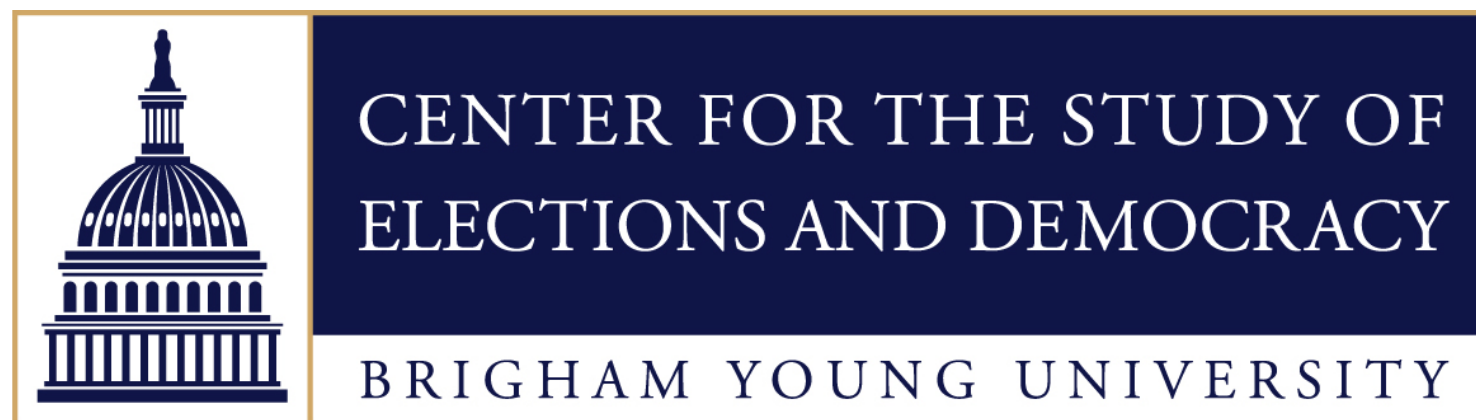


Identities, Opportunities and Challenges



**THE
AMERICAN
FAMILY
SURVEY**



YouGov[®]

Deseret News

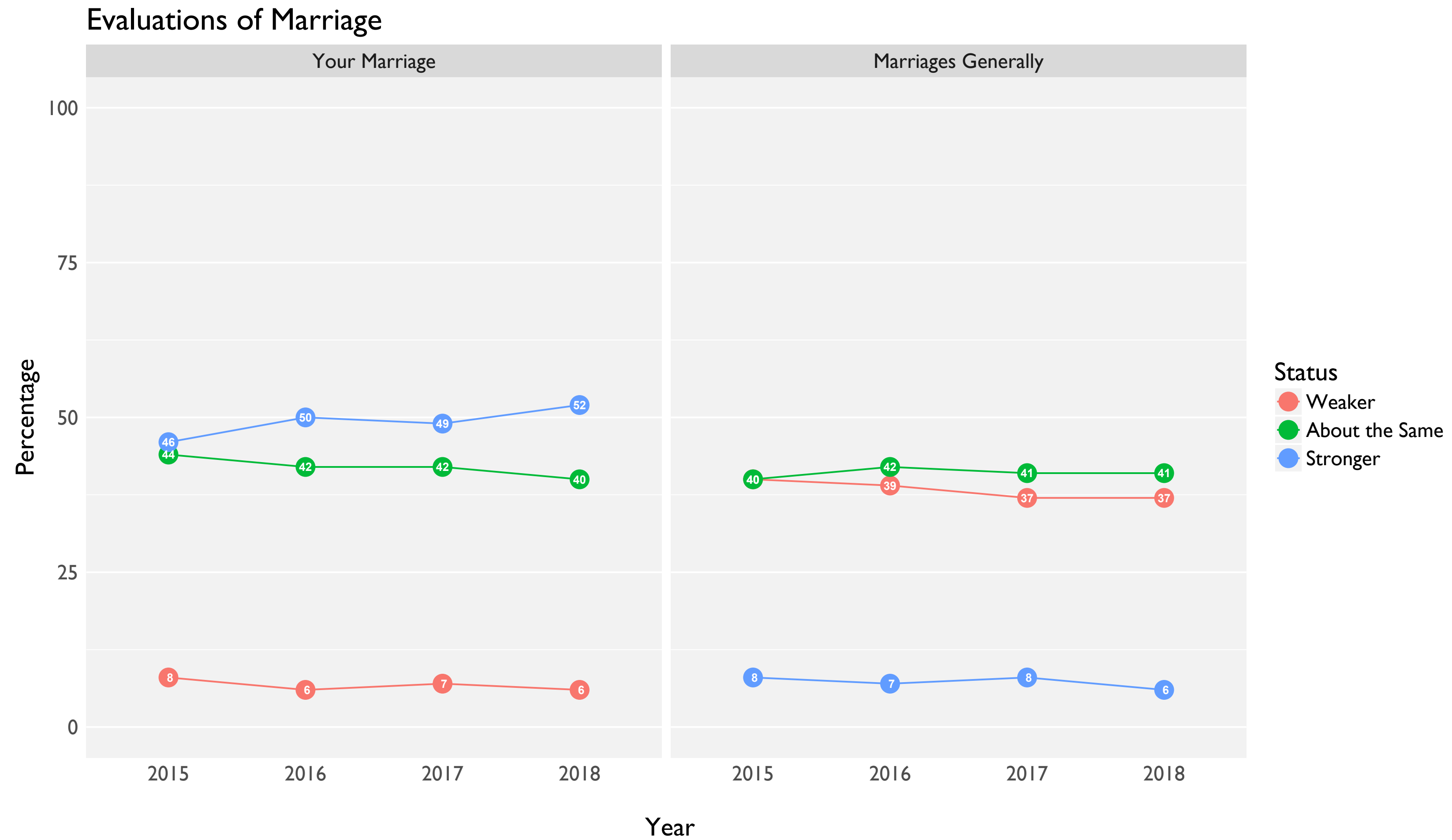
- First conducted in 2015
- 3,000 adults whose characteristics mirror those of the general population
- Fielded online by YouGov
- Core of questions about the health of American families
- Modules about specific issues and trends differ each year



THE AMERICAN FAMILY SURVEY

Marriage

People remain optimistic about their own marriages, but less so about marriages generally.



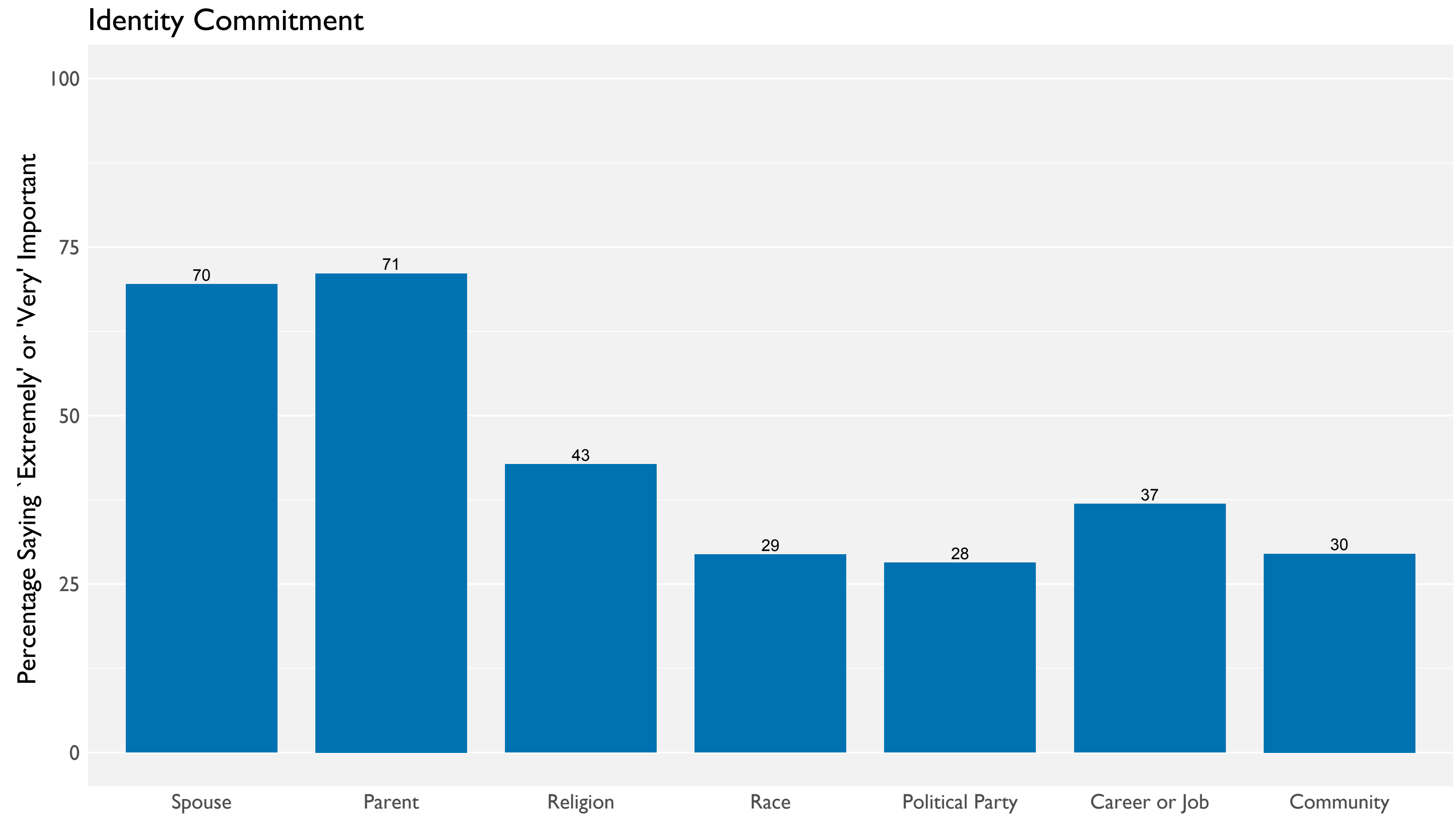
Marriage and Trump

Table 4: Trump Approval by Gender, Marital Status and Education

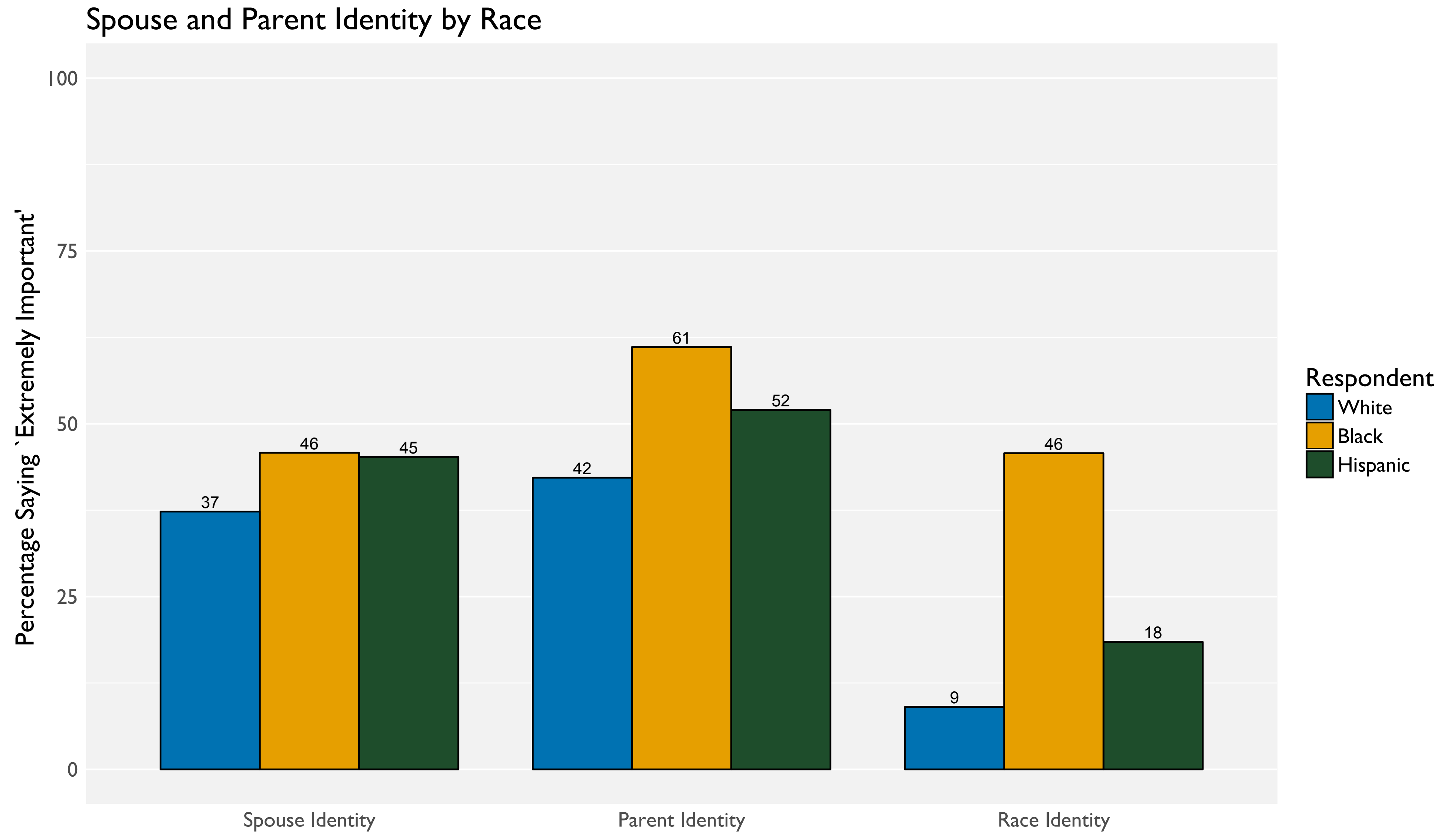
	Men		Women	
	<u>Married</u>	<u>Unmarried</u>	<u>Married</u>	<u>Unmarried</u>
<i>College Degree</i>	50	36	35	25
<i>No College Degree</i>	59	40	46	31

Identity

Political scientists obsess over identity, typically partisan identities, but what we find is that family relationships are the more important identities.

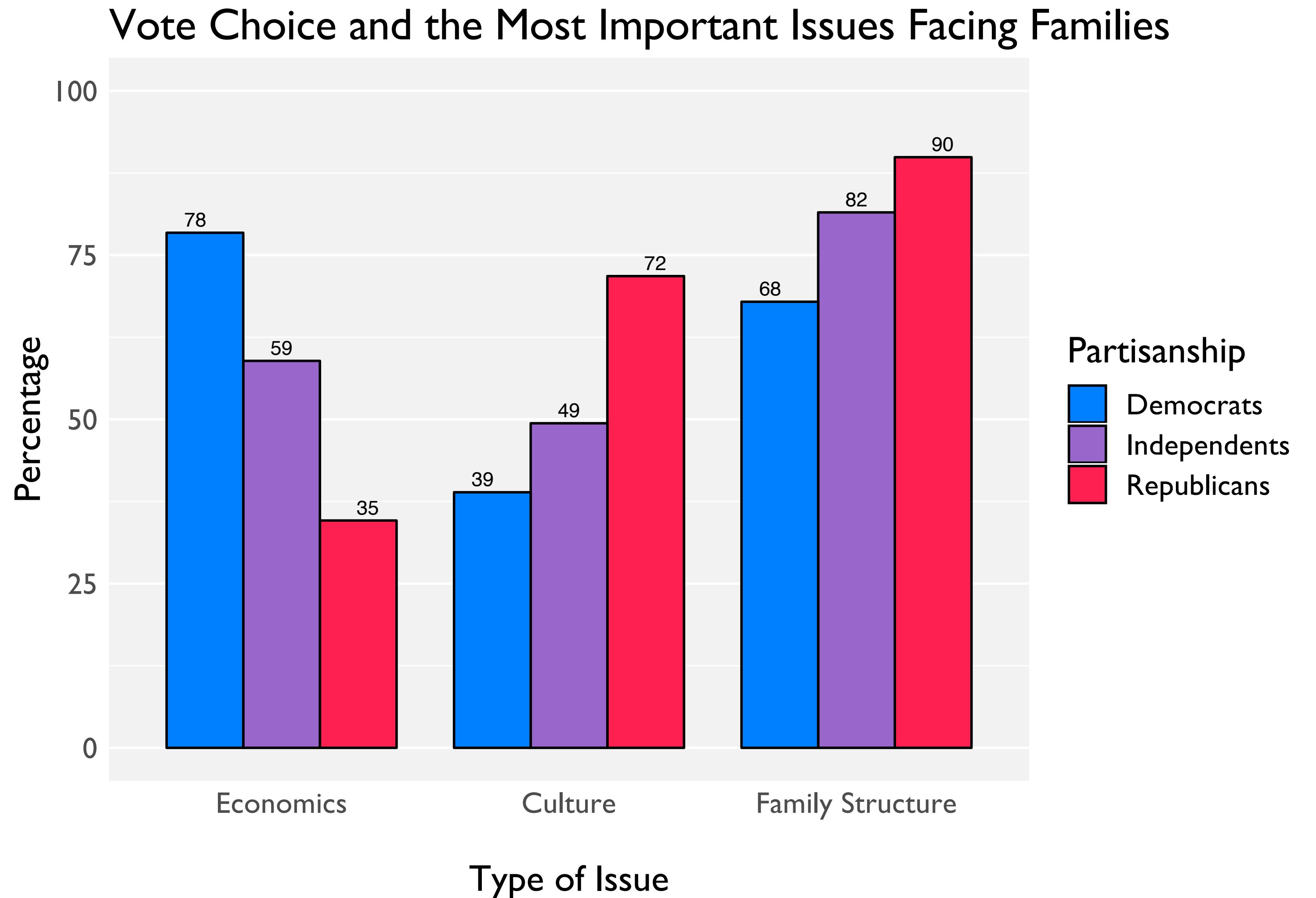


Identity and Race



Most Important Issues by Party

Democrats focus on economic issues, while Republicans prioritize culture. Both emphasize the need for increased discipline of children.



**Economic
Stresses**

Among those without children, the cost of raising a child was the most frequently cited factor in decisions about whether to have children.

Table 8: Concerns about Paying Bills

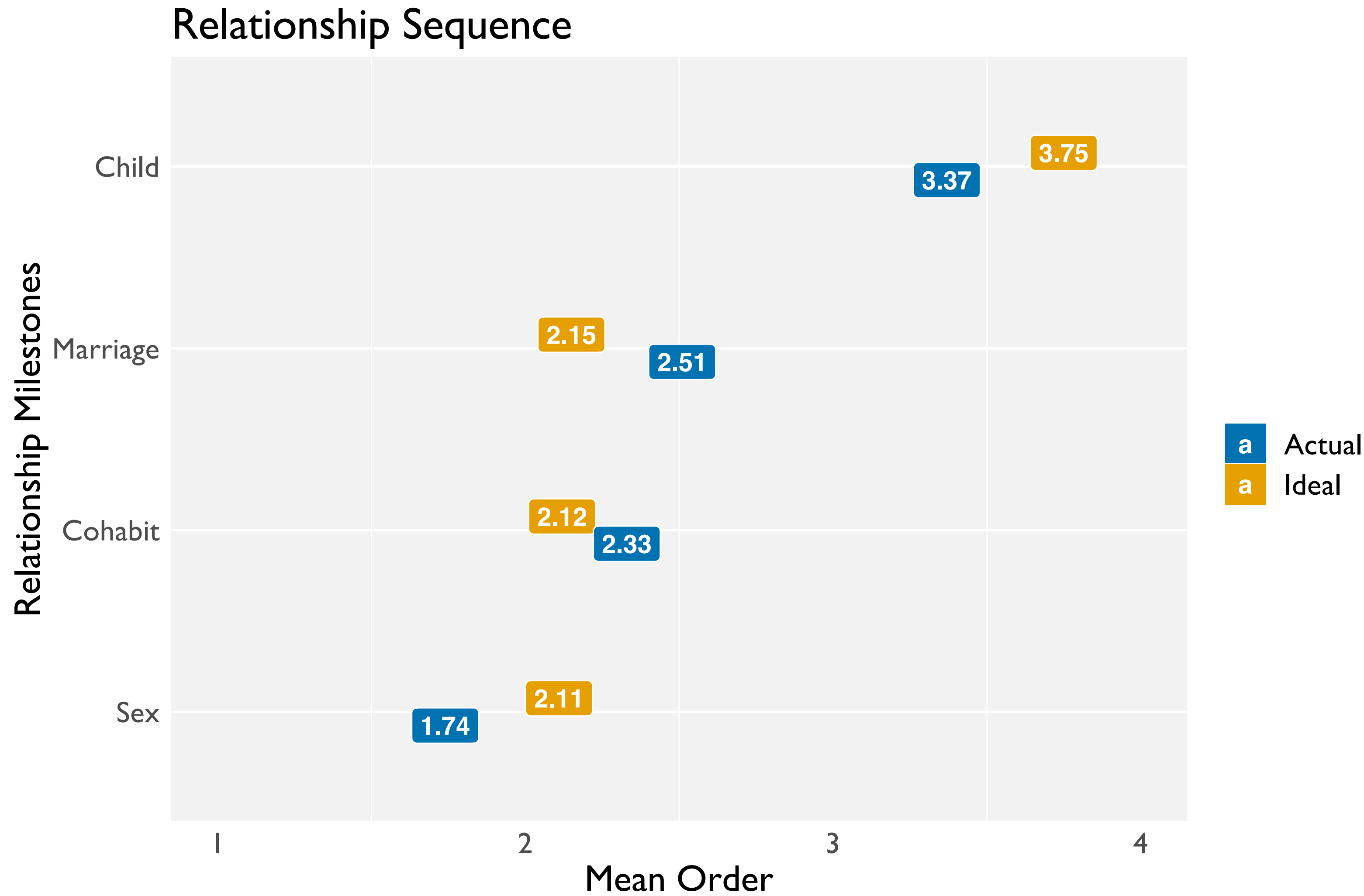
	Children At Home	No Children At Home
<i>Utilities</i>	34	23
<i>Rent/Mortgage</i>	33	25
<i>Paying Credit Card Bills</i>	33	26
<i>Food</i>	32	25
<i>Health Insurance or Medical Bills</i>	23	20
<i>Transportation Expenses</i>	20	15
<i>Paying Back Loans</i>	20	14
<i>Clothes</i>	17	11
<i>Tuition or Educational Expenses</i>	12	8
<i>Childcare</i>	7	1
<i>Other</i>	3	1
<i>At Least One</i>	73	56

2017 Modules

- Relationship Sequence
- Teens and Technology
- Sexual Harassment and Consent
- Immigration
- Policy / Taxes?

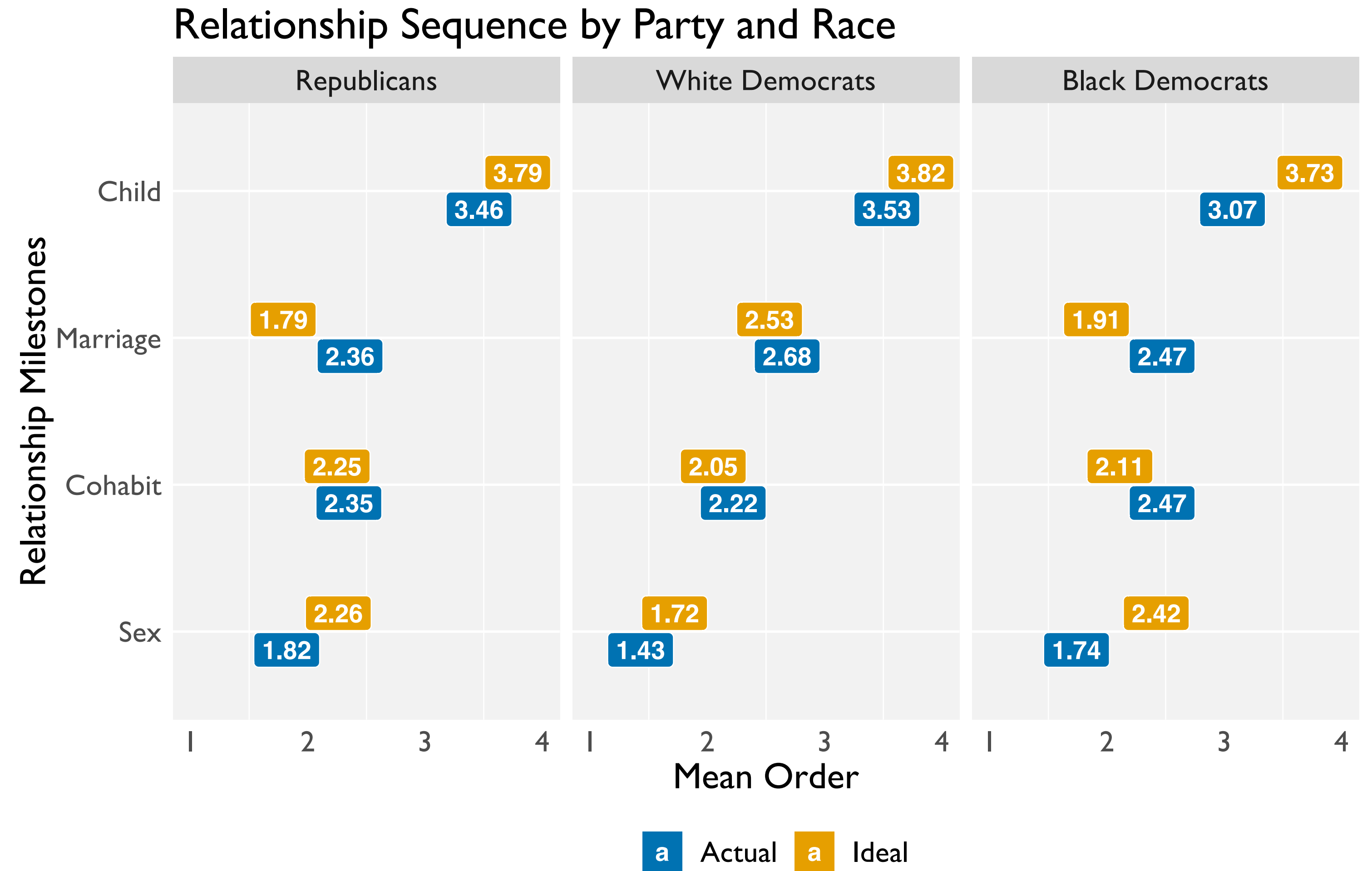
Relationship Sequence

Differences between actual and ideal, on average



Relationship Sequence

Black Democrats are more similar to Republicans than to white Democrats in their ideal relationship sequences



Teens and Technology

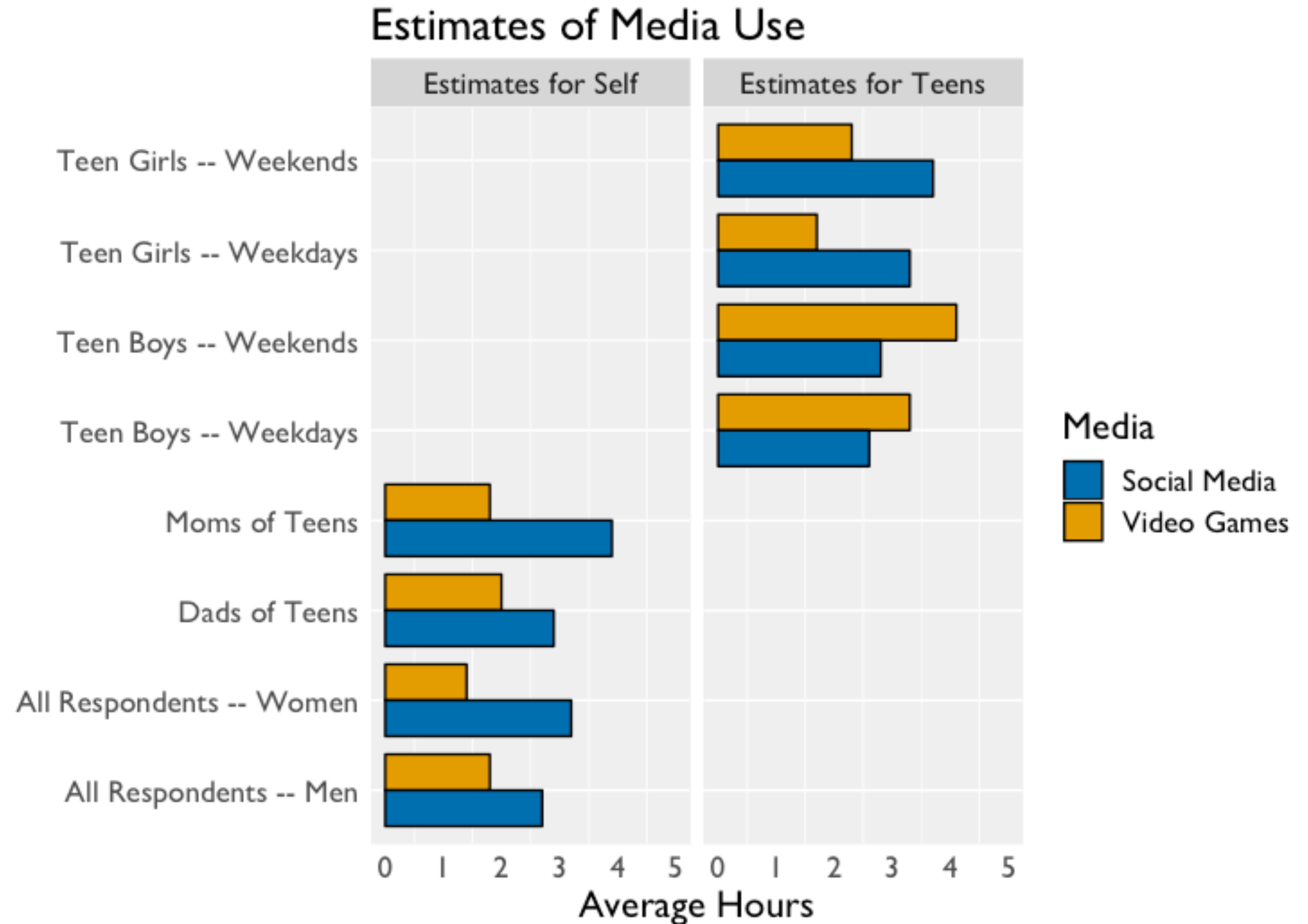
Parents' views of the most important issues facing teens

Table 16: Most Important Issues Facing Teens

	Overall	Fathers	Mothers
<i>Overuse of technology</i>	53	55	51
<i>Bullying</i>	45	38	51
<i>Mental health issues</i>	36	34	37
<i>Family breakdown/divorce</i>	35	43	29
<i>Pressure to use drugs or alcohol</i>	34	35	33
<i>Poor quality schools</i>	23	21	24
<i>Making decisions about sexual activity</i>	20	20	20
<i>Difficult relationships with family members</i>	15	15	15
<i>Dating and relationships</i>	14	15	14
<i>Pressure to get good grades</i>	14	14	14
<i>Widespread availability of pornography</i>	12	14	11
<i>Safety in their communities</i>	11	9	13
<i>Not enough meaningful work opportunities</i>	10	12	9
<i>Navigating sexual identity</i>	10	11	9
<i>Sexual abuse</i>	9	8	10
<i>Other</i>	2	2	2

Technology Use

Parents estimate their teen sons spend 24 hours/week on video games and their teen daughters spend 24 hours/week on social media

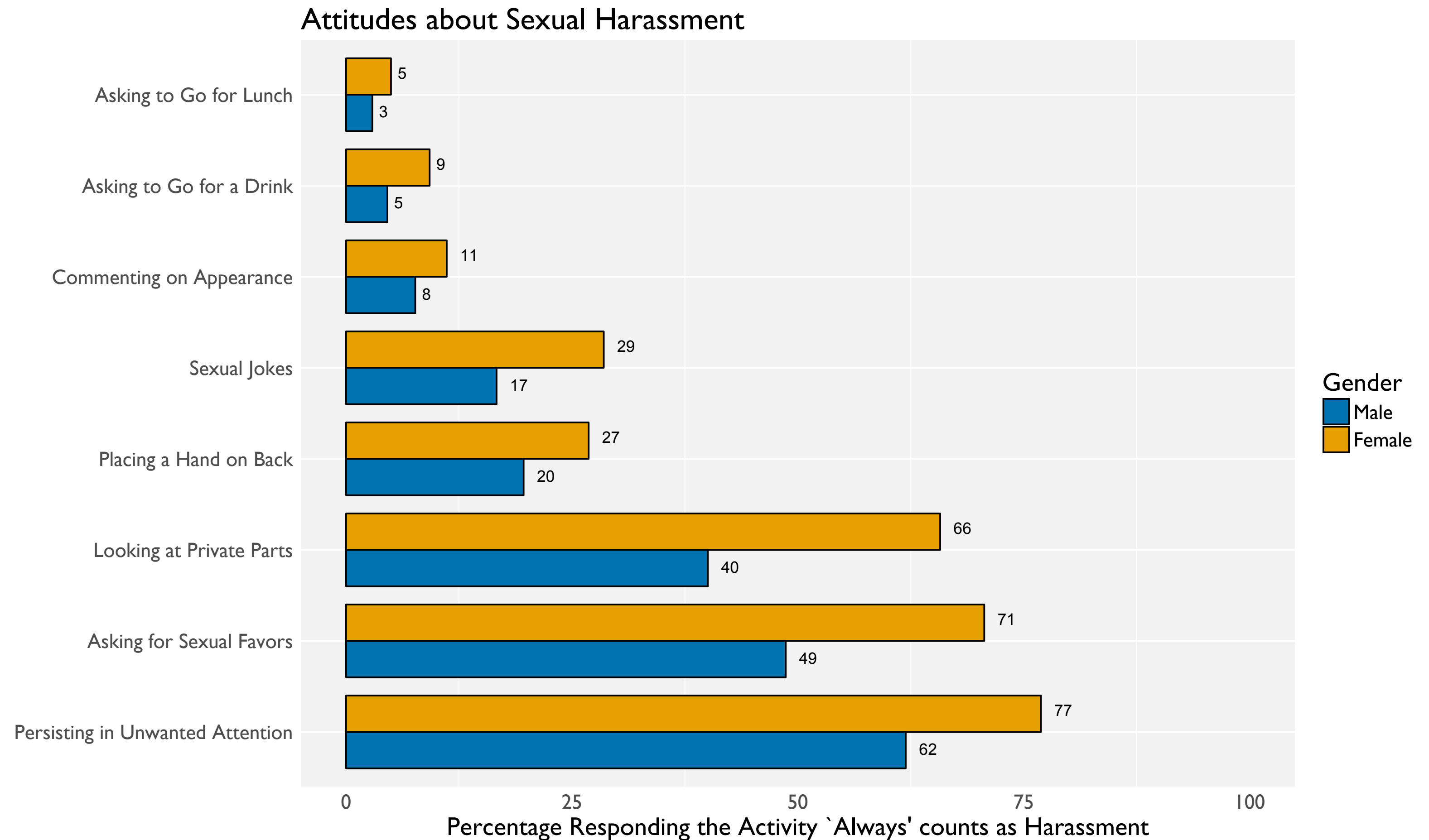


Sexual Harassment

- 43 percent of all respondents have experienced something inappropriate.
- 28 percent of men
- 58 percent of women
 - 23 percent at work
 - 15 percent from an authority figure at school or work
 - More often from college educated

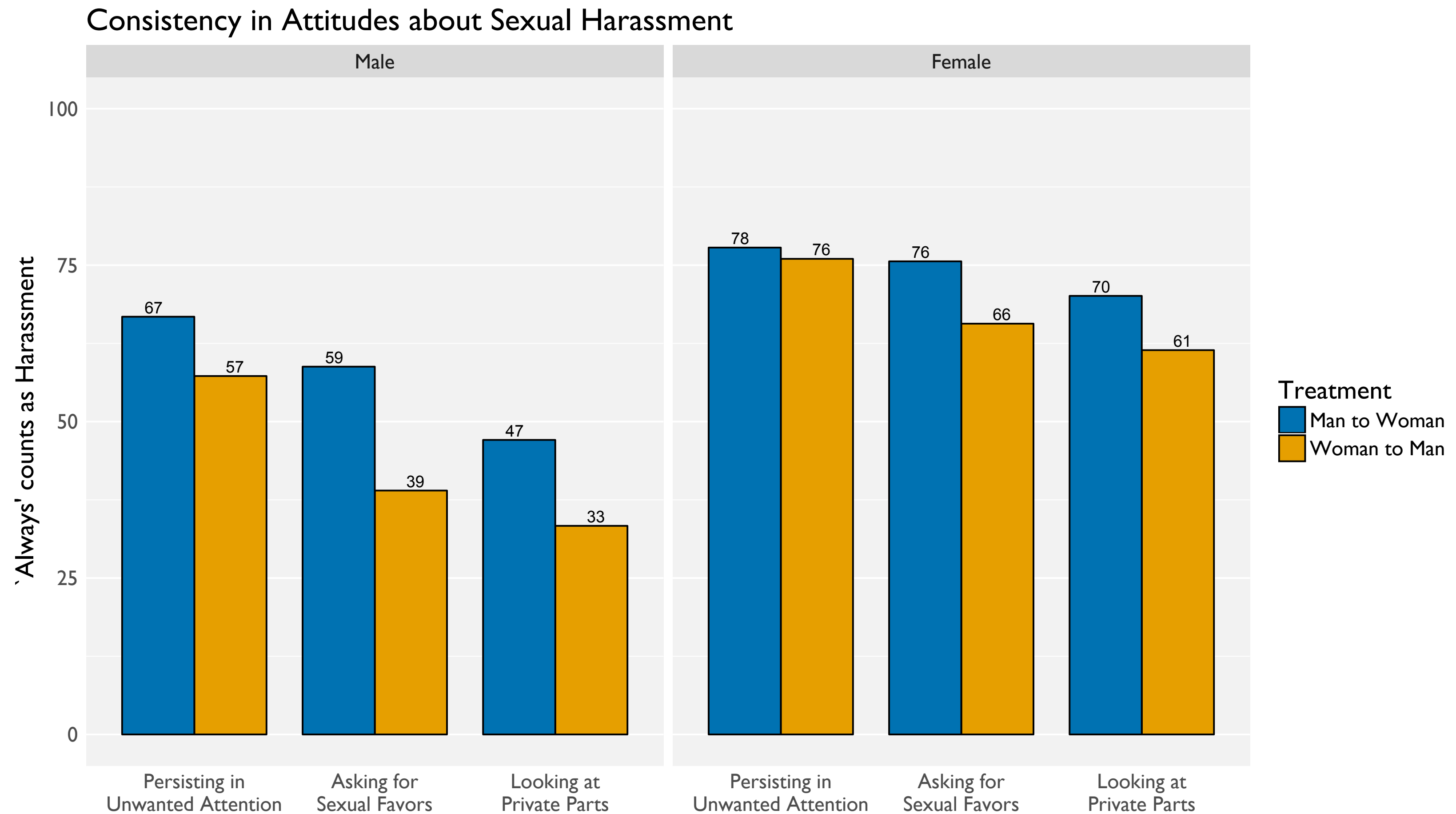
Sexual Harassment

People do distinguish between different activities, but women have more stringent standards than do men as to what counts.



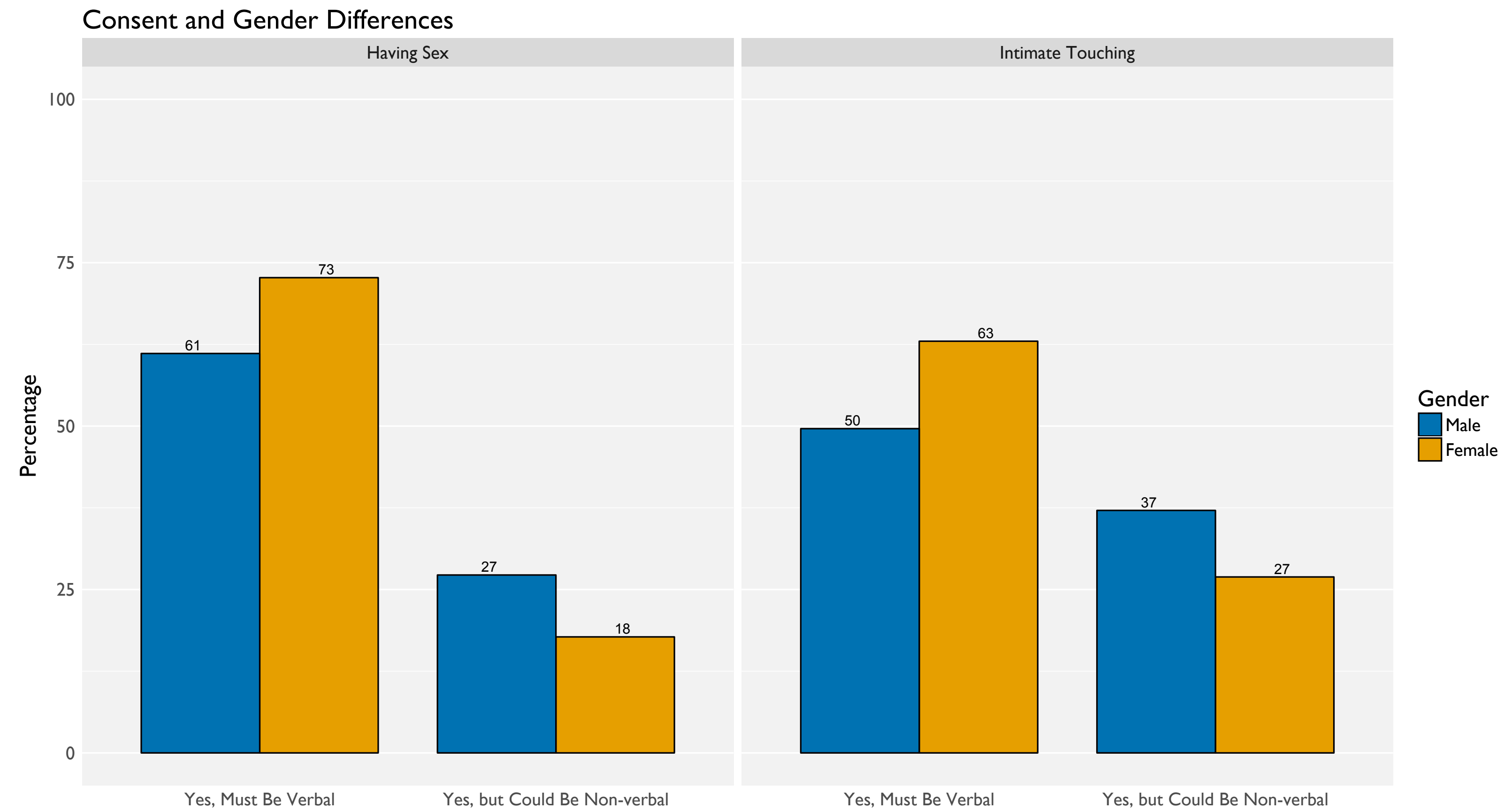
An Experiment

People are more concerned about behavior that men commit towards women than they are about the reverse.



Consent: Verbal and Non-Verbal

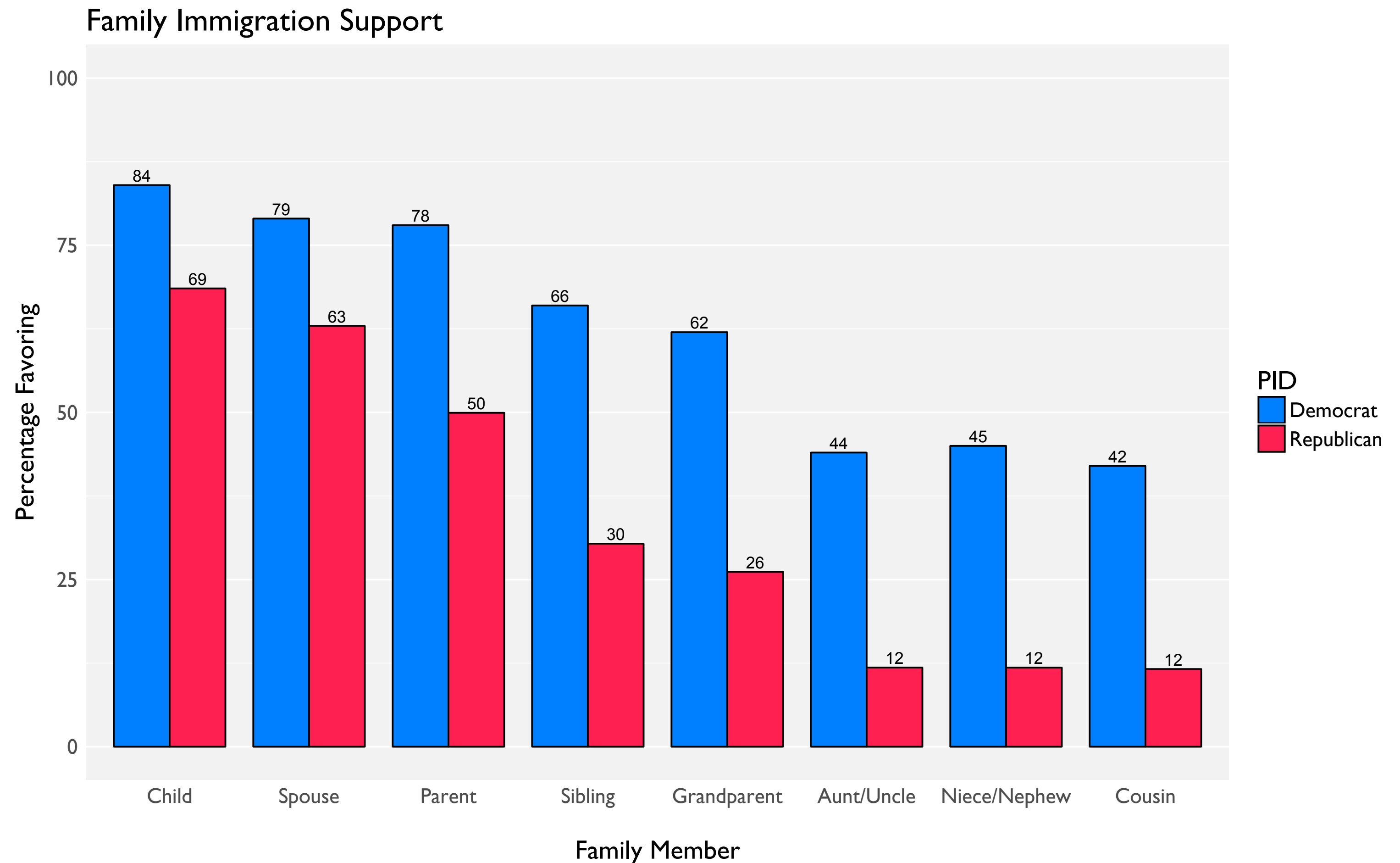
Women are more likely to believe that consent must be “verbal” though all groups favor the idea of some form of consent for the most serious forms of contact.



Immigration Policy and Family

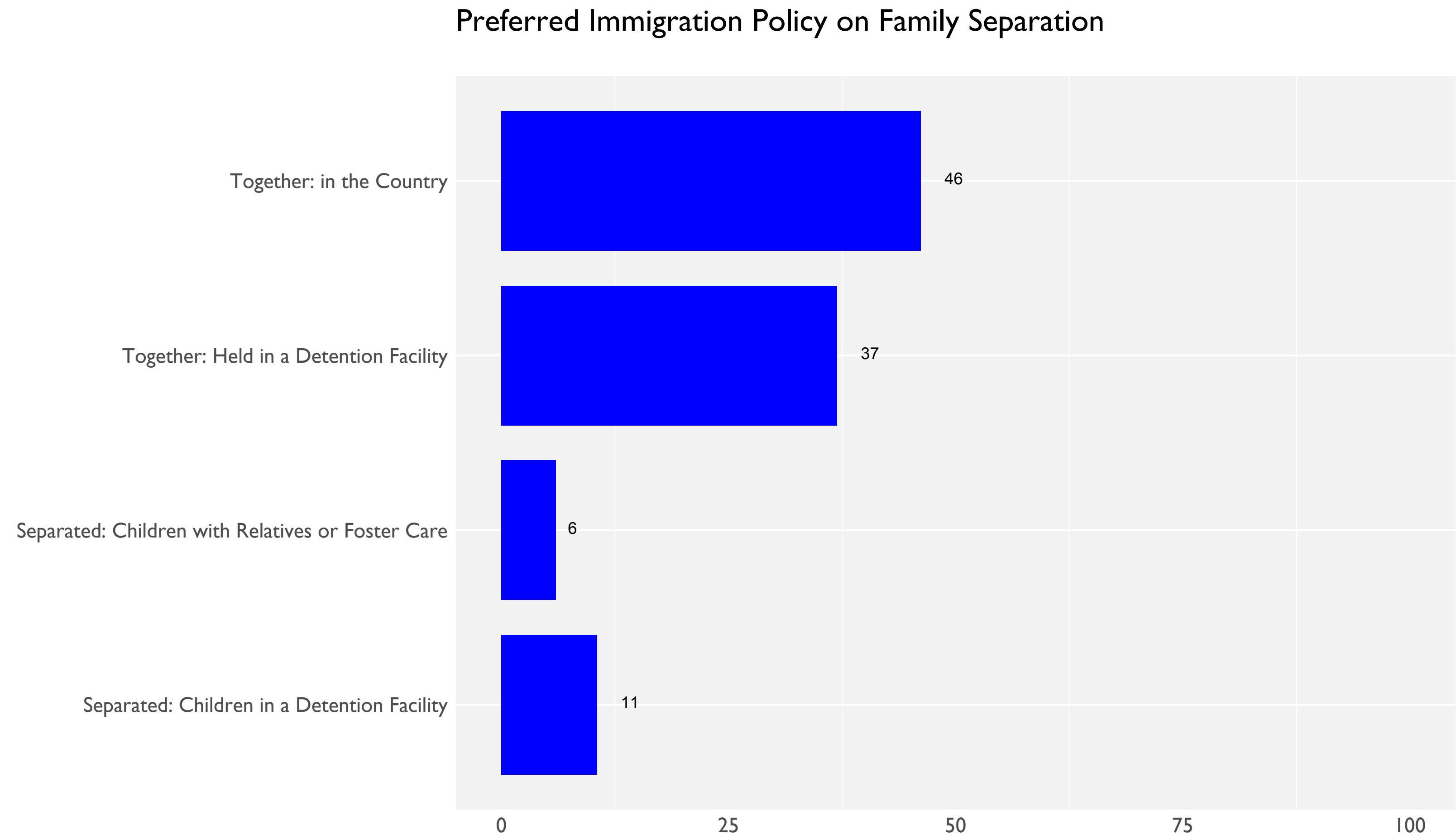
The Groups Everyone
wants to Admit:
Children, Spouses,
Parents

Controversial Groups:
Extended Family



Asylum Requests and Family Separation

Only 1 in 10 want separated families and children in detention facilities. There is more controversy over how intact families should report for asylum hearings.



Taxes

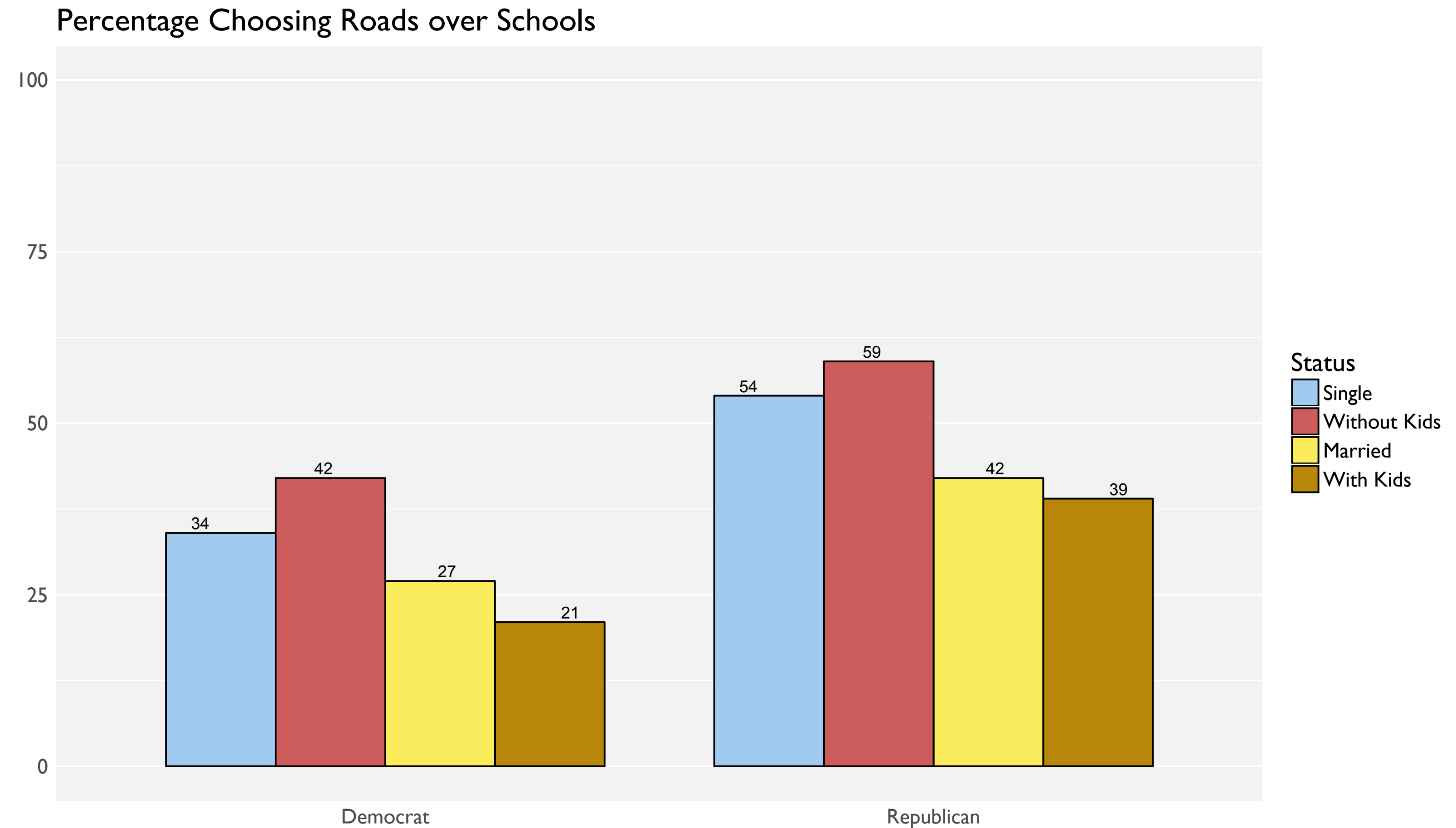
People of all stripes tend not to believe that recent tax cuts would help their family. Only 30 percent of women believed this.

Table 26: Beliefs about whom the recent tax cut would “help”

Groups	Overall Average
<i>Large Corporations</i>	68
<i>Wealthy Individuals</i>	63
<i>Small Businesses</i>	49
<i>Middle-Income Individuals</i>	43
<i>Low-Income Individuals</i>	37
<i>Your Family</i>	35

Policy

We underestimate how much family matters for policies — especially local policies.



Discussion

- Everybody remains happy with their own families, but express concern about the state of the American family. The growing worry for people is economic instability.
- Family identity matters *a lot*.
- Norms about the proper sequence of relationship milestones differ by both party and race.
- Women experience sexual harassment much more often and, perhaps consequently, have more stringent standards for conduct between the sexes, although everyone is more concerned about men's behavior toward women.
- Continued attention to public opinion about the family and family policy is our goal.