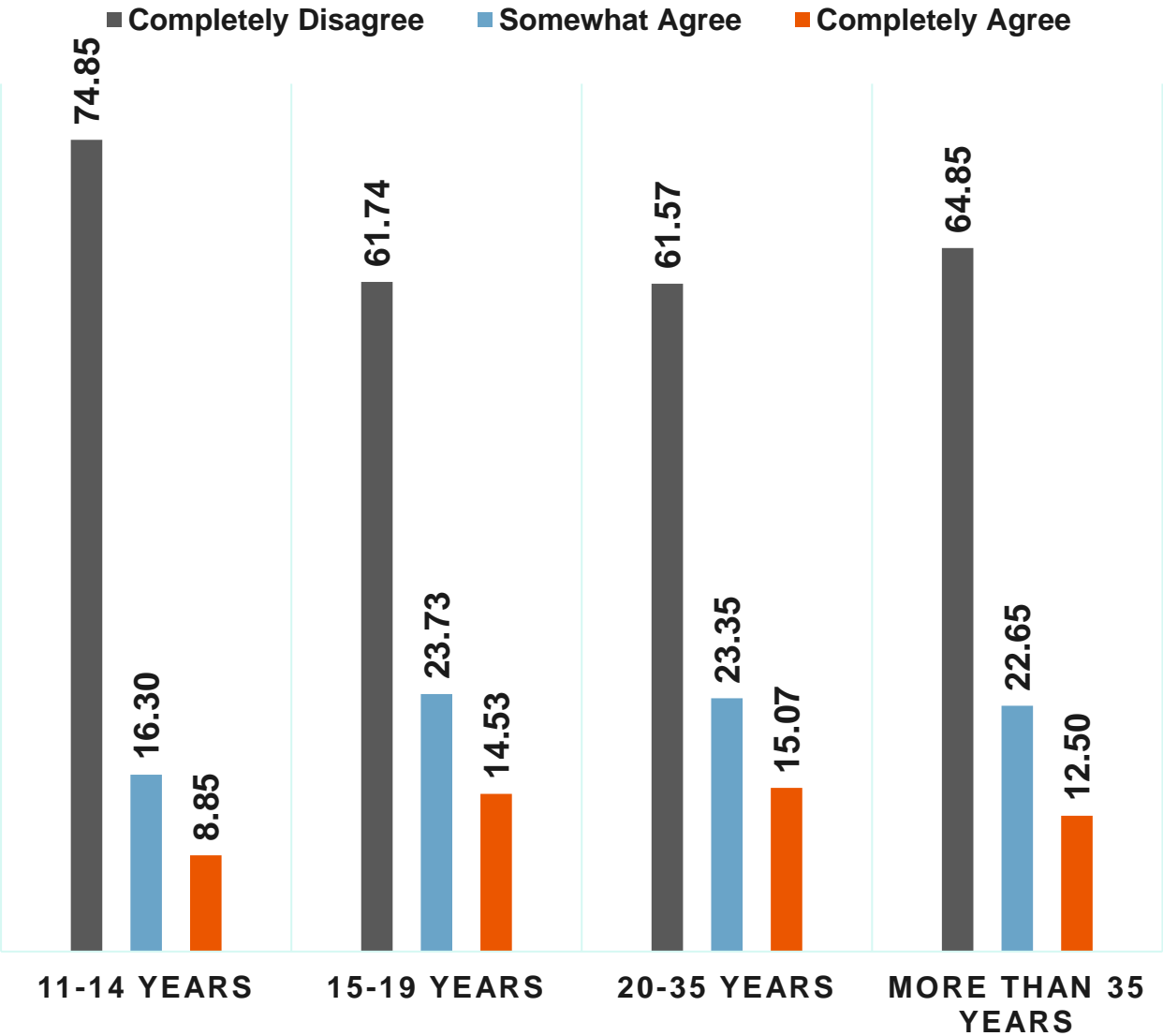
- **When it comes to taking decisions about the household matters there is a significant difference of opinion between men and women. While 34% of men completely and 30% of men somewhat agreed that major household decisions should be taken by them only 24% of women completely and 28% of women somewhat agreed with this proposition.**
- **Also when it comes to big expenditures of the household men do not seem to be letting go of their influence because here 32% of men completely agreed and 33% somewhat agreed that they should be the ones deciding about the big expenditures of the household. However, significantly less percentage of women (24% completely agreeing and 31% somewhat agreeing) seem to be believing in this proposition.**
- **It is important to mention here that men seem to be giving more space to women in the decision making of daily expenditures of the household. This can be understood by the statement that only 24% of men completely and 32% of men somewhat agreed that they should be the primary decision makers of these expenditures. Even lesser number of women (16% completely agreeing and 39% somewhat agreeing) believe in the above proposition.**

Violence against women

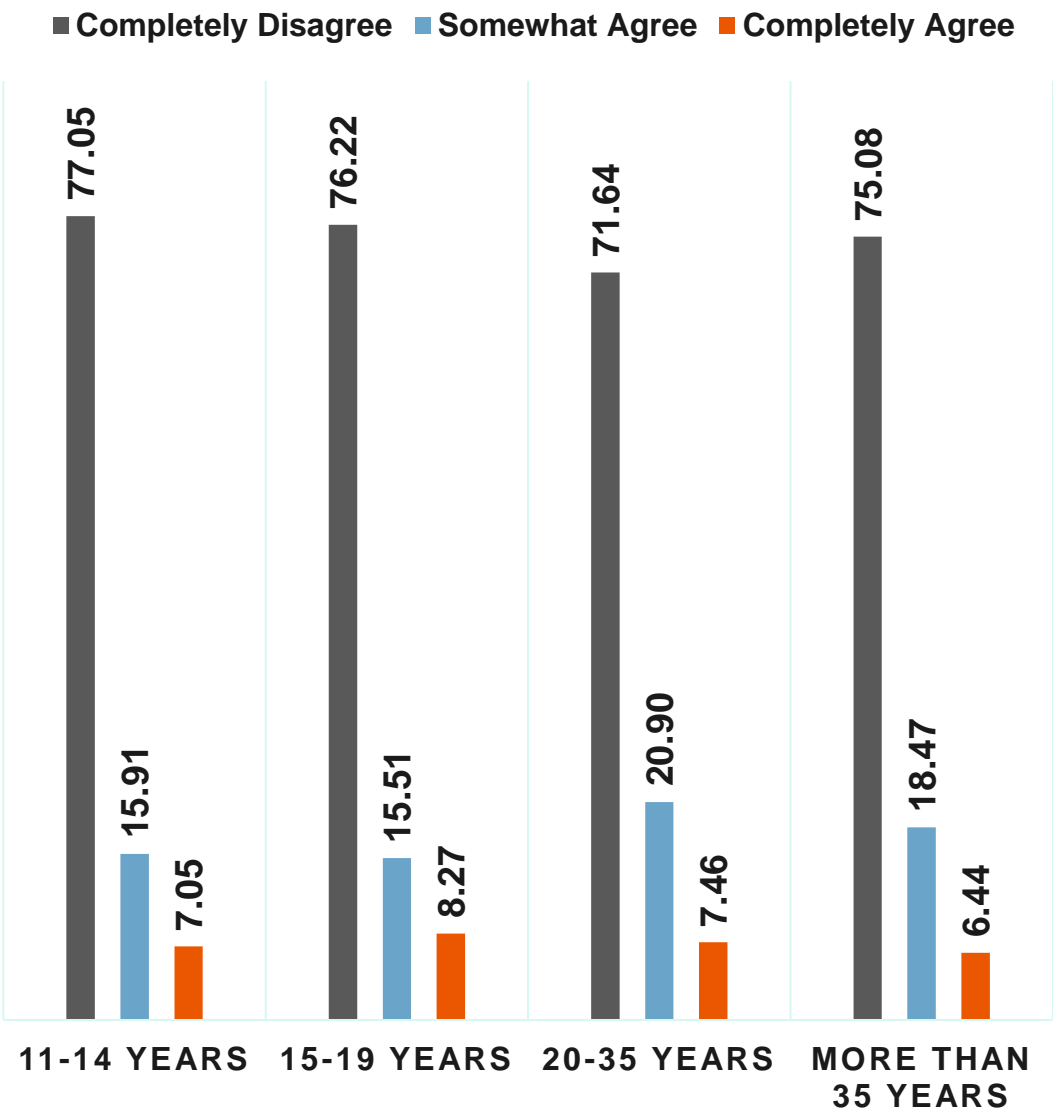
Not acceptable!?

S. Sometimes it becomes necessary for men to beat women. (पुरुषों द्वारा कभी - कभी महिलाओं को पीटना ज़रूरी हो जाता है)

MALE



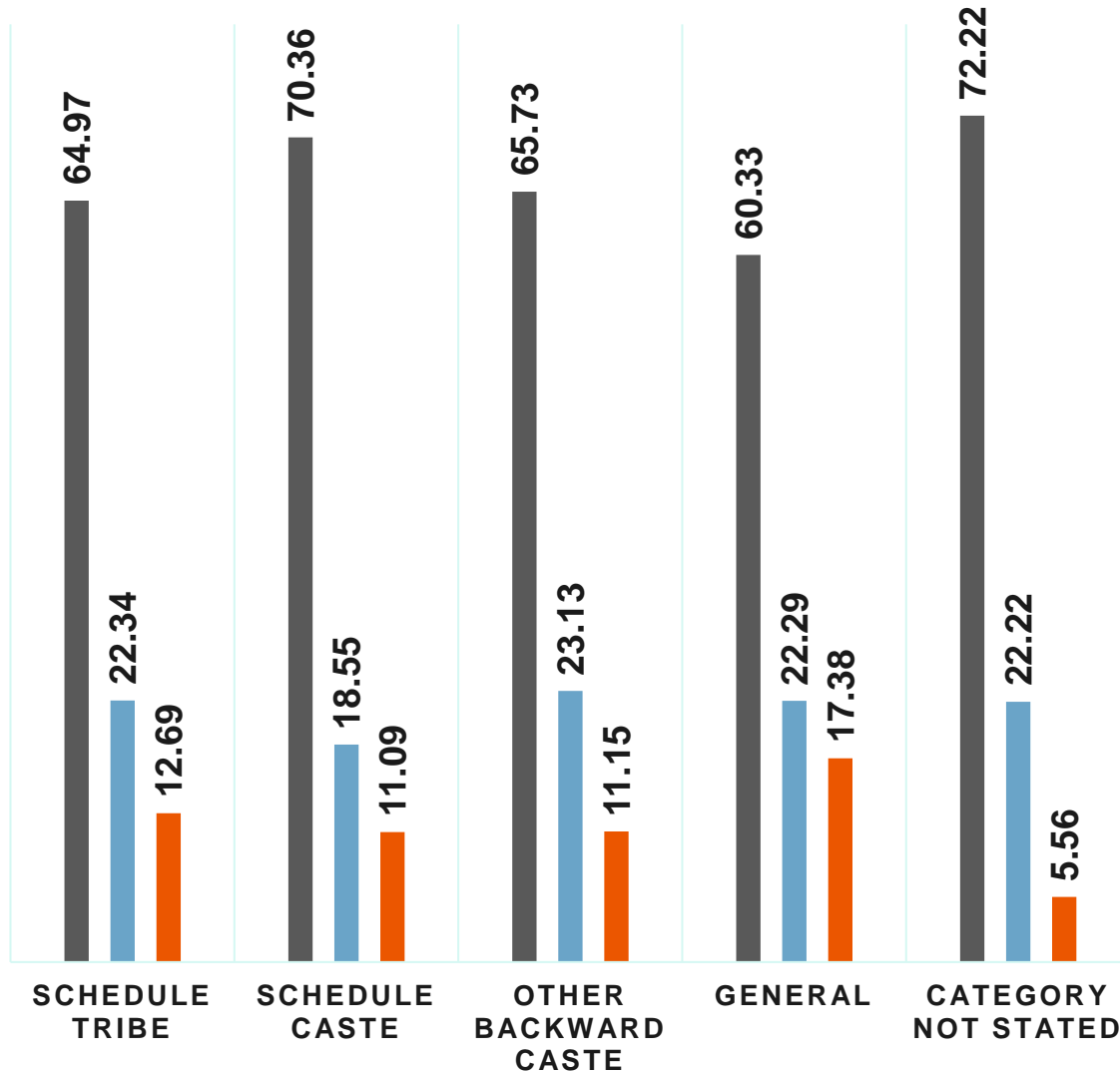
FEMALE



S. Sometimes it becomes necessary for men to beat women. (पुरुषों द्वारा कभी - कभी महिलाओं को पीटना ज़रूरी हो जाता है)

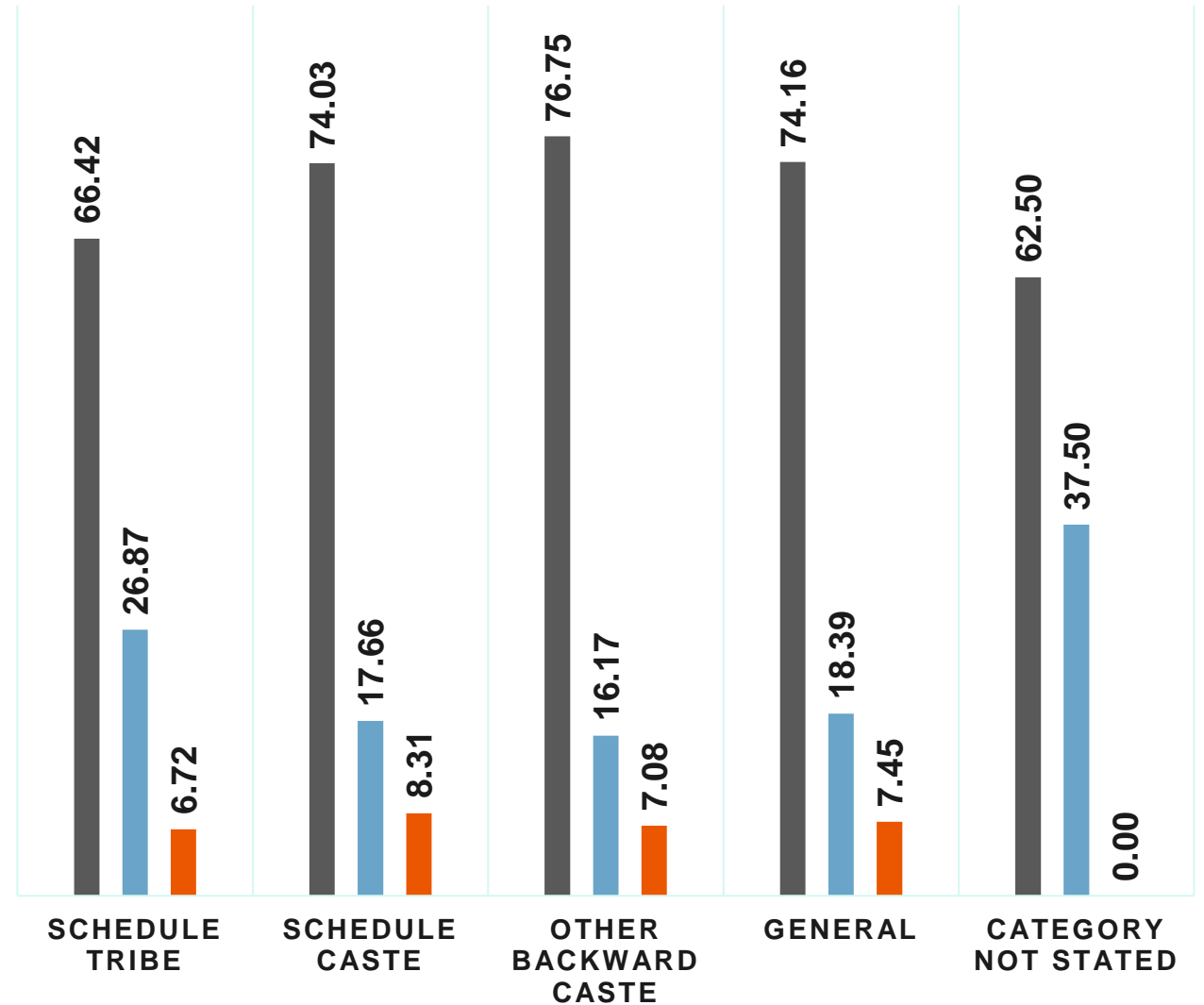
MALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree



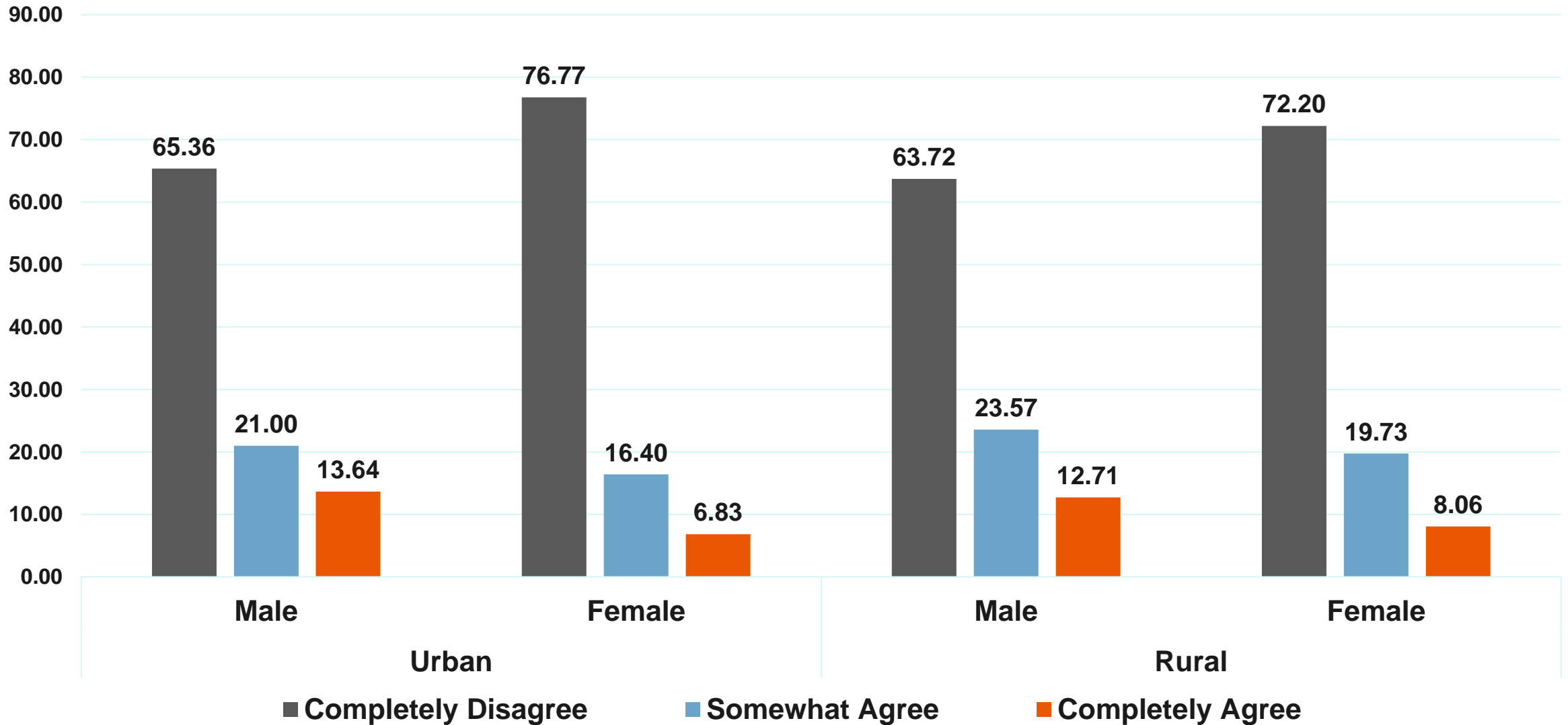
FEMALE

■ Completely Disagree ■ Somewhat Agree ■ Completely Agree

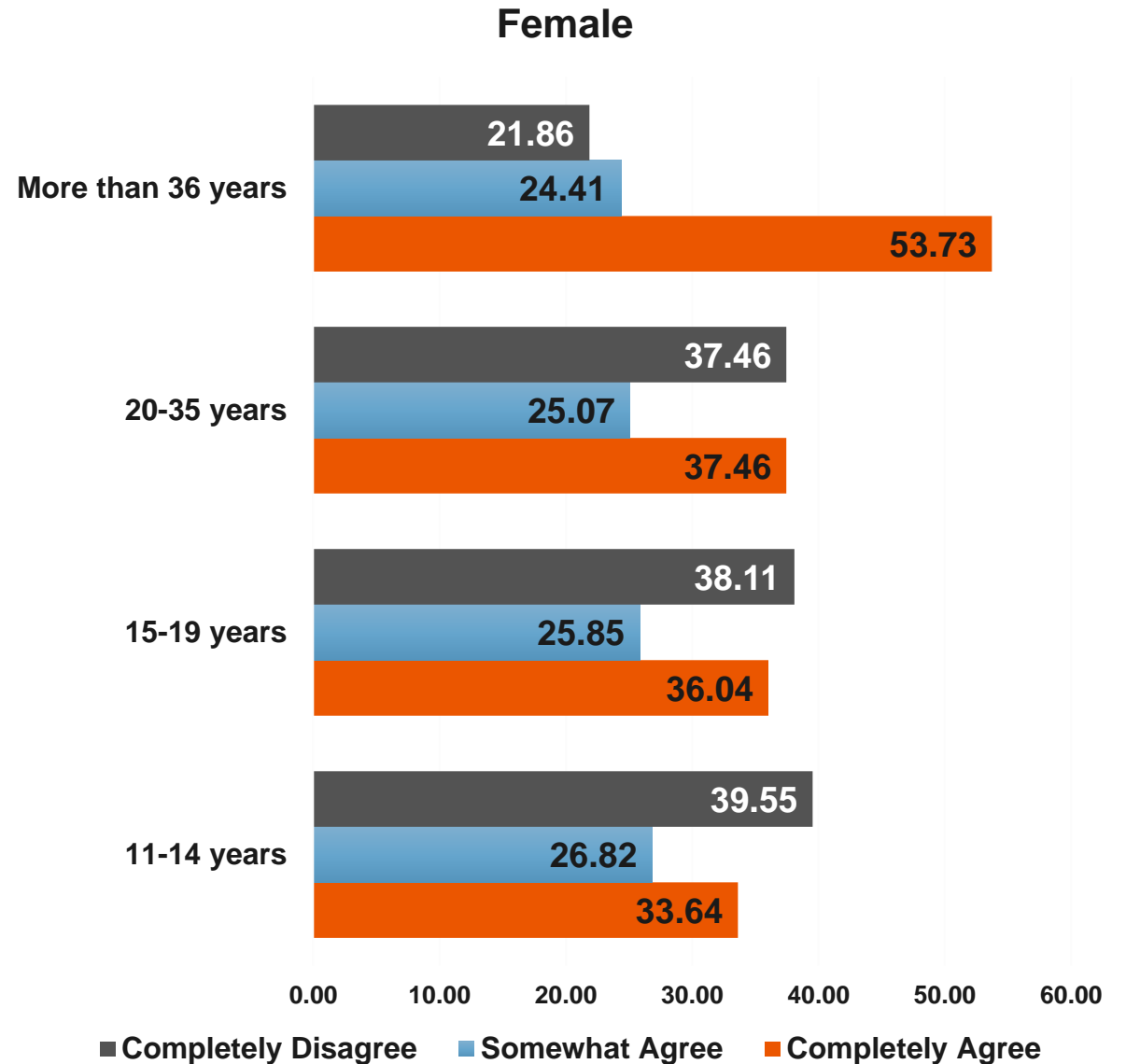
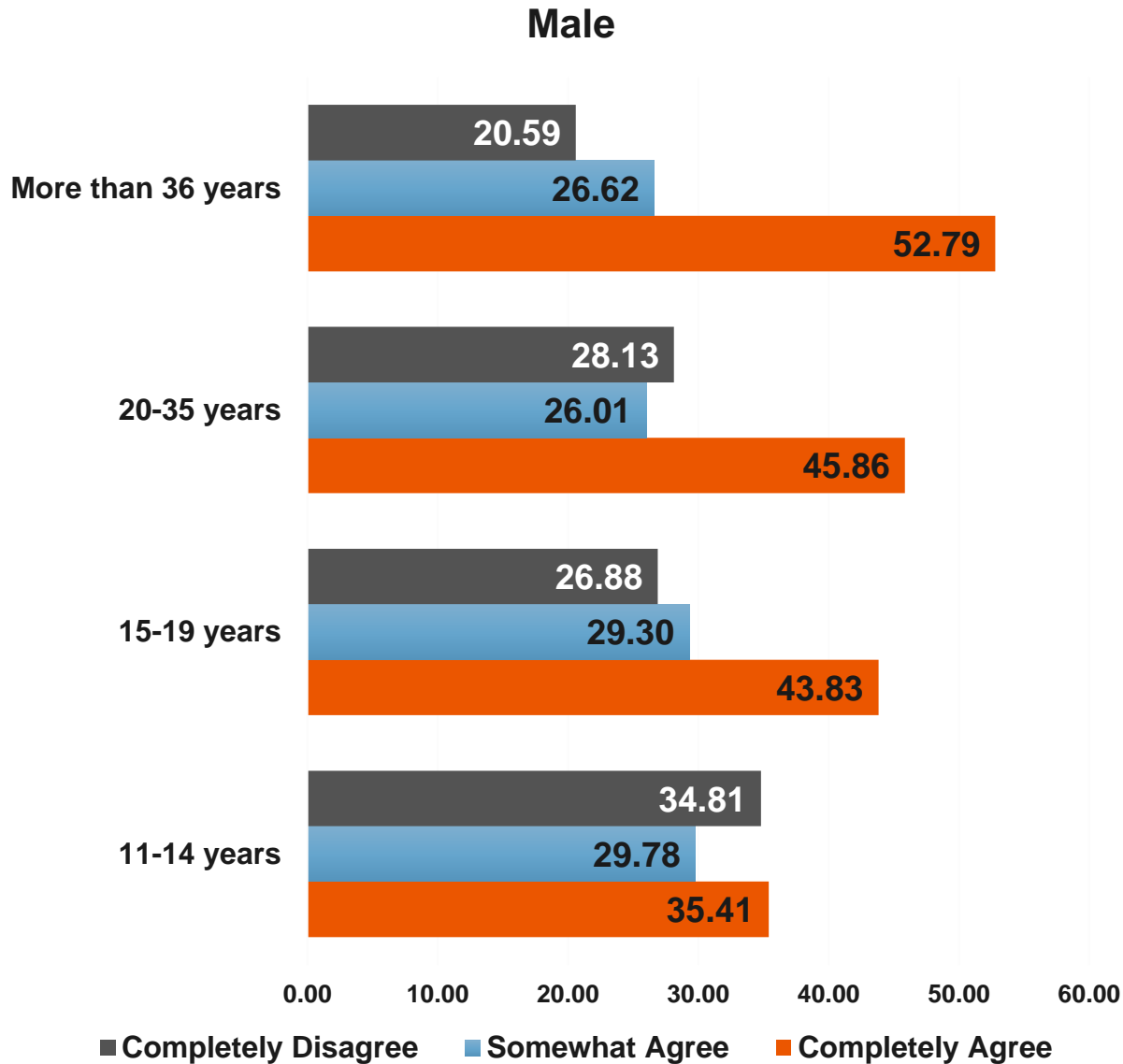


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Urban Vs Rural

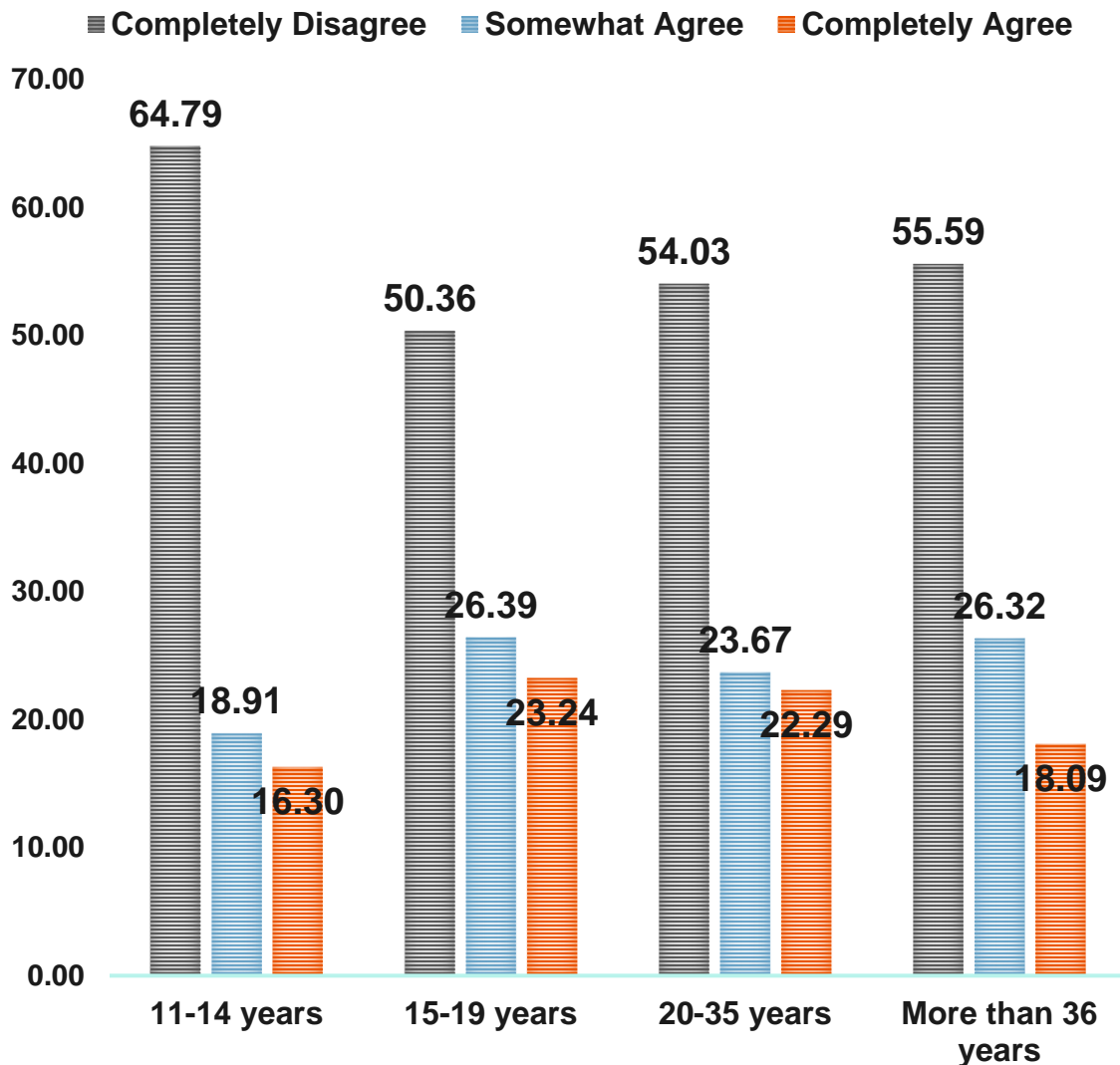


S. If girls want to be safe in public spaces then they should wear decent clothes. (अगर लड़कियां सार्वजनिक जगहों पर सुरक्षित रहना चाहती हैं तो उन्हें शालीन कपड़े पहनने चाहिये)

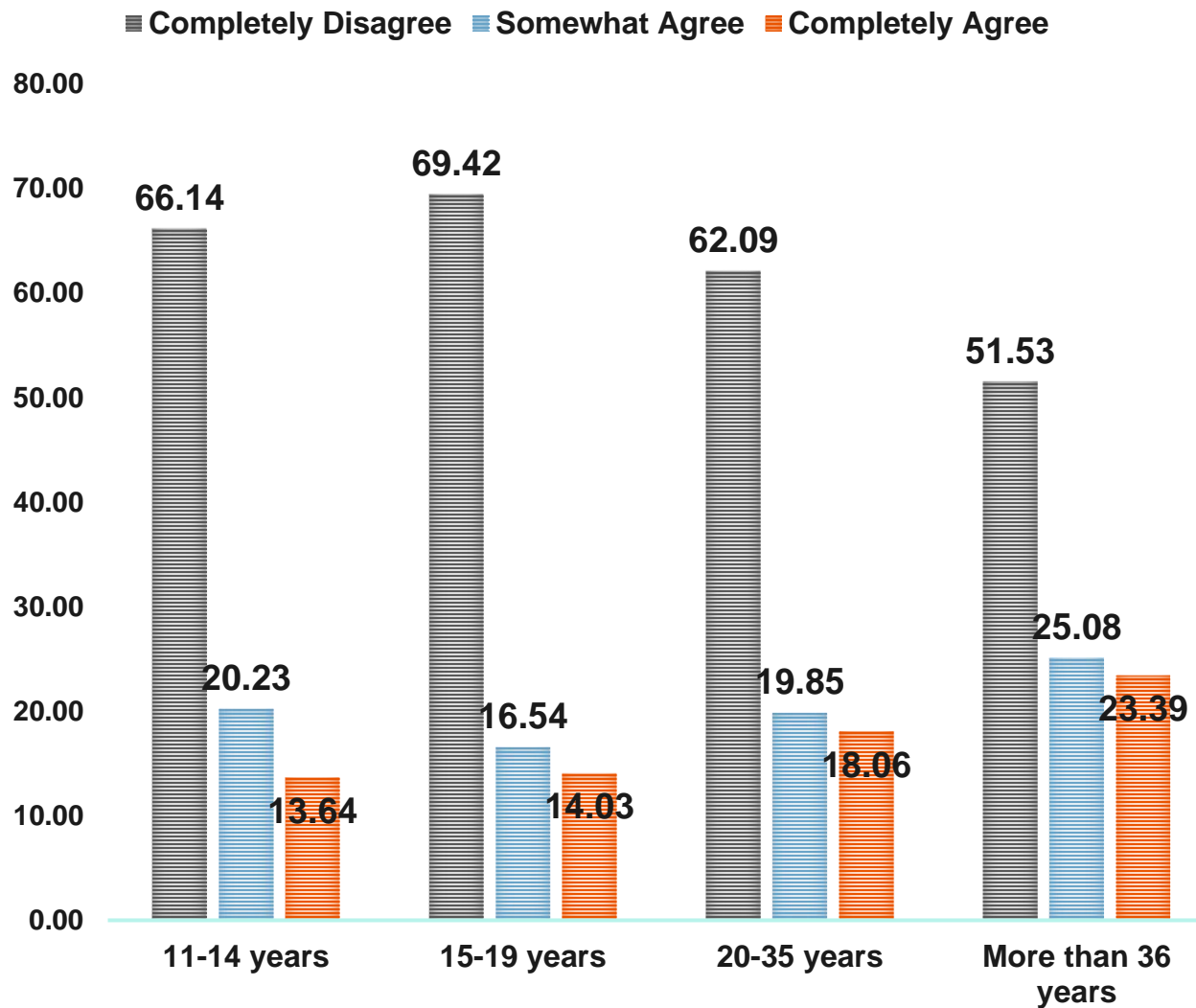


S. A woman should tolerate domestic violence to save her home. (एक महिला को अपना घर बचाने के लिए घरेलू हिंसा सहन कर लेना चाहिए)

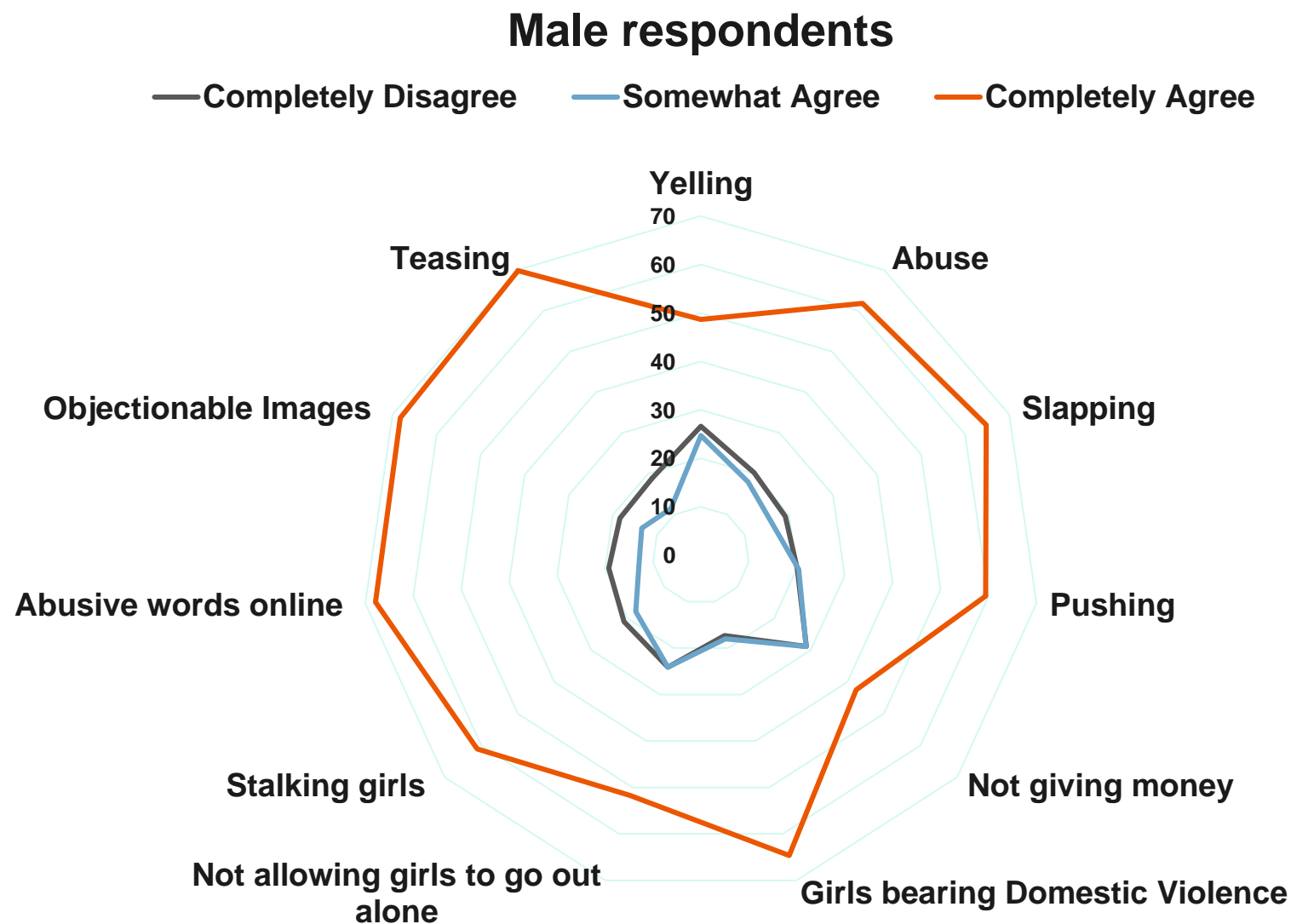
MALE



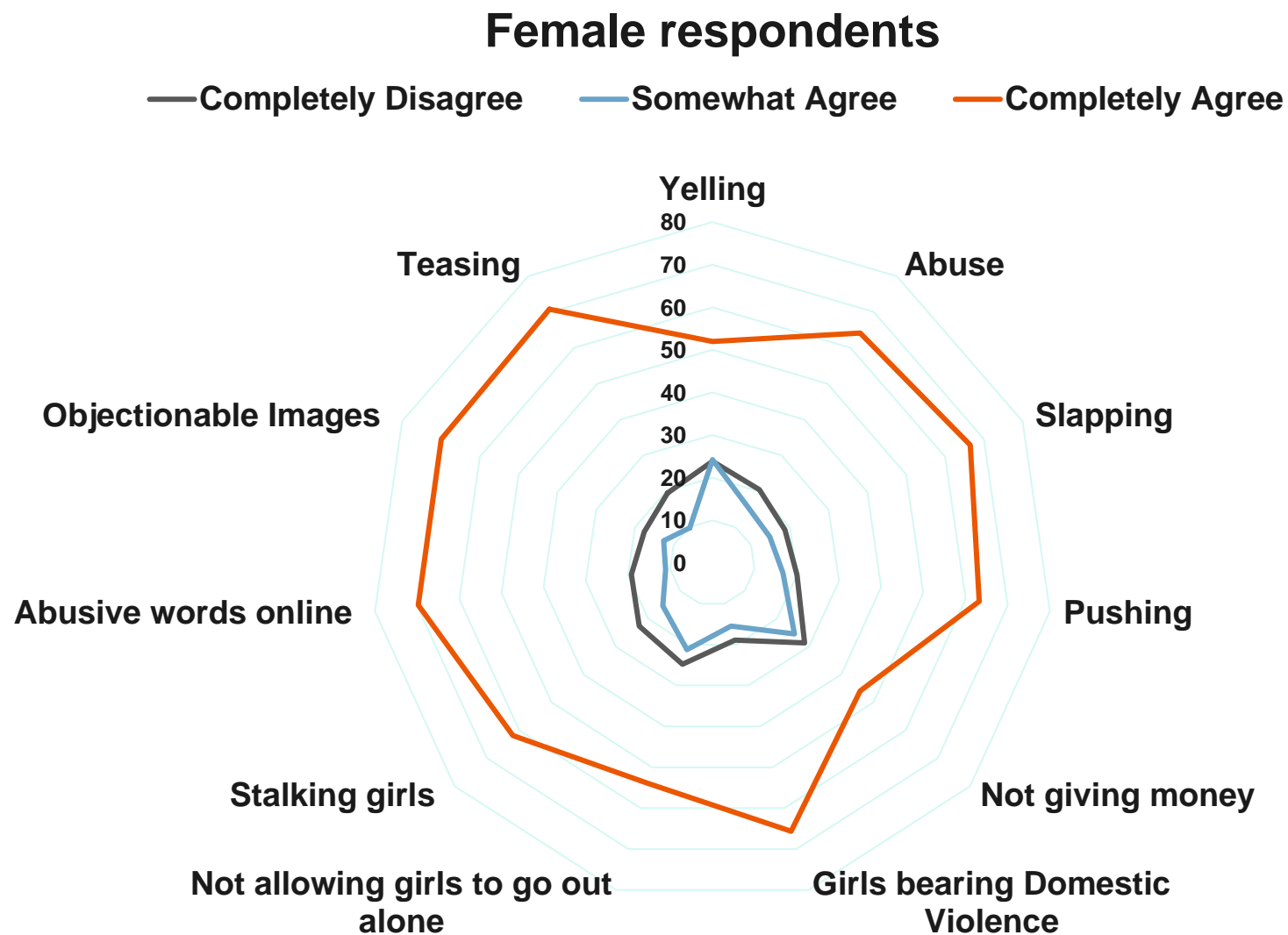
FEMALE



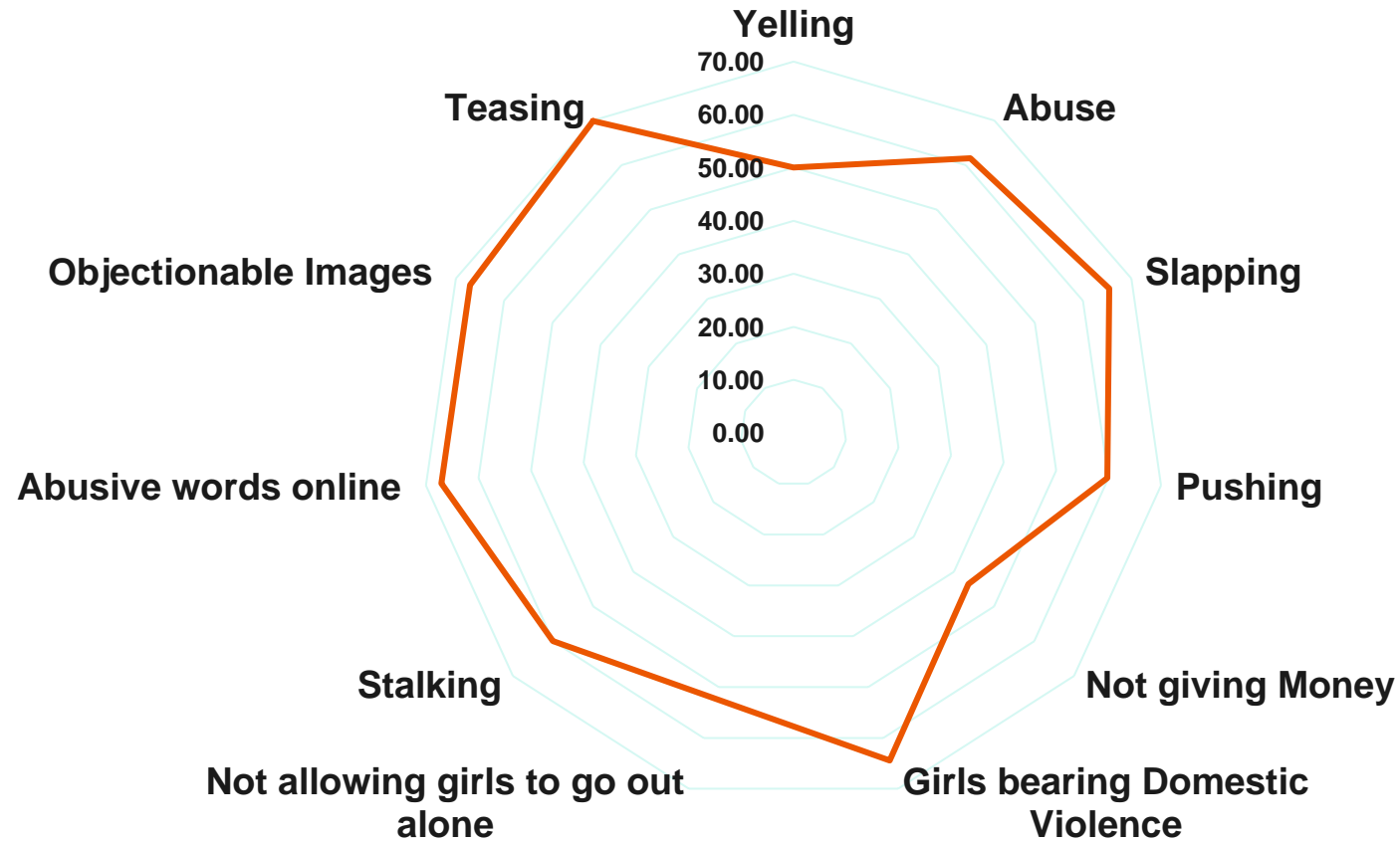
S. I Consider following as violence on women. (मैं समझती / समझता हूँ कि लड़कियों के खिलाफ हिंसा के ये रूप हैं)



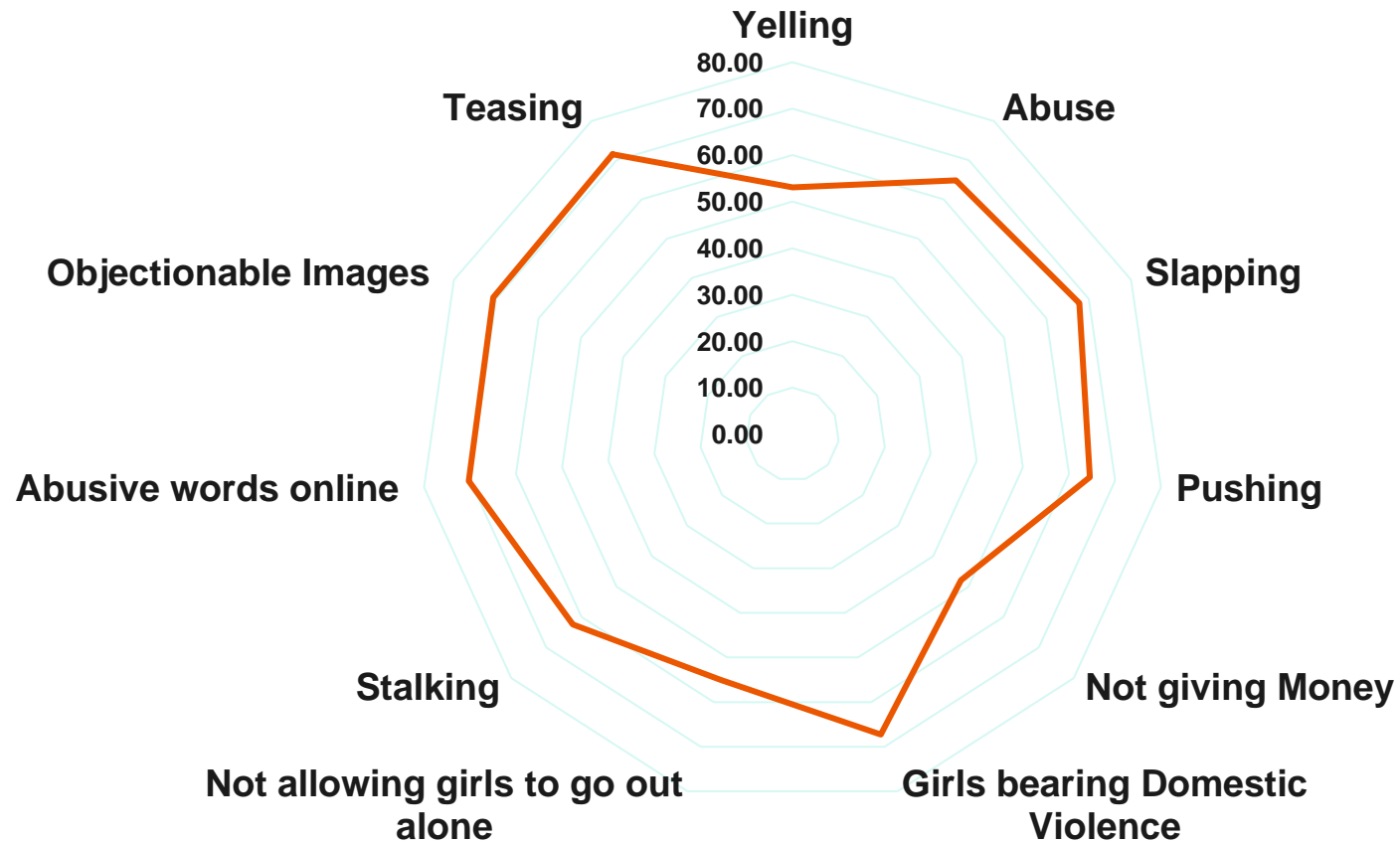
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Males below 35 years



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Females below 35 years



- Almost 60% - 65% of both men and women believe that actions like verbal abusing, slapping, pushing, stalking, harassing on social media and eve-teasing on road and in schools are clear forms of violence against women.
- However, there are some actions which are considered violence by less percentage of men and women. For instance, shouting (48% men and 51% women), not giving money (42% men and 45% women) and not allowing to go outside alone (51% men and 53% women).
- These trends do not change when we look at the responses by the respondents ages 11 to 35 years.
- This finding shows that people attribute violence more to the physical manifestation of it rather than psychological and emotional forms of violence. Also, non-recognition of these forms of violence may lead to people telling the victims to compromise or not report it at all.

- As we can see that the physical form of violence is recognized by majority of both men and women but still there are some who completely (13% men and 7% women) or partially (22% men and 17% women) agree that sometimes it becomes necessary to beat their wives.
- This is further reinforced by the fact there are an even higher percentage of people who completely agree (20% men and 17% women) or somewhat agree (24% men and 20% women) that women should bear violence to keep their families together.
- These insights show that regardless of the laws, violence against women is an acceptable practice in many of our households. And these are just the physical violence that we are talking about, the psychological and emotional violence is still not even recognized as violence.

Thank you...