

# THE SOCIAL PERCEPTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE

Government Office for Gender-Based Violence



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## FOREWORD TO *"THE SOCIAL PERCEPTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE"*

First and foremost, I must say that it is indeed a privilege for me to preface this work on *"The Social Perception of Sexual Violence"* carried out by the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence, as a momentous, serious and rigorous study that marks a turning point in the research in this field. It is also pioneering in content, given that it focuses entirely on the social perception of sexual violence and represents the first of its kind to be conducted not only in Spain but also in Europe.

Spain has strived for many years to raise awareness of and eradicate gender violence, used here with the meaning accorded to it by Organic Act 1/2004, of 28 December 2004, on Comprehensive Protection Measures against Gender Violence, which reads: *"violence as a manifestation of discrimination, the situation of inequality and relations of power of men over women, exerted over the latter by individuals who are or have been their spouses or who have or have had sentimental ties to them through similar intimate relationships, even if they have not lived together"*. This gives us a clear understanding of its meaning, the damage it causes and the lines of action for addressing, preventing and eradicating it. Awareness among the Spanish population has improved in comparison to the rest of Europe; according to the Violence Against Women survey conducted by the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights in 2014, 83 % of respondents in Spain said they had recently seen or heard awareness campaigns addressing violence against women compared to the EU average of 50 %.

The fourth general objective of the Strategy for the Eradication of Violence against Women 2013-2016 concerns increasing visibility and attention to other forms of violence against women besides gender-based violence. It mentions and addresses the need to broaden the spectrum, learning about, researching and working on other forms of violence against women, including female genital mutilation, forced marriage or trafficking of women for sexual exploitation.

In addition to all this, it meets the requirements of the Istanbul Convention, resulting from the Spanish Government's signing of the convention in 2014 (Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, 2011), and from the emphasis placed by certain measures of the State Gender Violence Pact 2018-2022 on tackling sexual violence, whose content provides a response to measures 172 and 187 of the Congressional Committee Report and 178 of the Senate Working Committee Report, both adopted in September 2017. This leads me to believe that we have reached the point of being able to address other forms of violence against women – sexual violence being the most pressing – so that the public at large may know what the women and men of Spain consider, think, believe or fabricate on the subject.

In its 2015 report *"Attitudes towards violence against women in the EU"*, the Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers of the European Commission pointed out the lack of research within the European Union on public perceptions of violence against women, further stating that the scarce research available focuses on intimate-partner violence or domestic violence. We needed to delve deeper.

In the first research conducted by the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence in Spain on the impact of this type of violence, the *Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015*, a series of questions were introduced to measure sexual violence not committed by an intimate partner. Through these, we were able to ascertain the prevalence of sexual violence in Spain not committed by an intimate partner or former intimate partner.

The World report on violence and health published by the World Health Organization in 2002 defines sexual violence as:

*“any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work. Coercion can cover a whole spectrum of degrees of force. Apart from physical force, it may involve psychological intimidation, blackmail or other threats – for instance, the threat of physical harm, of being dismissed from a job or of not obtaining a job that is sought. It may also occur when the person aggressed is unable to give consent – for instance, while drunk, drugged, asleep or mentally incapable of understanding the situation.”*

In designing the questionnaire for this research, the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence paid special attention to the need to minimise the effect of social desirability on the responses of interviewees, i.e. when individuals try to give socially correct responses rather than what they truly think. To make progress in this regard, the survey had to contain subtle questions that were capable of capturing society’s real attitudes towards violence, so questions were taken from internationally validated psychometric scales endorsed by academics to ensure utmost rigour and provide a sound scientific basis for the study.

The main findings of the study will provide essential information for the design of political lines of action, the allocation of resources for prevention and the creation of awareness campaigns to combat sexual violence, which the Government Office will embark on as early as 2018 in order to meet measure 186 of the Congress.

Lastly, all that remains for me to say is that sexual violence can, without a doubt, be prevented and eradicated. Therefore, once we know and have studied and investigated its extension in society, we must deepen our understanding of its causes, which include the existence of social attitudes that tolerate or justify it.

As I mentioned at the beginning of this foreword, Spain has worked diligently to combat a form of violence committed against women for the sole reason of being a woman. And against their children. We have also addressed other forms in a more secondary capacity. The time has come to give them all the importance they deserve in order to eradicate them completely and provide support to victims in their recovery, so that our motto *"There is a way out of gender-based violence"* can become a reality in every sector.

Our commitment is well-founded and, because sexual violence takes place in a particular social and cultural context, we will push for change in the sexist culture, attitudes and behaviours that promote it, taking another step forward in our commitment towards a society free of gender-based violence.

María José Ordóñez Carbajal. April 2018

GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATIVE FOR GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

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In 2012 and 2013, the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence conducted two surveys to study the "Social perception of gender violence", the first of which was addressed to over-18s and the second to young people aged 15 to 29. The idea behind these surveys on the social perception of gender-based violence was to obtain a deeper understanding of the perception of people living in Spain of the causes and consequences of gender-based violence and to measure tolerance of the various manifestations of intimate partner violence, whether by current or former partners. **An understanding of the existing social perception of violence against women is essential if we are to improve the design of public policy geared towards eradicating violence** and it is particularly important for the correct targeting of awareness campaigns.

**This study addresses the social perception of sexual violence.** Sexual violence is a very widespread form of violence against women in society: according to the **Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015**,<sup>1</sup> **13.7 % of women aged 16 and over living in Spain have experienced sexual violence** from partners, former partners or other persons (8.1 % from a partner or former partner and 7.2 % from any person with whom they are not or have not been in a relationship). Sexual violence also has very serious consequences for the physical and mental health of victims. The World Health Organization considers sexual violence to be one of the most serious public health and human rights problems worldwide.<sup>2</sup> The **Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015** was Spain's first **compilation of information on non-partner sexual violence, thereby offering an insight into the true extent of sexual violence**.<sup>3</sup> With the Macro Survey 2015, Spain met the fourth goal of its National Strategy for the Eradication of Violence against Women (2013-2016), that of increasing visibility and attention to other forms of violence against women, and complied with the requirements of the **Istanbul Convention** regarding the collection of statistical data and the performance of surveys to assess the extent of and trends in all forms of violence within the scope of the Convention.

The Istanbul Convention urges its Signatory States to conduct research into the root causes of the diverse forms of violence against women. To fulfil this requirement, the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence has conducted a survey to study the social perception of sexual violence. The **Social Perception of Sexual Violence Survey was primarily designed to provide a detailed overview of public perceptions of various aspects of sexual violence.**

International academics<sup>4</sup> are placing growing importance on the need to deepen our knowledge of society's attitudes as a way of improving violence prevention. The perceptions and attitudes of society shape the social climate in which sexual violence takes place and contribute to its perpetuation or disappearance. A social environment that accepts or even supports sexual violence in any circumstance contributes to creating a climate of tolerance that facilitates the continuation of aggressor conduct and makes it difficult for victims to disclose the violence that they have experienced. The result is that **sexual violence cannot be eradicated without addressing the social attitudes that tolerate or justify it.** In short, reducing the social acceptability of sexual violence is

<sup>1</sup> [http://www.violenciagenero.mssi.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/macroencuesta2015/Avance\\_Resultados2015/home\\_valida.htm](http://www.violenciagenero.mssi.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/macroencuesta2015/Avance_Resultados2015/home_valida.htm)

<sup>2</sup> World Health Organization (2013). *Global and Regional Estimates of Violence against Women: Prevalence and health effects of intimate partner violence and non-partner sexual violence*. Geneva: World Health Organization.

<sup>3</sup> Previous macro surveys did not measure non-partner sexual violence.

<sup>4</sup> Gracia, E. and Lila, M. (2015). *Attitudes towards violence against women in the EU*. European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, Luxembourg: Publication Office of the European Union.

Gracia, E. (2014). *Intimate partner violence against women and victim-blaming attitudes among Europeans*. Bulletin of the World Health Organization, 92 (5), 380 - 381. World Health Organization.



essential for preventing this form of violence. **The first step to working in this direction is to determine the extent of society's acceptance. Note that this is the first time in Spain and in Europe that a survey has focused exclusively on the study of sexual violence.**

The Government Office for Gender-Based Violence conducted the survey on Social Perception of Sexual Violence in collaboration with the Center for Sociological Research (CIS) on a **sample of 2,465 people aged 16 and over, representing the population of men and women living in Spain.** To design this survey questionnaire, the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence paid special attention to the need to minimise the effect of social desirability on the responses of interviewees. Questions were taken from internationally validated psychometric scales, such as the Acceptance of Modern Myths About Sexual Aggression (AMMSA) scale, the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance (ISHMA) scale and the Modern Sexism and Neosexism scales. The agency that conducted the interviews and carried out the subsequent data coding, validation and clean-up was the Center for Sociological Research. The Government Office for Gender-Based Violence designed and conducted the survey questionnaire and this study. The methodology used is detailed in the Appendix to the study.

**This study is structured into 8 chapters** that analyse the responses to the questions contained in the questionnaire. The first chapter is introductory and sets the context for the perception of sexual violence in the context of gender inequality and sexism. It covers opinions on the extent of gender inequality in Spain and how this has changed over the past 10 years, as well as attitudes towards sexism among the Spanish population.

The second chapter uses items from the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance scale to analyse the perception of sexual harassment in the workplace, with a focus on the rejection or tolerance of attitudes that somehow justify harassment. The analysis is split into three sections: the first discusses the belief that women make up or exaggerate sexual harassment, or that they incite harassment themselves. It then evaluates the belief that sexual harassment is merely romantic behaviour that naturally occurs in men and that women enjoy it. Lastly, it studies the belief that the onus of controlling the sexual harassment is on the harassed woman.

The third chapter analyses the population's tolerance of attitudes that potentially justify sexual violence, blame the victim or shift the blame from the aggressor. This is done using items from the Acceptance of Modern Myths About Sexual Aggression (AMMSA) scale, among others. Although the vast majority of the population theoretically condemn sexual violence, when people are asked about certain conducts or attitudes that constitute sexual aggression, they do not always identify them as such. They also sometimes make statements that effectively put the blame on the woman who was sexually assaulted or shift the blame from the aggressor, for example by agreeing with the statement that alcohol is the cause of many sexual assaults.

Chapter Four looks at the population's opinions on the punishability of different types of sexual violence against women. It begins by analysing behaviours that range from verbal sexual violence to sexual assault by intimate partners or drug-facilitated sexual assault. It then moves on to study behaviours of sexual violence in the context of new information and communication technologies. And lastly, it examines attitudes towards the trafficking of women for sexual exploitation and the consumption of prostitution.

Chapter Five looks firstly at the social perception of the places where sexual assault most often takes place and secondly at aggressor stereotypes. In the analysis of beliefs about the reasons why some

men sexually assault women, a distinction is made between those that justify the behaviour of the aggressor in some way and those that do not.

Chapter Six examines the interviewee's knowledge of cases of sexual violence in their environment. Knowledge of such cases is analysed not only in the family setting or friendship circle, but also in the neighbourhood and at their place of work or study.

Chapter Seven looks at knowledge and opinions about formal complaints of sexual violence. It explores opinions on the frequency with which women report sexual assault, the reasons why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor, and the place or service where interviewees would go if they were sexually assaulted.

In the last chapter, Chapter Eight, the focus is on preventing sexual violence through education and citizen awareness. It looks firstly at opinions on the institutions and agencies that ought to raise awareness of sexual violence and its prevention. It then studies the actions considered by the population to be most relevant in preventing sexual assault. And lastly, it analyses public opinion on the need to educate men and women in sexual consent as a means of preventing sexual assault.

This study gives response to certain measures of the **State Pact against Gender-based Violence**, namely measures 172 and 187 of the Congress and measure 178 of the Senate. The study will also contribute essential information for preparing the sexual violence awareness campaign that the Government Office plans to implement in 2018 to comply with measure 186 of the Congress.

## 1- PERCEPTION OF GENDER EQUALITY AND SEXISM IN SPAIN

Before addressing public opinions on diverse aspects of sexual violence and, by way of a preamble, the survey questionnaire asks about perceptions of the level of gender equality in Spain and a series of questions to assess the level of sexism in the population. This chapter discusses these questions under two separate headings.

### 1.1 Perception of the extent of and changes in gender equality in Spanish society

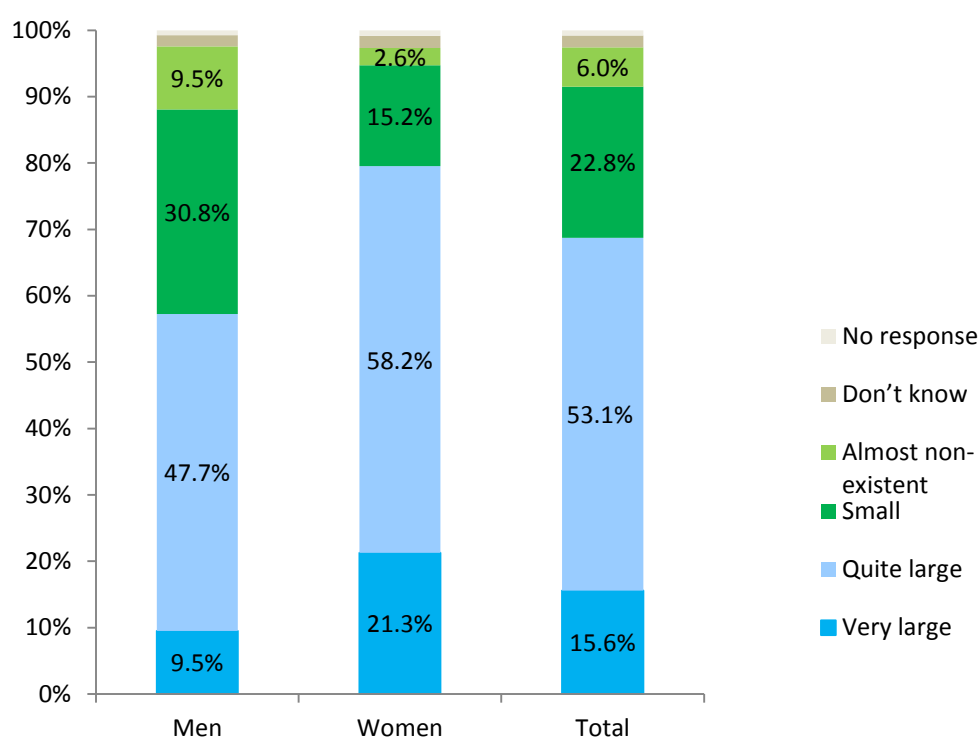
The questionnaire included two questions about gender equality. The first asks for a general assessment of the current level of gender inequality in Spanish society. The second asks for opinions on changes in gender inequalities over the last 10 years. The first question is worded thus:

*Qu. 1 Let's talk about the general situation of women in Spain. Would you say that the inequalities between men and women in Spain are: very large, fairly large, small or almost non-existent?*

The answers are set out in Figure 1.1, which shows that 68.7 % of the Spanish-resident population aged 16 and over consider gender inequalities in Spain to be fairly large or very large, as opposed to 28.8 % who consider them to be small or almost non-existent.

There are, however, important differences in the answers given by men and women on this issue. A total of 79.5 % of women consider that gender inequalities in Spain are fairly large or very large, compared to 57.3 % of men who consider this to be so. Likewise, **the percentage of men who consider gender inequalities to be small or almost non-existent (40.3 %) is more than twice the percentage of women (17.8 %) who consider this to be the case.**

Figure 1.1 Perception of current gender inequalities in Spain, by sex



The percentage of **men** (Table 1.1) living in **municipalities** with over 10,000 inhabitants who consider gender inequalities to be fairly or very large (60.8 %) is higher than that of men living in small municipalities (44.9 %). By **country of birth**, 58.5 % of men born in Spain believe that gender inequalities are fairly or very large, compared to 46.9 % of men born abroad. There are no statistically significant differences by age or educational level.

**Table 1.1. Assessment of the extent of gender inequalities in Spain by sociodemographic characteristics. Opinions of MEN (%)**

		Fairly large or very large	Small or almost non-existent	DK/NR	Total
Age	16-34	60.5 %	36.9 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
	35-59	57.7 %	40.3 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	60+	53.2 %	43.6 %	3.2 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	49.8 %	46.3 %	4.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	58.1 %	39.7 %	2.2 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	59.8 %	37.5 %	2.7 %	100.0 %
	University education	60.7 %	37.8 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	57.9 %	40.2 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	55.8 %	41.3 %	2.9 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	53.8 %	42.4 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
	Student	64.1 %	33.3 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
Country of birth*	Spain	58.5 %	39.4 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
	Another country	46.9 %	47.7 %	5.5 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	65.6 %	31.2 %	3.1 %	100.0 %
	No	56.7 %	40.9 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence***	<=10,000	44.9 %	53.2 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	60.8 %	36.7 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	55.5 %	41.3 %	3.2 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with his children <sup>5</sup>	72.4 %	27.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	57.0 %	40.9 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	58.2 %	39.1 %	2.7 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

<sup>5</sup> The total frequency of this category for men is just 29 cases, so caution must be exercised when analysing the result.

The percentage of **women** (Table 1.2) living in **municipalities** with over 10,000 inhabitants who consider gender inequalities to be fairly or very large is higher (81.3 %) than that of women living in small municipalities (72.4 %). By **country of birth**, 81.6 % of women born in Spain believe that gender inequalities are fairly or very large, compared to 63.4 % of women born abroad. The percentage of women who consider gender inequalities to be fairly or very large is higher among women with advanced **VET studies** (91.3 %) than women with a university education (82.8 %), secondary education (77.5 %), or primary education or lower (75.6 %). There are no statistically significant differences by age.

**Table 1.2 Assessment of the extent of gender inequalities in Spain by sociodemographic characteristics. Opinions of WOMEN (%)**

		Fairly large or very large	Small or almost non-existent	DK/NR	Total
Age	16-34	78.2 %	19.8 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	81.2 %	16.8 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	60+	78.0 %	17.7 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
Educational level**	Primary or lower education	75.6 %	20.1 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	77.5 %	20.2 %	2.2 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	91.3 %	6.7 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	82.8 %	14.9 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	82.2 %	16.1 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	80.1 %	15.5 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	73.1 %	24.0 %	2.9 %	100.0 %
	Student	82.5 %	17.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	74.1 %	21.6 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
Country of birth***	Spain	81.6 %	15.6 %	2.8 %	100.0 %
	Another country	63.4 %	35.2 %	1.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	69.8 %	22.2 %	7.9 %	100.0 %
	No	80.0 %	17.5 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence***	<=10,000	72.4 %	24.5 %	3.1 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	81.3 %	16.1 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	77.0 %	18.0 %	5.1 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	80.2 %	14.9 %	5.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	79.0 %	18.9 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	82.2 %	15.8 %	2.0 %	100.0 %

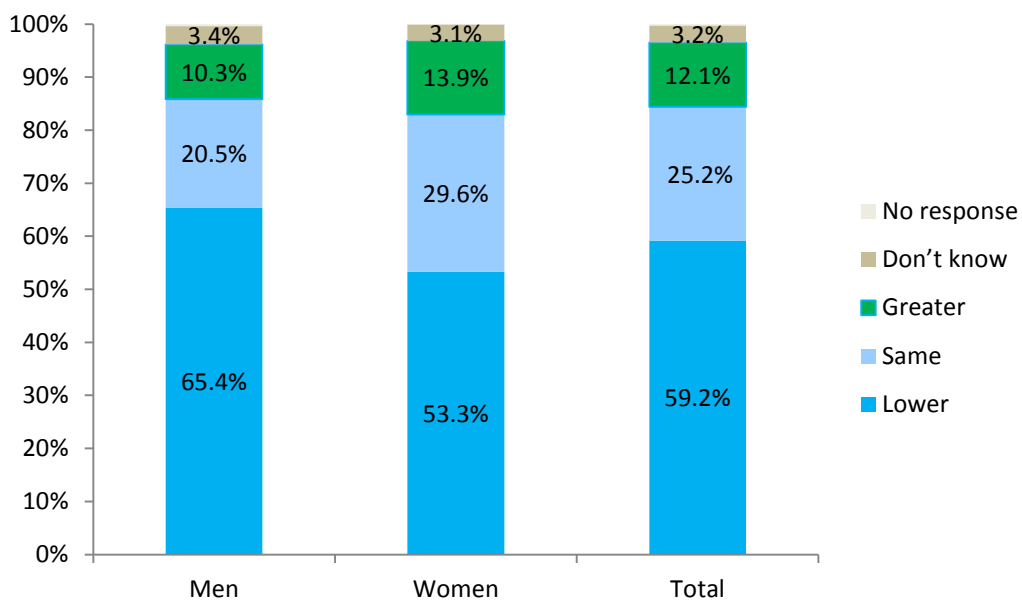
Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

The survey then asked for the interviewee's opinion on the change in inequalities over the past ten years:

*Qu. 2 Compared to how things were ten years ago, do you think that the inequalities between men and women today are greater, the same or fewer?*

The answers are shown in Figure 1.2. **Almost 60 % of the population believe that there are fewer gender inequalities today than 10 years ago** (59.2 %). Again, there are significant differences by sex of the interviewee: 65.4 % of men consider gender inequalities to be fewer today than they were 10 years ago, compared to 53.3 % of women.

Figure 1.2 Perception of change in gender inequality in Spain over the past 10 years, by sex



The percentage of younger **men** (Table 1.3) who consider gender inequalities to be fewer now than they were 10 years ago is higher than that of **older** men: 76.1 % of those aged between 16 and 34 consider it to be the case, compared to 64.0 % of men aged between 35 and 59, and 57.4 % of men aged 60 or over.

**Educational level** is also significant. More men with a higher education (advanced VET – 74.1 % – or university education – 72.7 %) consider that gender inequality is lower now than it was ten years ago, compared to men with a secondary education (64.2 %), or primary education or lower (55.5 %).

With regard to **employment status**, retirees and pensioners, due to interrelation with the age factor, are the least likely to say that there are fewer gender inequalities now than 10 years ago (57.7 %). At the other end of the scale are students: 80.8 % believe that inequalities are lower today.

The "**accredited disability**" variable is also significant although, as with employment status, the results are highly dependent on the age variable, since the average age of persons with a disability is considerably higher than that of persons without a disability. Thus, the proportion of men with an accredited disability of more than 33 % who believe that there are fewer gender inequalities today than 10 years ago (51.6 %) is smaller than that of men without an accredited disability (66.2 %).

**Table 1.3. Assessment of the change in gender inequalities in Spain over the past 10 years by sociodemographic characteristics. Opinions of MEN (%)**

		Greater	Same	Lower	Don't know	No response	Total
Age***	16-34	6.8 %	12.3 %	76.1 %	4.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	10.3 %	22.3 %	64.0 %	3.0 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	60+	13.8 %	25.3 %	57.4 %	2.9 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	16.3 %	22.5 %	55.5 %	5.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	10.8 %	21.4 %	64.2 %	3.2 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	8.9 %	14.3 %	74.1 %	1.8 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	4.5 %	19.5 %	72.7 %	2.6 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	8.6 %	19.6 %	68.3 %	3.0 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	14.5 %	24.2 %	57.7 %	2.9 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	9.8 %	23.5 %	60.6 %	6.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	7.7 %	6.4 %	80.8 %	5.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	10.3 %	20.2 %	66.3 %	2.9 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Another country	10.2 %	22.7 %	57.8 %	7.8 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability greater than or equal to 33 %*	Yes	18.8 %	26.6 %	51.6 %	3.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	9.8 %	20.1 %	66.2 %	3.4 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	9.1 %	22.8 %	65.4 %	2.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	10.6 %	19.8 %	65.4 %	3.6 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	11.6 %	21.3 %	61.9 %	4.5 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with his children <sup>6</sup>	13.8 %	31.0 %	55.2 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	10.5 %	22.4 %	63.9 %	2.7 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	8.8 %	14.8 %	71.4 %	5.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

<sup>6</sup> The total frequency of this category for men is just 29 cases, so caution must be exercised when analysing the result.

The perception of **women** by **age** follows the same pattern (Table 1.4): the younger they are, the higher the percentage of those who consider that there are fewer gender inequalities today than ten years ago (16-34 years: 59.4 %; 35-59 years: 53.9 %; +60 years: 48.0 %). By **educational level**, women with a university education most often consider that there are fewer inequalities today (59.3 %), followed by those with a secondary education (53.7 %), advanced VET (51.0 %), and primary education or lower (47.0 %).

With regard to **employment status**, retirees and pensioners, due to interrelation with the age factor, are the least likely to say that there are fewer gender inequalities now than 10 years ago (49.1 %). At the other end of the scale are students: 65.0 % believe that there are fewer inequalities today. By **type of household**, single-parent households consisting of the mother and her children consider to a lesser extent that there are fewer inequalities (42.6 % compared to 51.7 % of women who live alone, 54.1 % of women living with their partners with or without children, and 56.7 % of those in other situations). Whichever way we look at it and **regardless of the sociodemographic characteristic being analysed, the perception of women is always less optimistic than men.**

**Table 1.4. Assessment of the change in gender inequalities in Spain over the past 10 years by sociodemographic characteristics. Opinions of WOMEN (%)**

		Greater	Same	Lower	Don't know	No response	Total
Age**	16-34	12.2 %	24.8 %	59.4 %	3.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	12.1 %	31.9 %	53.9 %	1.9 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	60+	17.7 %	30.1 %	48.0 %	4.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	19.4 %	28.0 %	47.0 %	5.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	14.6 %	29.3 %	53.7 %	2.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	15.4 %	28.8 %	51.0 %	4.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	7.0 %	32.1 %	59.3 %	1.3 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Employment status**	Employed	11.5 %	31.2 %	55.3 %	1.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	20.6 %	26.4 %	49.1 %	4.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	14.9 %	32.0 %	49.7 %	2.9 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Student	12.5 %	20.0 %	65.0 %	2.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	10.5 %	31.5 %	52.5 %	5.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	14.0 %	29.8 %	53.7 %	2.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Another country	13.1 %	28.3 %	50.3 %	7.6 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	23.8 %	28.6 %	46.0 %	1.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	13.3 %	29.9 %	53.6 %	3.2 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	13.4 %	29.1 %	56.7 %	0.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	14.0 %	29.8 %	52.5 %	3.7 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household*	Lives alone	16.9 %	27.5 %	51.7 %	3.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	20.8 %	32.7 %	42.6 %	4.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	11.6 %	31.3 %	54.1 %	2.8 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	15.8 %	24.7 %	56.7 %	2.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.



## 1.2 Spanish attitudes towards sexism

Before introducing the questions on sexual violence, the questionnaire asked a series of questions intended to **determine the level of sexism in the population**. These questions are based on internationally validated psychometric scales such as the Modern Sexism scale,<sup>7</sup> the Neosexism scale<sup>8</sup> and the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory,<sup>9</sup> and seek to minimise the social desirability component of the responses. This section looks at interviewee responses to these questions, which read as follows:

*Qu. 3 I will now read a series of statements about relationships between men and women today. Please tell me to what extent you agree with them, using a scale of 0 to 5, where 0 means that you "disagree strongly" and 5 means that you "agree strongly".*

- 1. Women often lose good jobs because of sexual discrimination*
- 2. It is rare to see women treated in a sexist manner in television*
- 3. Women are too easily offended*
- 4. What feminist women really want is for women to have more power than men*
- 5. It is difficult to work for a female boss*

The card shown to interviewees indicated the following:

- 0 – Disagree strongly
- 1 – Disagree somewhat
- 2 – Disagree slightly
- 3 – Agree slightly
- 4 – Agree somewhat
- 5 – Agree strongly

We will begin with a detailed analysis of the responses to each item for men and women before moving on to explore other sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees based on their tolerance or rejection of sexism.

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<sup>7</sup> Swim, J. K., Aikin, K J., Hall, W. S., and Hunter, B. A. (1995). Sexism and Racism: Old-Fashioned and Modern Prejudices. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 68: 199-214

<sup>8</sup> Tougas, F., Brown, R., Beaton, A. M., & Joly, S. (1995). Neosexism: Plus Ça Change, Plus C'est Pareil. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 21:

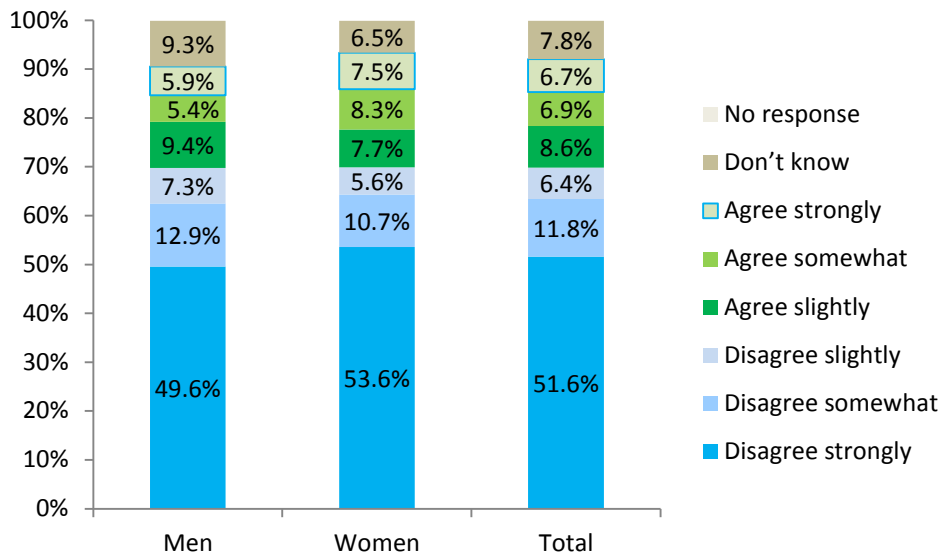
<sup>9</sup> Expósito, F., Moya, M.C. and Glick, P. (1998). Sexismo ambivalente: medición y correlatos. *Revista de Psicología Social*, 13 (2): 159-169.

## 1.2.1 Analysis of rejection or tolerance of sexism: differences by sex

### 1.2.1.1 Women often lose good jobs because of sexual discrimination

Of the total population, 72.5 % agrees (strongly, moderately or slightly) with the statement “Women often lose good jobs because of sexual discrimination”<sup>10</sup>, with a higher percentage of women (78.4 %) than men (66.1 %) being in agreement. Figure 1.3 shows the levels of agreement and disagreement. **Four in ten women (41.6 %) agree strongly with this statement, compared to just under one in four men (24.4 %).**

Figure 1.3 Opinion on the statement “Women often lose good jobs because of sexual discrimination”, by sex



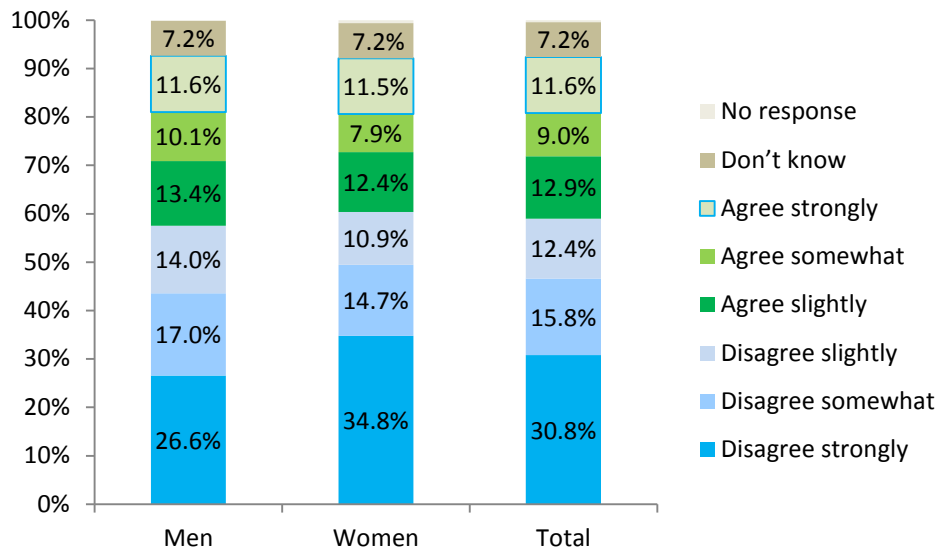
### 1.2.1.2 It is rare to see women treated in a sexist manner in television

Of the total population, 59.0 % disagree with the statement “It is rare to see women treated in a sexist manner in television”<sup>11</sup>, with no statistically significant differences by sex. Taking into account the levels of agreement and disagreement (Figure 1.4), there are significant differences by sex. These arise mainly from the higher percentage of women opting for “disagree strongly” (34.8 % compared to 26.6 % of men). This statement was taken from the Modern Sexism scale.

<sup>10</sup>Agreement with this statement implies a rejection of sexism and disagreement with tolerance of sexism.

<sup>11</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies a rejection of sexism while agreement implies tolerance of sexism.

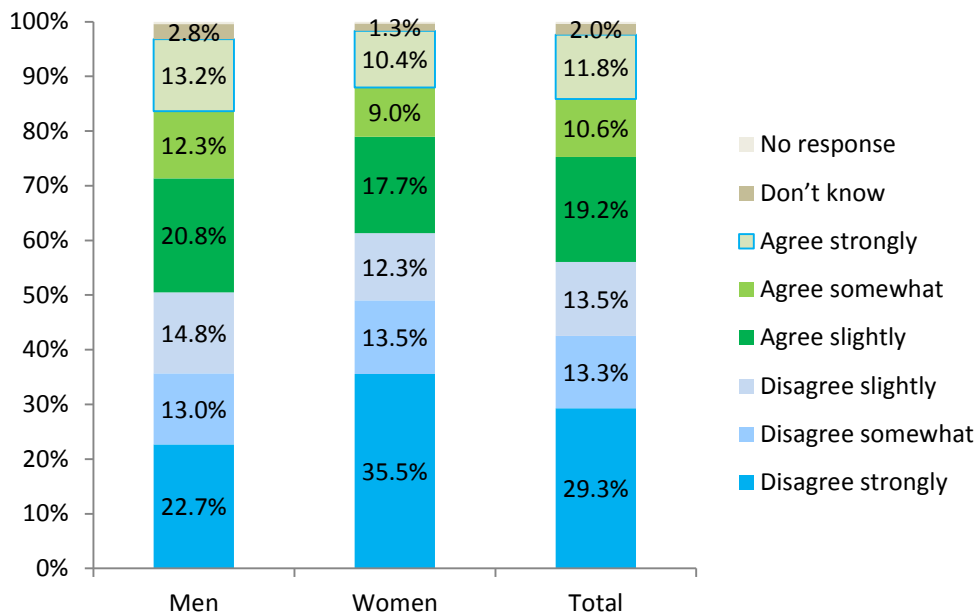
Figure 1.4 Opinions on the statement "It is rare to see women treated in a sexist manner in television", by sex



### 1.2.1.3 Women are very easily offended

Of the total population, 56.1 % disagree with the statement "Women are too easily offended"<sup>12</sup>, with women scoring a higher percentage of disagreement (61.3 %) than men (50.5 %). This statement, taken from the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory, is therefore accepted to some degree by 46.3 % of men and 37.0 % of women. Considering the degrees of agreement and disagreement (Figure 1.5), we see that the main differences by sex arise in the percentage of men (22.7 %) and women (35.5 %) who disagree strongly with the statement.

Figure 1.5 Opinions on the statement "Women are too easily offended", by sex

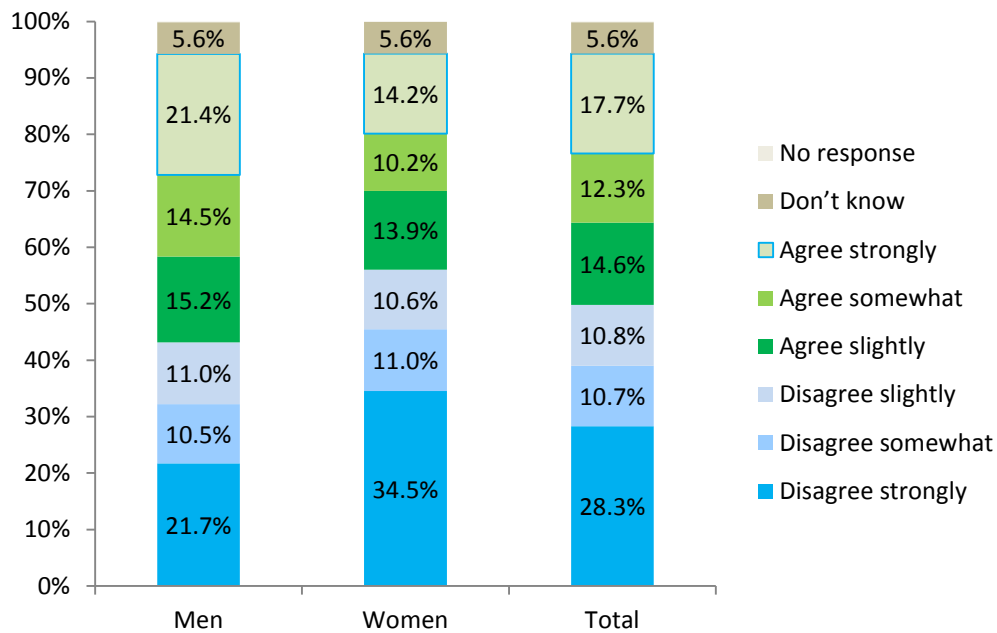


<sup>12</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies a rejection of sexism while agreement implies tolerance of sexism.

#### 1.2.1.4 What feminist women really want is for women to have more power than men

A total of 56.0 % of women and 43.1 % of men disagree with the statement “What feminist women really want is for women to have more power than men”.<sup>13</sup> This statement, taken from the Ambivalent Sexism Inventory, is therefore **accepted to some degree by 51.1 % of men and 38.3 % of women**. Figure 1.6 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. A total of 34.5 % of women and 21.7 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. Almost the same percentage of men (21.4 %) agree strongly. The percentage of women who agree strongly is 14.2 %.

Figure 1.6 Opinions on the statement “What feminist women really want is for women to have more power than men”, by sex



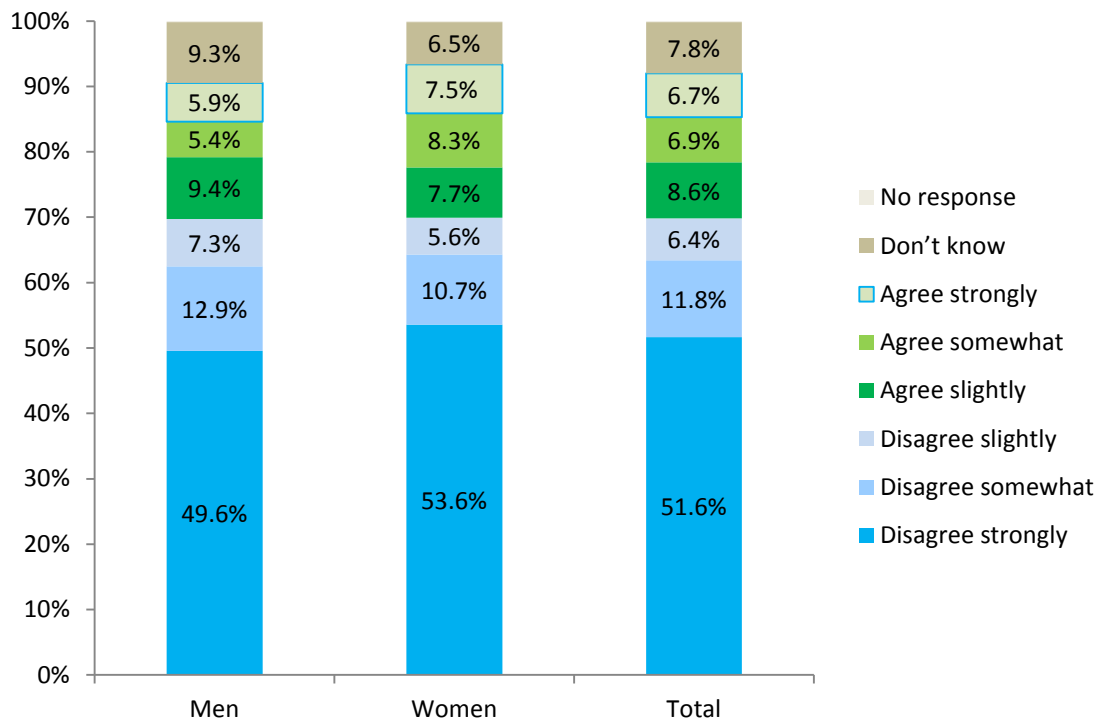
#### 1.2.1.5 It is difficult to work for a female boss

The statement “It is difficult to work for a female boss”<sup>14</sup> was taken from the Neosexism scale. A total of 69.8 % of the population disagree with it, while 20.8 % of men and 23.5 % of women agree. Figure 1.7 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total population, 51.6 % disagree strongly with it.

<sup>13</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies a rejection of sexism while agreement implies tolerance of sexism.

<sup>14</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies a rejection of sexism while agreement implies tolerance of sexism.

Figure 1.7 Opinions on the statement "It is difficult to work for a female boss", by sex



### 1.2.2 Rejection or acceptance of sexism by sociodemographic characteristics

The previous section provided an individual analysis of the responses obtained for the statements on sexism in Question 3 of the questionnaire. In this section, the emphasis is on global rejection or tolerance of sexism. With this aim, a combined analysis is conducted on all the statements, and the sociodemographic characteristics of the interviewees are analysed in more detail based on their tolerance or rejection of sexism. Three groups are created for this purpose:

- **Rejection of sexism:** composed of those who disagree with **all** the statements except for the first, "Women often lose good jobs..." (this statement is an inverted item so when interviewees agree with it they are considered to reject sexism).
- **Tolerance of sexism:** composed of those who agree with **all** the statements except for the first, "Women often lose good jobs..." (this statement is an inverted item so when interviewees disagree with it they are considered to tolerate sexism).
- **Intermediate group:** composed of people who tolerate sexism in some items and reject it in others.

With the creation of these three groups, the group that rejects sexism consists of 447 people (168 men and 279 women), the intermediate group contains 1,985 (1,004 men and 981 women) and the group tolerating sexism contains 29 (21 men and 8 women). Four individuals (3 men and 1 woman) answer "Don't know" to everything. Due to the small size of the "tolerance of sexism" group, it is impossible to carry out valid statistical tests based on sociodemographic characteristics, by sex, so the analysis is performed on the whole population.

Table 1.5 shows the distribution of the population across the three groups based on **sociodemographic characteristics**. It shows that **men** reject sexism (14.0 %) to a lesser extent than **women** (22.0 %). A higher percentage of **young people** aged 16 to 34 reject sexism (23.0 %) than those aged 60 and over (11.0 %). As **educational level** increases, so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexism: 6.9 % of those with a primary education or lower, 15.9 % of those with a secondary education, 21.3 % of those with advanced VET and 31.6 % of those with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, the group of retirees and pensioners, due to the age factor, has the lowest percentage of rejection of sexism: 9.9 % are in this group, compared to 25.9 % of students and 22.2 % of employed people. A total of 15.3 % of unemployed persons and 14.5 % of those who carry out unpaid domestic work are in the group that rejects sexism.

There are no statistically significant differences by country of birth, whether or not the interviewee has a certificate of disability, size of municipality or type of household. Nevertheless, and **regardless of sociodemographic characteristics, the majority group is the intermediate group, composed of people who reject sexism in some items and accept it in others. The group that tolerates sexism was formed by less than 2.2 % of interviewees in all categories.**

*Table 1.5 Rejection or tolerance of sexism based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using all sexism items. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)*

		Rejection of sexism	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexism	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	14.0 %	83.9 %	1.8 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Female	22.0 %	77.3 %	0.6 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	23.0 %	75.7 %	1.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	19.9 %	79.0 %	1.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	60+	11.0 %	87.1 %	1.4 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	6.9 %	90.9 %	1.4 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	15.9 %	82.9 %	1.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	21.3 %	77.3 %	1.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	31.6 %	67.5 %	0.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	22.2 %	76.6 %	1.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	9.9 %	87.7 %	1.7 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	15.3 %	83.4 %	1.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	25.9 %	73.4 %	0.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	14.5 %	85.5 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	18.4 %	80.4 %	1.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Another country	16.1 %	81.7 %	2.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	11.0 %	87.4 %	0.8 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	No	18.6 %	80.1 %	1.2 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	17.2 %	80.5 %	1.9 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	18.4 %	80.5 %	1.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	17.4 %	80.5 %	1.2 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	15.4 %	83.8 %	0.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	18.5 %	80.3 %	1.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	18.4 %	80.3 %	1.1 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		18.1 %	80.5 %	1.2 %	0.2 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

Item 1 (*Women often lose good jobs because of sexual discrimination*) and item 2 (*Women are rarely seen to be treated in a sexist way on TV*) explicitly mention sexism or sexual discrimination, which may result in a higher percentage of rejection responses because of the social desirability component. We therefore considered it interesting to replicate the previous analysis by eliminating these two items and analysing the resulting groups separately. Thus, when using only the last three items, the group that rejects sexism contains 737 people (301 men and 436 women), the intermediate group contains 1,483 (762 men and 721 women) and the group tolerating sexism contains 240 (129 men and 111 women). Five individuals (4 men and 1 woman) answer "Don't know" to everything.

Table 1.6 shows the distribution of men across these three new groups based on their **sociodemographic characteristics**. A higher percentage of **young men** aged 16 to 34 reject sexism (33.0 %) than those aged 60 and over (16.0 %). By **educational level**, the percentage of men in the group that rejects sexism represents 11.5 % of those with a primary education or lower, 24.1 % of those with a secondary education, 23.2 % of men with advanced VET and 40.1 % of those with university education. With regard to **employment status**, male retirees and pensioners, due to the age factor, have the lowest percentage of rejection of sexism: 14.2 % are in this group, compared to 33.3 % of students and 30.2 % of employed people. Of the unemployed, 20.5 % belong to the group that rejects sexism. There are no statistically significant differences by country of birth, whether or not the interviewee has a certificate of disability, size of municipality or type of household.

Moreover, 8.4 % of men aged 16 to 34 years, 8.9 % of men aged 34 to 59 years and 16.7 % of men aged 60 years and over are in the "**tolerance of sexism**" group. Of men with a primary education or lower, 19.4 % are in the group that tolerates sexism, compared to 9.7 % of men with a secondary education, 12.5 % of men with advanced VET and 5.2 % of men who have completed their university education. In terms of employment status, 17.1 % of retired men and pensioners, 9.1 % of unemployed or employed men and 3.8 % of male students belong to the group that tolerates sexism.

Nevertheless, and regardless of sociodemographic characteristics, the majority group is the intermediate group, made up of men who reject sexism in some items and accept it in others.

**Table 1.6 Rejection or tolerance of sexism based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using all sexism items except for those that make explicit reference to sexism. MEN (%)**

		Rejection of sexism	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexism	DK	Total
Age***	16-34	33.0 %	58.3 %	8.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	35-59	25.9 %	65.0 %	8.9 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	60+	16.0 %	66.7 %	16.7 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	11.5 %	67.8 %	19.4 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	24.1 %	66.1 %	9.7 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	23.2 %	64.3 %	12.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	40.1 %	54.7 %	5.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	30.2 %	60.6 %	9.1 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	14.2 %	67.7 %	17.1 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	20.5 %	70.5 %	9.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	33.3 %	62.8 %	3.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	25.6 %	63.1 %	11.0 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Another country	21.9 %	68.8 %	9.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	15.6 %	65.6 %	17.2 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	No	25.8 %	63.5 %	10.5 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	23.6 %	63.5 %	12.5 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	25.6 %	63.8 %	10.3 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	23.2 %	61.3 %	14.2 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with his children <sup>15</sup>	17.2 %	75.9 %	6.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	26.4 %	62.0 %	11.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	24.2 %	67.3 %	7.7 %	0.7 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

Table 1.7 shows the distribution of women across these three new groups based on their **sociodemographic characteristics**. A higher percentage of **young women** aged 16 to 34 reject sexism (41.9 %) than women aged 60 and over (23.2 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of women in the group that rejects sexism: 18.6 % of those with a primary education or lower, 30.7 % of those with a secondary education, 46.2 % of those with advanced VET and 52.0 % of women with a university education. With regard to **employment status**, retirees and pensioners have the lowest percentage of rejection of sexism: 21.7 % are in this group, compared to 53.8 % of female students, 40.7 % of those in employment and 32.6 % of unemployed women. Turning to **country of birth**, 35.1 % of women born in Spain and 28.3 % of those born in another country are in the group that rejects sexism. There are no statistically significant differences by whether or not the interviewee has a certificate of disability, size of municipality or type of household. More than 50 % of the group that rejects sexism is composed of women with a university education (52.0 %) and students (53.8 %).

The percentage of women in the group that **“tolerates sexism”** is 7.9 % among 16 to 34 year-olds, 8.9 % among 34 to 59 year olds and 9.1 % among women aged 60 and above. Of women with a primary education or lower, 8.6 % are in the group that tolerates sexism, compared to 10.6 % of those with a secondary education or advanced VET and 4.3 % who have completed their university education. By employment status, 8.7 % of retired women and pensioners, 8.6 % of employed women, 10.9 % of unemployed women, 10.5 % of persons who carry out unpaid domestic work and 2.5 % of students are in the group that tolerates sexism. A total of 8.0 % of women who were born in Spain and 14.5 % of those born in another country are in the group that tolerates sexism.

<sup>15</sup> The total frequency of this category for men is just 29 cases, so caution must be exercised when analysing the result.



Whichever way we look at it and regardless of the sociodemographic characteristic being analysed, women always have a stronger rejection of sexism than men.

**Table 1.7 Rejection or tolerance of sexism based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using all sexism items except for 1 and 2. WOMEN (%)**

		Rejection of sexism	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexism	DK	Total
Age***	16-34	41.9 %	50.2 %	7.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	38.1 %	53.0 %	8.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	60+	23.2 %	67.4 %	9.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	18.6 %	72.4 %	8.6 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	30.7 %	58.7 %	10.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	46.2 %	43.3 %	10.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	52.0 %	43.7 %	4.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	40.7 %	50.8 %	8.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	21.7 %	69.3 %	8.7 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	32.6 %	56.6 %	10.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	53.8 %	43.8 %	2.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	26.5 %	63.0 %	10.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth*	Spain	35.1 %	56.8 %	8.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Another country	28.3 %	57.2 %	14.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	22.2 %	66.7 %	11.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	35.1 %	56.1 %	8.7 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	36.4 %	55.9 %	7.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	33.8 %	57.0 %	9.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	32.0 %	60.1 %	7.3 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	27.7 %	64.4 %	7.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	34.1 %	55.8 %	10.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	39.7 %	54.3 %	6.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

## CHAPTER 1 SUMMARY

- This chapter is introductory and sets the context for the perception of sexual violence in the context of gender inequality and sexism.

### Perception of the extent of and change in gender equality in Spanish society

- There is a widespread perception that there are large gender inequalities among the Spanish population: 68.7 % of the population resident in Spain aged 16 and over consider that gender inequalities in Spain are fairly large or very large.
  - Men have a lower perception of inequality than women: the percentage of men who consider gender inequalities to be small or almost non-existent (40.3 %) is more than twice the percentage of women (17.8 %) who consider this to be so.
- A total of 59.2 % of the population believe that there are fewer gender inequalities today than 10 years ago.
  - Women have a less optimistic perception than men: 53.3 % consider there to be fewer gender inequalities today than 10 years ago, compared to 65.4 % of men.
  - Young people have a more positive view of the situation: 59.4 % of women and 76.1 % of men aged 16 to 34 believe that there are fewer gender inequalities today than 10 years ago compared to 53.9 % of women and 64.0 % of men aged 35 to 59, and 48.0 % of women and 57.4 % of men aged 60 and over.

### Spanish attitudes towards sexism

- In general, men are more tolerant than women of sexist attitudes based on questions from internationally validated sexism scales:
  - Of the total population, 72.5 % agree somewhat with the statement "Women often lose good jobs because of sexual discrimination"<sup>16</sup>, thereby rejecting sexism.
    - ✓ Four in ten women (41.6 %) agree strongly with the statement, compared to just under one in four men (24.4 %).
  - A total of 59.0 % of the population disagrees somewhat with the statement "It is rare to see women treated in a sexist manner in television", thereby rejecting the sexism implicit in this statement.
  - A total of 61.3 % of women and 50.5 % of men disagree to some extent with the statement "Women are too easily offended", thereby rejecting the sexism implicit in this statement.
  - A total of 56.0 % of women and 43.1 % of men disagree to some extent with the statement "What feminist women really want is for women to have more power than men", thereby rejecting the sexism implicit in this statement.
    - ✓ A total of 21.4 % of men and 14.2 % of women have a wide tolerance of sexism since they agree strongly with the statement.
  - A total of 69.8 % of the population disagrees somewhat with the statement "It is difficult to work for a female boss", thereby rejecting the sexism implicit in this statement.

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<sup>16</sup> In this item, agreement with the statement indicates a rejection of sexism. For all other items in this chapter, agreement with the statements implies acceptance of sexism.

- When we split the population into three groups based on their rejection or tolerance of sexism:
  - rejection of sexism: people who reject sexism in all the statements,
  - tolerance of sexism: people who accept sexism in all the statements, and
  - intermediate group: people who tolerate sexism in some cases and reject it in others.

we observe that:

- Without considering sociodemographic characteristics,<sup>17</sup> the majority group is the intermediate group, composed of people who reject sexism in some cases and accept it in others.
- The group that tolerates sexism is composed of 1.2 % of the interviewees.
- A total of 14.0 % of men are in the group that rejects sexism, compared to 22.0 % of women.
- A total of 23.0 % of 16 to 34-year-olds are in the group that rejects sexism, compared to 11.0 % of people aged 60 and over.
- As educational level increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexism: 6.9 % of those with a primary education or lower, 15.9 % of those with a secondary education, 21.3 % of those with advanced VET and 31.6 % of those with a university education.

## Conclusions

The percentage of the population that overtly supports sexism is small and there are many more who strongly condemn sexist attitudes. However, the bulk of the population is at an intermediate point, so we need to continue working for a more widespread rejection of sexism. Men have a greater tolerance than women of sexist attitudes.

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<sup>17</sup> The study analyses the following sociodemographic variables: sex, age, educational level, employment status, size of municipality of residence, country of birth, accredited disability, type of household.

## 2- ATTITUDES TOWARDS SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE

After the questions on sexism, the questionnaire asked a series of questions intended to **assess the population's tolerance of attitudes that potentially justify sexual harassment in the workplace in some way**. These questions are taken, with minor modifications, from the ISHMA (Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance) scale and are designed to minimise the social desirability component in responses. This section looks at interviewee responses to these questions, which read as follows:

*Qu. 4 I will now read a series of statements about relationships between men and women in the workplace. Please tell me to what extent you agree with them, using a scale of 0 to 5, where 0 means that you "disagree strongly" and 5 means that you "agree strongly".*

- 1. Women who claim that they have been sexually harassed are usually exaggerating*
- 2. Women who claim sexual harassment have usually done something to cause it*
- 3. Women who wait weeks or months to report sexual harassment in the workplace are probably just making it up*
- 4. Most women are flattered when they get sexual attention from men with whom they work*
- 5. It is inevitable that men will "hit on" women at work*
- 6. Most women actually enjoy it when the men with whom they work are sexually suggestive*
- 7. Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop*

The card shown to interviewees indicated the following:

- 0 – Disagree strongly
- 1 – Disagree somewhat
- 2 – Disagree slightly
- 3 – Agree slightly
- 4 – Agree somewhat
- 5 – Agree strongly

**The ISHMA scale is divided into four subscales:**<sup>18</sup> "exaggeration", "ulterior motives", "natural heterosexuality", and "women's responsibility". The items "Women who claim that they have been sexually harassed are usually exaggerating", "Women who claim sexual harassment have usually done something to cause it" and "Women who wait weeks or months to report sexual harassment in the workplace are probably just making it up" are on the **"exaggeration" subscale**. This subscale **includes items designed to analyse the extent of the belief that women make up or exaggerate sexual harassment, and/or incite sexual harassment themselves**. The items "Most women are flattered when they get sexual attention from men with whom they work", "It is inevitable that men will 'hit on' women at work" and "Most women actually enjoy it when the men with whom they work are sexually suggestive" are on the **"natural heterosexuality" subscale**. The items on this subscale are designed to evaluate the belief that sexual harassment is merely romantic behaviour that occurs naturally in men and that women enjoy it. Lastly, the item "Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop" is from the **"women's responsibility" subscale**. The items in this subscale are designed to evaluate the belief that the harassed woman is the person who needs to take responsibility for controlling the sexual harassment.

<sup>18</sup> Expósito, F., Herrera, A., Valor-Segura, I., Herrera, M.C. and Lozano, L.M (2014). Spanish Adaptation of the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance. *Spanish Journal of Psychology*, 17, e40, 1–13.

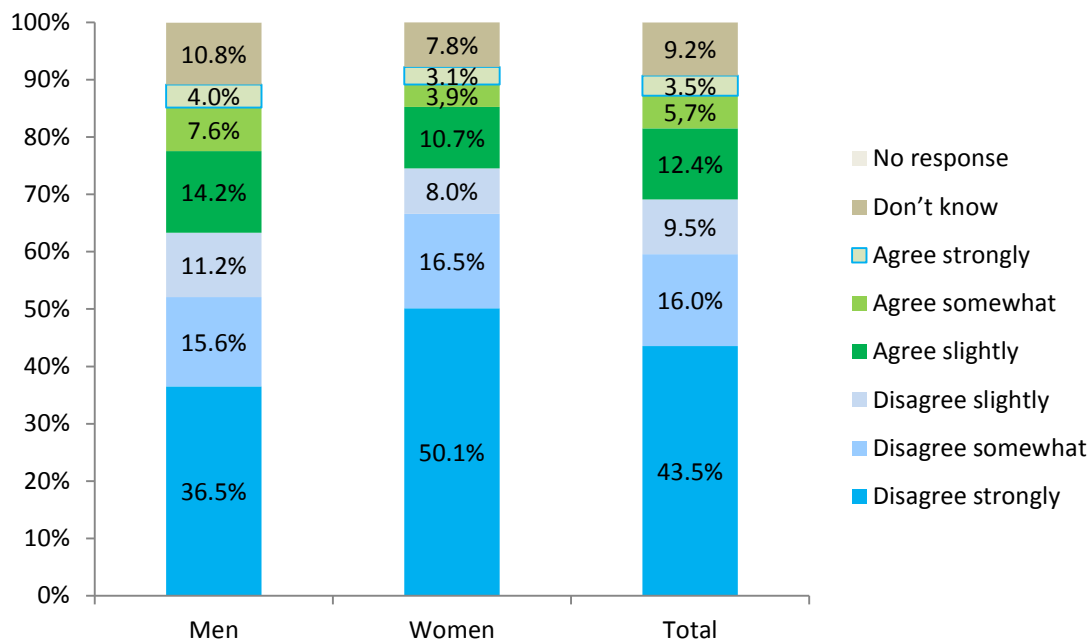
Section 2.2 analyses the tolerance or rejection of harassment based on sociodemographic characteristics and takes into account these groups.

## 2.1 Opinions on sexual harassment in the workplace

### 2.1.1 Women who claim that they have been sexually harassed are usually exaggerating

A total of 74.5 % of women and 63.3 % of men disagree with the statement “Women who claim that they have been sexually harassed are usually exaggerating”.<sup>19</sup> Nonetheless, one in four men (25.8 %) and just over one in six women (17.7 %) agree with the statement. Figure 2.1 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total, 50.1 % of women and 36.5 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. However, 14.2 % of men agree slightly and 7.6 % agree somewhat, compared to 10.7 % and 3.9 % of women, respectively. In other words, **women give more credibility to formal complaints of sexual harassment than men.**

Figure 2.1 Opinions on the statement “Women who claim that they have been sexually harassed are usually exaggerating”, by sex

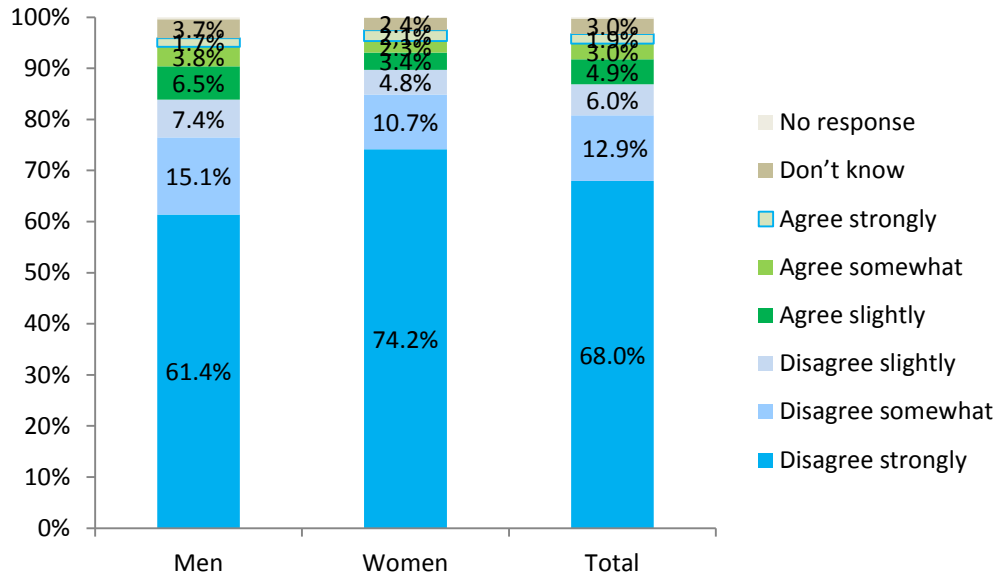


<sup>19</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.

### 2.1.2 Women who claim sexual harassment have usually done something to cause it

A total of 89.7 % of women and 83.9 % of men disagree with the statement “Women who claim sexual harassment have usually done something to cause it”.<sup>20</sup> Figure 2.2 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total, 74.2 % of women and 61.4 % of men disagree strongly with the statement.

Figure 2.2 Opinions on the statement “Women who claim sexual harassment have usually done something to cause it”, by sex



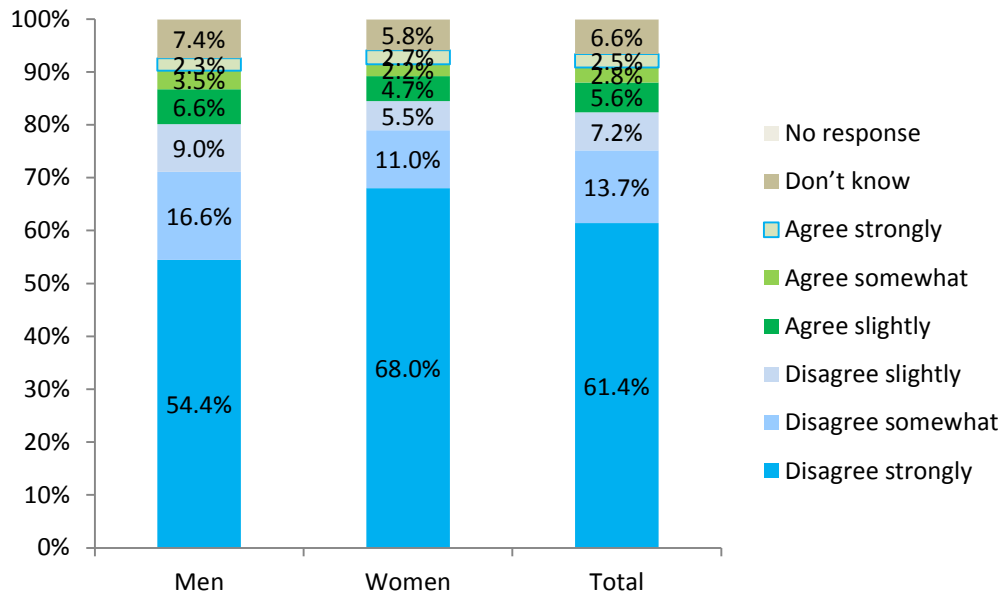
### 2.1.3 Women who wait weeks or months to report sexual harassment in the workplace are probably just making it up

A total of 84.5 % of women and 80.1 % of men disagree with the statement “Women who wait weeks or months to report sexual harassment in the workplace are probably just making it up”.<sup>21</sup> Figure 2.3 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total, 68.0 % of women and 54.4 % of men disagree strongly with the statement.

<sup>20</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.

<sup>21</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.

Figure 2.3 Opinions on the statement “Women who wait weeks or months to report sexual harassment in the workplace are probably just making it up”, by sex

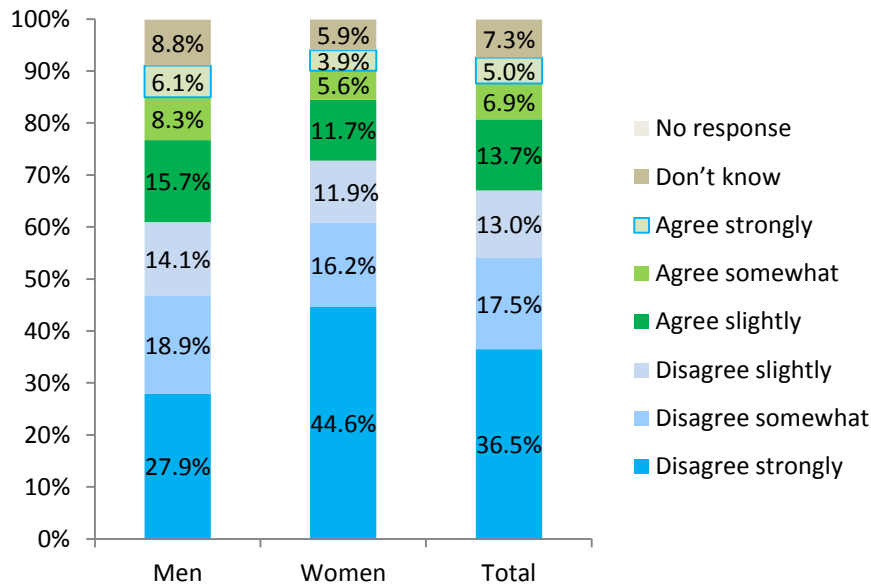


#### 2.1.4 Most women are flattered when they get sexual attention from men with whom they work.

A total of 72.7 % of women and 61.0 % of men express disagreement with the statement “Most women are flattered when they get sexual attention from men with whom they work”.<sup>22</sup> Figure 2.4 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total, 44.6 % of women and 27.9 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. Moreover, 15.7 % of men agree slightly, 8.3 % agree somewhat, and 6.1 % agree strongly, compared to 11.7 %, 5.6 % and 3.9 % of women respectively.

<sup>22</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.

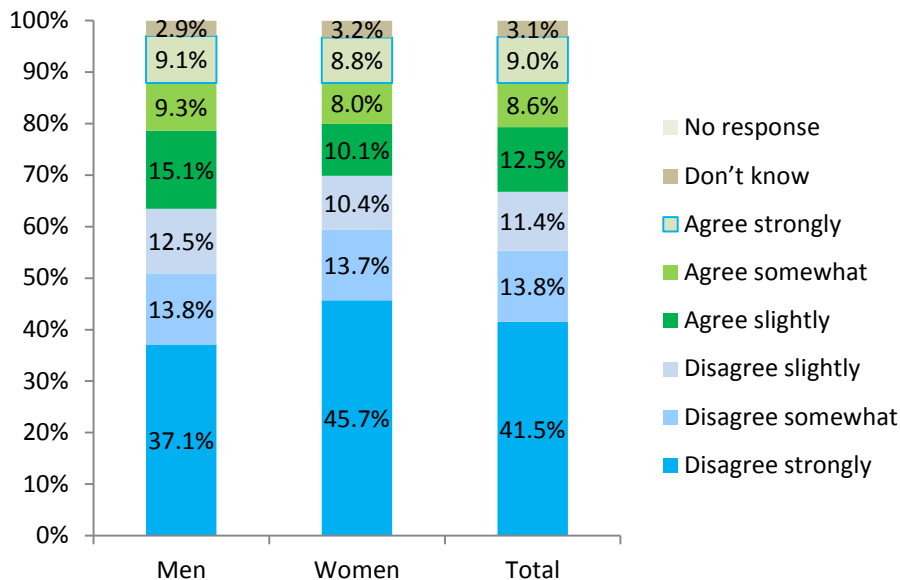
Figure 2.4 Opinions on the statement “Most women are flattered when they get sexual attention from men with whom they work”, by sex



### 2.1.5 It is inevitable that men will “hit on” women at work

A total of 69.8 % of women and 63.5 % of men disagree with the statement “It is inevitable that men will ‘hit on’ women at work”.<sup>23</sup> Figure 2.5 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total, 45.7 % of women and 37.1 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. Moreover, 15.1 % of men agree slightly, 9.3 % agree somewhat, and 9.1 % agree strongly, compared to 10.1 %, 8.0 % and 8.8 % of women respectively.

Figure 2.5 Opinions on the statement “It is inevitable that men will ‘hit on’ women at work”, by sex



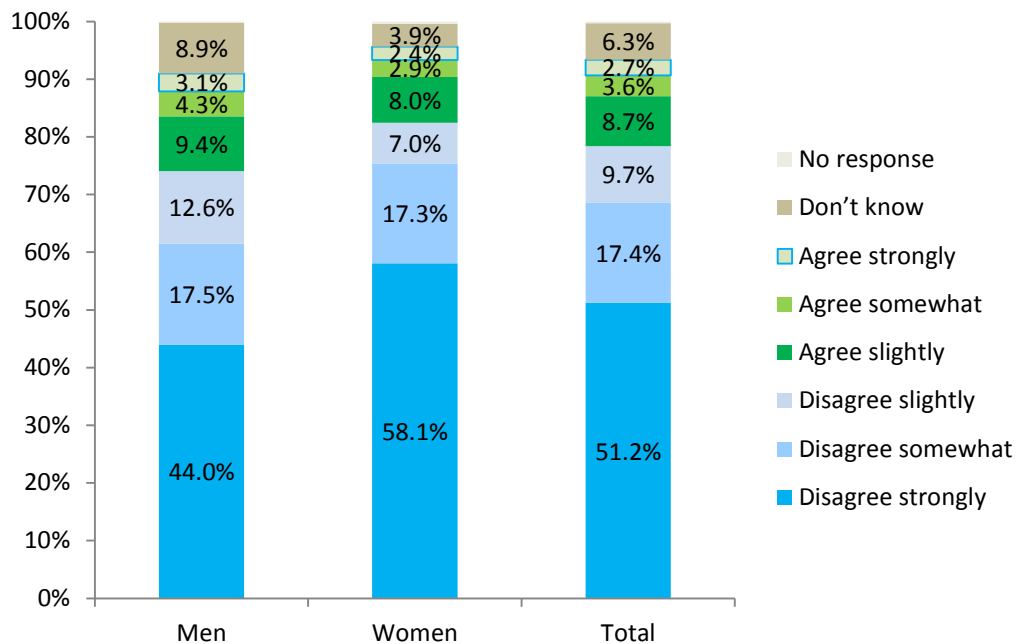
<sup>23</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.



### 2.1.6 Most women actually enjoy it when the men with whom they work are sexually suggestive

A total of 82.4 % of women and 74.1 % of men express disagreement with the statement “Most women actually enjoy it when the men with whom they work are sexually suggestive”.<sup>24</sup> Figure 2.6 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Of the total, 58.1 % of women and 44.0 % of men disagree strongly with the statement.

Figure 2.6 Opinions on the statement “Most women actually enjoy it when the men with whom they work are sexually suggestive”, by sex



### 2.1.7 Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop

A total of 61.8 % of women and 52.4 % of men disagree with the statement “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop”.<sup>25</sup> A total of 40.9 % of men and 33.4 % of women agree with the statement. Figure 2.7 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex.

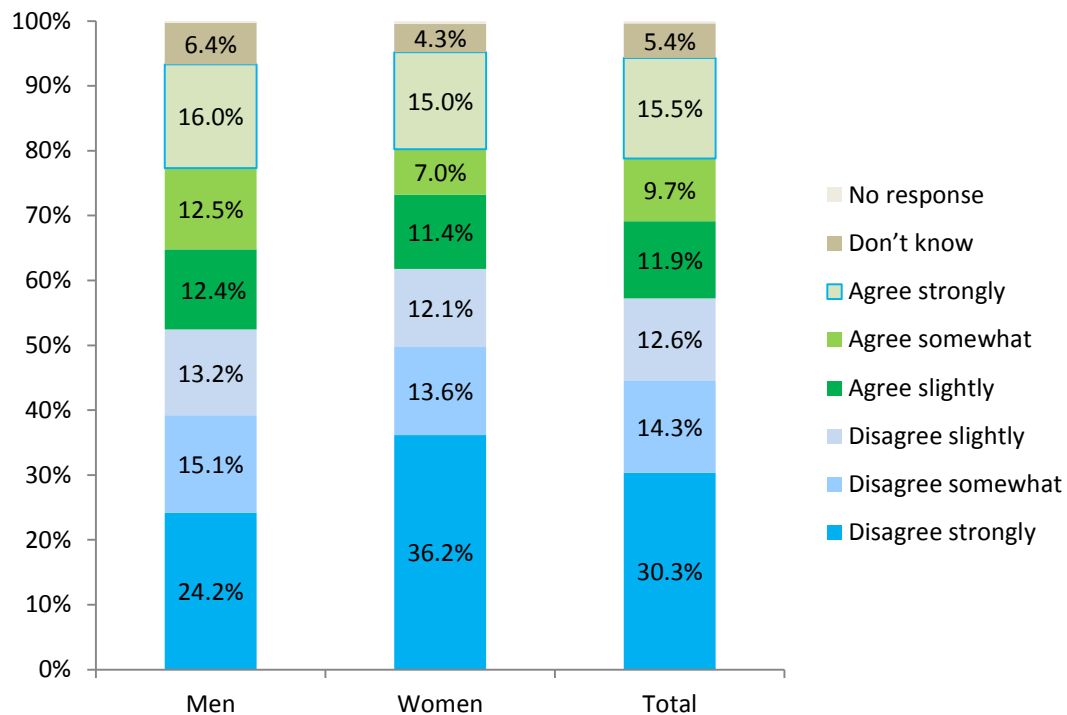
Of the total, 36.2 % of women and 24.2 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. Moreover, 16 % of men and 15 % of women agree strongly with it.

As stated at the beginning of the chapter, on the ISHMA scale, this statement is contained in the “woman’s responsibility” subscale. The name refers to the **belief that responsibility for controlling sexual harassment lies with the harassed woman. Worryingly, this item has the highest percentages of men and women in agreement.** It is also the item with which the highest percentages of men and women strongly agree, in stark contrast to any other item.

<sup>24</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.

<sup>25</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace and agreement with tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace.

Figure 2.7 Opinions on the statement “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop”, by sex



## 2.2 Rejection or acceptance of sexual harassment in the workplace by sociodemographic characteristics

### 2.2.1 Groups using all items of sexual harassment in the workplace

The previous section provided an individual analysis of the responses obtained for the statements on sexual harassment in the workplace contained in Question 4 of the questionnaire. In this section, the emphasis is on global rejection or tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace. With this aim, a combined analysis is conducted on all the statements, and the sociodemographic characteristics of the interviewees are analysed in more detail based on their tolerance or rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace. Three groups are created for this purpose:

- **Rejection of sexual harassment:** composed of those who express some degree of disagreement with **all** the statements.
- **Tolerance of sexual harassment** composed of those who express some degree of agreement with **all** the statements.
- **Intermediate group:** composed of those who tolerate sexual harassment in some cases and reject it in others.

When these three groups are created, the group that rejects sexual harassment contains 757 people (296 men and 461 women), the intermediate group contains 1,667 (870 men and 797 women) and the group that tolerates sexual harassment contains 32 (25 men and 7 women). Nine individuals (5 men and 4 women) answer “Don’t know” to everything. Due to the small size of the “tolerance of sexual harassment” group, it is impossible to carry out valid statistical tests based on sociodemographic characteristics, by sex.

Table 2.1 shows the distribution across the three groups (rejection, intermediate, tolerance) based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. It shows that 36.3 % of **women** and 24.7 % of men are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace. Young people aged 16 to 34 reject sexual harassment in the workplace (40.7 %) more often than those aged over 60 (16.7 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual harassment: 12.8 % of those with a primary education or lower, 29.3 % of those with a secondary education, 34.7 % of those with advanced VET and 48.0 % of those with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, the group of retirees and pensioners, due to interrelation with the age factor, has the lowest percentage of rejection of sexual harassment: 16.9 % are in this group, compared to 46.8 % of students and 36.1 % of employed people. A total of 30.6 % of unemployed men are in the group that rejects sexism.

By **country of birth**, 31.7 % of people born in Spain are in the group that rejects sexual harassment, compared to 22.7 % of people born abroad. A total of 17.3 % of the people holding a certificate of **disability** above 33 % and 31.3 % of those without a disability certificate are in the group that rejects sexual harassment although, as with employment status, this is due to interrelation between the age variable and the disability variable. There are no statistically significant differences based on size of municipality or type of household.

Nevertheless, and regardless of sociodemographic characteristics, the **majority group is the intermediate group, composed of people who reject sexual harassment in some cases and accept it in others**. The group that tolerates sexual harassment is composed in all cases of less than 5.5 % of interviewees.

**Table 2.1 Rejection or tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using all items of sexual harassment in the workplace. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)**

		Rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace	DK	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	24.7 %	72.7 %	2.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Female	36.3 %	62.8 %	0.6 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	40.7 %	57.8 %	1.0 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	35-59	34.1 %	64.8 %	1.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	60+	16.7 %	80.6 %	2.0 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	12.8 %	83.8 %	2.6 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	29.3 %	69.1 %	1.3 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	34.7 %	64.4 %	0.5 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	University education	48.0 %	51.3 %	0.5 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	36.1 %	62.9 %	0.7 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	16.9 %	80.2 %	2.6 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	30.6 %	67.4 %	2.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	46.8 %	51.9 %	0.0 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	23.0 %	74.5 %	1.2 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
Country of birth***	Spain	31.7 %	66.9 %	1.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Another country	22.7 %	73.3 %	2.9 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above***	Yes	17.3 %	77.2 %	5.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	31.3 %	67.2 %	1.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	29.4 %	68.5 %	1.5 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	31.1 %	67.4 %	1.2 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	24.9 %	73.0 %	1.5 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	25.4 %	73.1 %	0.8 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	31.1 %	67.2 %	1.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	34.4 %	64.2 %	1.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
<b>TOTAL</b>		30.7 %	67.6 %	1.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

### 2.2.2 Groups using the items of the “exaggeration” subscale

Using only the three items from the “exaggeration” subscale described at the beginning of chapter 2, three groups are then created to analyse tolerance or rejection of the type of sexual harassment measured by the exaggeration subscale.

- **Rejection of sexual harassment defined by the “exaggeration” subscale:** composed of people who express some degree of disagreement with **all** the statements of this subscale.
- **Tolerance of sexual harassment defined by the “exaggeration” subscale:** composed of people who express some degree of agreement with **all** the statements of this subscale.
- **Intermediate group:** composed of people who sometimes tolerate the sexual harassment contained in the “exaggeration” subscale and reject it in others.

With the creation of these three groups, the group that rejects sexual harassment based on the “exaggeration” subscale contains 1,535 people (682 men and 853 women), the intermediate group contains 814 (439 men and 375 women) and the group that tolerates sexual harassment contains 88 (57 men and 31 women). Twenty-seven individuals (17 men and 10 women) answer “Don’t know” to everything and 1 man does not answer any questions.

Table 2.2 shows the distribution across the three groups (rejection, intermediate, tolerance) based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. A total of 67.2 % of **women** and 57.0 % of **men** are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace based on the exaggeration subscale. By **age**, young people aged 16 to 34 reject sexual harassment in the workplace based on the exaggeration subscale (73.4 %) to a greater extent than those aged over 60 (46.6 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual harassment: 42.3 % of those with a primary education or lower, 61.6 % of those with a secondary education, 65.7 % of those with advanced VET and 80.3 % of those with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, the group of retirees and pensioners, due to interrelation with the age factor, has the lowest percentage of rejection of sexual harassment based on the exaggeration subscale: 45.3 % are in this group, compared to 79.7 % of students, 68.7 % of employed persons, 61.6 % of the unemployed and 58.8 % of persons who carry out unpaid domestic work. By **country of birth**, 62.9 % of those born in Spain and 57.5 % of those born abroad are in the group that rejects sexual harassment.

Of the persons holding a certificate of **disability** above 33 %, 49.6 % are in the group that rejects sexual harassment based on the exaggeration subscale, compared to 62.8 % of those who do not have a disability certificate, although this is largely due to the interrelation with the age variable, since the percentage of people with disabilities increases with age. Lastly, in relation to **type of household**, 55.6 % of people who live alone, 61.5 % of those who live alone with their children, 61.8 % of those who living with their partners with or without children and 67.6 % of those in other situations are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace based on the "exaggeration" subscale. Nevertheless, the distribution of the "type of household" variable is heavily conditioned by the sex<sup>26</sup> and age<sup>27</sup> variables.

The group that tolerates sexual harassment in the workplace based on the "exaggeration" subscale is composed in all cases of less than 8.7 % of interviewees. A total of 4.8 % of men are in the group that tolerates sexual harassment, compared to 2.4 % of women. Of the total, 8.7 % of persons with a primary education or lower are in the group that tolerates sexual harassment, compared to 0.5 % and 3.0 % of the other categories of the educational level variable. A total of 3.1 % of persons born in Spain and 7.0 % of those born in another country are in the group that tolerates sexual harassment based on the "exaggeration" subscale.

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<sup>26</sup> For example, 77.7 % of persons living alone with their children are women, compared to 45 % and 55 % in the other categories.

<sup>27</sup> For example, 65.8 % of those living in another situation (probably with their parents in many cases) are aged between 16 and 34 compared to 4.6 % of those who live alone with their children, 11.4 % of those living alone, and 14.5 % of those living with their partner with or without children.

**Table 2.2 Rejection or tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using the items of the “exaggeration” subscale. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)**

		Rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace	DK	NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	57.0 %	36.7 %	4.8 %	1.4 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Female	67.2 %	29.6 %	2.4 %	0.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	73.4 %	23.7 %	2.0 %	0.8 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	35-59	66.0 %	30.4 %	2.9 %	0.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	60+	46.6 %	45.3 %	6.1 %	2.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	42.3 %	46.6 %	8.7 %	2.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	61.6 %	34.5 %	3.0 %	0.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	65.7 %	32.4 %	0.5 %	1.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	80.3 %	17.9 %	1.4 %	0.2 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	68.7 %	28.0 %	2.3 %	1.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	45.3 %	45.7 %	7.3 %	1.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	61.6 %	34.2 %	3.9 %	0.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	79.7 %	18.4 %	0.6 %	1.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	58.8 %	38.2 %	1.8 %	1.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth**	Spain	62.9 %	32.9 %	3.1 %	1.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Another country	57.5 %	34.1 %	7.0 %	1.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above***	Yes	49.6 %	41.7 %	8.7 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	62.8 %	32.6 %	3.3 %	1.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence*	<=10,000	62.0 %	30.7 %	5.3 %	1.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	62.3 %	33.6 %	3.1 %	0.9 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household*	Lives alone	55.6 %	36.9 %	5.1 %	2.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	61.5 %	32.3 %	3.8 %	2.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	61.8 %	34.0 %	3.4 %	0.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	67.6 %	28.3 %	2.9 %	1.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		62.3 %	33.0 %	3.6 %	1.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

### 2.2.3 Groups using the items of the “natural heterosexuality” subscale

Using only the items from the “natural heterosexuality” subscale described at the beginning of chapter 2, three groups are then created to analyse tolerance or rejection of the type of sexual harassment measured by the “natural heterosexuality” subscale.

- **Rejection of sexual harassment defined by the “natural heterosexuality” subscale:** composed of persons who express some degree of disagreement with **all** the statements of this subscale.
- **Tolerance of sexual harassment defined by the “natural heterosexuality” subscale:** composed of persons who express some degree of agreement with **all** the statements of this subscale.
- **Intermediate group:** composed of persons who sometimes tolerate the sexual harassment contained in the “natural heterosexuality” subscale and reject it in others.

When these three groups are created, the group that rejects sexual harassment based on the “natural heterosexuality” subscale is composed of 1,208 people (514 men and 694 women), the intermediate group is composed of 1,054 (568 men and 486 women) and the group that

tolerates sexual harassment is composed of 178 (101 men and 77 women). Twenty-five individuals (13 men and 12 women) answer "Don't know" to everything.

Table 2.3 shows the distribution across the three groups (rejection, intermediate, tolerance) based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Of the total, 43.0 % of **men** are in the "rejection of sexual harassment" group, compared to 54.7 % of **women**. A total of 8.4 % of men are in the "tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace based on the natural heterosexuality subscale" group, compared to 6.1 % of women. By **age**, young people aged 16 to 34 reject sexual harassment in the workplace based on the "natural heterosexuality" subscale (59.5 %) more than those aged over 60 (33.8 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual harassment: 30.4 % of those with a primary education or lower, 48.6 % of those with a secondary education, 55.6 % of those with advanced VET and 64.0 % of those with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, the group of retirees and pensioners, due to interrelation with the age factor, has the lowest percentage of rejection of sexual harassment based on the "natural heterosexuality" subscale: 33.2 % are in this group, compared to 65.8 % of students, 54.3 % of employed persons, 51.5 % of the unemployed and 43.6 % of persons who carry out unpaid domestic work. A total of 31.5 % of people who hold a certificate of **disability** above 33 % and 39.6 % of those **born** abroad are in the group that rejects sexual harassment based on the "natural heterosexuality" subscale, compared to 49.9 % of those who do not have a disability certificate and 50.2 % of persons born in Spain.

**Table 2.3 Rejection or tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using the items of the "natural heterosexuality" subscale. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)**

		Rejection of sexual harassment in the workplace	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	43.0 %	47.5 %	8.4 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	Female	54.7 %	38.3 %	6.1 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	59.5 %	34.3 %	5.1 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	35-59	52.8 %	40.7 %	6.0 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	60+	33.8 %	53.4 %	11.0 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	30.4 %	54.7 %	12.5 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	48.6 %	42.9 %	7.8 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	55.6 %	39.4 %	4.2 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	64.0 %	33.0 %	2.5 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	54.3 %	39.9 %	5.2 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	33.2 %	52.6 %	12.3 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	51.5 %	41.7 %	6.5 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Student	65.8 %	28.5 %	3.2 %	2.5 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	43.6 %	45.5 %	9.7 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
Country of birth**	Spain	50.2 %	42.0 %	6.8 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Another country	39.6 %	48.7 %	10.3 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above***	Yes	31.5 %	52.8 %	15.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	49.9 %	42.2 %	6.8 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	44.3 %	46.9 %	7.4 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	50.3 %	41.6 %	7.2 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	43.5 %	47.4 %	7.5 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	40.0 %	50.0 %	9.2 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	49.6 %	42.1 %	7.4 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	52.9 %	40.1 %	6.1 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		49.0 %	42.8 %	7.2 %	1.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

#### 2.2.4 Acceptance or rejection of the item pertaining to the "woman's responsibility" subscale based on sociodemographic characteristics

The questionnaire included an item pertaining to the "woman's responsibility" subscale: **"nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop"**. This item is now analysed based on sociodemographic characteristics and separately for each sex.

Table 2.4 indicates the acceptance or rejection of this statement based on **sociodemographic characteristics** for men. It shows that **young men** aged 16 to 34 reject it (60.5 %) to a greater extent than those aged over 60 (41.0 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of men expressing disagreement with this item: 37.0 % of those with a primary education or lower, 53.2 % of men with a secondary education, 54.5 % of those with advanced VET and 62.9 % of men with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, the group of retirees and pensioners, due to the age factor, has the lowest rejection of the item: 40.3 % are in this group, compared to 61.5 % of students, 56.8 % of employed persons and 53.0 % of the unemployed. The statement is rejected by 46.0 % of those



residing in **municipalities** of fewer than 10,000 inhabitants and 54.2 % of men living in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants.

Viewed from another perspective, 49.0 % of men aged 60 and over, 50.0 % of retirees and 52.0 % of those with a primary education or lower express some degree of acceptance of this item that entails putting the blame on the victim.

**Table 2.4 Rejection or acceptance of the item “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop” (“woman’s responsibility” subscale) based on sociodemographic characteristics. Responses of MEN (%)**

		Disagreement	Agreement	DK	NR	Total
Age***	16-34	60.5 %	33.7 %	5.5 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	35-59	54.3 %	40.3 %	5.2 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	60+	41.0 %	49.0 %	9.6 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	37.0 %	52.0 %	11.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	53.2 %	40.3 %	6.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	54.5 %	41.1 %	4.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	62.9 %	32.6 %	4.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	56.8 %	37.8 %	5.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	40.3 %	50.0 %	9.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	53.0 %	42.4 %	4.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	61.5 %	29.5 %	9.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	53.5 %	40.4 %	6.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Another country	43.8 %	45.3 %	10.2 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	42.2 %	50.0 %	7.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	52.7 %	40.6 %	6.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence*	<=10,000	46.0 %	46.0 %	8.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	54.2 %	39.4 %	6.0 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	50.3 %	42.6 %	6.5 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with his children <sup>28</sup>	37.9 %	51.7 %	10.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	52.5 %	41.5 %	5.8 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	54.9 %	37.7 %	7.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		52.4 %	40.9 %	6.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

Table 2.5 indicates acceptance or rejection of this item based on **sociodemographic characteristics** for women. It shows that **young women** aged 16 to 34 (69.3 %) and 35 to 59 (68.2 %) reject it more often than those aged 60 and over (46.7 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of women expressing disagreement with this item: 37.6 % of those with a primary education or lower, 61.7 % of women with a secondary education, 73.1 % of those with advanced VET and 80.1 % of women with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, the retirees and pensioners group has the lowest percentage of rejection of the item: 46.6 %, compared to 71.2 % of students, 70.5 % of employed women, 64.0 % of unemployed women and 50.0 % of those who carry out unpaid domestic work.

Viewed from another perspective, 43.9 % of women aged 60 and over, 45.1 % of retirees and pensioners and 52.0 % of those with a primary education or lower express some degree of acceptance of this item that entails putting the blame on the victim.

<sup>28</sup> The total frequency of this category for men is just 29 cases, so caution must be exercised when analysing the result.

**Table 2.5 Rejection or acceptance of the item “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop” (“woman’s responsibility” subscale) based on sociodemographic characteristics. Responses of WOMEN (%)**

		Disagreement	Agreement	DK	NR	Total
Age***	16-34	69.3 %	28.7 %	2.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	68.2 %	28.6 %	2.3 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	60+	46.7 %	43.9 %	9.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	37.6 %	52.0 %	10.0 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	61.7 %	35.0 %	3.1 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	73.1 %	25.0 %	1.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	80.1 %	16.2 %	2.3 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	in employment	70.5 %	26.5 %	2.6 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	retiree or pensioner	46.6 %	45.1 %	7.9 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	unemployed	64.0 %	30.9 %	3.4 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	student	71.2 %	27.5 %	1.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	50.0 %	43.2 %	6.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	62.4 %	32.9 %	4.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Another country	57.2 %	37.2 %	4.8 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	55.6 %	41.3 %	3.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	62.1 %	33.2 %	4.3 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	59.0 %	33.7 %	6.9 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	62.5 %	33.3 %	3.7 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	55.1 %	35.4 %	9.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	58.4 %	34.7 %	5.0 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	63.9 %	32.2 %	3.5 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	other situation	61.5 %	35.2 %	2.8 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		61.8 %	33.4 %	4.3 %	0.5 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

## CHAPTER 2 SUMMARY

- This chapter analyses a series of statements intended to assess the population's tolerance of attitudes that potentially justify sexual harassment in the workplace in some way. These statements are taken from<sup>29</sup> the internationally validated Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance scale (ISHMA). The scale is divided into four subscales.

### Attitudes to sexual harassment defined by the "exaggeration" subscale of the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance scale

- The "exaggeration" subscale of the ISHMA scale includes statements designed to analyse the extent of the belief that women make up or exaggerate sexual harassment, and/or incite sexual harassment themselves.
  - A total of 89.7 % of women and 83.9 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Women who claim sexual harassment have usually done something to cause it", thereby rejecting sexual harassment.
  - A total of 84.5 % of women and 80.1 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Women who wait weeks or months to report sexual harassment in the workplace are probably just making it up", thereby rejecting sexual harassment.
    - ✓ The percentage of those who strongly disagree with the statement drops to 68.0 % of women and 54.4 % of men.
  - When the statement is more indirect and talks of exaggeration rather than invention, the percentage of people who reject it is lower: 74.5 % of women and 63.3 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Women who claim that they have been sexually harassed are usually exaggerating".
    - ✓ The percentage of those who strongly disagree with the statement drops to 50.1 % of women and 36.5 % of men.
    - ✓ One in four men (25.8 %) and just over one in six women (17.7 %) agree with the statement to some extent.
- When we divide the population into three groups based on their rejection or tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "exaggeration" subscale of the ISHMA scale:
  - rejection of harassment: people who reject harassment in all the statements used from this subscale,
  - tolerance of harassment: people who accept harassment in all the statements used from this subscale,
  - intermediate group: people who tolerate harassment in some cases and reject it in others,

we observe that:

- A total of 67.2 % of women and 57.0 % of men are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "exaggeration" subscale.
  - ✓ A total of 2.4 % of women and 4.8 % of men are in the group that tolerates sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "exaggeration" subscale.

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<sup>29</sup> For all the statements analysed in this chapter, agreement with them implies acceptance of sexual harassment, and disagreement implies rejection of sexual harassment.

- A total of 73.4 % of 16-34 year-olds are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "exaggeration" subscale, compared to 46.6 % of people aged 60 and over.
- As educational level increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "exaggeration" subscale: 42.3 % of those with a primary education or lower, 61.6 % of those with a secondary education, 65.7 % of those with advanced VET and 80.3 % of those with a university education.

### **Attitudes to sexual harassment defined by the "natural heterosexuality" subscale of the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance scale**

- The "natural heterosexuality" subscale of the ISHMA includes statements designed to evaluate the belief that sexual harassment is merely romantic behaviour that naturally occurs in men and that women enjoy it.
  - A total of 72.7 % of women and 61.0 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Most women are flattered when they get sexual attention from men with whom they work", thereby rejecting hypothetical situations of sexual harassment.
    - ✓ The percentage of those who strongly disagree with the statement drops to 44.6 % of women and 27.9 % of men.
  - A total of 69.8 % of women and 63.5 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "It is inevitable that men will 'hit on' women at work", thereby rejecting hypothetical situations of sexual harassment.
  - A total of 82.4 % of women and 74.1 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Most women actually enjoy it when the men with whom they work are sexually suggestive", thereby rejecting hypothetical situations of sexual harassment.
- When we divide the population into three groups based on their rejection or tolerance of sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "natural heterosexuality" subscale:
  - rejection of harassment: people who reject harassment in all the statements used from this subscale,
  - tolerance of harassment: people who accept harassment in all the statements used from this subscale,
  - intermediate group: people who tolerate harassment in some cases and reject it in others,

we observe that:

- A total of 54.7 % of women and 43.0 % of men are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "natural heterosexuality" subscale.
  - ✓ A total of 6.1 % of women and 8.4 % of men are in the group that tolerates sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "natural heterosexuality" subscale.
- A total of 59.5 % of 16-34 year-olds are in the group that rejects sexual harassment in the workplace as defined by the "natural heterosexuality" subscale, compared to 33.8 % of people aged 60 and over.
- As educational level increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual harassment: 30.4 % of those with a primary education or lower, 48.6 % of those with a secondary education, 55.6 % of those with advanced VET and 64.0 % of those with a university education.

### Attitudes to sexual harassment defined by the “woman's responsibility” subscale of the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance scale

- The “woman's responsibility” subscale of the ISHMA scale includes statements designed to evaluate the belief that the harassed woman is the person who needs to take responsibility for controlling the sexual harassment. The survey questionnaire included an item from this subscale:
  - Of all the items used in the survey to measure sexual harassment, “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop” is the one with which the highest percentage of the population expresses some degree of agreement (37.0 %). It is also the item with which most people strongly agree (15.5 %), in stark contrast to any other item relating to sexual harassment. This is a worrying finding because of its implications with regard to tolerance of sexual harassment.
  - A total of 61.8 % of women and 52.4 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement.
    - ✓ By contrast, 40.9 % of men and 33.4 % of women agree with the statement.
  - Young people between the ages of 16 to 34 reject the statement “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop” (60.5 % men, 69.3 % women) to a greater extent than over-60s (41.0 % men, 46.7 % women).
  - As educational level increases, so too does the percentage of people who disagree with the statement “Nearly all instances of sexual harassment in the workplace would end if the woman simply told the man to stop”: 37.0 % of men and 37.6 % of women with a primary education or lower, 53.2 % of men and 61.7 % of women with a secondary education, 54.5 % of men and 73.1 % of women with advanced VET and 62.9 % of men and 80.1 % of women with a university education.

### Conclusions

The percentage of the population supporting the different forms of sexual harassment is generally small and many more condemn sexual harassment altogether. Nevertheless, rejection or tolerance varies widely depending on the type of harassment analysed. Of particular concern is the support for the belief that responsibility for controlling sexual harassment lies with the harassed woman. Men display a greater tolerance than women of sexist attitudes.

The questionnaire then asked interviewees' opinions on a series of statements designed to **assess the population's tolerance of attitudes that potentially justify sexual violence, put the blame on the victim, or shift the blame from the aggressor**. Some of these statements (those contained in question Qu. 5, which will be discussed in section 3.1) are taken from the AMMSA<sup>30</sup> (Acceptance of Modern Myths about Sexual Aggression) scale and seek to minimise the social desirability component in responses. The statements contained in question Qu. 6 are studied in section 3.2 and seek to measure other aspects related to tolerance of sexual violence and to determine the population's awareness of the fact that most rapes are committed by acquaintances of the victims and not by strangers, as emerged from the Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015. This chapter looks at the responses of interviewees to these questions.

### 3.1 Opinions on sexual aggressions (I)

This section analyses interviewees' answers to the following question:

*Qu. 5 Using the same scale from 0 to 5, please state the extent to which you agree with the following statements:*

*1. If a woman invites a man back to her house for a drink after going out in the evening, it means that she wants sex\**

\*The wording of this item in the Spanish Version of the "Acceptance of Modern Myths about Sexual Aggression Scale" slightly differs from the English original version.

*2. Many women tend to exaggerate the problem of male violence*

*3. When a man urges his female partner to have sex, this cannot be called rape*

*4. Any woman who is careless enough to walk through "dark alleys" at night is partly to be blamed if she is raped*

*5. Alcohol is often the culprit when a man rapes a woman.*

The card shown to interviewees indicated the following:

0 – Disagree strongly

1 – Disagree somewhat

2 – Disagree slightly

3 – Agree slightly

4 – Agree somewhat

5 – Agree strongly

#### 3.1.1 *If a woman invites a man back to her house for a drink after going out in the evening, it means that she wants sex*

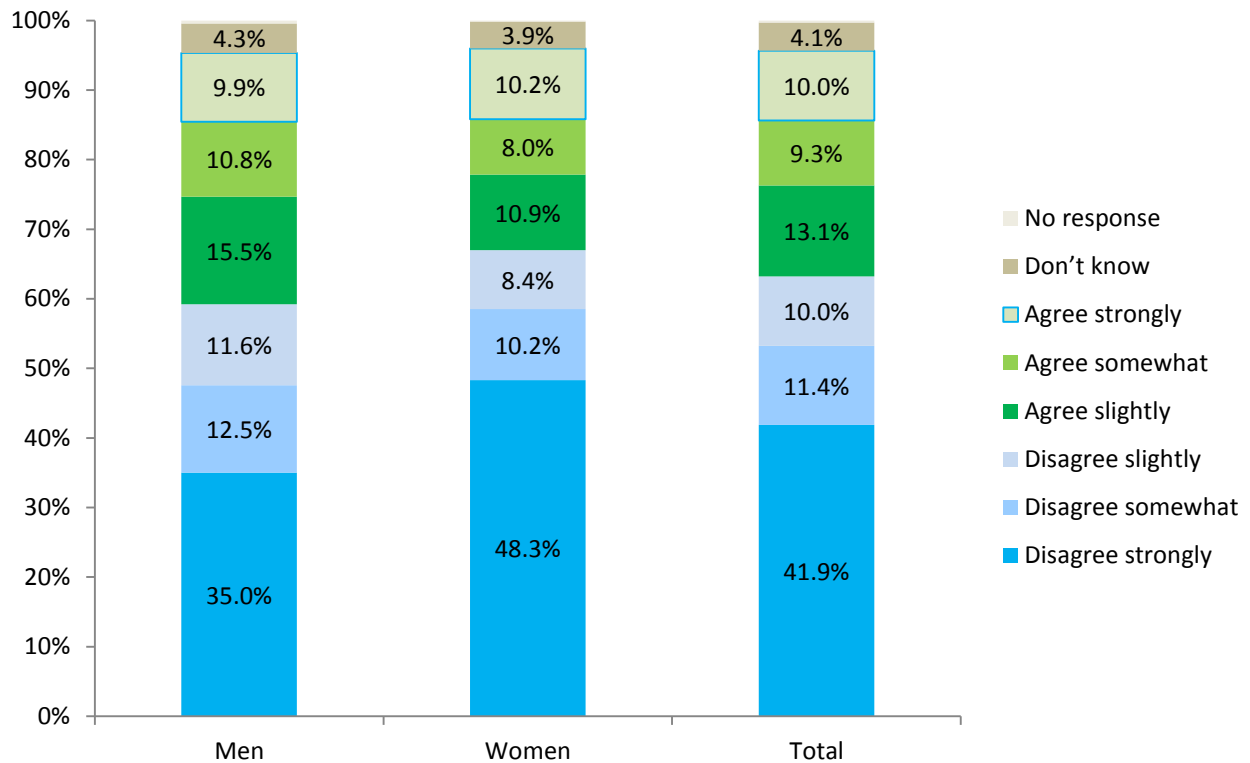
A total of 67.0 % of women and 59.2 % of men disagree with the statement "If a woman invites a man back to her house for a drink after going out in the evening, it means that she wants sex".<sup>31</sup> Figure 3.1 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. In total, 41.9 % of

<sup>30</sup> Megias, J.L., Romero-Sánchez, M., Durán, M., Moya, M., and Bohner, G. (2011). Spanish Validation of the Acceptance of Modern Myths about Sexual Aggression Scale (AMMSA). *The Spanish Journal of Psychology*, 14(2), 912-925.

<sup>31</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

interviewees strongly disagree with the statement, compared to 10.0 % who say that they strongly agree. **Support for this statement can lead to blaming the victim of a sexual assault** in the context of this question.

**Figure 3.1 Opinions on the statement “If a woman invites a man back to her house for a drink after going out in the evening, it means that she wants sex” by sex**

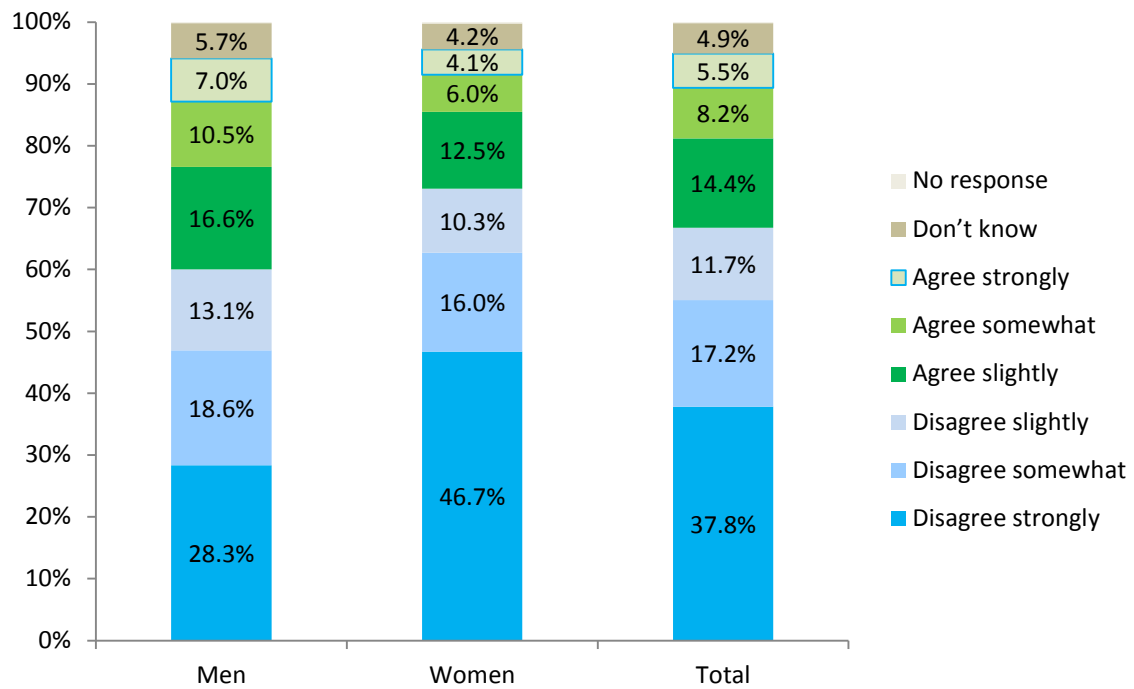


### 3.1.2 Many women tend to exaggerate the problem of male violence

A total of 73.0 % of women and 60.0 % of men disagree with the statement “Many women tend to exaggerate the problem of male violence”<sup>32</sup>. Figure 3.2 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. **In total, 46.7 % of women strongly disagree with the statement, compared to just 28.3 % of men.**

<sup>32</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

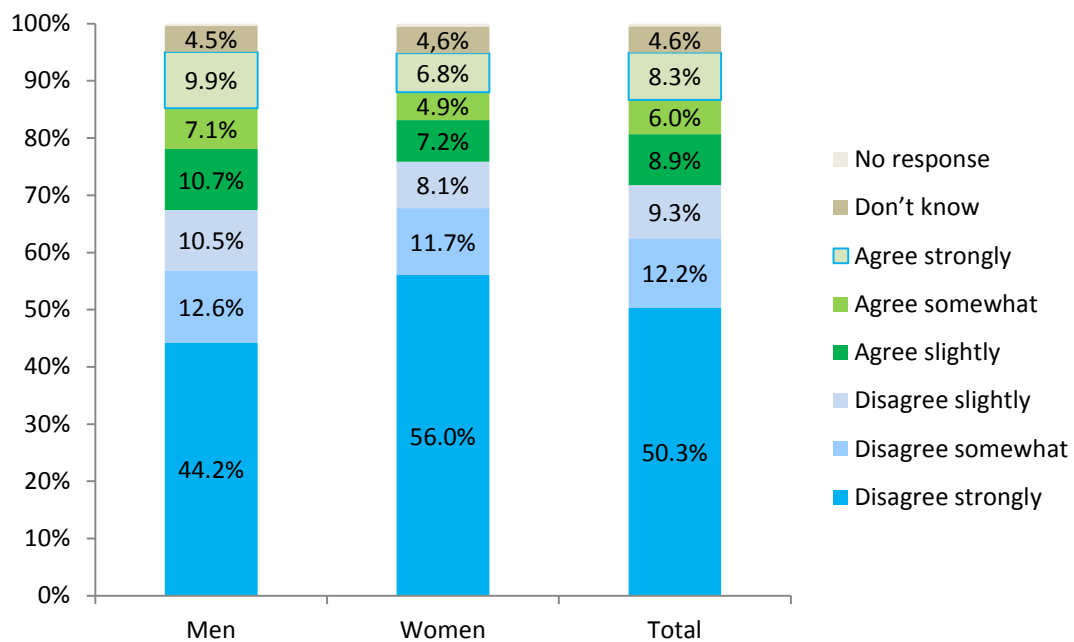
Figure 3.2 Opinions on the statement “Many women tend to exaggerate the problem of male violence” by sex



### 3.1.3 When a man urges his female partner to have sex, this cannot be called rape

In total, 75.9 % of women and 67.4 % of men disagree with the statement “When a man urges his female partner to have sex, this cannot be called rape”.<sup>33</sup> Figure 3.3 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex.

Figure 3.3 Opinions on the statement “When a man urges his female partner to have sex, this cannot be called rape” by sex



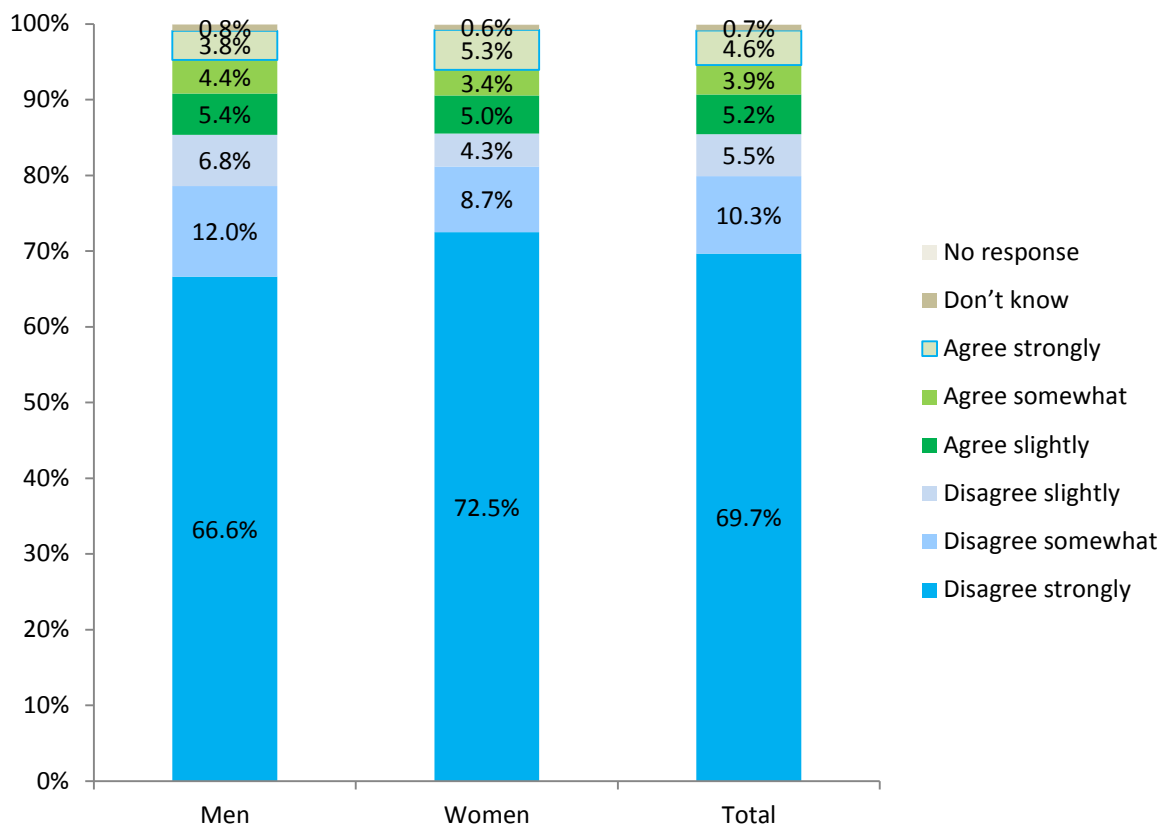
<sup>33</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.



### 3.1.4 Any woman who is careless enough to walk through “dark alleys” at night is partly to be blamed if she is raped

A total of 85.5 % of women and 85.4 % of men disagree with the statement “Any woman who is careless enough to walk through “dark alleys” at night is partly to be blamed if she is raped”<sup>34</sup> and there are no statistically significant differences by sex. Figure 3.4 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Taking into account these degrees, the differences between men and women are statistically significant with a 99% confidence level. A total of 72.5 % of women and 66.6 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. **Support for this statement entails putting the blame for sexual assault on the victim.**

Figure 3.4 Opinions on the statement “Any woman who is careless enough to walk through “dark alleys” at night is partly to be blamed if she is raped” by sex



### 3.1.5 Alcohol is often the culprit when a man rapes a woman

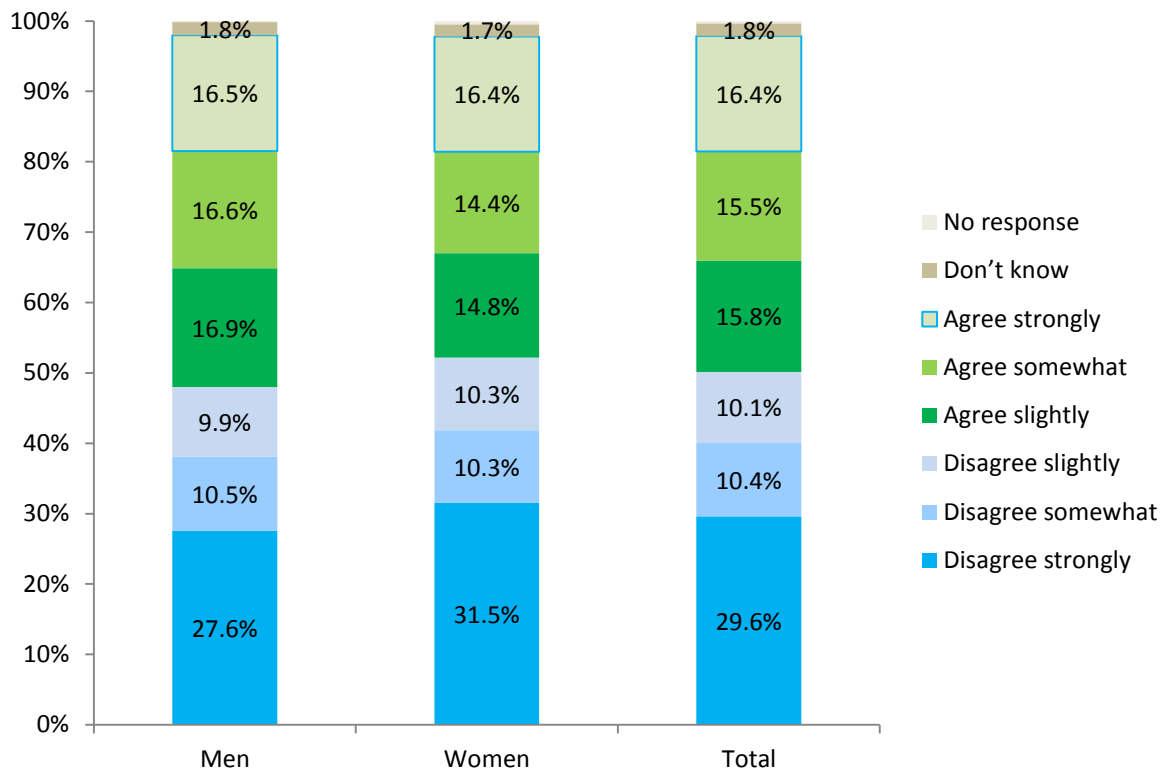
In total, 52.2 % of women and 48.0 % of men express disagreement with the statement "Alcohol is often the reason why a man rapes a woman"<sup>35</sup> and there are no statistically significant differences by sex. Of the total, 50.0 % of men and 45.6 % of women say that they agree. Figure 3.5 shows the varying degrees of agreement and disagreement, by sex, although the differences are not statistically significant with a 95 % confidence level. The interviewees stating that they strongly agree with the statement is 16.4%.

<sup>34</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

<sup>35</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

The fact that almost 50 % of the people interviewed express some degree of **agreement** with this statement, which **implies shifting the blame from the aggressor**, indicates that we need to carry on educating and raising awareness among citizens in order to stop judging victims and shifting the blame from aggressors.

Figure 3.5 Opinions on the statement “Alcohol is often the culprit when a man rapes a woman” by sex



### 3.1.6 Rejection or tolerance of sexual aggressions based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees

Up to this point and throughout section 3.1, we have analysed the responses to the statements on sexual assault contained in question Qu. 5 of the questionnaire separately. The emphasis in this section is on global rejection or tolerance of sexual violence. With this in mind, a combined analysis is conducted on all the statements, and the sociodemographic characteristics of the interviewees are analysed in more detail based on their tolerance or rejection of sexual aggressions, using the items contained in question Qu. 5 of the questionnaire, which were taken from the AMMSA scale. Three groups are created for this purpose:

- **Rejection of sexual aggressions:** composed of persons who express some degree of disagreement with **all** the statements in question Qu. 5 mentioned at the beginning of section 3.1.
- **Tolerance of sexual aggressions:** composed of persons who express some degree of agreement with **all** the statements in question Qu. 5 mentioned at the beginning of section 3.1.
- **Intermediate group:** composed of persons who tolerate sexual aggressions in some cases and reject it in others.

When these three groups are created, the group that rejects sexual aggressions based on question Qu. 5 contains 678 people (249 men and 429 women), the intermediate group contains 1,715 (906

men and 809 women) and the group tolerating sexual aggressions contains 69 (40 men and 29 women). Two individuals (1 man and 1 woman) answer "Don't know" to everything and 1 woman does not answer any questions in this section.

Table 3.1 shows the distribution across the three groups (rejection, intermediate, tolerance) based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. A total of 20.8 % of **men** are in the "rejection of sexual violence according to the AMMSA scale" group, compared to 33.8 % of **women**. By **age**, young people aged 16 to 34 (38.2 %) and persons aged 35 to 59 (31.3 %) reject all sexual assaults covered in question 5 of the questionnaire (AMMSA scale) to a greater extent than those aged over 60 (12.1 %).

As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of people in the rejection group: 9.7 % of those with a primary education or lower, 25.7 % of those with a secondary education, 32.4 % of those with advanced VET and 45.3 % of those with a university education. With regard to **employment status**, 11.2 % of retirees and pensioners and 18.8 % of persons carrying out unpaid domestic work are in this group, compared to 42.4 % of students, 34.3 % of employed persons and 27.4 % of the unemployed. By **size of municipality**, 22.7 % of persons living in municipalities with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants and 28.8 % of those living in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants belong to the group that rejects sexual assault.

**Table 3.1 Rejection or tolerance of sexual aggressions based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using the items of section 3.1. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)**

		Rejection of sexual violence	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexual violence	DK	NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	20.8 %	75.8 %	3.3 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Female	33.8 %	63.8 %	2.3 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	38.2 %	60.6 %	1.1 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	31.3 %	67.0 %	1.7 %	0.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	60+	12.1 %	81.5 %	6.1 %	0.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	9.7 %	82.8 %	7.3 %	0.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	25.7 %	72.2 %	2.0 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	32.4 %	66.2 %	1.4 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	45.3 %	53.6 %	0.9 %	0.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	in employment	34.3 %	64.7 %	1.0 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	retiree or pensioner	11.2 %	81.4 %	7.2 %	0.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	unemployed	27.4 %	69.7 %	2.6 %	0.0 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	student	42.4 %	57.0 %	0.6 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	18.8 %	77.0 %	3.6 %	0.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	27.9 %	69.3 %	2.7 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Another country	24.2 %	72.2 %	3.7 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	20.5 %	74.8 %	4.7 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	27.9 %	69.2 %	2.7 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence*	<=10,000	22.7 %	73.7 %	3.4 %	0.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	28.8 %	68.5 %	2.6 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	22.8 %	73.0 %	3.9 %	0.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	29.2 %	69.2 %	1.5 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	27.7 %	69.0 %	3.1 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	29.6 %	68.8 %	1.7 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		27.5 %	69.6 %	2.8 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

### 3.2 Opinions on sexual aggressions (II)

This section analyses interviewees' answers to the following question:

Qu. 6 Please tell me how much you agree, using the scale of 0 to 5 again, where 0 means that you "disagree strongly" and 5 means that you "agree strongly", with the following statements.

1. A provocatively dressed woman should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex
2. If a woman is sexually assaulted while drunk, she is partly to blame for losing control
3. A woman who has had lots of sexual partners has less credibility if she reports a sexual assault
4. A woman should not flirt with a man if she does not intend to have sex with him

The card shown to interviewees indicated the following:

- |   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| 2 | 0 – Disagree strongly |
| 3 | 1 – Disagree somewhat |
| 4 | 2 – Disagree slightly |
| 5 | 3 – Agree slightly    |
| 6 | 4 – Agree somewhat    |
| 7 | 5 – Agree strongly    |

#### 3.2.1 *A provocatively dressed woman should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex*

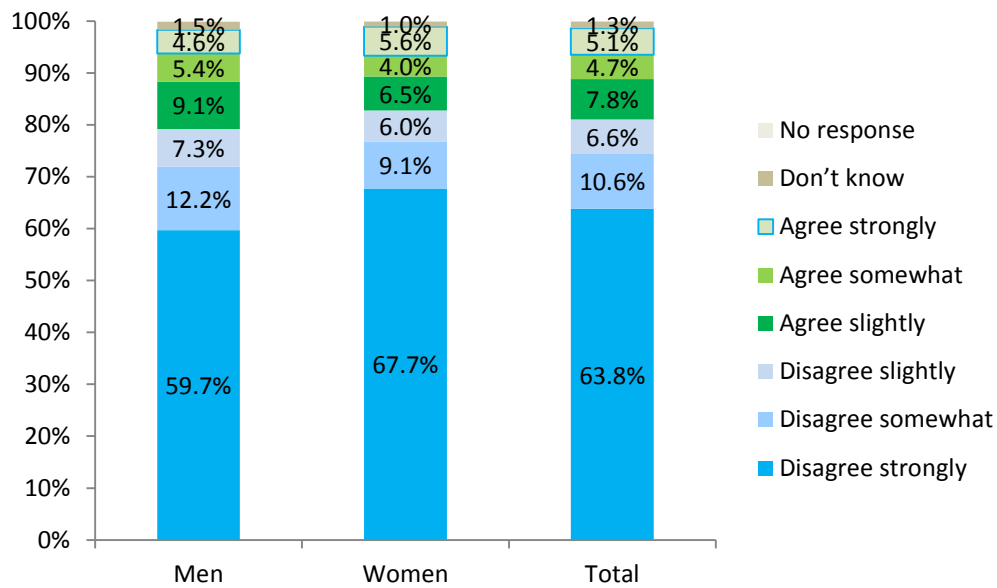
In total, 82.7 % of women and 79.2 % of men express disagreement with the statement "A provocatively dressed woman should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex" <sup>36</sup> and there are no statistically significant differences by sex.

Figure 3.6 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Taking into account these degrees, the differences between men and women are statistically significant with a 99 % confidence level. A total of 67.7 % of women and 59.7 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. **Support for this statement entails putting the blame for sexual assault on the victim.**

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<sup>36</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

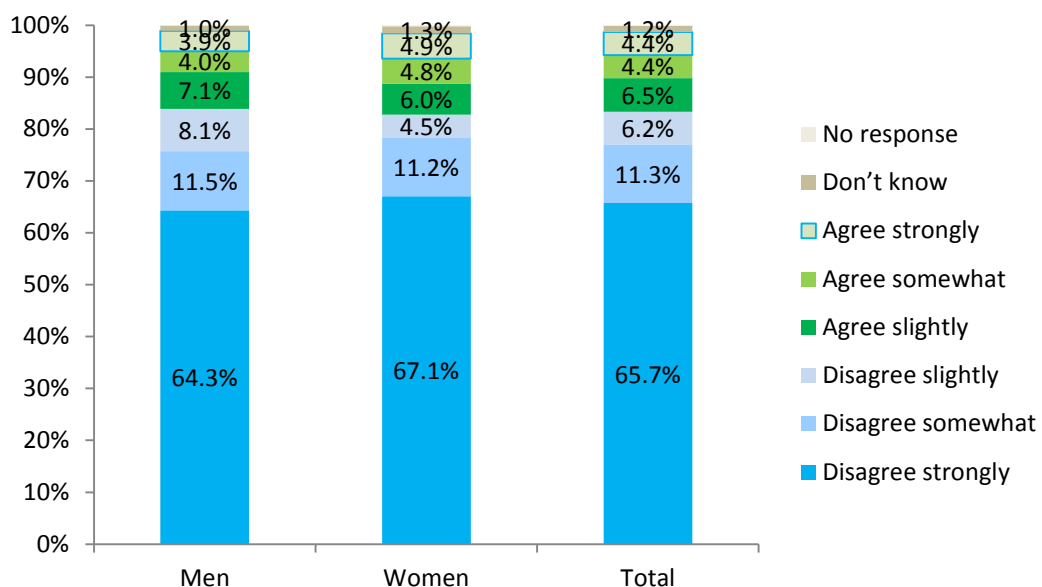
Figure 3.6 Opinions on the statement “A provocatively dressed woman should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex” by sex



### 3.2.2 If a woman is sexually assaulted while drunk, she is partly to blame for losing control

A total of 83.3 % of interviewees disagree with the statement “If a woman is sexually assaulted while drunk, she is partly to blame for losing control”<sup>37</sup> and there are no statistically significant differences by sex. Figure 3.7 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. Taking into account these degrees, the differences between men and women are statistically significant with a 99 % confidence level. **Support for this statement entails putting the blame for sexual assault on the victim.**

Figure 3.7 Opinions on the statement “If a woman is sexually assaulted while drunk, she is partly to blame for losing control”

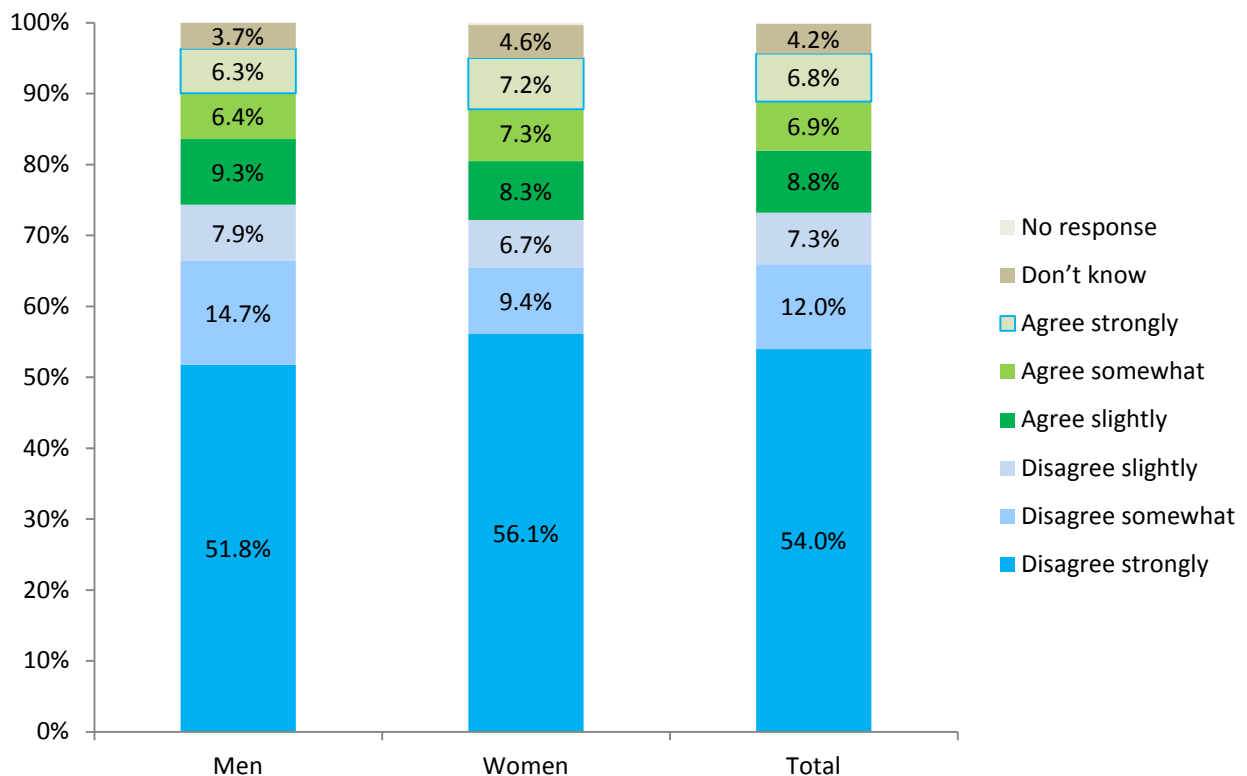


<sup>37</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

### 3.2.3 A woman who has had lots of sexual partners has less credibility if she reports a sexual assault

A total of 73.2 % of interviewees disagree with the statement “A woman who has had lots of sexual partners has less credibility if she reports a sexual assault”<sup>38</sup> and there are no statistically significant differences by sex. Figure 3.8 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. In this case, statistically significant differences were detected at the 99 % confidence level. **Agreement with this statement undermines the truthfulness of a victim for her personal characteristics or way of life, thereby blaming her for what happened and for not being believed.**

Figure 3.8 Opinions on the statement “A woman who has had lots of sexual partners has less credibility if she reports a sexual assault” by sex



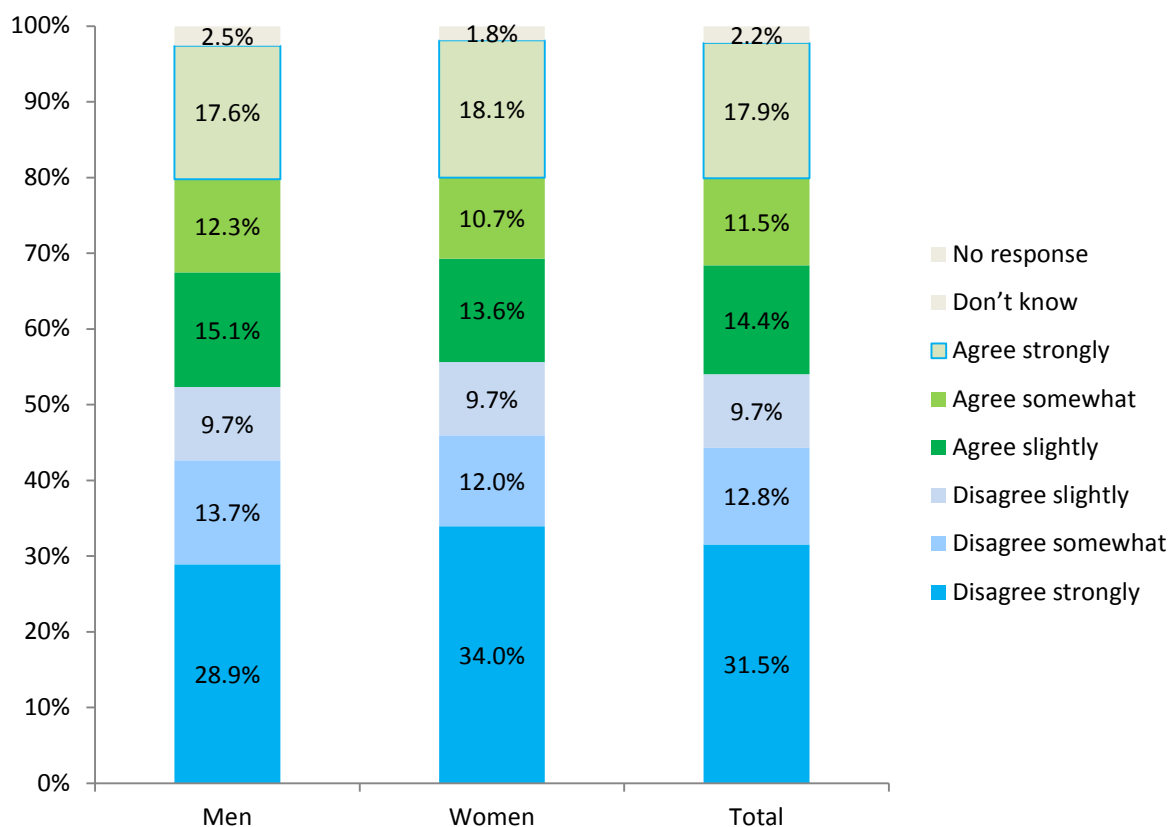
### 3.2.4 A woman should not flirt with a man if she does not intend to have sex with him

A total of 54.0 % of interviewees disagree with the statement “A woman should not flirt with a man if she does not intend to have sex with him”<sup>39</sup> and there are no statistically significant differences by sex. Figure 3.9 shows the different degrees of agreement and disagreement, by sex, although the differences are not statistically significant. A total of 31.5 % disagree strongly, while 17.9 % agree strongly. **Accepting this statement shifts the responsibility of a sexual assault from the aggressor to the woman based on the latter’s previous behaviour.**

<sup>38</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

<sup>39</sup>Disagreement with this statement implies rejection of sexual violence and agreement with tolerance of sexual violence.

Figure 3.9 Opinions on the statement “A woman should not flirt with a man if she does not intend to have sex with him” by sex



### 3.2.5 Rejection or tolerance of sexual aggressions based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees

Up to this point and throughout section 3.2, we have analysed the responses to the statements on sexual assault contained in question Qu. 5 of the questionnaire separately. The emphasis in this section is on global rejection or tolerance of sexual violence. With this in mind, a combined analysis is conducted on all the statements, and the sociodemographic characteristics of the interviewees are analysed in more detail based on their tolerance or rejection of sexual aggressions, using the items contained in question Qu. 6 of the questionnaire. Three groups are created for this purpose:

- **Rejection of sexual aggressions:** composed of persons who express some degree of disagreement with **all** the statements in question Qu. 5 mentioned at the beginning of section 3.2.
- **Tolerance of sexual aggressions:** composed of persons who express some degree of agreement with **all** the statements in question Qu. 5 mentioned at the beginning of section 3.2.
- **Intermediate group:** composed of persons who tolerate sexual aggressions in some cases and reject it in others.

When these three groups are created, the group that rejects sexual aggressions based on question Qu. 5 contains 1,059 people (510 men and 549 women), the intermediate group contains 1,252 (611 men and 641 women) and the group tolerating sexual aggressions contains 150 (74 men and 76 women). Three individuals (1 men and 2 women) answer “Don’t know” to everything and 1 woman does not answer any questions in this section.

Table 3.2 shows the distribution across the three groups (rejection, intermediate, tolerance) based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. There are no statistically significant differences by sex. By **age**, young people aged 16 to 34 (54.4 %) and persons aged 35 to 59 (48.5 %) reject all sexual aggressions in the items of question Qu. 6 mentioned at the beginning of the section to a greater extent than those aged over 60 (24.2 %). As **educational level** increases so too does the percentage of people in the rejection group: 20.2 % of those with a primary education or lower, 42.7 % of those with a secondary education, 50.0 % of those with advanced VET and 61.2 % of those with a university education.

With regard to **employment status**, 23.9 % of retirees and pensioners and 29.7 % of persons carrying out unpaid domestic work are in this group, compared to 58.9 % of students, 52.5 % of employed persons and 39.4 % of unemployed persons. Turning to **country of birth**, 44.0 % of those born in Spain and 34.8 % of those born abroad are in the group that rejects sexual aggressions. With regard to **type of household**, the group that rejects sexual aggressions is made up of 32.7 % of people who live alone, 36.2 % of those who live alone with their children, 44.4 % of people who live with their partners with or without children, and 47.2 % of people in other situations. Nevertheless, as we have already mentioned, the distribution of the "type of household" variable is heavily conditioned by the sex and age variables.

Note that there is more polarisation in the responses than with the groups created with the AMMSA scale questions analysed in section 3.1: the percentage of persons in the intermediate group is lower and the size of the two extreme groups (those who reject all violent sexual behaviours about which they are asked and those who accept them all) increases.

The group that accepts sexual violence is composed of more than 10 % of persons in the following cases: people aged 60 years and over (13.1 %), those with a primary education or lower (14.6 %), retired persons (13.5 %) and those who carry out unpaid domestic work (10.9 %). The group that rejects sexual violence is composed of more than 50 % of people aged 16 to 34 (54.4 %), those with advanced VET (50.0 %) or a university education (61.2 %), employed persons (52.5 %) and students (58.9 %).



**Table 3.2 Rejection or tolerance of sexual aggressions based on sociodemographic characteristics. Groups formed using the items of section 3.2. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)**

		Rejection of sexual violence	Intermediate group	Tolerance of sexual violence	DK	NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee	Male	42.6 %	51.1 %	6.2 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Female	43.3 %	50.5 %	6.0 %	0.2 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	54.4 %	42.2 %	3.4 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	48.5 %	48.3 %	3.1 %	0.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	60+	24.2 %	62.3 %	13.1 %	0.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	20.2 %	64.8 %	14.6 %	0.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	42.7 %	52.3 %	4.9 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	50.0 %	47.7 %	2.3 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	61.2 %	36.2 %	2.5 %	0.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	52.5 %	44.9 %	2.6 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	23.9 %	62.4 %	13.5 %	0.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	39.4 %	54.4 %	5.9 %	0.0 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Student	58.9 %	39.2 %	1.9 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	29.7 %	58.8 %	10.9 %	0.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth**	Spain	44.0 %	50.2 %	5.7 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Another country	34.8 %	55.7 %	9.5 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	34.6 %	56.7 %	8.7 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	43.5 %	50.4 %	6.0 %	0.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	39.1 %	54.0 %	6.7 %	0.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	44.0 %	49.9 %	5.9 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household***	Lives alone	32.7 %	61.0 %	5.7 %	0.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	36.2 %	54.6 %	9.2 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	44.4 %	49.0 %	6.5 %	0.1 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	47.2 %	48.3 %	4.4 %	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	TOTAL		43.0 %	50.8 %	6.1 %	0.1 %	0.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

### 3.3 Knowledge of the type of sexual aggressor: opinions on the statement “A woman is more likely to be raped by a stranger than by an acquaintance”

This section analyses interviewees' answers to the following question:

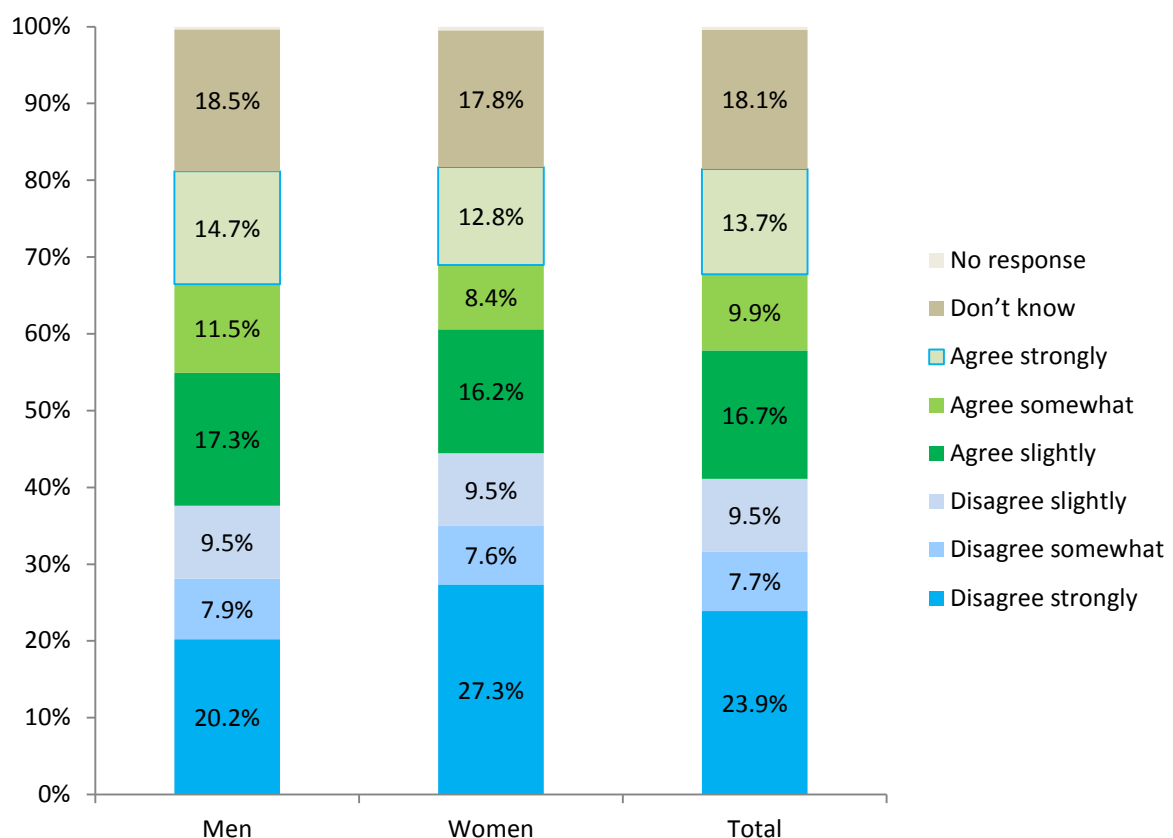
Please tell me how much you agree, using the scale of 0 to 5 again, where 0 means that you “disagree strongly” and 5 means that you “agree strongly”, with the following statement: A woman is more likely to be raped by a stranger than by an acquaintance.

The card shown to interviewees indicated the following:

- 0 – Disagree strongly
- 1 – Disagree somewhat
- 2 – Disagree slightly
- 3 – Agree slightly
- 4 – Agree somewhat
- 5 – Agree strongly

A total of 44.4 % of women and 37.6 % of men disagree with the statement “A woman is more likely to be raped by a stranger than by an acquaintance”,<sup>40</sup> while 37.3 % and 43.6 %, respectively, say that they agree with it. **Of the total, 18.1 % of interviewees do not know what to answer.** Figure 3.10 shows the varying levels of agreement and disagreement, by sex. A total of 27.3 % of women and 20.2 % of men disagree strongly with the statement. Moreover, 12.8 % of women and 14.7 % of men agree strongly with it. **The responses to this question indicate that a large percentage of the population is unaware of the characteristics of sexual assaults: according to the Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015<sup>41</sup>, only 18.6 % of rapes not committed by intimate partners are committed by strangers.** Data from the 2015 Macro Survey confirms a fact that has already been studied internationally<sup>42</sup>: **Most sexual aggressions are committed by men known to the victim.**

Figure 3.10 Opinions on the statement “A woman is more likely to be raped by a stranger than by an acquaintance” by sex



The distribution into two groups – agreement and disagreement with the statement – is analysed below based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of interviewees in order to ascertain which population sectors have a deeper lack of knowledge about the characteristics of sexual aggressions with regard to the type of aggressor.

Table 3.3 shows that, as far as concerns **age**, people aged 60 and over (29.7 % disagree with the statement and 48.2 % agree) have the deepest lack of knowledge. This time, the group with

<sup>40</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies knowledge of the most common type of sexual aggressor. On the other hand, agreement with the statement implies ignorance.

<sup>41</sup> [http://www.violenciagenero.msssi.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/macroencuesta2015/Avance\\_Resultados2015/home\\_valida.htm](http://www.violenciagenero.msssi.gob.es/violenciaEnCifras/macroencuesta2015/Avance_Resultados2015/home_valida.htm)

<sup>42</sup> Tjaden, P., and Thoennes, N. (2006). Extent, nature, and consequences of rape victimization: findings from the National Violence against Women Survey. Washington DC, US Department of Justice.  
Mason, F., and Lodrick, Z. (2013). Psychological consequences of sexual assault. *Best Practice & Research Clinical Obstetrics and Gynaecology* 27(1):27–37.

the greatest knowledge is the intermediate one (35-59 years): almost one in two (47.3 %) disagree with the statement, although slightly more than one third (34.8 %) agree.

The higher the **educational level**, the greater the knowledge in this regard: 50.3 % of those with a university education, 46.8 % of people with advanced VET and 41.9 % of people with a secondary education disagree (32.7 %, 32.9 % and 41.5 %, respectively, agree), compared to 26.5 % of people with a primary education or lower (49.4 % agree). Among people with a primary education or lower, 24.1 %, i.e. almost one in four people, cannot answer this question.

With regard to **employment status**, retirees and pensioners have the least knowledge: 31.5 % disagree with the statement, compared to 45.6 % of employed persons, 43.0 % of unemployed persons and 44.9 % of students. Lastly, people who live in small **municipalities** reveal a slightly inferior knowledge (35.1 % disagree) than those living in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants (42.8 % disagree).

**Table 3.3 Agreement or disagreement with the item “A woman is more likely to be raped by a stranger than by an acquaintance”. POPULATION OF BOTH SEXES (%)**

		Disagreement	Agreement	DK	NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	37.6 %	43.6 %	18.5 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Female	44.4 %	37.3 %	17.8 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	42.8 %	41.5 %	15.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	35-59	47.3 %	34.8 %	17.2 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	60+	29.7 %	48.2 %	22.0 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	26.5 %	49.4 %	23.7 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	41.9 %	41.5 %	16.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	46.8 %	32.9 %	20.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	50.3 %	32.7 %	16.5 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	45.6 %	35.9 %	18.0 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	31.5 %	47.4 %	21.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	43.0 %	40.4 %	16.0 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	Student	44.9 %	42.4 %	12.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	33.9 %	47.3 %	18.2 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	41.4 %	39.9 %	18.2 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	Another country	38.8 %	43.6 %	17.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	43.3 %	40.9 %	15.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	41.0 %	40.4 %	18.2 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence**	<=10,000	35.1 %	44.7 %	20.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	42.8 %	39.2 %	17.6 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	37.8 %	39.3 %	22.5 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	33.1 %	46.2 %	19.2 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	43.2 %	39.3 %	17.2 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	39.9 %	42.6 %	17.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
TOTAL		41.1 %	40.3 %	18.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

## CHAPTER 3 SUMMARY

- This chapter analyses a series of statements<sup>43</sup> designed to assess the population's tolerance of attitudes that potentially justify sexual violence, put the blame on the victim, or shift the blame from the aggressor.

### Attitudes towards sexual violence defined by the Acceptance of Modern Myths About Sexual Aggression scale

- The first block of statements used in this chapter are taken from the Acceptance of Modern Myths About Sexual Aggression (AMMSA) scale, which seeks to minimise the social desirability component in responses:
  - 67.0 % of women and 59.2 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "If a woman invites a man back to her house for a drink after going out in the evening, it means that she wants sex", thereby rejecting putting the blame on the victim of a sexual assault based on her prior behaviour.
  - A total of 73.0 % of women and 60.0 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Many women tend to exaggerate the problem of male violence".
    - ✓ A total of 46.7 % of women and 28.3 % of men disagree strongly with the statement.
  - In total, 75.9 % of women and 67.4 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "When a man urges his female partner to have sex, this cannot be called rape", thereby rejecting shifting the blame from the sexual aggressor.
  - A total of 85.4 % of the population shows some degree of disagreement with the statement "Any woman who is careless enough to walk through 'dark alleys' at night is partly to be blamed if she is raped", thereby rejecting putting the blame on the victim of a sexual assault.
  - Of the total population, 50.1 % express some degree of disagreement with the statement "Alcohol is often the culprit when a man rapes a woman", thereby shifting the blame from the sexual aggressor.
    - ✓ A total of 47.7 % express some degree of agreement with the statement, which means that they at least partially shift the blame from the aggressor for his actions and therefore demonstrate a degree of tolerance of sexual violence.
- When, based on the above statements from the AMMSA scale, we divide the population into three groups according to their rejection or tolerance of sexual aggressions:
  - rejection of sexual aggressions – persons who disagree with all the statements cited in the previous point,
  - tolerance of sexual aggressions – persons who agree with all the statements cited in the previous point,
  - intermediate group: persons who agree with it in some cases and disagree with it in others.

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<sup>43</sup> For all the statements in this chapter, agreement with them implies acceptance of sexual violence, and disagreement implies rejection of sexual violence.

we observe that:

- For all categories of the different sociodemographic variables analysed, the majority group is the intermediate one, which is composed of people who agree with some statements and disagree with others.
- A total of 33.8 % of women and 20.8 % of men are in the group that rejects sexual violence as defined by the AMMSA scale.
  - ✓ A total of 2.3 % of women and 3.3 % of men are in the group that tolerates sexual violence as defined by the AMMSA scale.
- The group that rejects sexual violence based on the AMMSA scale consists of 38.2 % of young people aged 16 to 34 and 31.3 % of those aged 35 to 59, in contrast to 12.1 % of over 60s.
- As educational level increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual violence based on the AMMSA scale: 9.7 % of those with a primary education or lower, 25.7 % of those with a secondary education, 32.4 % of those with advanced VET and 45.3 % of those with a university education.

### **Attitudes towards sexual violence defined by statements intended to assess other aspects of tolerance of sexual violence**

- The second block of questions in this chapter measures other aspects related to the tolerance of sexual violence:
  - In total, 82.7 % of women and 79.2 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "A provocatively dressed woman should not be surprised if a man tries to force her to have sex", thereby rejecting putting the blame on the victim of a sexual assault.
  - Of the persons interviewed, 83.3 % express some degree of disagreement with the statement "If a woman is sexually assaulted while drunk, she is partly to blame for losing control", thereby rejecting putting the blame on the victim of a sexual assault.
  - A total of 73.2 % of interviewees express some degree of disagreement with the statement "A woman who has had lots of sexual partners has less credibility if she reports a sexual assault" thereby rejecting putting the blame on the victim of a sexual assault.
  - Of the persons interviewed, 54.0 % express some degree of disagreement with the statement "A woman should not flirt with a man if she does not intend to have sex with him", thereby rejecting putting the blame on the victim of a sexual assault based on her prior behaviour.
    - ✓ A total of 43.7 % express some degree of agreement with the statement, which means that they at least partially put the blame on the victim of a sexual assault and therefore demonstrate a degree of tolerance of sexual violence.
- When, based on the statements cited in the previous section, we divide the population into three groups according to their rejection or tolerance of sexual aggressions:
  - rejection of sexual aggressions – persons who disagree with all the statements cited in the previous point,
  - tolerance of sexual aggressions – persons who agree with all the statements cited in the previous point,
  - intermediate group: persons who agree with it in some cases and disagree with it in others.

we observe that:

- A total of 43.0 % of the population is in the group that rejects sexual violence, with no statistically significant differences by sex.
  - ✓ Of the total population, 6.1 % are in the group that tolerates sexual violence.
- More young people aged 16 to 34 (54.4 %) and persons aged 35 to 59 (48.5 %) are in the group that rejects sexual violence as measured by these statements than those aged over 60 (24.2 %).
- As educational level increases so too does the percentage of people in the group that rejects sexual violence: 20.2 % of those with a primary education or lower, 42.7 % of those with a secondary education, 50.0 % of those with advanced VET and 61.2 % of those with a university education.
- The group that rejects sexual violence is composed of more than 50 % of people aged 16 to 34 (54.4 %), those with advanced VET (50.0 %) or a university education (61.2 %), employed persons (52.5 %) and students (58.9 %).
  - ✓ The group that accepts sexual violence is composed of more than 10 % of persons in the following cases: people aged 60 years and over (13.1 %), those with a primary education or lower (14.6 %), retired persons (13.5 %) and those who carry out unpaid domestic work (10.9 %).

#### **Knowledge of the most common type of sexual aggressor**

- A total of 44.4 % of women and 37.6 % of men express some degree of disagreement with the statement "A woman is more likely to be raped by a stranger than by an acquaintance",<sup>44</sup> while 37.3 % and 43.6 %, respectively, say that they agree with it. Of the total, 18.1 % of interviewees do not know what to answer.
  - The responses to this question indicate that a large percentage of the population is unaware of the characteristics of sexual assaults: according to the Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015, only 18.6 % of rapes not committed by intimate partners are committed by strangers. That is to say, most sexual assaults are committed by men known to the victim.
  - By age, people aged 35 to 59 are the most knowledgeable: 47.3 % disagree with the statement.
    - ✓ The greatest unawareness is observed among people aged 60 and over: only 29.7 % disagree with the statement.
  - Knowledge is lower among those with a primary education or lower: 26.5 % disagree with the statement compared to 41.9 % of people with a secondary education, 46.8 % of those with advanced VET and 50.3 % of people with a university education.

#### **Conclusions**

Only a small percentage of the population tolerate attitudes that potentially justify sexual violence in some way, putting the blame on the victim or shifting the blame from the aggressor and there are far more who reject all these attitudes. Nevertheless, rejection or tolerance varies widely depending on the content or intensity of each statement. A large percentage of the population is unaware that most sexual aggressions are committed by men known to the victim.

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<sup>44</sup> Disagreement with this statement implies knowledge of the most common type of sexual aggressor. On the other hand, agreement with the statement implies ignorance.

## 4- OPINIONS ON THE PUNISHABILITY OF THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

This chapter explores opinions on whether the different types of sexual violence against women should be punished under law. The question was worded as follows:

Qu. 7 For each of the following behaviours that I am going to read out to you, please tell me whether you consider them...?

1. Acceptable in all circumstances
2. Acceptable in some circumstances
3. Unacceptable, but they should not always be punished under law
4. Unacceptable, and should always be punished under law

The questions were about a series of behaviours that involve sexual violence against women, which we discuss below. The items are divided by subject into the following blocks:

- 1- Sexual violence
- 2- Sexual violence in the context of new information and communication technologies.
- 3- Trafficking in women for their sexual exploitation and consumption of prostitution

### 4.1 Sexual violence

This section analyses the responses to the following items:

1. Making unwanted comments and sexual advances towards a woman
2. Kissing a woman against her will
3. Unwanted touching of a woman
4. Deliberately giving a woman drugs or alcohol in order to have sex with her
5. Forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual intercourse

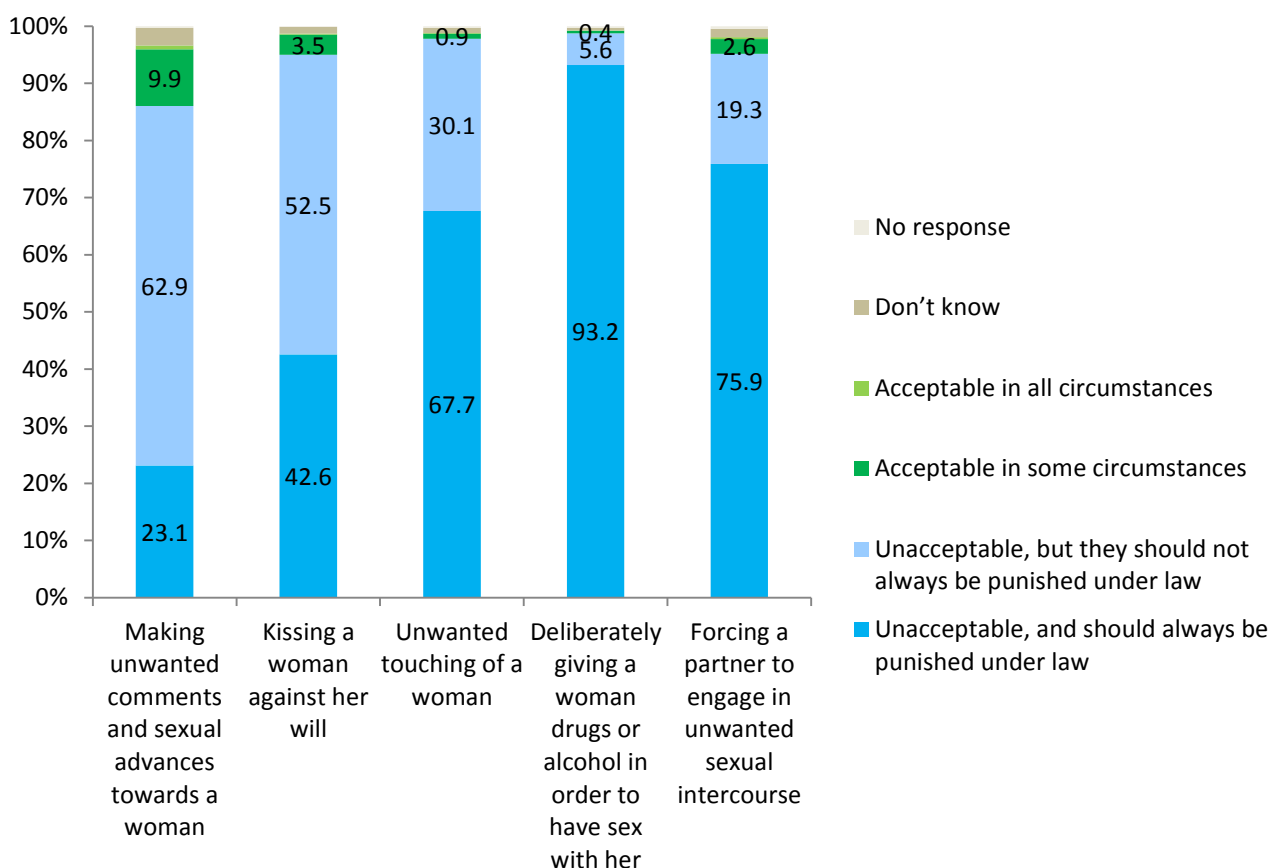
The answers are shown in Figure 4.1. **Between 86 % and 99 % of the population consider the five behaviours analysed in this section to be unacceptable.** The behaviour **“Deliberately giving a woman drugs or alcohol in order to have sex with her”** is the one that generates the most rejection: 98.7 % consider it unacceptable and 93.2 % of the population consider that, as well as being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law. The behaviour related to **“Forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual intercourse”** is considered **unacceptable** by **95.2 %** of the population. Of the total, 75.9 % believe that, besides being unacceptable behaviour, it should always be punished under law, while **19.3 % believe that, although unacceptable, it is not something that should always be punished under law.**

**When the behaviour in question does not extend to sexual intercourse, the percentage of those who consider that, besides being unacceptable, it should be punished under law decreases.** For example, the **“Unwanted touching of a woman”** provokes the rejection of 97.8 % of the population and 67.7 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law. A total of 95.5 % of the population consider **“Kissing a woman against her will”** unacceptable and 42.6 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law. Lastly, the behaviour **“Making unwanted comments and sexual advances towards a woman”** provokes the **least rejection**: 86 % of interviewees consider it unacceptable and 23.1 % believe that, besides being

unacceptable, it should always be punished under law. One in ten interviewees (9.9 %) consider this behaviour to be acceptable in some circumstances.

In general, and in contrast to what we have seen in previous chapters, **there are barely any differences between men and women for these five items**. The most significant differences are observed in the item “Making unwanted comments and sexual advances towards a woman”: 13 % of men consider this acceptable compared to 8.3 % of women (Table 4.1 of the Appendix at the end of the chapter). For the behaviour “Unwanted touching of a woman”, more women (70.2 %) than men (65.0 %) choose the option “unacceptable and should always be punished under law” and, to a lesser extent, “Unacceptable, but they should not always be punished under law” (28.2 % versus 32.2 % of men). The same is true of the item “Deliberately giving a woman drugs or alcohol in order to have sex with her”: 95.6 % of women and 90.6 % of men consider that, besides being unacceptable, they should always be punished under law, as opposed to 3.6 % and 7.6 %, respectively, who think that while unacceptable, they should not always be punished under law.

Figure 4.1 Assessment of the acceptability and punishability of the different types of sexual violence against women (%)





A discussion follows of the distribution of interviewees by groups accepting or rejecting the behaviours presented in this section based on their **sociodemographic characteristics**. The categories "Acceptable in all circumstances" and "Acceptable in some circumstances" are grouped into one due to their low frequencies. The categories "Unacceptable, but they should not always be punished under law" and "Unacceptable, and should always be punished under law" are studied separately. Overall, there are no major differences between categories (there may be statistically significant differences due to the high sample size, but these are not relevant analytically).

Table 4.1 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the answers to the item "**Making unwanted comments and sexual advances towards a woman**" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. The percentage of those who consider that this behaviour is unacceptable and should always be punished under law is very similar in the four groups of the **educational level** variable. By contrast, persons with a primary education or lower consider that this behaviour is unacceptable but should not always be punished under law (54.7 %) less frequently than those with a secondary education (63.9 %), advanced VET (63.0 %) or a university education (67.8 %). This behaviour is considered acceptable by 7.6 % of persons with a university education, 10.2 % of those with advanced VET, 10.9 % of persons with a secondary education and 13.4 % of those with a primary education or lower. With regard to **country of birth**, 17.2 % of people born outside Spain and 23.9 % of people born in Spain consider this behaviour to be unacceptable and that it should always be punished under law. Of the total, 13.9 % and 10.2 % respectively believe that this behaviour is acceptable.

Table 4.2 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses to the item "**Kissing a woman against her will**" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. With respect to **educational level**, those with a higher education consider more frequently that this behaviour should always be punished under law (49.0 % university students, 45.8 % advanced VET) than those with a secondary (40.5 %) or primary education or lower (38.5 %). With regard to **country of birth**, people born outside Spain accept this behaviour to a greater extent (7.7 %) than those born in Spain (3.2 %).

Table 4.3 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item "**Unwanted touching of a woman**" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. The percentage of people aged **16 to 34** years who consider that this behaviour should always be punished under law (73.7 %) is higher than that of people aged 35 to 59 (69.3 %) and the group of people aged over 60 (59.9 %). With respect to **educational level**, those with a higher education consider to a greater extent that this behaviour should always be punished under law (74.9 % university students, 74.5 % advanced VET) than those with a secondary (66.9 %) or primary education (58.3 %). With regard to **employment status**, retirees and pensioners and those carrying out unpaid domestic work consider to a lesser extent than employed persons (70.2 %), unemployed persons (72.0 %) or students (74.1 %) that this behaviour, besides being unacceptable, should always be punished under law (60.0 % and 61.2 % respectively). Nevertheless, the percentage of those who consider the behaviour to be acceptable is very similar across the five groups of the "employment status" variable. Thus, the lower percentage of retirees and persons carrying out unpaid domestic work who consider this behaviour to be unacceptable and that it should always be punished under law translates to a higher frequency in the multiple-choice answer "unacceptable but should not always be punished under law". By **country of birth**, 68.2 % of those born in Spain and 63.0 % of those born abroad indicate that the behaviour is unacceptable and should always be punished under law, while 29.8 % and 33.0 %, respectively, consider that, although unacceptable, it should not

always be punished under law, and 0.9 % and 2.2 %, respectively, consider it somewhat acceptable. Lastly, in relation to **size of municipality**, 59.7 % of people living in municipalities with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants and 69.8 % of those living in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants consider that the behaviour “Unwanted touching of a woman” is unacceptable and should always be punished under law. Of the total, 37.8 % and 28.1 %, respectively, say that while unacceptable, it should not always be punished under law. The percentage of those who consider the behaviour unacceptable is similar in both groups (0.8 % and 1.1 %, respectively).

Table 4.4 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item “**Deliberately giving a woman drugs or alcohol in order to have sex with her**” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Across the sociodemographic categories, over 90 % of people consider that this behaviour should always be punished under law. The percentage of those who consider it acceptable is equal to or less than 1 % in all categories.

Table 4.5 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item “**Forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual intercourse**” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. By **age**, persons aged 16 to 34 years (79.4 %) and 35 to 59 (79.0 %) consider that this behaviour, besides being unacceptable, should always be punished under law more frequently than those aged 60 years and over (67.8 %). In addition, the percentage of people aged 60 years and over who consider this behaviour acceptable (5.5 %) is higher than that of people aged 35 to 59 (1.7 %) and the 16 to 34 age group (2.1 %). With respect to **educational level**, people with a higher education consider to a greater extent that this behaviour should always be punished under law (university education 81.2 %, advanced VET 82.9 %) than people with a secondary education (76.0 %) or primary education (66.6 %). Further, people with a primary education or lower accept this behaviour to a greater extent (7.5 %) than people with a secondary education (2.1 %), advanced VET (1.4 %) or a university education (0.9 %). With regard to **employment status**, retirees and pensioners (66.3 %) and, to a degree, those carrying out unpaid domestic work (70.9 %) consider to a lesser extent than employed persons (79.7 %), unemployed persons (79.8 %) or students (79.1 %) that this behaviour, besides being unacceptable, should always be punished under law. Moreover, retirees and pensioners (6.0 %) and those carrying out unpaid domestic work (4.8 %) accept this behaviour more than the other categories (employed 1.7 %, unemployed 1.6 %, students 1.3 %).

## 4.2 Sexual violence in the context of new information and communication technologies

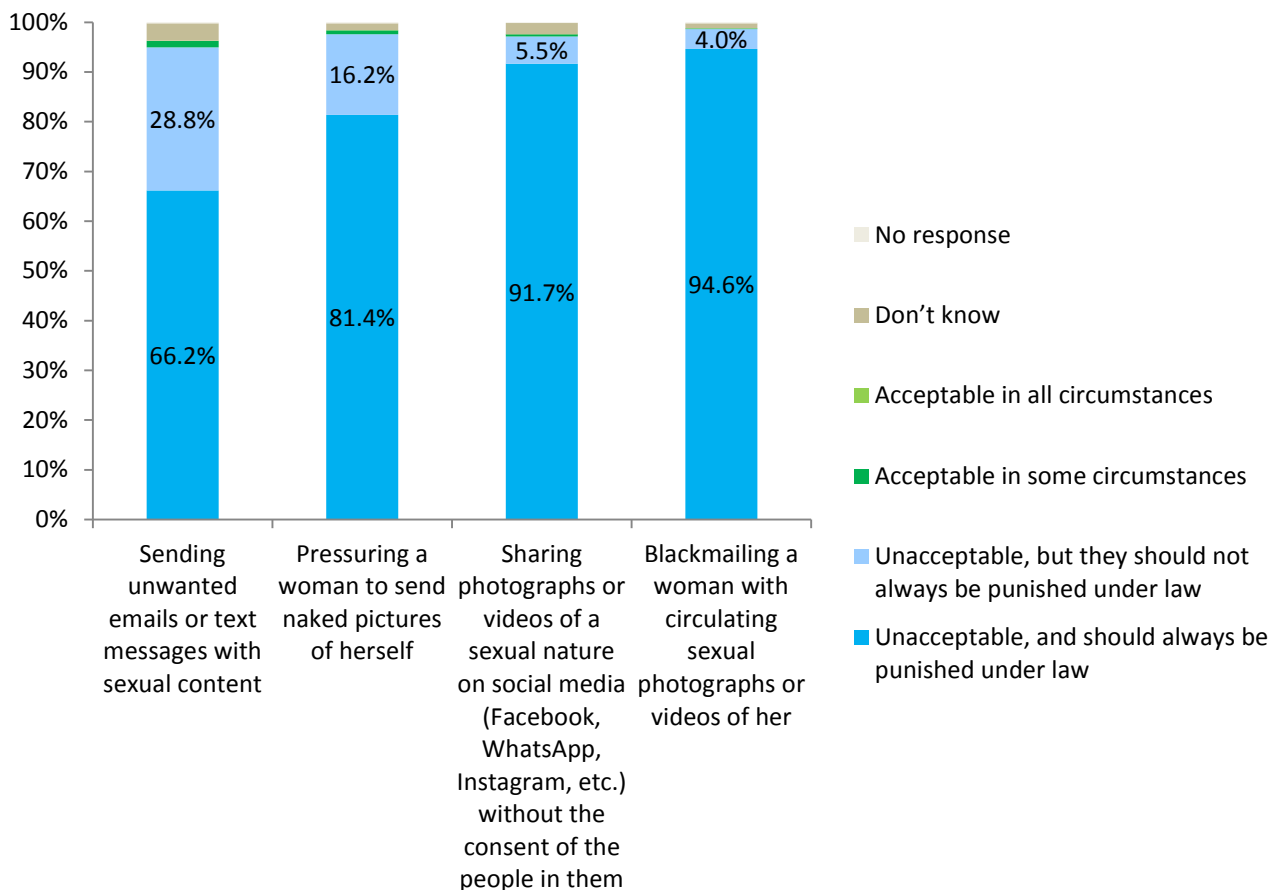
This section analyses the responses to the following items:

1. Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content
2. Pressuring a woman to send naked pictures of herself
3. Sharing photographs or videos of a sexual nature on social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.) without the consent of the people in them
4. Blackmailing a woman with circulating sexual photographs or videos of her

The answers are shown in Figure 4.2. **More than 95 % of the population consider unacceptable all behaviours of sexual violence linked to the use of new technologies mentioned in the survey.** Additionally, more than 90 % of interviewees consider that “Sharing photographs or videos of a sexual nature on social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.) without the consent of the people in them” or “Blackmailing a woman with circulating sexual photographs or videos of her” to

be unacceptable behaviours that should always be punished under law. However, for the behaviours “Pressuring a woman to send naked pictures of herself” or “Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content”, the percentage who consider that, besides being unacceptable, they should always be punished, drops to 81.4 % and 66.2 %, respectively.

**Figure 4.2 Assessment of the acceptability and punishability of the different types of sexual violence against women in the context of new information and communication technologies**



**There are only slight differences between men and women.** The main differences lies in the higher percentage of women who consider that these behaviours, besides being unacceptable, should always be punished under law. In the case of the “Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content” item, 32.3 % of men consider this to be unacceptable but that it should not always be punished under law, compared to 25.5 % of women. By contrast, 62.4 % of men and 69.7 % of women consider that it should always be punished under law (Table 4.6 of the Appendix at the end of the chapter). With regard to the item “Pressuring a woman to send naked pictures of herself”, 19.8 % of men consider that this is unacceptable but should not always be punished under law, compared to 12.8 % of women. Of the total, 77.4 % of men and 85.1 % of women consider that it should always be punished under law (Table 4.7 of the Appendix at the end of the chapter).

A discussion follows of the distribution of interviewees by groups accepting or rejecting the behaviours presented in this section based on their **sociodemographic characteristics**. The categories “Acceptable in all circumstances” and “Acceptable in some circumstances” are grouped into one due to their low frequencies. The categories “Unacceptable, but they should not always be punished under law” and “Unacceptable, and should always be punished under law” are

studied separately. Overall, there are no major differences between categories (there may be statistically significant differences due to the high sample size, but these are not relevant analytically).

Table 4.6 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the **“Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content”** item based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. By **age**, the percentage of people who consider that this behaviour should always be punished under law is 67.9 % of persons aged 35 to 59, 66.5 % of those aged 16 to 34, and 63.0 % among those aged over 60. By **country of birth**, 66.6 % of people born in Spain and 62.6 % of people born outside Spain consider this behaviour to be unacceptable and that it should always be punished under law. The percentage of those who consider “Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content” to be acceptable is less than 3.2 % in all categories of the variables analysed. More than 10 % of people aged 60 and over with a primary education or lower or who are retirees or pensioners do not know what to answer or do not answer this question.

Table 4.7 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item **“Pressuring a woman to send naked pictures of herself”** based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Again, more persons aged **35 to 59 years** think that this behaviour should always be punished under law (84.0 %), compared to 79.4 % of those aged 60 and over and 78.8 % of those aged 16 to 34. The percentage of those who consider the behaviour to be acceptable is less than 1.9 % in all categories of the variables analysed.

Table 4.8 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item **“Sharing photographs or videos of a sexual nature on social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.) without the consent of the people in them”** based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Apart from sex, there is no statistically significant variable when “does not know/no response” answers are not used for the chi-square statistical contrast.

Table 4.9 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item **“Blackmailing a woman with circulating sexual photographs or videos of her”** based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. The percentage of people who believe that this behaviour should always be punished under law is above 90 % in all categories analysed. The percentage of those who consider the behaviour to be acceptable is equal to or less than 0.8 % in all categories of the different variables analysed.

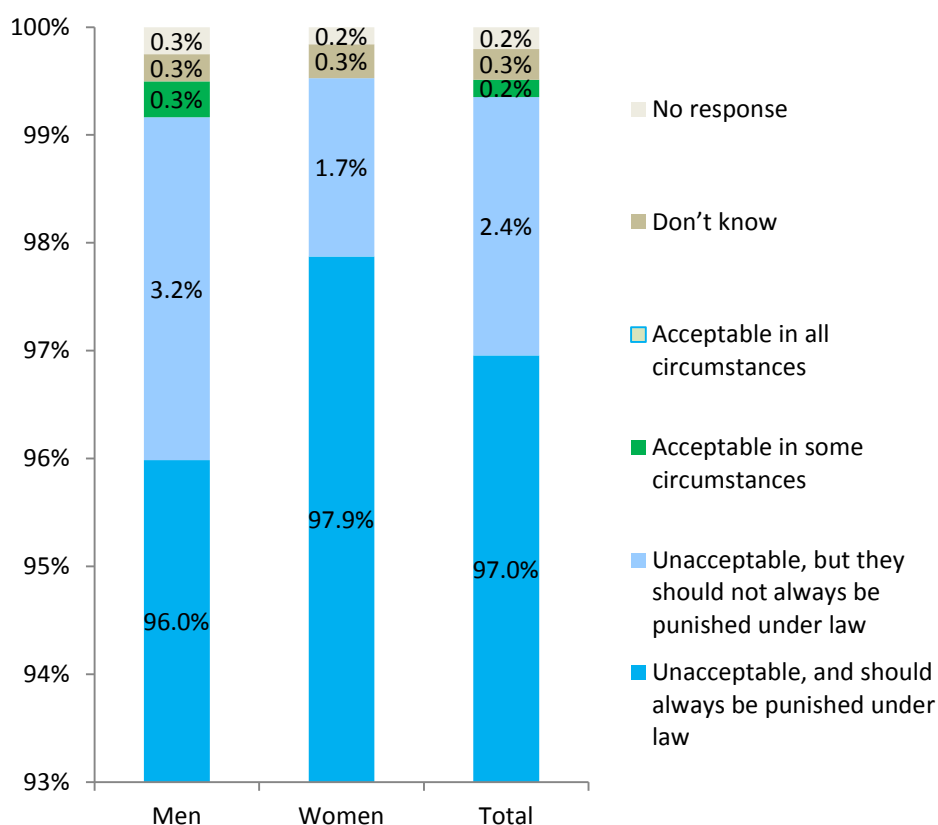
### 4.3 Trafficking in women for their sexual exploitation and consumption of prostitution

This section analyses the responses to the following items:

1. Forcing a woman into prostitution
2. Paying a woman for sex (prostitution)

The answers obtained to the first item **“Forcing a woman into prostitution”** are included in Figure 4.3. Of the total population, 99.3 % consider it unacceptable and 97.0 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law. None of the people interviewed consider it “acceptable in all circumstances”. The differences by sex, while statistically significant by sample size, are not very significant in this case: 96.0 % of men and 97.9 % of women consider that the behaviour is unacceptable and should always be punished under law. Of the total, 3.2 % and 1.7 % of women consider that, while unacceptable, it should not always be punished under law.

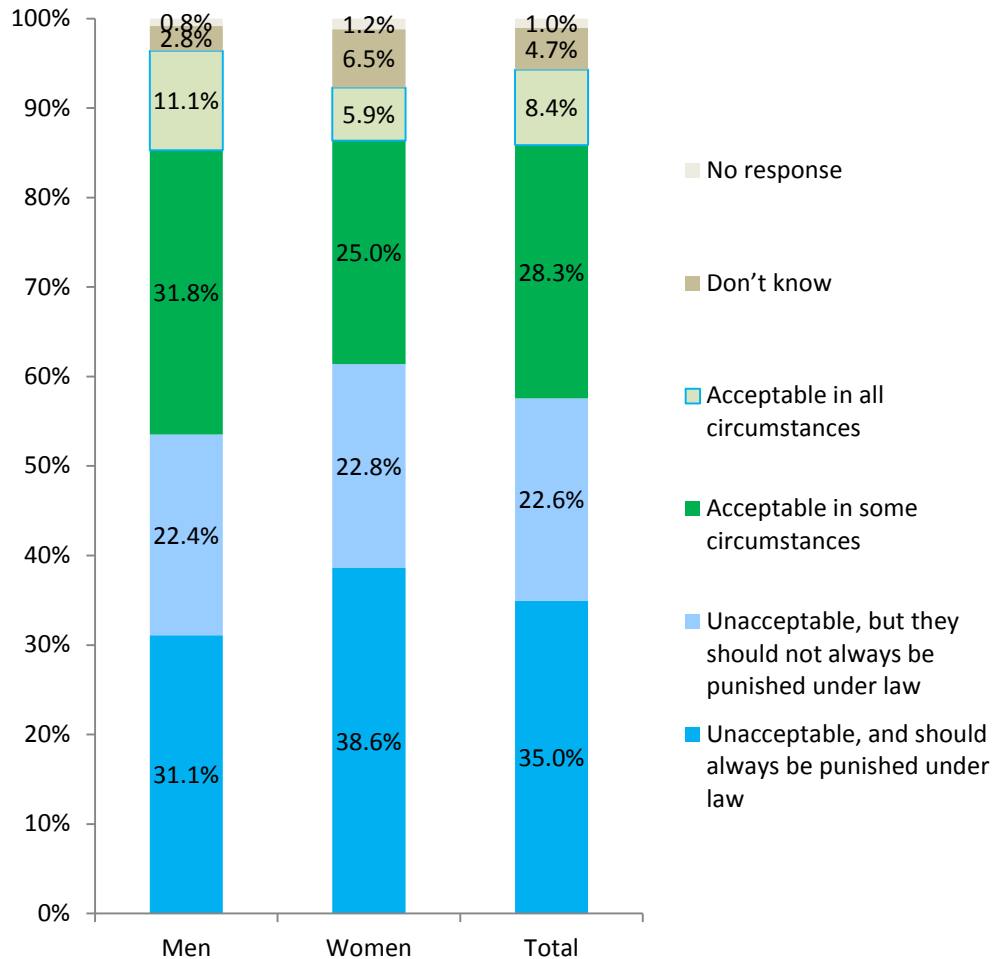
Figure 4.3 Assessment of the acceptability and punishability of trafficking in women for their sexual exploitation, by sex



The differences based on the sex of the person interviewed for the item, **“Paying a woman for sex (prostitution)”** are more relevant. The answers to this question are set out in Figure 4.4. Consumption of prostitution is considered unacceptable by 61.4 % of women and 53.5 % of men. Analysing degrees of agreement and disagreement, we find that 31.1 % of men and 38.6 % of women believe that the consumption of prostitution, besides being unacceptable, should always be punished under law, while 22.4 % and 22.8 %, respectively, believe that it should not always be punished under law. Further, the consumption of prostitution is considered somewhat acceptable by 30.9 % of women (25.0 % acceptable in some circumstances and 5.9 % acceptable in all circumstances) and 42.9 % of

men (31.8 % acceptable in some circumstances and 11.1 % acceptable in all circumstances). In short, **the consumption of prostitution is the behaviour that the fewest people identify as a form of sexual violence against women**, of all those analysed in this chapter.

Figure 4.4 Assessment of the acceptability and punishability of consumption of prostitution, by sex



A discussion follows of the distribution of interviewees by groups accepting or rejecting the behaviours presented in this section based on their **sociodemographic characteristics**. The categories "Acceptable in all circumstances" and "Acceptable in some circumstances" are grouped into one due to their low frequencies. The categories "Unacceptable, but they should not always be punished under law" and "Unacceptable, and should always be punished under law" are studied separately.

Table 4.10 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item "**Forcing a woman into prostitution**" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. The percentage of people who believe that this behaviour should always be punished under law is above 95 % in the different variables analysed.

Table 4.11 (Appendix, at the end of the chapter) contains the responses for the item **“Paying a woman for sex (prostitution)”** based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Without considering the “does not know/no response” answers, there are no statistically significant differences in any variable other than sex. The main differences arise from the greater percentage of “does not know/no response” answers among people aged 60 and over and those with a primary education or lower.

#### 4.4 Appendix of the statistical tables in Chapter 4

**Table 4.1 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour “Making unwanted comments and sexual advances towards a woman” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	13.0 %	62.0 %	21.7 %	3.2 %	100.0 %
	Female	8.3 %	63.7 %	24.4 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	12.7 %	62.3 %	23.5 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	35-59	9.6 %	65.2 %	22.8 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	60+	10.3 %	59.6 %	23.3 %	6.8 %	100.0 %
Educational level**	Primary or lower education	13.4 %	54.7 %	24.3 %	7.5 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	10.9 %	63.9 %	22.8 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	10.2 %	63.0 %	23.6 %	3.2 %	100.0 %
	University education	7.6 %	67.8 %	22.7 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	10.0 %	65.5 %	22.5 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	10.7 %	59.6 %	22.7 %	7.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	12.1 %	59.9 %	24.8 %	3.3 %	100.0 %
	Student	12.7 %	62.0 %	24.7 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	10.3 %	61.2 %	24.8 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
Country of birth*	Spain	10.2 %	62.4 %	23.9 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
	Another country	13.9 %	67.0 %	17.2 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	10.2 %	59.1 %	26.0 %	4.7 %	100.0 %
	No	10.7 %	63.0 %	22.9 %	3.3 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	12.4 %	61.1 %	22.1 %	4.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	10.1 %	63.4 %	23.4 %	3.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	11.1 %	60.4 %	22.5 %	6.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	9.2 %	58.5 %	25.4 %	6.9 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	9.5 %	65.1 %	22.4 %	3.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	13.4 %	59.6 %	25.0 %	2.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.



**Table 4.2 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour "Kissing a woman against her will" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee	Male	4.5 %	52.7 %	41.3 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Female	2.9 %	52.2 %	43.7 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	4.1 %	51.1 %	44.1 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	35-59	3.4 %	52.1 %	43.3 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
	60+	3.8 %	54.2 %	40.0 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	5.7 %	54.0 %	38.5 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	3.5 %	55.1 %	40.5 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	1.4 %	50.0 %	45.8 %	2.8 %	100.0 %
	University education	3.2 %	46.7 %	49.0 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	3.7 %	51.0 %	44.4 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	3.7 %	55.4 %	38.5 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	3.6 %	50.2 %	44.6 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	Student	1.9 %	53.8 %	43.7 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	5.5 %	56.4 %	37.6 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Country of birth***	Spain	3.2 %	52.2 %	43.3 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Another country	7.7 %	54.6 %	36.3 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	3.9 %	53.5 %	41.7 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	No	3.7 %	52.4 %	42.6 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	4.0 %	55.7 %	38.5 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	3.6 %	51.6 %	43.6 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	4.2 %	53.8 %	39.6 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	1.5 %	47.7 %	50.0 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	4.1 %	52.2 %	42.6 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	2.9 %	53.3 %	42.6 %	1.1 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.3 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour "Unwanted touching of a woman" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee*	Male	1.2 %	32.2 %	65.0 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.9 %	28.2 %	70.2 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	1.1 %	24.2 %	73.7 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	0.8 %	29.2 %	69.3 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	60+	1.3 %	36.9 %	59.9 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	1.8 %	37.7 %	58.3 %	2.2 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	1.1 %	31.2 %	66.9 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.5 %	22.2 %	74.5 %	2.8 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.4 %	24.3 %	74.9 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	1.0 %	28.0 %	70.2 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	1.4 %	36.3 %	60.0 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	0.0 %	27.0 %	72.0 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	0.6 %	24.7 %	74.1 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	1.8 %	36.4 %	61.2 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Country of birth*	Spain	0.9 %	29.8 %	68.2 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	Another country	2.2 %	33.0 %	63.0 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.0 %	33.9 %	65.4 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	No	1.1 %	29.9 %	67.8 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence***	<=10,000	0.8 %	37.8 %	59.7 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	1.1 %	28.1 %	69.8 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	0.3 %	33.0 %	64.6 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	1.5 %	27.7 %	70.0 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	1.2 %	31.0 %	66.7 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	0.7 %	26.1 %	72.1 %	1.1 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.4 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour "Deliberately giving a woman drugs or alcohol in order to have sex with her" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	0.9 %	7.6 %	90.6 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.1 %	3.6 %	95.6 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	0.7 %	6.2 %	92.5 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	35-59	0.2 %	5.4 %	94.1 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	60+	0.8 %	5.2 %	92.4 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	0.6 %	6.3 %	91.1 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	0.3 %	6.1 %	93.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.5 %	4.6 %	94.4 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.9 %	4.2 %	94.4 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status	in employment	0.3 %	5.9 %	93.4 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	retiree or pensioner	1.0 %	5.8 %	91.3 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	unemployed	0.3 %	6.5 %	92.5 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	student	0.6 %	4.4 %	94.3 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	0.0 %	1.8 %	98.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	0.5 %	5.4 %	93.2 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Another country	0.4 %	6.6 %	92.7 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.0 %	4.7 %	94.5 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	No	0.5 %	5.4 %	93.3 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	0.2 %	5.5 %	93.5 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	0.6 %	5.6 %	93.1 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	0.0 %	5.4 %	92.5 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	0.8 %	4.6 %	93.8 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	0.6 %	5.4 %	93.5 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	0.6 %	6.1 %	92.6 %	0.7 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.5 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour “Forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual intercourse” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee	Male	3.5 %	19.6 %	75.0 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	Female	2.3 %	19.0 %	76.8 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	2.1 %	17.3 %	79.4 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	35-59	1.7 %	17.6 %	79.0 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	60+	5.5 %	23.6 %	67.8 %	3.1 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	7.5 %	21.9 %	66.6 %	4.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	2.1 %	20.2 %	76.0 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	1.4 %	14.4 %	82.9 %	1.4 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.9 %	16.9 %	81.2 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	1.7 %	17.3 %	79.7 %	1.4 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	6.0 %	24.5 %	66.3 %	3.2 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	1.6 %	16.3 %	79.8 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
	Student	1.3 %	18.4 %	79.1 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	4.8 %	22.4 %	70.9 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	2.8 %	18.9 %	76.4 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	Another country	3.3 %	22.0 %	72.2 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	3.1 %	21.3 %	73.2 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	No	2.9 %	19.0 %	76.2 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	2.9 %	21.0 %	74.0 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	2.9 %	18.8 %	76.4 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	2.7 %	17.7 %	74.2 %	5.4 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	6.2 %	18.5 %	74.6 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	2.8 %	20.2 %	75.6 %	1.4 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	2.4 %	17.6 %	78.3 %	1.7 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.6 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour "Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	2.1 %	32.3 %	62.4 %	3.3 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.6 %	25.5 %	69.7 %	4.1 %	100.0 %
Age*	16-34	2.6 %	29.9 %	66.5 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	1.0 %	29.9 %	67.9 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
	60+	0.8 %	26.1 %	63.0 %	10.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	2.0 %	26.9 %	58.7 %	12.5 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	1.3 %	30.2 %	67.0 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.9 %	21.3 %	75.9 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	1.1 %	30.6 %	67.3 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	1.3 %	29.2 %	68.6 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	0.9 %	28.3 %	60.8 %	10.1 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	1.6 %	30.3 %	66.1 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	3.2 %	31.6 %	63.9 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	1.2 %	22.4 %	68.5 %	7.9 %	100.0 %
Country of birth*	Spain	1.1 %	28.5 %	66.6 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
	Another country	2.9 %	31.5 %	62.6 %	2.9 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.8 %	27.6 %	68.5 %	3.1 %	100.0 %
	No	1.3 %	28.9 %	66.0 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	0.6 %	31.3 %	62.2 %	5.9 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	1.5 %	28.1 %	67.2 %	3.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household**	Lives alone	0.6 %	30.3 %	62.5 %	6.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	0.8 %	21.5 %	71.5 %	6.2 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	1.0 %	28.3 %	67.0 %	3.7 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	2.9 %	30.7 %	64.9 %	1.5 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.7 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour “Pressuring a woman to send naked pictures of herself” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	1.3 %	19.8 %	77.4 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.4 %	12.8 %	85.1 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
Age**	16-34	1.5 %	19.4 %	78.8 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	35-59	0.3 %	14.7 %	84.0 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	60+	1.0 %	16.0 %	79.4 %	3.7 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	1.4 %	16.6 %	77.1 %	4.9 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	0.8 %	17.0 %	81.5 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.5 %	13.4 %	85.2 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.5 %	15.5 %	83.5 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	0.6 %	15.7 %	83.1 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	1.2 %	16.4 %	78.2 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	0.7 %	17.6 %	80.1 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	Student	1.9 %	19.6 %	78.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	0.0 %	14.5 %	84.2 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	0.8 %	16.1 %	81.4 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	Another country	1.1 %	17.2 %	81.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.0 %	18.9 %	81.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	0.9 %	16.0 %	81.5 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	1.1 %	16.6 %	78.8 %	3.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	0.7 %	16.1 %	82.1 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	1.2 %	18.0 %	77.2 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	0.8 %	15.4 %	81.5 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	0.6 %	14.9 %	82.8 %	1.7 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	1.1 %	18.9 %	80.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.8 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour “Sharing photographs or videos of a sexual nature on social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.) without the consent of the people in them” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	0.7 %	7.3 %	89.4 %	2.7 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.2 %	3.8 %	93.9 %	2.1 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	0.5 %	5.4 %	94.0 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	35-59	0.3 %	5.9 %	93.3 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	60+	0.7 %	4.8 %	87.1 %	7.3 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	1.0 %	5.7 %	85.0 %	8.3 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	0.3 %	6.4 %	92.1 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.5 %	2.3 %	97.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.4 %	4.6 %	94.7 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	0.3 %	5.3 %	93.8 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	0.7 %	5.8 %	85.9 %	7.7 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	0.7 %	6.5 %	92.2 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	Student	0.0 %	5.7 %	94.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	0.6 %	3.6 %	92.7 %	3.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	0.4 %	5.3 %	91.6 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
	Another country	0.7 %	6.6 %	92.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.0 %	5.5 %	90.6 %	3.9 %	100.0 %
	No	0.5 %	5.5 %	91.7 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	0.2 %	5.5 %	89.5 %	4.8 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	0.5 %	5.5 %	92.3 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	0.3 %	5.7 %	88.3 %	5.7 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	0.0 %	4.6 %	91.5 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	0.3 %	5.4 %	92.1 %	2.2 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	0.9 %	5.7 %	93.0 %	0.4 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.9 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour "Blackmailing a woman with circulating sexual photographs or videos of her" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of the persons interviewed. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee	Male	0.3 %	4.8 %	93.7 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.1 %	3.2 %	95.4 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	0.3 %	3.8 %	95.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	0.2 %	3.8 %	95.8 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	60+	0.0 %	4.7 %	91.5 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	0.2 %	4.5 %	91.1 %	4.2 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	0.3 %	4.4 %	95.0 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.0 %	2.3 %	97.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.0 %	3.3 %	96.0 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	0.2 %	3.6 %	95.9 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	0.0 %	4.9 %	91.1 %	3.9 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	0.7 %	4.2 %	94.5 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
	Student	0.0 %	3.2 %	96.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	0.0 %	4.2 %	95.2 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	0.2 %	3.7 %	94.8 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Another country	0.0 %	6.2 %	93.4 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.8 %	1.6 %	97.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	0.1 %	4.1 %	94.4 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	0.0 %	5.0 %	93.1 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	0.2 %	3.8 %	95.0 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	0.0 %	3.3 %	92.8 %	3.9 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	0.0 %	1.5 %	97.7 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	0.1 %	4.1 %	94.7 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	0.4 %	4.8 %	94.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.



**Table 4.10 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour "Forcing a woman into prostitution" based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee**	Male	0.3 %	3.2 %	96.0 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	Female	0.0 %	1.7 %	97.9 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	0.2 %	2.3 %	97.4 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	35-59	0.3 %	2.4 %	96.9 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	60+	0.0 %	2.4 %	96.8 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	0.4 %	3.4 %	95.1 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	0.1 %	2.3 %	97.4 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	0.0 %	1.4 %	97.7 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	0.2 %	2.1 %	97.5 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	0.2 %	2.2 %	97.3 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	0.2 %	2.9 %	95.9 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	0.3 %	3.3 %	95.4 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	0.0 %	2.5 %	97.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	0.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth***	Spain	0.0 %	2.3 %	97.2 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
	Another country	1.1 %	3.3 %	95.2 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	0.0 %	1.6 %	98.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	0.2 %	2.4 %	96.9 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	0.0 %	2.3 %	97.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	0.2 %	2.4 %	96.9 %	0.5 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	0.0 %	1.5 %	96.7 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	0.0 %	1.5 %	98.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	0.2 %	2.3 %	97.1 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	0.2 %	3.3 %	96.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

**Table 4.11 Opinions on the punishability of the behaviour “Paying a woman for sex (prostitution)” based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Population of both sexes (%)**

		Acceptable	Unacceptable but should not always be punished under law	Unacceptable and should always be punished under law	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	42.9 %	22.4 %	31.1 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
	Female	30.9 %	22.8 %	38.6 %	7.7 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	35.1 %	23.5 %	36.9 %	4.4 %	100.0 %
	35-59	37.4 %	23.5 %	34.8 %	4.4 %	100.0 %
	60+	37.0 %	20.3 %	33.6 %	9.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	37.5 %	20.4 %	33.0 %	9.1 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	37.6 %	22.5 %	35.1 %	4.8 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	34.3 %	24.1 %	36.1 %	5.6 %	100.0 %
	University education	35.1 %	24.1 %	36.0 %	4.7 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	37.3 %	22.7 %	35.3 %	4.7 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	37.1 %	21.8 %	32.4 %	8.7 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	39.4 %	23.5 %	33.2 %	3.9 %	100.0 %
	Student	26.6 %	26.6 %	42.4 %	4.4 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	35.2 %	18.8 %	38.2 %	7.9 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	36.1 %	22.9 %	35.1 %	5.8 %	100.0 %
	Another country	41.4 %	20.1 %	33.7 %	4.8 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	37.8 %	24.4 %	31.5 %	6.3 %	100.0 %
	No	36.7 %	22.3 %	35.2 %	5.7 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	38.0 %	19.5 %	36.1 %	6.5 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	36.4 %	23.4 %	34.7 %	5.5 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	37.2 %	21.9 %	30.3 %	10.5 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	33.1 %	24.6 %	33.8 %	8.5 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	36.6 %	22.7 %	35.7 %	5.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	37.5 %	22.4 %	35.8 %	4.2 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

## CHAPTER 4 SUMMARY

- This chapter analyses the population's opinions on whether the different forms of sexual violence are acceptable or unacceptable, and whether or not they should always be punished.

### Sexual violence

- The behaviour "Deliberately giving a woman drugs or alcohol in order to have sex with her" is the one that generates the most rejection: 98.7 % consider it unacceptable.
  - Of the total, 93.2 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law.
- Behaviour related to "Forcing a partner to engage in unwanted sexual intercourse" is considered unacceptable by 95.2 % of the population.
  - A total of 19.3 % believe that, despite being unacceptable, it should not always be punished under law.
- When the behaviour in question does not extend to sexual intercourse, the percentage of those who consider that, besides being unacceptable, it should be punished under law decreases:
  - "Unwanted touching of a woman" provokes the rejection of 97.8 % of the population.
    - ✓ Of the total, 67.7 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law.
    - ✓ The percentage of people aged 16 to 34 years who consider that this behaviour should always be punished under law (73.7 %) is higher than that of people aged 35 to 59 (69.3 %) and the group of people aged over 60 (59.9 %).
  - Of the total population, 95.5 % consider "Kissing a woman against her will" unacceptable.
    - ✓ A total of 42.6 % consider that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law.
  - The behaviour "Making unwanted comments and sexual advances towards a woman" provokes the least rejection: 86 % of the people interviewed consider it unacceptable.
    - ✓ Of the total, 23.1 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law.
    - ✓ One in ten interviewees (9.9 %) consider this behaviour to be acceptable in some circumstances.

### Sexual violence in the context of new information and communication technologies.

- More than 95 % of the population consider unacceptable all behaviours of sexual violence linked to the use of new technologies mentioned in the survey.
- There are only slight differences between men and women. The main differences lies in the higher percentage of women who consider that these behaviours, besides being unacceptable, should always be punished under law.
- "Sending unwanted emails or text messages with sexual content":
  - The percentage of people who consider that this behaviour should always be punished under law is 66.2 %. A total of 28.8 % believe that, despite the behaviour being unacceptable, it should not always be punished under law.
- "Pressuring a woman to send naked pictures of herself":
  - The percentage of those who consider the behaviour to be acceptable is less than 1.9 % in all categories of the sociodemographic variables analysed.

- “Sharing photographs or videos of a sexual nature on social media (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram, etc.) without the consent of the people in them”:
  - The percentage of those who consider the behaviour to be acceptable is less than 1.0 % in all categories of the sociodemographic variables analysed.
- “Blackmailing a woman with circulating sexual photographs or videos of her”:
  - The percentage of people who believe that this behaviour should always be punished under law is above 90 % in all categories analysed.

### **Trafficking in women for their sexual exploitation and consumption of prostitution**

- “Forcing a woman into prostitution”:
  - Of the total population, 99.3 % consider it unacceptable and 97.0 % believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law.
- “Paying a woman for sex (prostitution)”:
  - Consumption of prostitution is considered unacceptable by 61.4 % of women and 53.5 % of men.
    - ✓ Of the total, 31.1 % and 38.6 % of women believe that, besides being unacceptable, it should always be punished under law.
    - ✓ The use of prostitutes is considered to be somewhat acceptable by 30.9 % of women and by 42.9 % of men.
  - Of all those analysed in this chapter, this behaviour is the one that fewest people identify as a form of sexual violence against women.

### **Conclusions**

Although the vast majority of the population condemns sexual violence, when asked about sexual violence behaviours that do not involve sexual relations or when these relations involve intimate partners, the percentage of people who consider that these behaviours should always be punished under law drops substantially. There is a very widespread rejection of sexual violence behaviours linked to the use of new technologies and the trafficking of women for their sexual exploitation. The consumption of prostitution is the behaviour that fewest people identify as a form of sexual violence against women.

## 5- SOCIAL PERCEPTION OF THE MOST COMMON PLACES OF SEXUAL AGGRESSIONS AND STEREOTYPES ABOUT AGGRESSORS

First of all, this chapter analyses the population's opinions on the most common places of sexual aggressions and, secondly, beliefs about why some men commit sexual aggressions.

### 5.1 Social perception of the most common places of sexual aggressions

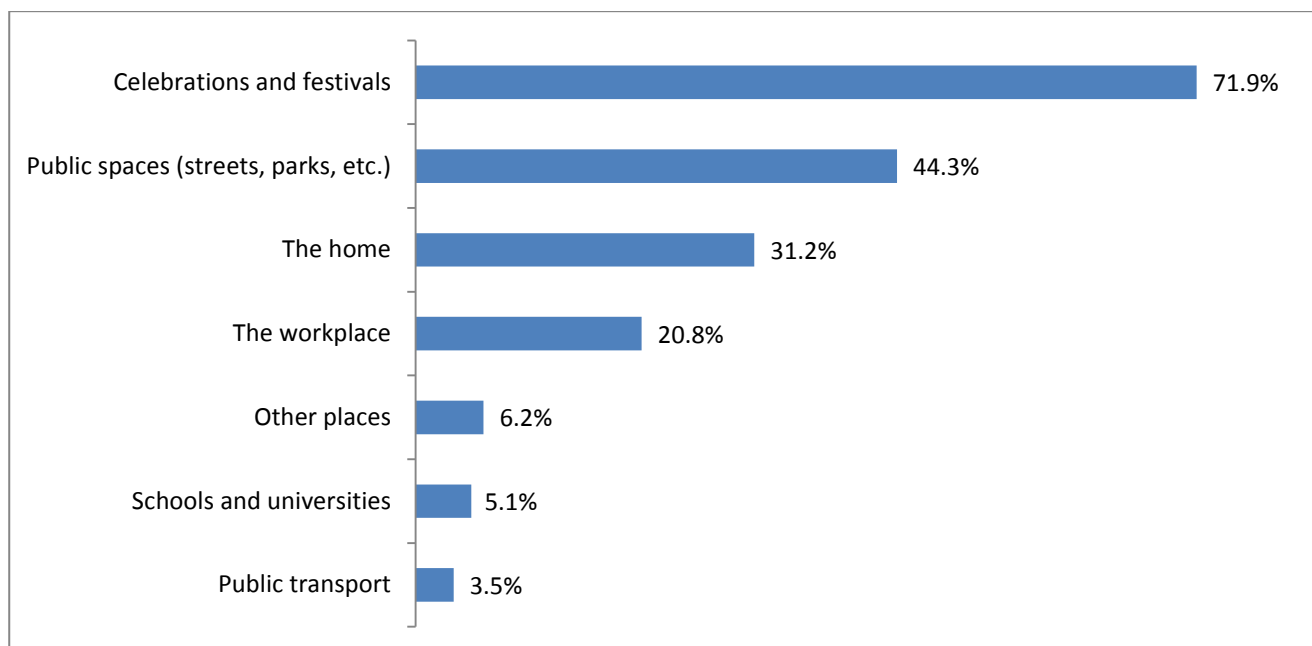
The survey asked interviewees about the places where they thought sexual aggressions most commonly takes place. They were allowed to name two places. The question was worded as follows:

Qu. 8. In your view, sexual aggressions against women most commonly take place in... Followed by?

- The home
- The workplace
- Schools and universities
- Public spaces (streets, parks, etc.)
- Public transport
- Celebrations and festivals
- Other places
- Don't know
- No response

Figure 5.1 shows the results obtained by aggregating the responses given for the first and second places. The most frequently mentioned place is "celebrations and festivals": 71.9 % of interviewees choose this option. In second place is "public spaces", named by 44.3 %. In third place is the "home", named by 31.2 %. In fourth place is the "workplace", named by 20.8 % of interviewees.

Figure 5.1 Opinions on the most common places of sexual aggressions (%)



Multiple-choice answer (two answers were allowed).

Table 5.1 shows the disaggregated results based on whether they were cited as the first or second choice. Celebrations and festivals are cited as the first choice by 45.5 % of interviewees, the home by 21.6 % and public spaces by 17.0 %. When interviewees are asked to name a second place, 27.4 % mention public spaces, 26.5 % mention celebrations and festivals, and 12.9 % mention the home.

**Table 5.1 Opinions on the most common places of sexual aggressions. Places named as first and second choice (%)**

	First place	Second place
The home	21.6 %	9.6 %
The workplace	8.0 %	12.9 %
Schools and universities	1.1 %	4.0 %
Public spaces (streets, parks, etc.)	17.0 %	27.4 %
Public transport	1.3 %	2.2 %
Celebrations and festivals	45.5 %	26.5 %
Other places	0.9 %	5.4 %
Don't know	4.5 %	5.6 %
No response	0.3 %	6.5 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %

Table 5.2 shows the places based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of the people interviewed. The differences are minor. By **educational level**, people with a university education cite the home more frequently (36.0 %) than people with a secondary education (32.5 %), advanced VET (28.7 %), or a primary education or lower (23.9 %). With regard to **employment status**, students cite the home (38.0 %) or work (28.5 %) most frequently, compared to 32.0 % and 20.2 %, respectively, of employed persons, 31.3 % and 20.8 % of unemployed persons, 28.4 % and 19.6 % of retirees and pensioners, and 27.3 % and 21.2 % of those who carry out unpaid domestic work. The percentage of "does not know/no response" answers is substantially higher among people with a primary education or lower and among retirees and pensioners.

**Table 5.2 Opinions on the most common places of sexual aggressions based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)**

		The home	The workplace	Schools and universities	Public spaces (streets, parks, etc.)	Public transport	Celebrations and festivals	Other places	Don't know	No response
Sex of the interviewee	Male	29.6 %	20.7 %	4.8 %	43.0 %	3.6 %	73.2 %	7.4 %	10.4 %	7.2 %
	Female	32.7 %	21.0 %	5.4 %	45.6 %	3.4 %	70.7 %	5.1 %	9.7 %	5.9 %
Age	16-34	31.2 %	22.2 %	4.6 %	46.4 %	3.4 %	76.5 %	5.6 %	7.0 %	2.9 %
	35-59	32.1 %	20.6 %	4.7 %	45.3 %	4.0 %	72.8 %	6.6 %	8.0 %	5.8 %
	60+	29.8 %	19.9 %	6.2 %	41.0 %	2.7 %	66.7 %	6.4 %	15.8 %	10.9 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	23.9 %	20.6 %	5.7 %	46.2 %	2.2 %	67.2 %	6.3 %	15.6 %	11.5 %
	Secondary education	32.5 %	20.6 %	5.5 %	43.4 %	3.7 %	73.6 %	6.4 %	8.9 %	5.4 %
	Advanced VET	28.7 %	20.8 %	6.9 %	40.3 %	3.2 %	79.6 %	5.6 %	10.2 %	4.2 %
	University education	36.0 %	21.3 %	3.2 %	46.2 %	4.4 %	69.8 %	6.2 %	7.4 %	5.4 %
Employment status*	in employment	32.0 %	20.2 %	4.1 %	45.6 %	4.0 %	74.9 %	5.8 %	7.8 %	5.2 %
	retiree or pensioner	28.4 %	19.6 %	6.3 %	41.6 %	2.9 %	66.6 %	7.2 %	15.5 %	11.4 %
	unemployed	31.3 %	20.8 %	6.2 %	43.6 %	3.9 %	73.9 %	7.5 %	7.8 %	4.9 %
	student	38.0 %	28.5 %	3.8 %	39.9 %	2.5 %	73.4 %	7.0 %	5.7 %	1.3 %
	Unpaid domestic work	27.3 %	21.2 %	7.9 %	50.9 %	1.8 %	63.0 %	3.6 %	15.8 %	7.3 %
Country of birth	Spain	31.2 %	21.0 %	4.9 %	43.8 %	3.6 %	72.2 %	6.1 %	10.4 %	6.5 %
	Another country	31.5 %	19.4 %	6.6 %	48.4 %	2.9 %	69.6 %	7.3 %	7.0 %	6.6 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	33.1 %	22.0 %	7.9 %	35.4 %	0.8 %	74.8 %	7.9 %	10.2 %	7.1 %
	No	31.1 %	20.7 %	5.0 %	44.8 %	3.6 %	71.8 %	6.2 %	10.0 %	6.5 %
Size of municipality of residence**	<=10,000	29.2 %	20.8 %	5.2 %	39.5 %	4.0 %	71.8 %	7.6 %	14.3 %	7.4 %
	>10,000	31.7 %	20.8 %	5.1 %	45.6 %	3.3 %	72.0 %	5.9 %	8.9 %	6.3 %
Type of household	Lives alone	31.2 %	17.7 %	3.9 %	44.7 %	4.5 %	67.6 %	6.6 %	13.8 %	9.6 %
	Lives alone with her children	36.2 %	21.5 %	2.3 %	45.4 %	0.0 %	72.3 %	6.2 %	8.5 %	6.2 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	30.4 %	20.5 %	5.5 %	44.3 %	3.9 %	71.0 %	6.1 %	10.7 %	7.2 %
	other situation	32.0 %	23.3 %	5.5 %	44.1 %	2.6 %	77.2 %	6.4 %	6.2 %	2.6 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

The total of the rows is 200 % since two answers are allowed.

## 5.2 Aggressor stereotypes

The survey asked interviewees about the reasons why some men sexually assault women. They were allowed to cite two reasons. The question was worded as follows:

Qu. 9 What would you say is the main reason why some men sexually assault women? And the second reason?

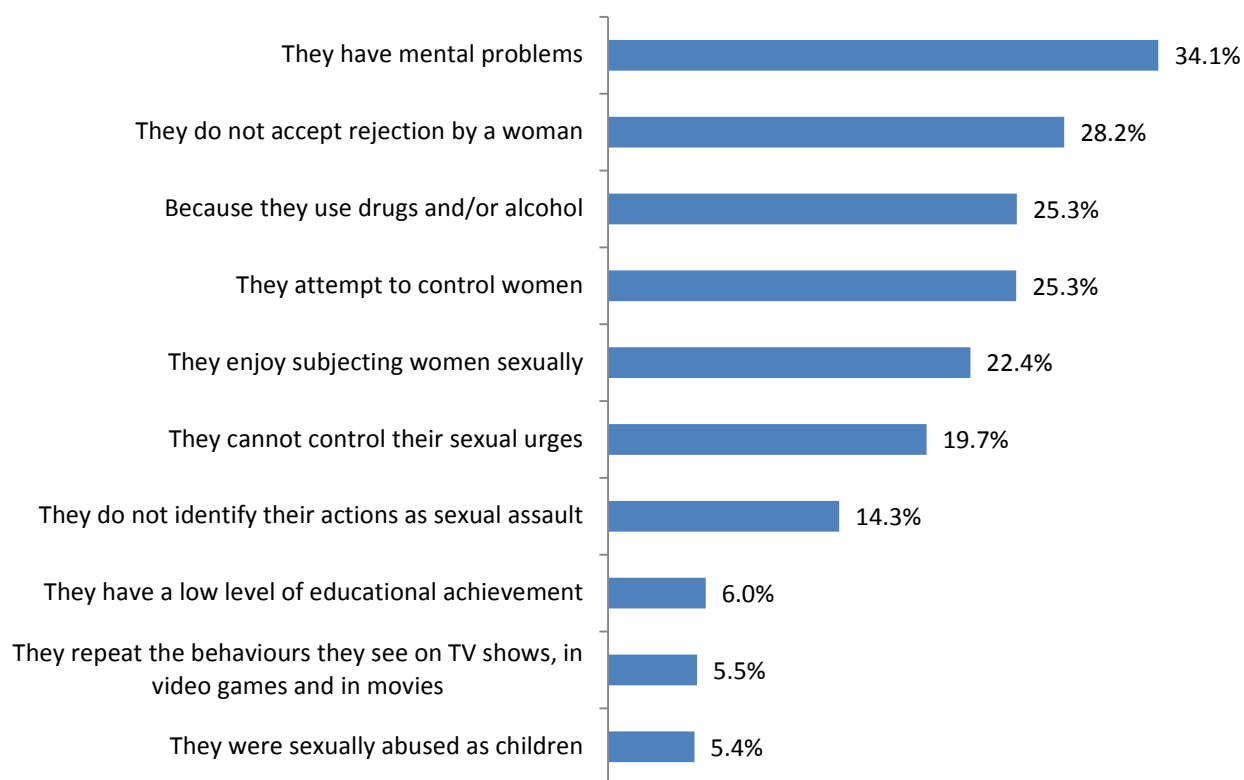
- They attempt to control women
- They cannot control their sexual urges
- They do not accept rejection by a woman
- They have mental problems
- They do not identify their actions as sexual assault
- They enjoy subjecting women sexually
- Because they use drugs and/or alcohol
- They were sexually abused as children
- They repeat the behaviours they see on TV shows, in video games and in movies
- They have a low level of educational achievement
- Don't know
- No response

Figure 5.2 shows the results obtained by aggregating the responses given for the first and second reasons. **For the analysis of beliefs about the reasons why some men sexually assault women, a distinction must be made between those that justify the behaviour of the aggressor in some way and those that do not.** The former include the belief that mental problems are the reason why some men sexually assault women. This reason is cited by 34.1 % of interviewees. They also include attributing these behaviours to alcohol and/or drug use, a reason cited by 25.3 %, or the view that these men commit sexual assault because they cannot control their sexual impulses, a reason cited by 19.7 % of interviewees. Of the total, 14.3 % consider that aggressors do not identify their actions as sexual assault, 6.0 % say that they have a low level of educational achievement, and 5.4 % cite sexual abuse in childhood.

Of reasons that do not shift the blame for this behaviour from the aggressor are "They cannot accept rejection from a woman", cited by 28.2 % of interviewees, "They are looking to control women", cited by 25.3 %, and "They enjoy subjecting women sexually", cited by 22.4 %.



Figure 5.2 Opinions on the reasons why some men sexually assault women (%)



Multiple-choice answer (two answers were allowed).

Table 5.3 shows the disaggregated results based on whether they were cited as the first or second choice. For the first response, “They have mental problems” is cited by 21.1 % of interviewees, “They are looking to control women” by 16.1 % and “They cannot accept rejection from a woman” by 14.3 %. When interviewees are asked to give a second reason, 13.9 % cite “They cannot accept rejection from a woman” and 13.8 % mention “Because they use drugs and/or alcohol”. A further 12.9 % cite “They have mental problems” and “They enjoy subjecting women sexually”.

Table 5.3 Opinions on the reasons why some men sexually assault women. Reasons cited as the first and second choices (%)

	First reason	Second reason
They attempt to control women	16.1 %	9.1 %
They cannot control their sexual urges	10.3 %	9.4 %
They do not accept rejection by a woman	14.3 %	13.9 %
They have mental problems	21.1 %	12.9 %
They do not identify their actions as sexual assault	6.9 %	7.4 %
They enjoy subjecting women sexually	9.5 %	12.9 %
Because they use drugs and/or alcohol	11.5 %	13.8 %
They were sexually abused as children	2.1 %	3.3 %
They repeat the behaviours they see on TV shows, in video games and in movies	1.8 %	3.7 %
They have a low level of educational achievement	2.2 %	3.9 %
Don't know	3.5 %	3.7 %
No response	0.6 %	6.0 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %

Table 5.4 shows the reasons based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of the people interviewed. The most cited reason by both men and women is the stereotype that aggressors have mental problems, although it is mentioned more by men (38.4 %) than by women (30.0 %). However, while the second most cited reason by men is drugs or alcohol (26.4 %), this is the fifth reason most cited by women (24.3 %). **Women cite reasons that do not shift the blame from the aggressor more often than men**, such as "They cannot accept rejection from a woman" (31.7 % vs 24.6 %) or "They are looking to control women" (28.9 % vs 21.4 %).

With regard to **age**, the reason most cited by persons aged 16 to 34 and aged 35 to 59 is "They have mental problems" (34.2 % and 37.4 %) while the most cited reason by those aged 60 and over is "Because they use drugs and/or alcohol" (30.6 %), all of which shift the blame from the aggressor. The second and third most cited reasons are "They cannot accept rejection from a woman" (32.2 % for persons aged between 16 and 34 and 27.1 % for the 35-59 age group), and "They are looking to control women" (25.7 % for those aged between 16 and 34 and 27.5 % for the 35-59 age group). The second most cited reason among the over-60s is "They have mental problems" (28.7 %), while the third is "They cannot accept rejection from a woman" (26.7 %).

For all other sociodemographic variables, in all categories, the **most cited reason** is "**They have mental problems**" with the following exceptions: by **educational level**, people with a primary education or lower cite "Because they use drugs and/or alcohol" first (31.4 %). In the case of **employment status**, students cite the first reason as "They cannot accept rejection from a woman" (32.3 %), and people who carry out unpaid domestic work or retirees and pensioners cite "Because they use drugs and/or alcohol" first (30.3 %). By **country of birth**, people born abroad cite as the first reason "Because they use drugs and/or alcohol" (33.3 %).

Table 5.4 Opinions on the reasons why some men sexually assault women based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)

		They attempt to control women	They cannot control their sexual urges	They do not accept rejection by a woman	They have mental problems	They do not identify their actions as sexual assault	They enjoy subjecting women sexually	Because they use drugs and/or alcohol	They were sexually abused as children	They repeat the behaviours they see on TV shows, in video games and in movies	They have a low level of educational achievement	Don't know	No response
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	21.4 %	21.2 %	24.6 %	38.4 %	14.0 %	19.2 %	26.4 %	6.2 %	5.9 %	8.3 %	7.4 %	6.4 %
	Female	28.9 %	18.3 %	31.7 %	30.0 %	14.7 %	25.5 %	24.3 %	4.6 %	5.2 %	3.9 %	6.9 %	5.6 %
Age***	16-34	25.7 %	17.3 %	32.2 %	34.2 %	16.7 %	23.2 %	23.4 %	5.9 %	7.7 %	5.6 %	4.7 %	3.3 %
	35-59	27.5 %	18.5 %	27.1 %	37.4 %	15.7 %	23.7 %	23.1 %	4.8 %	5.2 %	7.2 %	5.6 %	4.1 %
	60+	21.3 %	23.7 %	26.7 %	28.7 %	10.0 %	19.8 %	30.6 %	5.8 %	4.2 %	4.7 %	11.9 %	11.3 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	21.3 %	24.1 %	25.7 %	28.3 %	8.9 %	18.2 %	31.4 %	4.7 %	3.8 %	3.8 %	15.6 %	13.0 %
	Secondary education	24.9 %	18.8 %	29.7 %	36.7 %	12.4 %	23.5 %	27.4 %	5.5 %	4.6 %	6.1 %	5.5 %	4.6 %
	Advanced VET	27.8 %	17.6 %	28.7 %	38.0 %	18.1 %	27.8 %	20.4 %	4.6 %	5.1 %	4.2 %	4.6 %	2.3 %
	University education	28.5 %	18.6 %	27.4 %	32.3 %	21.8 %	22.0 %	17.6 %	6.0 %	9.1 %	8.8 %	3.9 %	3.9 %
Employment status***	Employed	27.1 %	18.6 %	27.9 %	37.8 %	15.4 %	23.1 %	22.8 %	5.3 %	6.2 %	6.8 %	5.0 %	3.9 %
	Retiree or pensioner	21.6 %	22.3 %	27.3 %	30.0 %	9.7 %	19.6 %	30.3 %	5.1 %	4.8 %	4.8 %	12.8 %	10.6 %
	Unemployed	24.4 %	20.8 %	29.0 %	35.5 %	14.7 %	26.7 %	23.8 %	5.9 %	2.9 %	4.6 %	5.5 %	5.9 %
	Student	23.4 %	13.9 %	32.3 %	25.9 %	25.9 %	23.4 %	24.7 %	4.4 %	11.4 %	7.6 %	5.7 %	1.3 %
	Unpaid domestic work	27.3 %	23.0 %	28.5 %	26.1 %	10.9 %	19.4 %	30.3 %	6.7 %	1.8 %	6.1 %	7.9 %	9.7 %
Country of birth**	Spain	25.8 %	20.0 %	27.8 %	34.4 %	14.5 %	22.9 %	24.3 %	5.2 %	5.1 %	6.0 %	7.7 %	5.7 %
	Another country	20.9 %	17.2 %	31.9 %	31.5 %	13.2 %	18.7 %	33.3 %	6.2 %	8.8 %	6.6 %	3.3 %	7.7 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	26.8 %	20.5 %	23.6 %	38.6 %	14.2 %	21.3 %	31.5 %	4.7 %	8.7 %	2.4 %	6.3 %	1.6 %
	No	25.1 %	19.7 %	28.6 %	33.7 %	14.4 %	22.5 %	25.1 %	5.4 %	5.4 %	6.2 %	7.2 %	6.2 %
Size of municipality of residence*	<=10,000	24.0 %	19.7 %	28.4 %	33.2 %	12.0 %	24.4 %	30.3 %	3.8 %	4.2 %	4.6 %	9.0 %	5.9 %
	>10,000	25.6 %	19.7 %	28.2 %	34.3 %	14.9 %	21.9 %	24.0 %	5.8 %	5.9 %	6.4 %	6.7 %	6.0 %
Type of household*	Lives alone	25.2 %	18.0 %	26.4 %	32.4 %	12.0 %	24.0 %	25.8 %	4.8 %	5.7 %	6.3 %	10.2 %	8.7 %
	Lives alone with her children	29.2 %	19.2 %	33.8 %	33.8 %	7.7 %	26.2 %	25.4 %	3.8 %	4.6 %	3.8 %	5.4 %	6.2 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	26.1 %	20.6 %	26.5 %	35.7 %	13.9 %	22.4 %	25.4 %	5.1 %	5.0 %	6.0 %	6.8 %	5.9 %
	Other situation	22.1 %	18.9 %	32.7 %	30.9 %	18.6 %	21.0 %	24.8 %	6.6 %	7.0 %	6.4 %	6.6 %	4.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded. The total of the rows is 200 % since two answers are allowed.

## CHAPTER 5 SUMMARY

- This chapter looks firstly at the social perception of places where sexual aggressions most often takes place and, secondly, at beliefs about the reasons why some men commit sexual aggressions.

### Social perception of the most common places of sexual aggressions

- Interviewees consider the most common places of sexual aggressions to be: "celebrations and festivals" – 71.9 % of interviewees cite this reason, "public spaces" – cited by 44.3 %, "the home" – cited by 31.2 %, and "place of work" – cited by 20.8 %.
  - People with a university education cite the home to a greater extent (36.0 %) than those with a primary education or lower (23.9 %).

### Aggressor stereotypes

- For the analysis of beliefs about the reasons why some men sexually assault women, a distinction must be made between those that justify the behaviour of the aggressor in some way and those that do not.
- Reasons that shift the blame, at least partially, for this behaviour from the aggressor:
  - "They have mental problems", cited by 34.1 % of interviewees.
  - "They use drugs and/or alcohol", cited by 25.3 % of interviewees.
  - "They cannot control their sexual urges," cited by 19.7 % of interviewees.
  - "They do not identify their actions as sexual assault", cited by 14.3 %.
- Reasons that do not shift the blame for this behaviour from the aggressor:
  - "They cannot accept rejection from a woman", cited by 28.2 % of interviewees.
  - "They seek to control women", cited by 25.3 % of interviewees.
  - "They enjoy subjecting women sexually", cited by 22.4 %.
- The most cited reason by both men and women is the stereotype that aggressors have mental problems, although it is mentioned more by men (38.4 %) than by women (30.0 %).
- Women cite reasons that do not shift the blame from the aggressor more often than men, such as "They cannot accept rejection from a woman" (31.7 % vs 24.6 %) or "They are looking to control women" (28.9 % vs 21.4 %).

## 6- KNOWLEDGE OF CASES OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN THE INTERVIEWEE'S ENVIRONMENT

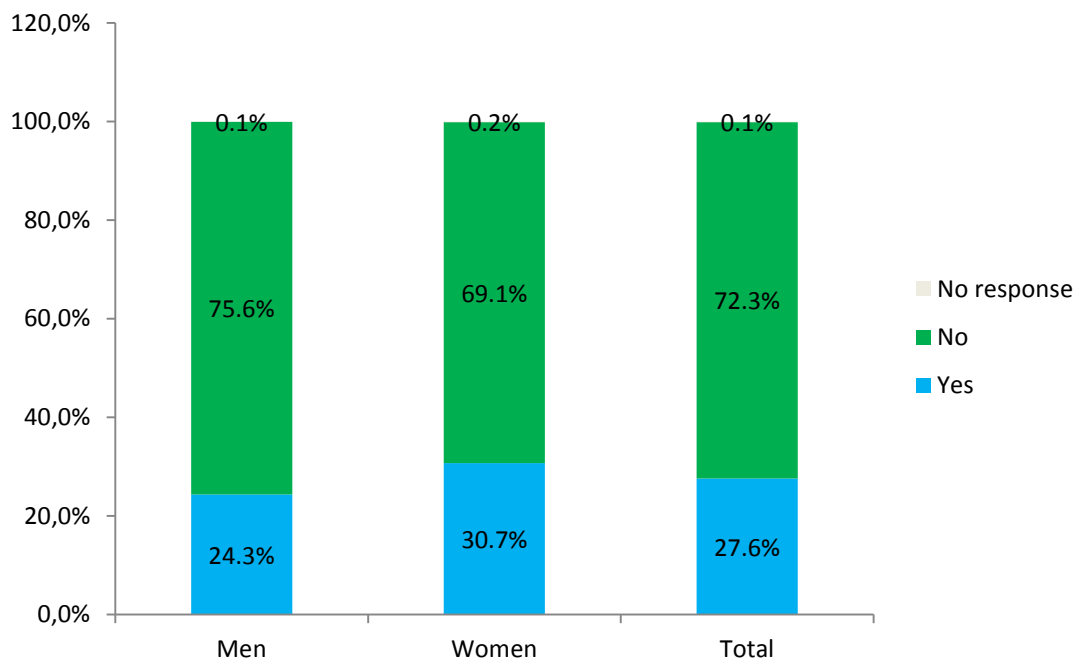
This chapter looks at whether interviewees are aware of cases of sexual violence in their immediate environment. To this end, the questionnaire asked the following question, which was partially taken from the Special Eurobarometer 449 on gender-based violence published by the European Commission in November 2016:

Qu. 14 Do you personally know of any woman who, at any point in their life, has been sexually assaulted...?

- At their place of work or study
- In their circle of family or friends
- In the area where they live, their neighbourhood

Figure 6.1 shows the percentage of people who know a victim in their environment (whether at work, in their circle of family or friends, or in their neighbourhood). **Of the total surveyed, 27.6 % say that they know a woman in their environment who has been sexually assaulted, with women having more knowledge** (30.7 % know a victim in their environment) than men (24.3 % know a victim in their environment). The differences between men and women are significant at the 99 % confidence level.

Figure 6.1 Knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted in the interviewee's environment, by sex (%)



The answers to each part of the question are analysed below.

Figure 6.2 shows the responses related to knowing a woman who has been sexually assaulted in the **circle of family or friends** of the interviewee. A total of 21.6 % of women and 13.7 % of men say that they have a female relative or friend who has been sexually assaulted, revealing significant differences between men and women at the 99 % confidence level.

Figure 6.2 Knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted in the interviewee's circle of family or friends, by sex (%)

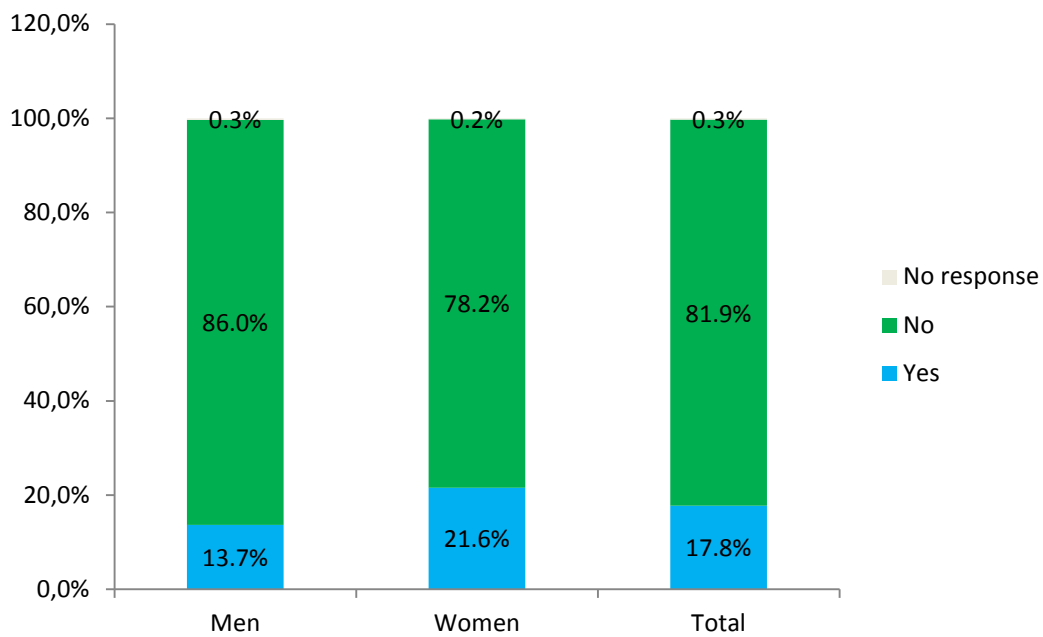
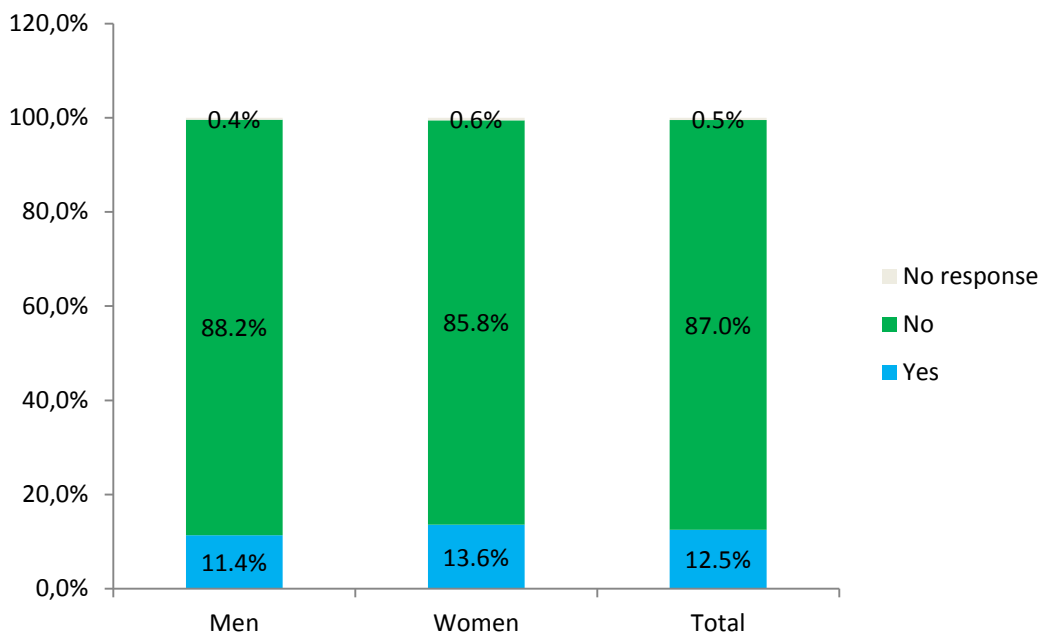


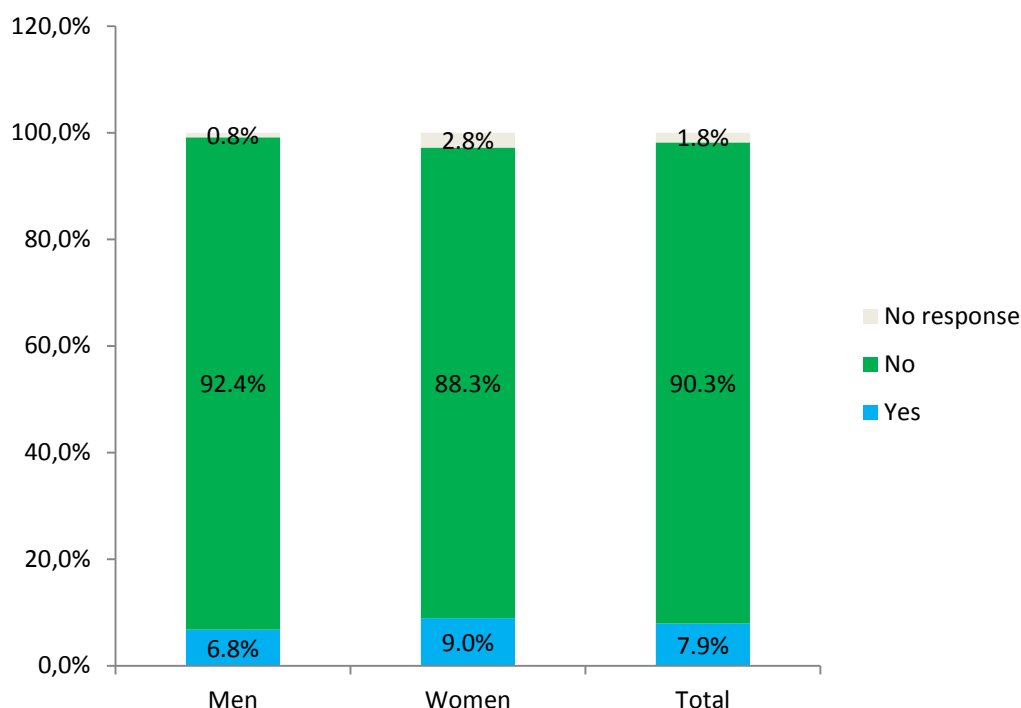
Figure 6.3 shows the responses relating to knowledge of a woman who has been sexually assaulted in the area or **neighbourhood** in which the interviewee lives. Of the total, 13.6 % of women and 11.4 % of men report that they know a woman who has been sexually assaulted in the area or neighbourhood in which they live, although the differences by sex are not statistically significant.

Figure 6.3 Knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted in the interviewee's neighbourhood, by sex (%)



Lastly, Figure 6.4 shows the responses relating to knowledge of a woman who has been sexually assaulted at the **place of work or study** of the interviewee. Of the total, 9.0 % of women and 6.8 % of men say that they know a woman who has been sexually assaulted at their place of work or study, and the differences by sex are statistically significant.

Figure 6.4 Knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted at the interviewee's place of work or study, by sex (%)



In short, **the greatest knowledge of a women who has been sexually assaulted is in the circle of family or friends of the interviewee.**

There now follows an analysis of the degree of knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees, which discusses men (Table 6.1) and women (Table 6.2) separately. **In all categories of all variables, the proportion of women who know a woman who has been sexually assaulted is higher than that of men. As the age of the interviewee increases, the knowledge of female victims in the immediate environment decreases,** which may be an indication that young people are increasingly talking about this topic. Of the total, 40.6 % of women aged 16 to 24 and 33.3 % of men in this age group know a woman in their immediate environment who has been sexually assaulted, compared to just 13.9 % and 8.9 % of women and men aged 75 and over. **The biggest differences between men and women can be seen in the 35-44 age group, where 27.2 % of men and 38.7 % of women say that they know a female victim.**

**By educational level,** 36.3 % of men and 40.7 % of women with a university education report that they know a woman who has been sexually assaulted in their environment, compared to 10.6 % and 16.5 %, respectively, of those with a primary education or lower, and 24.7 % and 31.0 %, respectively, of those with a secondary education. **The biggest differences between men and women occur in those with advanced VET studies: 21.4 % of men and 38.5 % of women know a female victim.** With regard to **employment status,** the greatest knowledge is among students (34.6 % of men and 37.5 % of women who study know a female victim), followed by employed persons (28.0 % men and 37.3 % women) and the unemployed (24.2 % men and 33.1 % women). Lastly, among pensioners and retirees, 14.2 % of men and 22.7 % of women know a woman who has been sexually assaulted. Of

women who carry out unpaid domestic work,<sup>45</sup> 14.8 % know a woman who has been sexually assaulted. There are also differences by **country of birth**, although these are only statistically significant for women: 39.3 % of women born abroad know a woman who has been sexually assaulted, compared to 29.6 % of Spanish-born women. Among those living in **municipalities** with over 10,000 inhabitants, 26.0 % of men and 32.4 % of women know a woman who has been sexually assaulted, compared to 18.3 % and 24.1 %, respectively, of those living in municipalities with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants.

**Table 6.1 Knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted in the interviewee's environment based on sociodemographic characteristics. Responses of MEN (%)**

		Yes	No	NR	Total
Age***	16-24	33.3 %	66.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	25-34	28.8 %	71.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-44	27.2 %	72.4 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	45-54	27.4 %	72.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	55-64	20.2 %	79.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	65-74	15.7 %	84.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	75+	8.9 %	91.1 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	10.6 %	89.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	24.7 %	75.1 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	21.4 %	78.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	36.3 %	63.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	28.0 %	71.9 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	14.2 %	85.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	24.2 %	75.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	34.6 %	65.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	23.6 %	76.3 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Another country	30.5 %	69.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	23.4 %	76.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	24.2 %	75.7 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence**	<=10,000	18.3 %	81.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	26.0 %	73.8 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	25.2 %	74.8 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	20.7 %	79.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	23.9 %	75.9 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	25.3 %	74.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, NR answers were excluded.

<sup>45</sup> In the sample, only 3 men state that they carry out unpaid domestic work, so this category cannot be studied statistically for men.



**Table 6.2 Knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted in the interviewee's environment based on sociodemographic characteristics. Responses of WOMEN (%)**

		Yes	No	NR	Total
Age***	16-24	40.6 %	59.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	25-34	35.4 %	64.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	35-44	38.7 %	60.9 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	45-54	34.3 %	65.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	55-64	29.4 %	70.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	65-74	17.3 %	82.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	75+	13.9 %	85.4 %	0.7 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	16.5 %	83.2 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	31.0 %	68.8 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	38.5 %	61.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	University education	40.7 %	59.3 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	37.3 %	62.5 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	22.7 %	76.9 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	33.1 %	66.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Student	37.5 %	62.5 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	14.8 %	85.2 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Country of birth*	Spain	29.6 %	70.2 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
	Another country	39.3 %	60.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	41.3 %	58.7 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	30.2 %	69.6 %	0.2 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence*	<=10,000	24.1 %	75.1 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	32.4 %	67.6 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
Type of household*	Lives alone	29.2 %	70.2 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	42.6 %	57.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	28.3 %	71.6 %	0.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	33.6 %	66.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, NR answers were excluded.

## CHAPTER 6 SUMMARY

- Chapter Six examines knowledge of cases of sexual violence in the environment of the interviewees.
- Of the total population, 27.6 % say that they know a woman who has been sexually assaulted in their close environment.
- A total of 30.7 % of women know a victim in their environment compared to 24.3 % of men:
  - A total of 21.6 % of women and 13.7 % of men say that they have a female relative or friend who has been sexually assaulted.
  - Of the total interviewees, 12.5 % know a woman who has been a victim of sexual assault in the area or neighbourhood in which they live.
  - Of the total, 9.0 % of women and 6.8 % of men know a woman who has been sexually assaulted at their place of work or study.
- As the age of the interviewee increases, their knowledge of women who have been sexually assaulted in their immediate environment decreases: 40.6 % of women and 33.3 % of men aged 16 to 24 know a woman who has been sexually assaulted in their environment compared to 13.9 % and 8.9 %, respectively, of those aged 75 and over.
- A total of 40.7 % of women and 36.3 % of men with a university education know a woman who has been sexually assaulted in their environment, compared to 16.5 % and 10.6 %, respectively, of those with a primary education or lower.

This chapter explores the answers to a series of questions on formal complaints of sexual aggressions on topics related to the frequency with which women report sexual aggressions, opinions on false reports, the reasons why these women do not report the assault, or the place where interviewees would go if they were sexually assaulted.

### 7.1 Opinions on the frequency with which women report sexual aggressions

The questionnaire asked the following question about the frequency with which women report sexual aggressions:

Qu. 10 Do you think women who are sexually assaulted report it...?

- Whenever it happens
- Most of the time
- Rarely
- Almost never
- DK
- NR

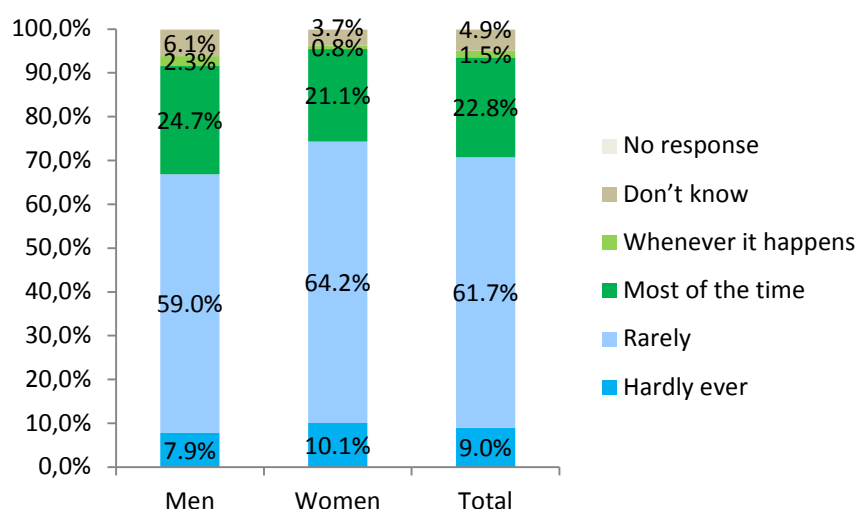
The responses to this question are shown in Figure 7.1 and Table 7.1. Of the total, **74.3 % of women and 66.9 % of men say that sexual assault goes almost unreported**, with statistically significant differences by sex. **However, just over one in four men (26.9 %) and one in five women (21.9 %) believe that sexual aggressions are always reported or reported most of the time, which contrasts with the actual situation:** an analysis<sup>46</sup> conducted using data from the Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015 showed that only 6 % of women raped by someone other than their partner or former partner make a formal complaint against their aggressor. This is in line with other international studies<sup>47</sup> that also reflect the low frequency of formal complaints of sexual assault.

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<sup>46</sup> Domenech del Río, I. and Sirvent García del Valle, E. (2017). Non-partner sexual violence against women in Spain: lifetime prevalence, perpetrators and consequences on mental health. *Journal of Public Health*, 39 (4), 738–744. DOI: 10.1093/pubmed/fdw111

<sup>47</sup> Macdowall, W., Gibson, L.J., Tanton, C., et al. (2013). Lifetime prevalence, associated factors, and circumstances of non-volitional sex in women and men in Britain: findings from the third national survey of sexual attitudes and lifestyles (natsal-3). *Lancet* 382:1845–55.

Figure 7.1 Opinions on the frequency with which women report sexual aggressions, by sex (%)



When responses to the question are grouped into two categories (Table 7.1), those who believe that sexual aggressions are rarely or almost never reported and those who believe that it are always or almost always reported, both sex and the **size of municipality** are significant: people living in municipalities with more than 10,000 inhabitants believe that sexual aggressions are never or almost never reported (72.2 %) to a greater extent than those living in municipalities with fewer than 10,000 inhabitants (65.3 %).

Table 7.1 Opinions on the frequency with which women report sexual aggressions based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)

		Almost never or rarely	Always or most of the time	DK/NR	Total
Sex***	Male	66.9 %	26.9 %	6.2 %	100.0 %
	Female	74.3 %	21.9 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	73.5 %	23.5 %	2.9 %	100.0 %
	35-59	70.1 %	26.4 %	3.5 %	100.0 %
	60+	69.2 %	21.8 %	9.0 %	100.0 %
Educational level	Primary or lower education	63.8 %	25.3 %	10.9 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	73.2 %	22.9 %	3.8 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	70.4 %	25.9 %	3.7 %	100.0 %
	University education	71.9 %	25.7 %	2.5 %	100.0 %
Employment status	Employed	71.6 %	25.5 %	2.9 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	68.5 %	21.3 %	10.2 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	69.7 %	26.7 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
	Student	76.6 %	20.3 %	3.2 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	67.9 %	26.1 %	6.1 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	70.3 %	24.6 %	5.1 %	100.0 %
	Another country	73.6 %	22.3 %	4.0 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	69.3 %	22.8 %	7.9 %	100.0 %
	No	70.9 %	24.4 %	4.7 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence***	<=10,000	65.3 %	29.8 %	5.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	72.2 %	22.9 %	4.9 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	67.9 %	25.8 %	6.3 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	75.4 %	20.0 %	4.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	70.3 %	24.7 %	5.0 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	72.4 %	23.7 %	3.9 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

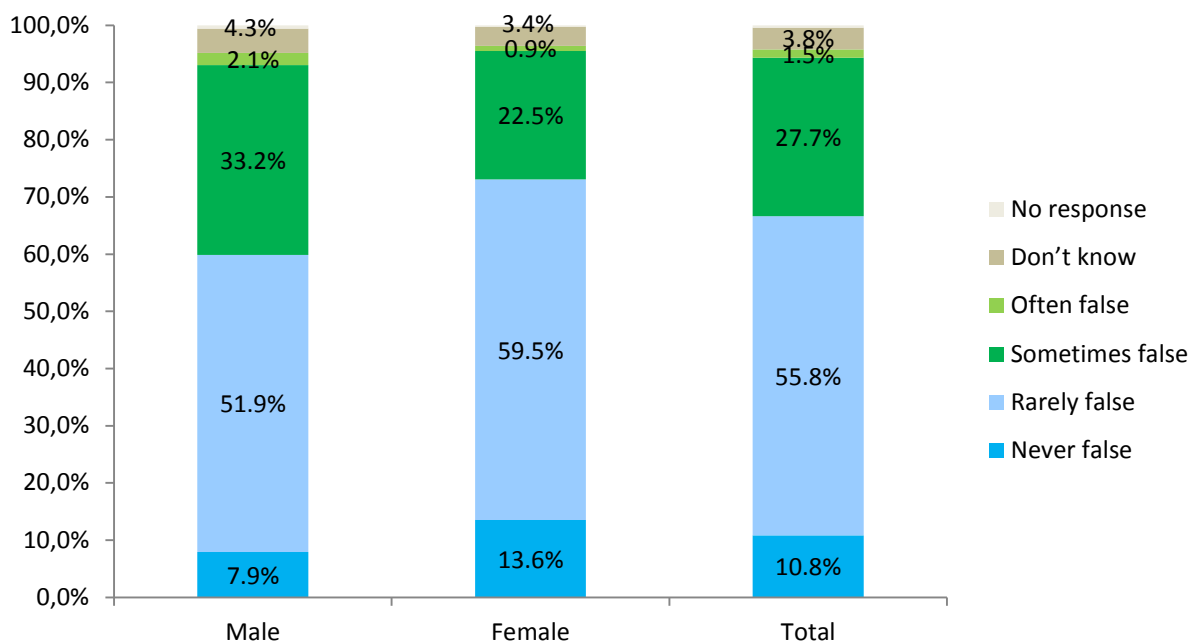
The questionnaire then asked for **opinions on false accusations of sexual abuse**. In reality, false accusations of abuse are virtually non-existent<sup>48</sup> and the problem is quite the opposite: sexual aggressions go almost unreported. However, certain sectors are sending out messages seeking to distort this fact and trying to make the public believe that false accusations of sexual abuse are common. As a result, it was considered necessary to include this question in the questionnaire in order to find out how far society is being influenced by these messages.

Qu. 11 Do you think that formal complaints of sexual aggressions made by women...?

- Are often false
- Are sometimes false
- Are rarely false
- Are never false
- DK
- NR

There are important differences between men and women in their responses to this question (Figure 7.2). Almost three in four women (73.0 %) consider that formal complaints of sexual aggressions are rarely or never false, compared to 59.9 % of men who think that this is the case. Of the total, 33.2 % of men and 22.5 % of women consider that formal complaints are sometimes false. A low percentage of people believe that formal complaints are often false (2.1 % of men and 0.9 % of women).

Figure 7.2 Opinions of the truthfulness of formal complaints of sexual aggressions, by sex (%)



<sup>48</sup> There are no studies in Spain on the frequency of false accusations of sexual aggressions, but a rough approximation can be obtained from the analysis of formal complaints of gender-based violence. Hence, a study by the General Council of the Judiciary estimates that they account for less than 0.4 % of the total. General Council of the Judiciary (2016). Estudio sobre la aplicación de la ley integral contra la violencia de género por las audiencias provinciales.

Analysing opinions of false accusations of sexual aggressions based on other **sociodemographic characteristics** (Table 7.2), we find that more **young** people consider formal complaints of sexual assault to be rarely or never false (72.9 % of people aged 16-34, 67.4 % of those aged 35-59, and 60.0 % of those aged 60 and over). By **educational level**, people with a university education consider that formal complaints of sexual aggressions are rarely or never false (74.9 %) more frequently than those with advanced VET (67.6 %), a secondary education (66.6 %) or a primary education (57.3 %). Among women with a university education, the percentage who believe that formal complaints of sexual assault are rarely or never false total 81.1 %. With regard to **employment status**, 79.7 % of students, 70.9 % of persons carrying out unpaid domestic work, 69.2 % of employed people, 63.5 % of the unemployed and 57.9 % of retirees and pensioners consider formal complaints to be rarely or never false. **The percentage of people who believe that formal complaints of sexual aggressions are often false is less than 2.2 % in all cases.**

**Table 7.2 Opinions on the truthfulness of formal complaints of sexual aggressions based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)**

		Never or rarely	Sometimes	Often	DK/NR	Total
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	59.9 %	33.2 %	2.1 %	4.8 %	100.0 %
	Female	73.0 %	22.5 %	0.9 %	3.6 %	100.0 %
Age*	16-34	72.9 %	23.2 %	1.6 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
	35-59	67.4 %	28.6 %	1.5 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	60+	60.0 %	29.9 %	1.3 %	8.8 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	57.3 %	30.0 %	2.0 %	10.7 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	66.6 %	29.5 %	1.6 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	67.6 %	29.2 %	0.5 %	2.8 %	100.0 %
	University education	74.9 %	21.1 %	1.1 %	3.0 %	100.0 %
Employment status**	Employed	69.2 %	26.8 %	1.5 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	57.9 %	31.7 %	1.2 %	9.2 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	63.5 %	31.9 %	2.0 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
	Student	79.7 %	18.4 %	1.3 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	70.9 %	21.2 %	1.2 %	6.7 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	66.9 %	27.5 %	1.4 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
	Another country	64.8 %	29.3 %	2.2 %	3.7 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	57.5 %	37.0 %	1.6 %	3.9 %	100.0 %
	No	67.1 %	27.2 %	1.5 %	4.2 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	64.9 %	28.8 %	1.3 %	5.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	67.1 %	27.4 %	1.5 %	4.0 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	61.0 %	33.0 %	1.2 %	4.8 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	69.2 %	25.4 %	0.8 %	4.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	67.7 %	26.4 %	1.5 %	4.3 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	67.3 %	27.9 %	1.7 %	3.1 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

## 7.2 Opinions on why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor

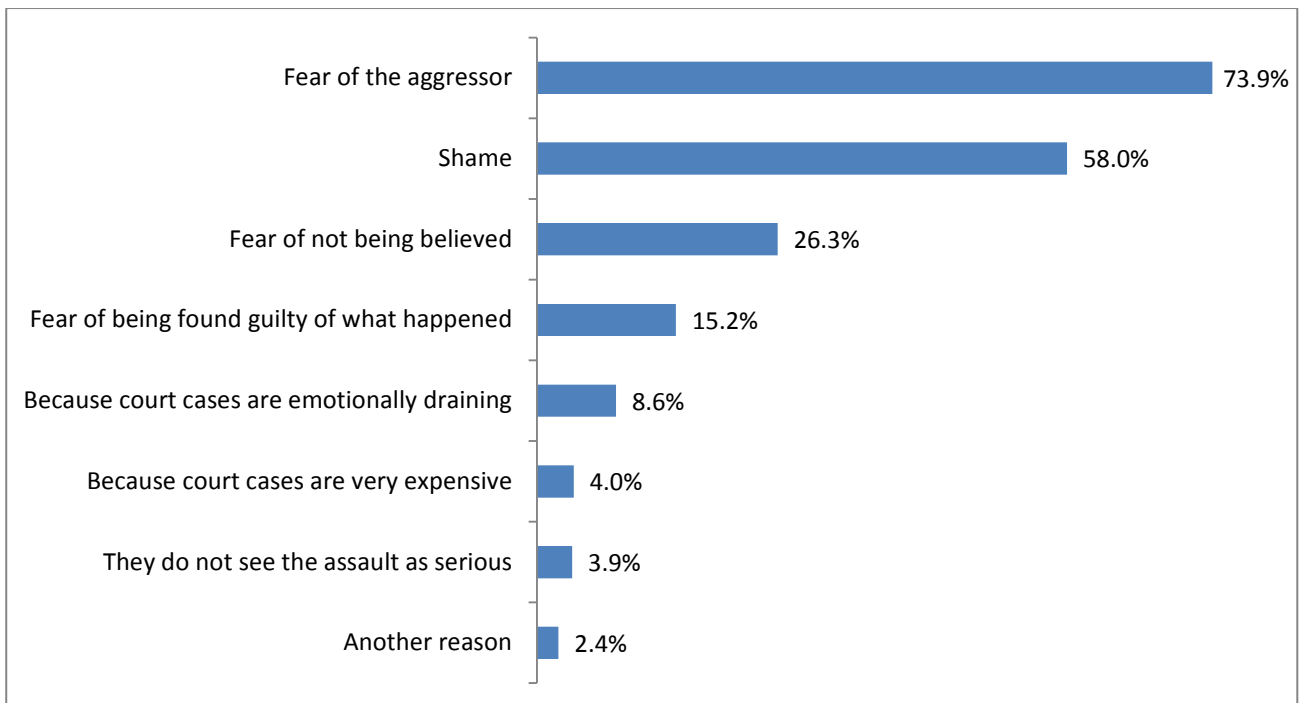
The survey asked interviewees for their opinions on the reasons why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor. They were allowed to cite two reasons. The question was worded as follows:

Qu. 12 What do you think is the main reason why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor? And what is the second most important reason?

- Fear of the aggressor
- Fear of not being believed
- Shame
- Because court cases are very expensive
- Because court cases are emotionally draining
- Fear of being found guilty of what happened
- They do not see the assault as serious
- Another reason
- DK
- NR

Figure 7.3 shows the results obtained by aggregating the responses for the first and second reasons. Of the total interviewed, 73.9 % cite fear of the aggressor as a reason, 58.0 % mention shame, 26.3 % mention "fear of not being believed" and 15.2 % mention the "fear of being found guilty of what happened".

Figure 7.3 Opinions on the reasons why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor (%)



Multiple-choice answer: two answers were allowed.

Table 7.3 shows the disaggregated results based on whether they were cited as the first or second choice. Of the total interviewed, 59.9 % cite as their first reason fear of the aggressor while 22.9 % cite shame. When asked about the second most important reason, 35.1 % cite shame, 19.5 % cite fear of not being believed, 14.0 % fear of the aggressor, and 11.4 % fear of being found guilty of what happened.

**Table 7.3 Opinions on the reasons why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor. Reasons cited as the first and second choices (%)**

	Main reason	Second reason
Fear of the aggressor	59.9 %	14.0 %
Fear of not being believed	6.8 %	19.5 %
Shame	22.9 %	35.1 %
Because court cases are very expensive	0.9 %	3.1 %
Because court cases are emotionally draining	2.1 %	6.6 %
Fear of being found guilty of what happened	3.8 %	11.4 %
They do not see the assault as serious	1.1 %	2.8 %
Another reason	1.0 %	1.4 %
Don't know	1.5 %	3.0 %
No response	0.0 %	3.2 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %

Table 7.4 contains the responses based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of the people interviewed. By **sex**, women cite fear of not being believed slightly more than men (29.6 % vs 22.9 %) or fear of being found guilty of what happened (16.9 % vs 13.5 %) as the main reasons why women who are sexually assaulted do not report it. **Young** people aged 16 to 34 cite reasons such as fear of the aggressor (80.1 % and 70.1 % respectively) more than persons aged 60 and above, while the over-60s attach greater importance to shame (61.9 % cite it compared to 53.6 % of people aged 16 to 34). With regard to **educational level**, persons with a university education cite shame to a lower degree (52.2 % versus 58.8 % of people with advanced VET, 60.0 % of people with a secondary education and 59.5 % of people with a primary education or lower) and the reason "Because court cases are emotionally draining" to a greater extent (14.1 % versus 7.4 % of people with advanced VET or a secondary education and 5.9 % of people with a primary education or lower). Those with a primary education or lower cite fear of being found guilty of what happened less frequently (9.7 % vs 15.8 % of people with a secondary education, 16.2 % of those with advanced VET and 18.5 % of university students). With regard to **employment status**, students are the ones who cite "Fear of the aggressor" the most (81.6 %), while people who carry out unpaid domestic work (64.2 %) and retirees and pensioners (63.0 %) mention shame more often, as opposed to 57.3 % of the unemployed, 53.3 % of the employed and 48.7 % of students. **Nevertheless, the order of the most cited reasons is maintained in all categories of all variables analysed; the first reason is always "fear of the aggressor", the second is "shame", the third is "fear of not being believed" and the fourth is "fear of being found guilty of what happened".**



**Table 7.4 Opinions on the reasons why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor, based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)**

		Fear of the aggressor	Fear of not being believed	Shame	Because court cases are very expensive	Because court cases are emotionally draining	Fear of being found guilty of what happened	They do not see the assault as serious	Another reason
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	75.4 %	22.9 %	59.9 %	3.7 %	8.7 %	13.5 %	4.0 %	2.1 %
	Female	72.5 %	29.6 %	56.2 %	4.3 %	8.6 %	16.9 %	3.7 %	2.6 %
Age***	16-34	80.1 %	25.8 %	53.6 %	3.1 %	8.7 %	13.2 %	7.5 %	1.5 %
	35-59	73.0 %	26.2 %	58.0 %	4.2 %	9.5 %	17.4 %	3.0 %	2.5 %
	60+	70.1 %	27.0 %	61.9 %	4.5 %	7.2 %	13.4 %	2.1 %	2.8 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	72.1 %	29.4 %	59.5 %	3.8 %	5.9 %	9.7 %	2.4 %	3.0 %
	Secondary education	75.4 %	25.0 %	60.0 %	3.8 %	7.4 %	15.8 %	3.9 %	2.0 %
	Advanced VET	75.5 %	25.0 %	58.8 %	5.6 %	7.4 %	16.2 %	4.6 %	2.3 %
	University education	71.9 %	26.9 %	52.2 %	4.2 %	14.1 %	18.5 %	4.7 %	2.5 %
Employment status***	Employed	74.8 %	25.9 %	56.3 %	4.0 %	10.2 %	16.4 %	4.3 %	2.1 %
	Retiree or pensioner	71.0 %	24.0 %	63.0 %	4.6 %	6.0 %	13.6 %	2.0 %	3.2 %
	Unemployed	74.9 %	29.3 %	57.3 %	2.6 %	8.8 %	15.3 %	3.3 %	2.0 %
	Student	81.6 %	24.1 %	48.7 %	3.8 %	8.9 %	15.2 %	11.4 %	1.9 %
	Unpaid domestic work	69.1 %	34.5 %	64.2 %	4.8 %	4.8 %	12.1 %	1.2 %	2.4 %
Country of birth	Spain	73.4 %	26.4 %	58.3 %	3.9 %	8.6 %	15.6 %	3.7 %	2.4 %
	Another country	78.4 %	26.0 %	55.3 %	5.1 %	9.2 %	11.7 %	4.8 %	1.8 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	78.0 %	22.0 %	61.4 %	6.3 %	4.7 %	17.3 %	0.0 %	3.1 %
	No	73.7 %	26.6 %	57.8 %	3.9 %	8.9 %	15.1 %	4.0 %	2.3 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	72.9 %	25.8 %	55.9 %	4.2 %	9.2 %	17.0 %	3.8 %	2.5 %
	>10,000	74.2 %	26.5 %	58.6 %	4.0 %	8.5 %	14.7 %	3.9 %	2.3 %
Type of household**	Lives alone	74.5 %	24.3 %	60.7 %	3.9 %	8.7 %	11.4 %	3.6 %	2.7 %
	Lives alone with her children	66.9 %	30.0 %	57.7 %	4.6 %	13.1 %	16.2 %	0.8 %	3.1 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	73.1 %	26.4 %	59.1 %	3.8 %	8.4 %	16.5 %	3.2 %	2.3 %
	Other situation	77.8 %	26.7 %	53.9 %	4.6 %	8.3 %	13.6 %	6.4 %	1.8 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

The total of the rows is 200 % because two answers are allowed.

### 7.3 Place or service where interviewees would reach out if they were sexually assaulted

The survey asked interviewees about where they would go if they were sexually assaulted. They were allowed to name two places. The question was worded as follows:

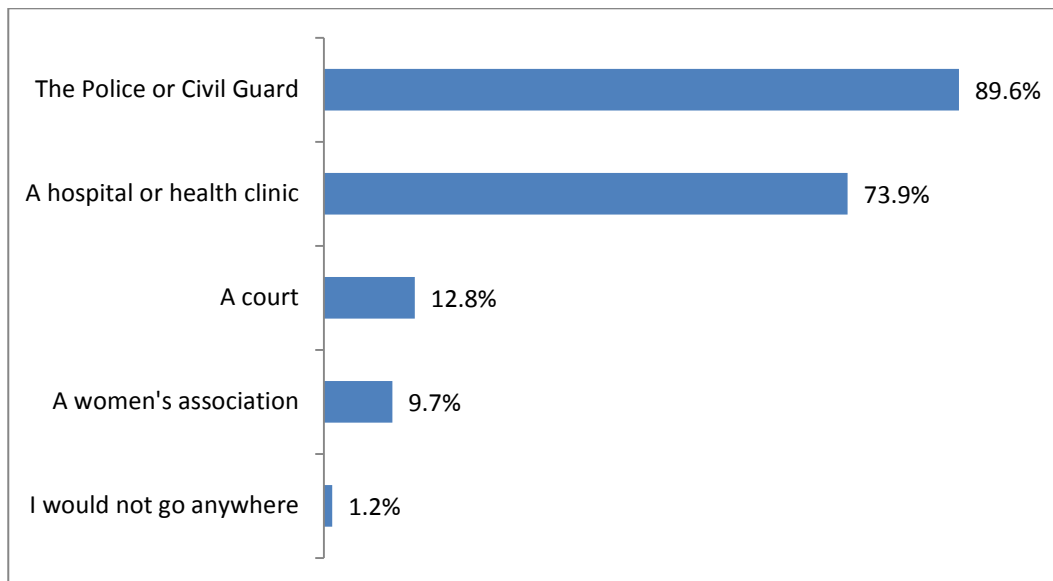
Qu. 13 If you personally were sexually assaulted, where would you turn to first? And second?

- The Police or Civil Guard
- A hospital or health clinic
- A court
- A women's association
- I would not go anywhere
- DK
- NR

Of the total interviewees, 89.6 % say that, if they were sexually assaulted personally, they would go to the State Security Forces (

Figure 7.4), 73.9 % would go to a hospital or health clinic, 12.8 % to a court and 9.7 % to a women's association.

*Figure 7.4 Place where the interviewee would reach out if they were sexually assaulted personally (%)*



Multiple-choice answer: two answers were allowed.

Table 7.5 shows the disaggregated places based on whether they were cited as the first or second choice. Of the total interviewed, 58.6 % would turn first to the State Security Forces and 32.9 % would go to a hospital or health clinic first. With regard to the second place, 41.0 % say that they would go to a hospital or health clinic if they were sexually assaulted, while 31.0 % would go to the State Security Forces.

**Table 7.5 Place where the interviewee would reach out if they were sexually assaulted personally. Places named as first and second choice (%)**

	First place	Second place
The Police or Civil Guard	58.6 %	31.0 %
A hospital or health clinic	32.9 %	41.0 %
A court	2.5 %	10.3 %
A women's association	2.7 %	6.9 %
I would not go anywhere	0.9 %	0.3 %
Don't know	2.2 %	5.2 %
No response	0.3 %	5.2 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %

Table 7.6 contains the responses for this question based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of the people interviewed. **Women** cite a hospital or health clinic (77.1 %) more frequently than men (70.5 %). By **age**, people aged 16 to 34 mention the Police or Civil Guard more than those aged 60 and over (92.2 % vs 85.3 %), and “a women’s association” (14.7 % vs 7.8 %), among other places. The higher the **educational level**, the higher the percentage of people who would visit a hospital or health clinic (80.7 % of people with a university education, 77.3 % of people with advanced VET, 74.7 % of people with a secondary education and 63.0 % of people with a primary education or lower). With regard to **employment status**, students are the least likely to mention a hospital or health clinic (61.4 % compared to 68.5 % of retirees and pensioners, 72.7 % of those who carry out unpaid domestic work, 76.5 % of the unemployed and 77.5 % of the employed). Students cite going to a women’s association to a far greater extent (21.5 % versus less than 10.0 % in the other categories). **Nevertheless, in all categories of all variables analysed, the first two places cited are, in this order: the Police/Civil Guard and a hospital or health clinic.**

**Table 7.6 Place where the interviewee would reach out if they were sexually assaulted personally based on sociodemographic characteristics (%)**

		The Police or Civil Guard	A hospital or health clinic	A court	A women's association	I would not go anywhere
Sex of the interviewee***	Male	91.1 %	70.5 %	14.6 %	7.3 %	1.2 %
	Female	88.3 %	77.1 %	11.1 %	11.9 %	1.2 %
Age***	16-34	92.2 %	70.4 %	11.3 %	14.7 %	1.0 %
	35-59	90.9 %	79.0 %	12.7 %	8.1 %	1.1 %
	60+	85.3 %	68.6 %	14.4 %	7.8 %	1.4 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	85.2 %	63.0 %	14.0 %	6.9 %	2.4 %
	Secondary education	90.8 %	74.7 %	13.2 %	11.3 %	0.9 %
	Advanced VET	92.1 %	77.3 %	11.1 %	9.7 %	0.5 %
	University education	90.2 %	80.7 %	11.6 %	8.8 %	1.1 %
Employment status***	Employed	91.8 %	77.5 %	11.7 %	9.8 %	0.6 %
	Retiree or pensioner	85.2 %	68.5 %	15.2 %	7.0 %	1.7 %
	Unemployed	91.2 %	76.5 %	11.7 %	8.5 %	2.6 %
	Student	91.1 %	61.4 %	15.8 %	21.5 %	0.6 %
	Unpaid domestic work	84.2 %	72.7 %	12.1 %	9.1 %	1.8 %
Country of birth**	Spain	89.3 %	74.5 %	13.0 %	8.9 %	1.1 %
	Another country	91.9 %	69.2 %	11.7 %	15.4 %	1.5 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	85.0 %	73.2 %	15.0 %	9.4 %	2.4 %
	No	89.9 %	73.9 %	12.7 %	9.7 %	1.1 %
Size of municipality of residence*	<=10,000	88.2 %	66.6 %	12.4 %	9.7 %	1.5 %
	>10,000	90.0 %	75.9 %	12.9 %	9.6 %	1.1 %
Type of household*	Lives alone	84.7 %	72.4 %	13.5 %	9.0 %	2.1 %
	Lives alone with her children	93.1 %	78.5 %	6.9 %	6.9 %	0.8 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	90.1 %	75.3 %	12.7 %	9.4 %	1.0 %
	Other situation	90.6 %	70.0 %	14.2 %	11.6 %	1.1 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

The total of the rows is 200 % because two answers are allowed.

## CHAPTER 7 SUMMARY

- This chapter discusses the population's knowledge and opinions on diverse aspects of formal complaints of sexual violence.

### Opinions on the frequency with which women report sexual assault

- Of the total, 74.3 % of women and 66.9 % of men consider that sexual assault goes almost unreported.
  - However, 26.9 % of men and 21.9 % of women believe that sexual assault is always reported or reported most of the time, which is in contrast with the actual situation: an analysis conducted using data from the Macro Survey on Violence Against Women 2015 showed that only 6 % of women raped by someone other than their partner or former partner make a formal complaint against their aggressor. This is in line with other international studies that also reflect the low frequency of formal complaints of sexual assault.
- With regard to women, 73.0 % consider that formal complaints of sexual assault are rarely or never false, compared to 59.9 % of men.
  - Of the total, 33.2 % of men and 22.5 % of women consider that formal complaints are sometimes false.
  - A low percentage of people believe that formal complaints are often false: 2.1 % of men and 0.9 % of women.
  - Younger people are more of the opinion that formal complaints of sexual assault are rarely or never false: 72.9 % of those aged 16 to 34, 67.4 % of those aged 35 to 59, and 60.0 % of those aged 60 and over.
  - People with a university education consider that formal complaints of sexual assault are rarely or never false (74.9 %) more frequently than those with advanced VET (67.6 %), a secondary education (66.6 %) or a primary education (57.3 %).
    - ✓ Among women with a university education, the percentage who believe that formal complaints of sexual assault are rarely or never false total 81.1 %.

### Opinions on why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor

- The most cited reasons as to why women who are sexually assaulted do not report their aggressor are:
  - Fear of the aggressor, cited by 73.9 % of interviewees.
  - Shame, mentioned by 58.0 %.
  - "Fear of not being believed", cited by 26.3 %.
  - "Fear of being found guilty of what happened" mentioned by 15.2 %.

### Place or service where interviewees would reach out if they were sexually assaulted

- Of the total, 89.6 % interviewees say that, if they were sexually assaulted personally, they would go to the State Security Forces, 73.9 % would go to a hospital or health clinic, 12.8 % to a court and 9.7 % to a women's association.

## 8- PREVENTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE THROUGH PUBLIC EDUCATION AND AWARENESS

This chapter analyses responses to a series of questions related to the prevention of sexual assault.

### 8.1 Opinions on the institutions and agencies that ought to raise awareness of sexual violence and its prevention.

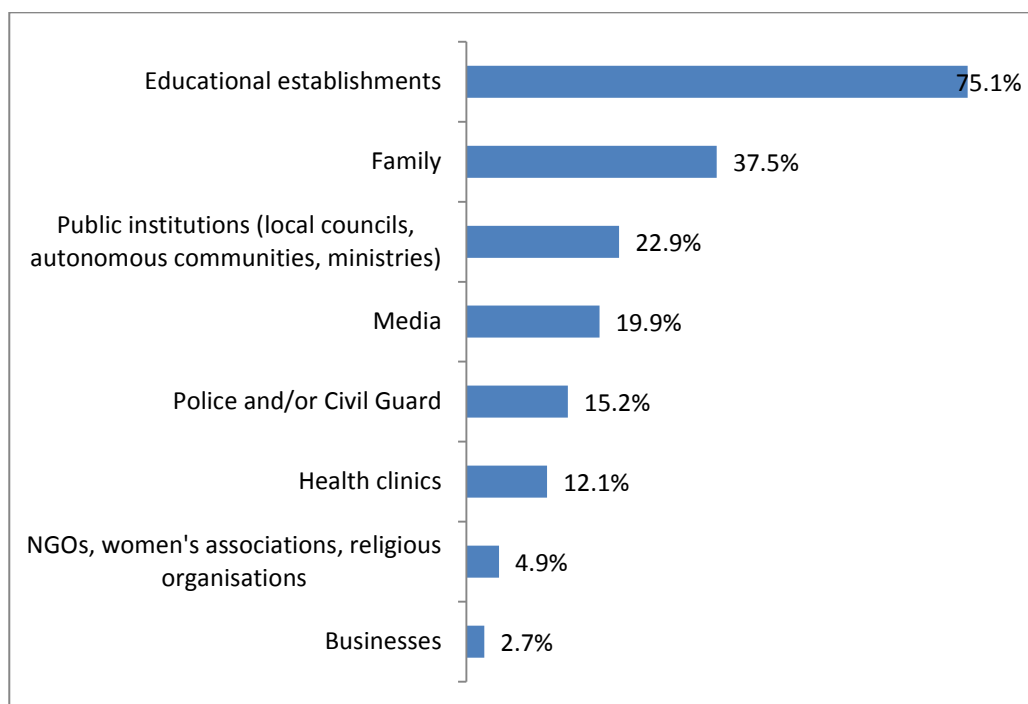
The survey asked the following question to find out the opinions of the interviewees on the institutions and agencies that ought to raise awareness of sexual violence and its prevention.

Qu. 15 Which of the following institutions or agencies do you think ought to inform people about situations that constitute sexual violence, how to prevent them and the procedures to follow if a person is sexually assaulted? And second?

- Educational establishments
- Family
- Health clinics
- Businesses
- Police and/or Civil Guard
- Public institutions (local councils, autonomous communities, ministries)
- Media
- NGOs, women's associations, religious organisations
- DK
- NR

Two responses were allowed. Figure 8.1 shows the results obtained by aggregating the responses given for the first institution or agency and for the second. **Educational establishments are cited by 75.1 % of interviewees, family by 37.5 %, public institutions by 22.9 % and the media by 19.9 %.**

*Figure 8.1 Opinions on the institutions and agencies that ought to inform people about situations that constitute sexual violence, how to prevent them and the procedures to follow in the event of sexual assault (%)*



Multiple-choice answer: two answers were allowed.

Table 8.1 shows the disaggregated results based on whether they were cited as the first or second choice. Of the total interviewed, 54.0 % cite educational establishments in first place. A further 21.1 % cite them in second place. Of the total interviewed, 15.2 % cite the family first. A further 22.3 % cite them in second place. Public institutions are cited in first place by 8.4 % of interviewees while 14.4 % cite them second.

*Table 8.1 Opinions on the institutions and agencies that ought to inform people about situations that constitute sexual violence, how to prevent them and the procedures to follow if a person is sexually assaulted. Institutions cited as the first and second choices (%)*

	First place	Second place
Educational establishments	54.0 %	21.1 %
Family	15.2 %	22.3 %
Health clinics	3.8 %	8.3 %
Businesses	0.6 %	2.0 %
Police and/or Civil Guard	7.6 %	7.6 %
Public institutions (Local Councils, Autonomous Communities, Ministries)	8.4 %	14.4 %
Media	5.9 %	14.0 %
NGOs, women's associations, religious organisations	1.3 %	3.5 %
Don't know	2.8 %	2.8 %
No response	0.3 %	3.8 %
Total	100.0 %	100.0 %

Table 8.2 contains the answers based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. There are no statistically significant differences by sex. In terms of age, people aged 16 to 34 (77.9 %) refer more than those aged 60 and over (71.0 %) to educational establishments and the media (23.9 % compared to 14.7 % for those aged 60 and over) and, to a lesser extent, to the family (33.3 % vs 38.7 %) or health clinics (9.5 % versus 12.3 %). As **educational level** increases, so too does the percentage of people citing educational establishments (64.8 % of those with a primary education or lower, 76.3 % of those with a secondary education, 79.6 % of those with advanced VET and 80.0 % of people with a university education). The same applies to the media (cited by 23.4 % of people with a university education, 21.8 % of people with advanced VET, 20.4 % of people with a secondary education and 14.0 % of those with a primary education or lower). By contrast, people with a primary education or lower cite the State Security Forces more frequently (22.3 %) than people with a secondary education (14.8 %), advanced VET (12.0 %) or a university education (10.9 %). By **employment status**, students cite the media the most (25.9 % versus 22.3 % of employed people, 21.2 % of unemployed people, 14.7 % of retirees and pensioners, and 12.7 % of those carrying out unpaid domestic work). **In all categories of all variables analysed, the first two institutions or agencies cited are, in this order: educational establishments and the family.**



**Table 8.2 Opinions on the institutions and agencies that ought to inform people about situations that constitute sexual violence, how to prevent them and the procedures to follow if a person is sexually assaulted, based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)**

		Educational establishments	Family	Health clinics	Businesses	Police and/or Civil Guard	Public institutions (Local Councils, Autonomous Communities, Ministries)	Media	NGOs, women's associations, religious organisations	Don't know	No response
Sex of the interviewee	Male	75.4 %	36.5 %	11.5 %	3.0 %	15.0 %	23.7 %	19.6 %	4.5 %	6.1 %	4.1 %
	Female	74.8 %	38.4 %	12.6 %	2.4 %	15.4 %	22.1 %	20.3 %	5.2 %	5.3 %	3.5 %
Age***	16-34	77.9 %	33.3 %	9.5 %	3.6 %	15.4 %	24.3 %	23.9 %	5.4 %	4.2 %	2.1 %
	35-59	76.1 %	39.0 %	13.4 %	2.8 %	13.7 %	22.9 %	21.0 %	4.0 %	3.8 %	3.0 %
	60+	71.0 %	38.7 %	12.3 %	1.7 %	17.5 %	21.6 %	14.7 %	5.8 %	9.9 %	6.6 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	64.8 %	35.0 %	13.8 %	1.2 %	22.3 %	20.8 %	14.0 %	5.3 %	13.2 %	9.1 %
	Secondary education	76.3 %	36.8 %	12.1 %	3.8 %	14.8 %	23.1 %	20.4 %	5.3 %	4.3 %	2.8 %
	Advanced VET	79.6 %	31.9 %	12.0 %	2.8 %	12.0 %	27.3 %	21.8 %	4.6 %	5.1 %	2.8 %
	University education	80.0 %	43.2 %	10.5 %	1.8 %	10.9 %	22.7 %	23.4 %	3.7 %	1.9 %	1.6 %
Employment status***	Employed	78.3 %	37.8 %	11.6 %	3.1 %	12.9 %	23.9 %	22.3 %	3.9 %	3.5 %	2.3 %
	Retiree or pensioner	70.4 %	38.8 %	13.6 %	1.4 %	16.4 %	22.7 %	14.7 %	5.1 %	9.9 %	7.0 %
	Unemployed	74.9 %	37.1 %	14.0 %	2.0 %	17.9 %	20.2 %	21.2 %	5.2 %	3.9 %	3.3 %
	Student	74.7 %	32.9 %	7.0 %	6.3 %	17.7 %	23.4 %	25.9 %	8.2 %	3.2 %	0.6 %
	Unpaid domestic work	69.1 %	34.5 %	10.9 %	2.4 %	21.2 %	20.0 %	12.7 %	7.9 %	12.7 %	7.9 %
Country of birth	Spain	75.7 %	37.1 %	12.0 %	2.6 %	15.0 %	23.2 %	19.7 %	4.7 %	5.8 %	3.8 %
	Another country	70.0 %	40.7 %	12.5 %	3.7 %	17.2 %	20.1 %	21.6 %	5.9 %	4.4 %	3.7 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	70.9 %	38.6 %	11.8 %	1.6 %	19.7 %	27.6 %	15.7 %	4.7 %	5.5 %	3.9 %
	No	75.4 %	37.6 %	12.0 %	2.8 %	15.0 %	22.5 %	20.1 %	4.9 %	5.7 %	3.8 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	73.1 %	38.2 %	11.8 %	1.9 %	14.5 %	23.7 %	18.3 %	4.2 %	9.2 %	5.0 %
	>10,000	75.6 %	37.3 %	12.2 %	2.9 %	15.4 %	22.7 %	20.4 %	5.0 %	4.7 %	3.5 %
Type of household***	Lives alone	71.5 %	35.4 %	12.9 %	2.4 %	17.1 %	21.3 %	18.0 %	4.8 %	9.3 %	6.9 %
	Lives alone with her children	80.8 %	47.7 %	9.2 %	2.3 %	16.2 %	16.2 %	18.5 %	3.1 %	3.1 %	3.1 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	75.6 %	38.6 %	12.8 %	2.6 %	13.4 %	24.5 %	18.6 %	4.8 %	5.4 %	3.5 %
	Other situation	74.8 %	33.6 %	9.7 %	3.3 %	18.9 %	21.1 %	25.4 %	5.5 %	4.6 %	2.6 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded. The total of the rows is greater than 100 % because two answers are allowed.

## 8.2 Sexual violence prevention

To obtain the population's opinions on the prevention of sexual violence, interviewees were asked to state which option they considered most important for preventing sexual violence with this question:

Qu. 16 Which of the following do you consider most important in preventing sexual violence against women?

- Sexual aggressions awareness campaigns
- Sexual and emotional education
- Information campaigns to identify different types of sexual aggressions
- Providing general information on what to do and where to go in the event of sexual aggression
- Other
- DK
- NR

The answers to this question are shown in Figure 8.2. **The most cited measure is sexual aggressions awareness campaigns (32.0 %), followed by sexual and emotional education (28.4 %).** The option “Providing general information on what to do and where to go in the event of sexual aggression” is chosen by 19.5 % while 12.1 % opt for “Information campaigns to identify different types of sexual aggressions”.

Figure 8.2 Opinions on the most important measure to prevent sexual violence against women (%)

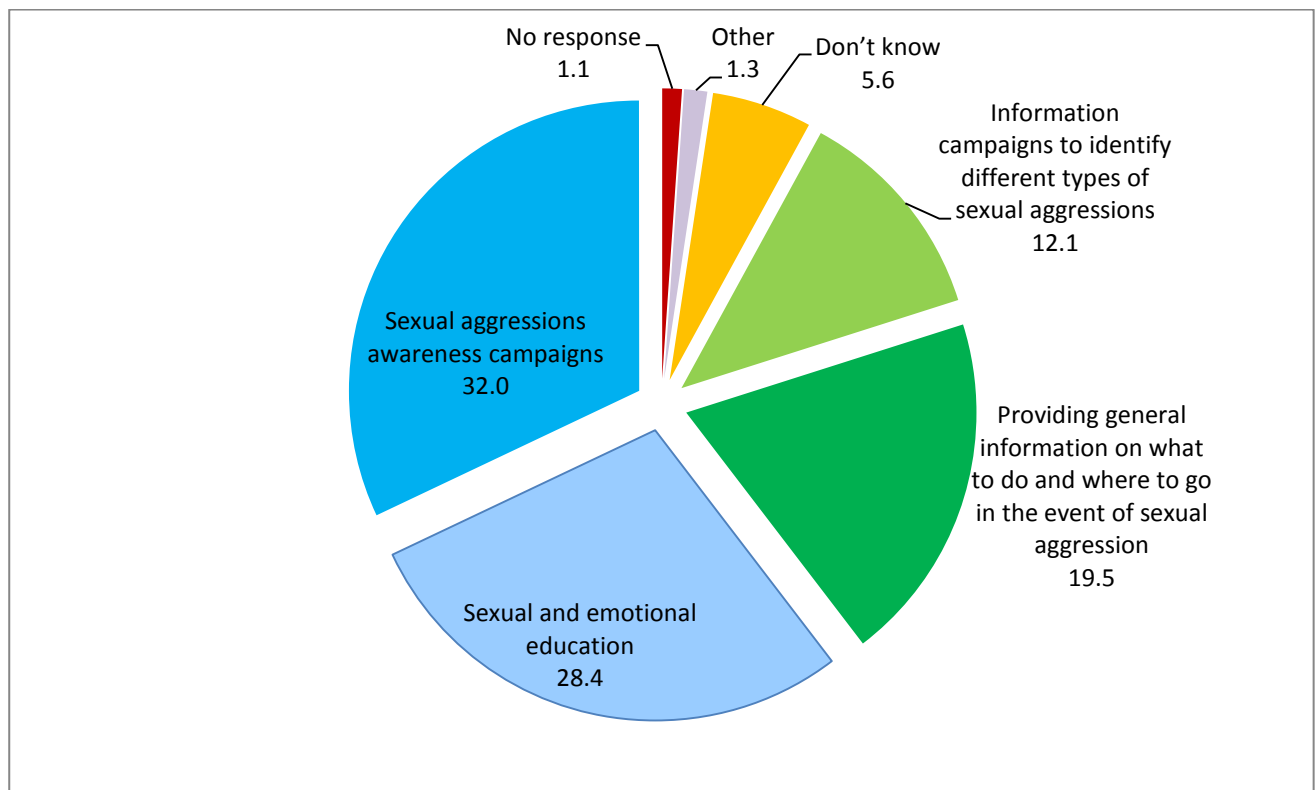


Table 8.3 shows the opinions based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of the people interviewed. With regard to **educational level**, 44.5 % of people with a university education choose the sexual and emotional education option, compared to 31.0 % of people with advanced VET, 24.7 % of people with a secondary education and 17.6 % of people with a primary education or

lower. Moreover, 17.0 % of people with a primary education or lower do not know what to respond to this question, compared to 3.4 % of people with a secondary education, 2.3 % of those with advanced VET and 1.1 % of people with a university education. These results suggest that more work is needed to raise everybody's awareness of sexual violence, regardless of educational status. The percentage of people who do not know what to respond among those aged 60 and over is also high (12.7 %). By **employment status**, employed people (32.0 %) and students (30.4 %) cite sexual and emotional education more than retirees and pensioners (24.2 %), unemployed people (23.8 %) and those carrying out unpaid domestic work (21.8 %). **In all categories of all variables analysed, the most cited measure** is that of **awareness campaigns**, with the exception of persons with a higher education (university or advanced VET) and those still in education, who cite sexual and emotional education more frequently.

**Table 8.3 Opinions on the most important measure to prevent sexual violence against women, based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%)**

		Sexual aggressions awareness campaigns	Sexual and emotional education	Information campaigns to identify different types of sexual aggressions	Providing general information on what to do and where to go in the event of sexual aggression	Other	Don't know	No response	Total
Sex of the interviewee*	Male	34.0 %	27.5 %	10.7 %	19.1 %	1.7 %	5.6 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Female	30.2 %	29.2 %	13.5 %	19.9 %	0.9 %	5.5 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
Age	16-34	30.7 %	27.8 %	12.7 %	23.4 %	1.1 %	2.9 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	35-59	32.6 %	31.8 %	11.4 %	19.2 %	1.5 %	2.5 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	60+	32.3 %	23.3 %	12.7 %	16.7 %	1.1 %	12.7 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	31.8 %	17.6 %	12.8 %	19.0 %	1.0 %	17.0 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	33.8 %	24.7 %	13.0 %	22.3 %	1.4 %	3.4 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	28.7 %	31.0 %	13.4 %	21.8 %	1.9 %	2.3 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	University education	29.7 %	44.5 %	9.1 %	13.4 %	1.2 %	1.1 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Employment status*	Employed	32.1 %	32.0 %	12.0 %	18.7 %	1.7 %	2.3 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	31.7 %	24.2 %	11.9 %	17.4 %	1.5 %	12.9 %	0.3 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	33.6 %	23.8 %	12.7 %	24.1 %	0.7 %	3.6 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	Student	27.8 %	30.4 %	11.4 %	27.2 %	0.0 %	1.9 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	33.9 %	21.8 %	13.3 %	17.6 %	0.0 %	10.9 %	2.4 %	100.0 %
Country of birth	Spain	31.4 %	29.1 %	12.0 %	19.3 %	1.3 %	5.7 %	1.2 %	100.0 %
	Another country	37.4 %	22.3 %	13.2 %	20.9 %	1.5 %	4.4 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	33.9 %	26.0 %	12.6 %	16.5 %	3.1 %	7.9 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	No	32.0 %	28.5 %	12.0 %	19.7 %	1.2 %	5.5 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	33.6 %	24.8 %	12.4 %	19.1 %	1.7 %	8.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	31.6 %	29.3 %	12.1 %	19.6 %	1.2 %	4.8 %	1.4 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	30.3 %	29.1 %	11.7 %	18.3 %	1.5 %	8.4 %	0.6 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	38.5 %	28.5 %	10.0 %	16.2 %	1.5 %	5.4 %	0.0 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	32.2 %	29.1 %	12.1 %	18.8 %	1.4 %	5.3 %	1.1 %	100.0 %
	Other situation	30.9 %	25.9 %	13.1 %	23.3 %	0.7 %	4.4 %	1.7 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

The questionnaire then asked the following question:

Qu. 17 And of the following two options, which do you consider most important in preventing sexual violence against women?

- Educating men not to assault (sexually)
- Teaching women to avoid risk situations
- DK
- NR

The purpose of this question was to **determine the extent to which the population considers that responsibility for sexual assault lies with the aggressor or the victim**. If interviewees place more emphasis on "teaching women to avoid risk situations", at least part of the responsibility for sexual assault is placed on women rather than on the persons who carry out the assault. The answers to this question are shown in Figure 8.3. Of the total number of interviewees, 77.0 % choose the option "educating men not to sexually assault" compared to 14.8 % who choose "teaching women to avoid risk situations". Both options are spontaneously mentioned as necessary by 1.7 % of interviewees.<sup>49</sup>

Figure 8.3 Interviewee opinions on the most important option for preventing sexual violence against women (%)

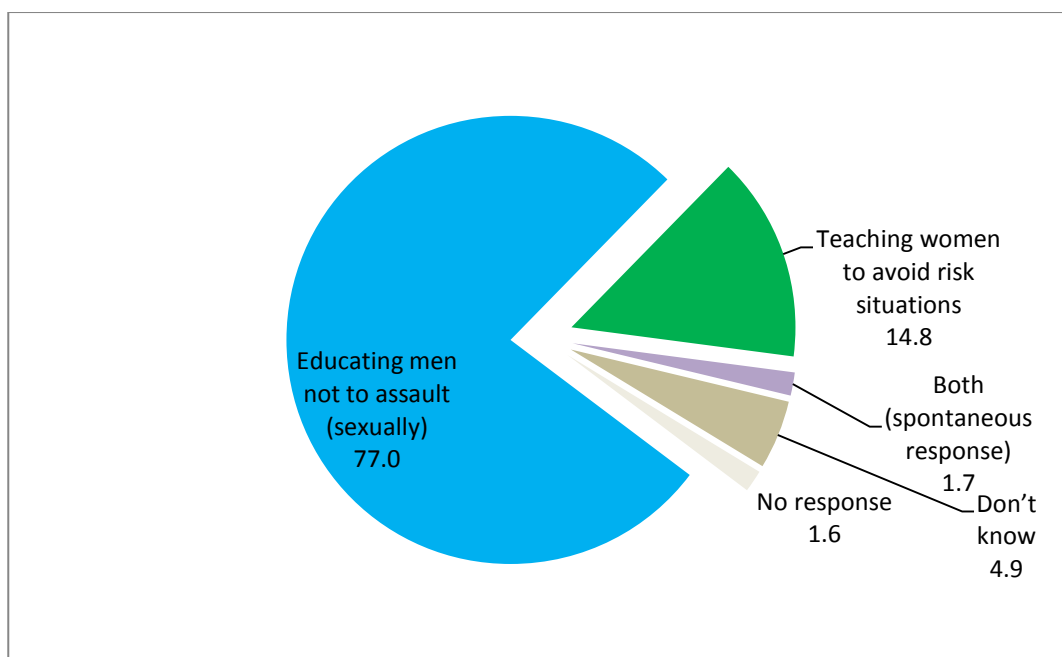


Table 8.4 contains the responses for this question based on the **sociodemographic characteristics** of the people interviewed. There are no significant differences between men and women in their answers to this question. By **age** groups, persons aged 35 to 59 cite the educating men option the most (80.0 % compared to 77.9 % of those aged 16 to 34 and 71.5 % of those aged 60 and over). In the 35-59 age group, 12.0 % choose the option of teaching women to avoid risk situations, compared to 15.5 % of those aged 16-34 and 18.6 % of those aged over 60. More important are the differences by **educational level**: 85.2 % of people with a university education, 77.5 % of people with a secondary education, 75.9 % of people with advanced VET and 67.4 % of those with a primary education or lower choose the option of educating men not to sexually assault, while 8.4 %, 15.0 %, 11.0 % and 11.0 % choose the option of teaching women to avoid risk situations, respectively.

<sup>49</sup> The possibility of answering "both" was not given as an option in order to force interviewees to position themselves.

16.2 % and 20.6 %, respectively, choose the option of teaching women to avoid risk situations. Again, these results suggest that more work is needed to ensure that education and awareness of sexual aggression reaches the entire population regardless of educational status. With regard to **employment status**, the educating men option is chosen by 82.9 % of students, 80.7 % of employed people, 76.2 % of unemployed people, 71.5 % of those carrying out unpaid domestic work and 69.5 % of retirees and pensioners. By contrast, pensioners (20.1 %) and those carrying out unpaid domestic work (19.4 %) cite the option of teaching women to avoid risk situations more often than other categories (15.6 % unemployed, 12.0 % students, 11.8 % employed). By **country of birth**, people born in Spain (77.9 %) cite the option of educating men not to sexually assault somewhat more frequently than people born abroad (70.3 %).

*Table 8.4 Opinions on which option is most important to prevent sexual violence against women, based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees (%).*

		Educating men not to assault (sexually)	Teaching women to avoid risk situations	Both (spontaneous response)	Don't know	No response	Total
Sex of the interviewee	Male	76.1 %	14.3 %	1.6 %	6.1 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	Female	77.9 %	15.2 %	1.7 %	3.9 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
Age***	16-34	77.9 %	15.5 %	1.3 %	3.3 %	2.0 %	100.0 %
	35-59	80.0 %	12.0 %	1.9 %	4.3 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
	60+	71.5 %	18.6 %	1.6 %	7.5 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	67.4 %	20.6 %	2.4 %	8.9 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	Secondary education	77.5 %	15.0 %	1.5 %	4.3 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	Advanced VET	75.9 %	16.2 %	2.3 %	4.2 %	1.4 %	100.0 %
	University education	85.2 %	8.4 %	1.1 %	3.0 %	2.3 %	100.0 %
Employment status***	Employed	80.7 %	11.8 %	1.7 %	3.9 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
	Retiree or pensioner	69.5 %	20.1 %	2.0 %	7.3 %	1.0 %	100.0 %
	Unemployed	76.2 %	15.6 %	2.0 %	4.9 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Student	82.9 %	12.0 %	0.6 %	3.2 %	1.3 %	100.0 %
	Unpaid domestic work	71.5 %	19.4 %	0.6 %	6.7 %	1.8 %	100.0 %
Country of birth**	Spain	77.9 %	14.1 %	1.5 %	5.0 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Another country	70.3 %	19.8 %	2.9 %	4.4 %	2.6 %	100.0 %
Accredited disability of 33 % or above	Yes	71.7 %	20.5 %	0.8 %	6.3 %	0.8 %	100.0 %
	No	77.4 %	14.4 %	1.7 %	4.9 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
Size of municipality of residence	<=10,000	77.3 %	13.9 %	2.1 %	6.3 %	0.4 %	100.0 %
	>10,000	77.0 %	15.0 %	1.5 %	4.6 %	1.9 %	100.0 %
Type of household	Lives alone	76.6 %	13.5 %	3.0 %	6.0 %	0.9 %	100.0 %
	Lives alone with her children	76.9 %	16.2 %	1.5 %	3.8 %	1.5 %	100.0 %
	Lives with his partner, with or without children	77.2 %	14.6 %	1.7 %	5.0 %	1.6 %	100.0 %
	other situation	77.0 %	16.0 %	0.7 %	4.4 %	1.8 %	100.0 %

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%. To calculate the contrast, DK and NR responses were excluded.

Lastly, the questionnaire asked interviewees for their opinion on whether sexual consent education can help to prevent sexual assault. The question was worded as follows:

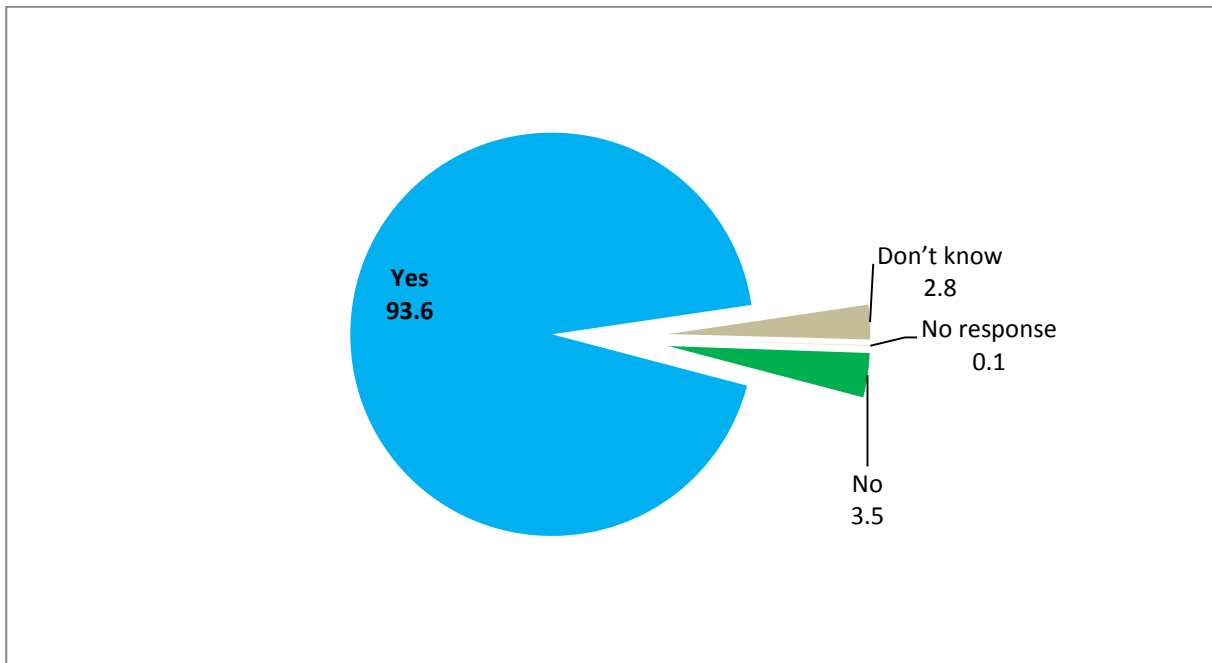
Qu. 18 Do you think that men and women should be educated about sexual consent in order to prevent sexual assault?  
- No  
- Yes  
- DK  
- NR

Those who answered affirmatively were then asked at which age this education should begin:

Qu. 18a And at what age should we start educating men and women about sexual consent?

Of the total population, 93.6 % agree with the need to educate men and women in sexual consent as a way of preventing sexual assault, compared to 3.5 % who disagree (Figure 8.4).

Figure 8.4 Interviewee agreement on the need to educate men and women in sexual consent (%)

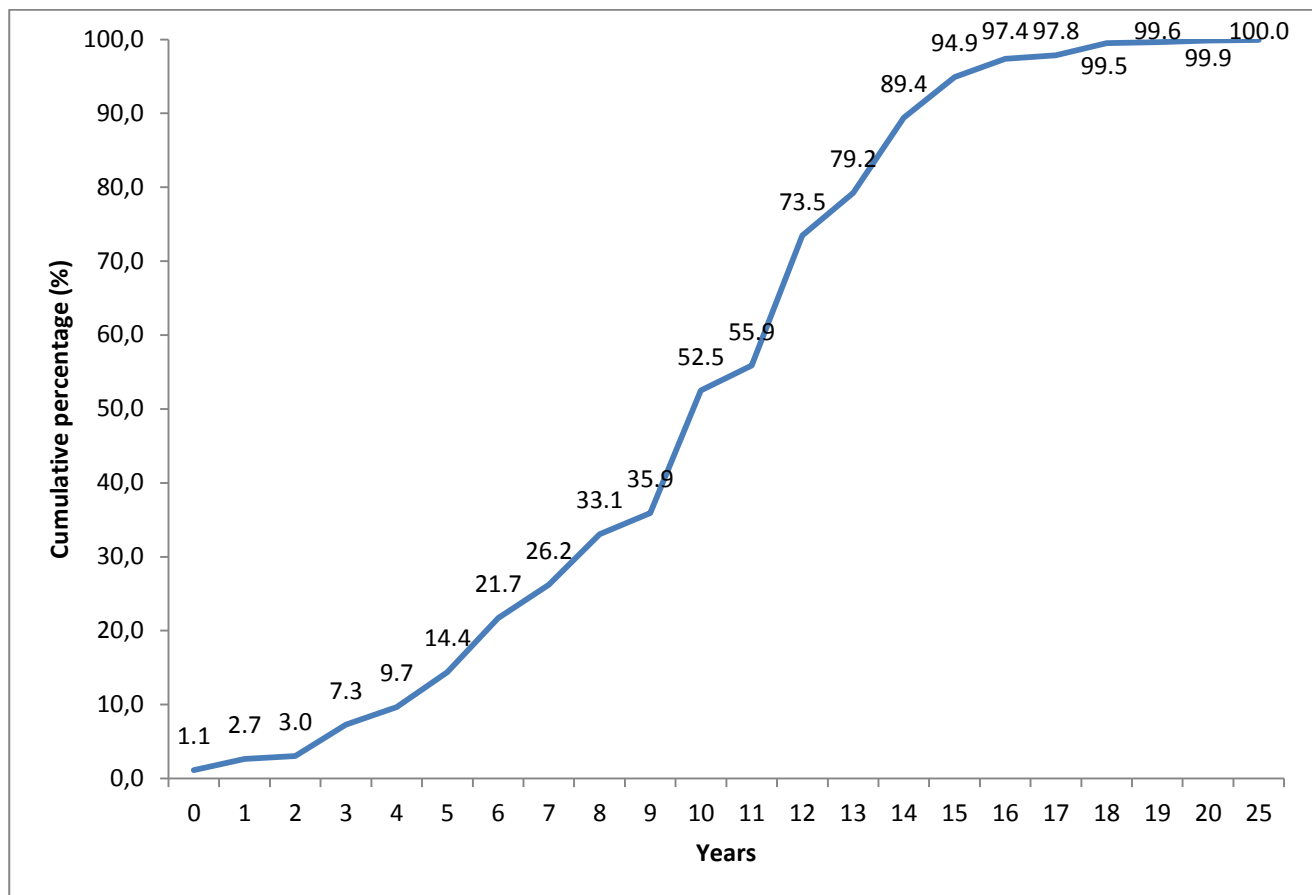


Analysing interviewee responses based on sociodemographic characteristics,<sup>50</sup> we only find statistically significant differences (not taking into account the "Does not know" and "No response" options in the contrasts) in the sex variable. Men disagree slightly more than women (4.7 % vs 2.4 %).

<sup>50</sup> Results not included.

With regard to the age at which this education should begin, the average response is 10.06<sup>51</sup> years with a standard deviation of 3.97 years. The most frequently mentioned age<sup>52</sup> is 12 years old. Of those who believe it necessary to educate about sexual consent, 97.4 % consider that this education should be given before the age of 16 while 73.5 % consider it should be at age 12 or under (Figure 8.5).

Figure 8.5 Age from which the interviewee agrees with sexual consent education (cumulative percentage of those in agreement)



To analyse whether there are statistically significant differences in the age from which interviewees agree with sexual consent education based on their **sociodemographic characteristics**, a one factor analysis of variance is performed with the dependent variable of *age from which they agree with sexual consent education* and the independent variables being sex, interviewee age, educational level, employment status, country of birth, holding or not holding a certificate of disability above 33 %, size of the municipality and type of household. Table 8.5 shows the results for variables that give statistically significant results. The assumption of homogeneity of variances is verified in all cases. For variables in more than two categories that give statistically significant results in the ANOVA, a Scheffé multiple comparison test is performed to analyse between which categories of the variable the differences lie.

<sup>51</sup> To calculate this mean, the "Does not know" (3.7 % of people asked the question) and "No answer" (0.1 % of people asked the question) responses were eliminated, since they were coded as "98" and "99" and using them would erroneously increase this mean.

<sup>52</sup> The mode of the distribution.

By **sex**, the differences between men (mean=10.25, standard deviation=3.94) and women (mean=9.88, standard deviation=3.99) are statistically significant ( $p=0.028$ ,  $F=4.86$ ). There are also significant differences by **age** groups. After ANOVA, a Scheffé multiple comparison test is performed, which shows that the differences lie between the "16-34" and "60+" groups and the "35-59" group, and that there are no significant differences between the "16-34" and "60+" groups. With regard to **educational level**, the differences are statistically significant and Scheffé's comparison reveals that the differences lie between those with a primary and lower education and those with advanced VET or university studies. And among those with a secondary and a university education. Therefore, there are no significant differences between persons with a secondary and advanced VET, nor between those with advanced VET and a university education, but there are significant differences between those with a secondary and a university education. This seems to corroborate what we have seen throughout the study: that people with advanced VET are at a midway point between people with a secondary education and those with a university education. The **employment status** variable is statistically significant but this is solely due to differences between people who are in work or unemployed and students. There are no more variables with statistically significant differences.

*Table 8.5 Age from which the interviewee agrees with sexual consent education based on the sociodemographic characteristics of interviewees. Absolute frequency, mean, standard deviation and ANOVA result*

		Frequency	Mean	Standard deviation	F statistic	P value
Sex*	Men	1,061	10.25	3.94	4.864	0.028
	Women	1,158	9.88	3.99		
Age**	16-34	567	10.33	4.05	5.175	0.006
	35-59	1,055	9.78	3.93		
	60+	597	10.30	3.95		
Educational level***	Primary or lower education	411	10.79	3.93	9.742	0.000
	Secondary education	1,061	10.15	3.91		
	Advanced VET	202	9.72	3.99		
	University education	544	9.45	4.02		
Employment status***	in employment	1,154	9.79	3.92	5.304	0.000
	retiree or pensioner	497	10.27	4.03		
	unemployed	278	10.00	4.12		
	student	151	11.24	3.83		
	Unpaid domestic work	136	10.38	3.76		

Note: \* statistically significant differences at the 95 % level, \*\* at 99 % and \*\*\* at 99%.



## CHAPTER 8 SUMMARY

- This chapter discusses the population's opinions on diverse aspects of sexual violence prevention.

### Opinions on the institutions and agencies that ought to raise awareness of sexual violence and its prevention

- With regard to the institutions and agencies that ought to inform the population about sexual violence and its prevention, educational establishments are cited by 75.1 % of interviewees, family by 37.5 %, public institutions by 22.9 % and the media by 19.9 %.

### Sexual violence prevention

- Of the total interviewed, 32.0 % consider sexual aggressions awareness campaigns to be the best option in preventing sexual aggressions; 28.4 % choose sexual and emotional education; 19.5 % choose the option of "Providing general information on what to do and where to go in the event of sexual aggression", while 12.1 % choose "Information campaigns to identify different types of sexual aggressions".
  - Furthermore, 44.5 % of people with a university education choose the sexual and emotional education option, compared to 31.0 % of people with advanced VET, 24.7 % of people with a secondary education and 17.6 % of people with a primary education or lower.
- Of the total number of interviewees, 77.0 % believe that the most important way to prevent sexual aggressions is "educating men not to sexually assault", compared to 14.8 % who consider "teaching women to avoid risk situations" more important. The purpose of this question was to determine the extent to which the population considers that responsibility for sexual assault lies with the aggressor or the victim.
  - The "educating men not to sexually assault" option is chosen by 85.2 % of people with a university education, 77.5 % of people with a secondary education, 75.9 % of people with advanced VET and 67.4 % of those with a primary education.
    - ✓ Among women, 8.4 %, 15.0 %, 16.2 % and 20.6 %, respectively, choose the option of teaching women to avoid risk situations, which puts the onus for sexual assault on women rather than on those who commit the aggression.
- Of the total population, 93.6 % agree with the need to educate men and women in sexual consent as a way of preventing sexual aggressions, compared to 3.5 % who disagree.
  - Of those in agreement, 97.4 % consider that this education should be given before the age of 16 and 73.5 % consider that it should be before the age of 12.

### 1- Survey objectives

The Social Perception of Sexual Violence Survey is a piece of statistical research targeting individuals of either sex aged sixteen and over living in main family dwellings. The primary aim of the survey is to obtain information on the perception of the population residing in Spain of the causes and consequences of sexual violence against women. Its specific aims include:

- Learning about the population's attitudes towards sexism.
- Learning about the population's attitudes towards sexual harassment in the workplace.
- Learning about the population's attitudes towards sexual assault.
- Learning about the population's opinions on the punishability of different types of sexual violence against women.
- Determining residents' knowledge of sexual assault in their immediate environment.
- Learning about opinions on the measures considered most effective in preventing sexual violence.

This survey is theoretically a one-off. It is not expected to be repeated with any specific frequency. However, given the results and the interest and need to update these in the near future (to analyse changes in the social perception of sexual violence, for example), it may be necessary to conduct a new statistical operation on this topic in the medium term.

### 2- Areas of research

#### POPULATION

The survey population is the group of people aged sixteen and over residing in main family dwellings. Main dwellings are those used all year round or for most of the year as regular or permanent dwellings. The generic term "family dwelling" also includes dwellings whose inhabitants have no family ties to one another.

#### TERRITORIAL SCOPE

The survey covers the whole of Spanish territory.

#### TIME SCOPE

The initial time reference of the survey is 2017, the year in which the information was collected.

### 3- Concept and definitions

Note that the *Social Perception of Sexual Violence Survey* does not always use Criminal Code terminology because it is considered confusing and counter-intuitive for interviewees at times.<sup>53</sup>

#### SEXUAL VIOLENCE

In line with the World Health Organization (WHO), sexual violence<sup>54</sup> is defined as: “any sexual act, attempt to obtain a sexual act, unwanted sexual comments or advances, or acts to traffic, or otherwise directed, against a person’s sexuality using coercion, by any person regardless of their relationship to the victim, in any setting, including but not limited to home and work”. Coercion may include:

- Use of varying degrees of force.
- Psychological intimidation.
- Extortion.
- Threats (e.g. of physical harm or failure to obtain a job or grade, etc).
- Sexual violence may also occur when the person is unable to give consent – for instance, while drunk, drugged, asleep or mentally incapable of understanding the situation.

Sexual violence includes sexual harassment, assault and abuse. The terms sexual assault and sexual abuse are considered equivalent in the context of this survey.

#### SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE

According to the definition of the European Union<sup>55</sup> sexual harassment means: “Conduct of a sexual nature, or other conduct based on sex affecting the dignity of women and men at work, including conduct of superiors and colleagues, is unacceptable if:

- such conduct is unwanted, unreasonable and offensive to the recipient.
- a person's rejection of, or submission to, such conduct on the part of employers or workers (including superiors or colleagues) is used explicitly or implicitly as a basis for a decision which affects that person's access to vocational training, access to employment, continued employment, promotion, salary or any other employment decisions, and/or
- such conduct creates an intimidating, hostile or humiliating work environment for the recipient; and that such conduct may, in certain circumstances, be contrary to the principle of equal treatment.”

Sexual harassment may include unwanted physical, verbal, and non-verbal conduct.

#### RAPE

Rape consists of penetration of the vulva or anus, using a penis, fingers or an object; or oral penetration with a penis.

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<sup>53</sup> For example, with regard to the difference between sexual assault and sexual abuse: in the Criminal Code, the first term requires there to be violence or intimidation, while sexual abuse occurs when there is no violence or intimidation. Rape may take place in both cases: according to the Criminal Code, the rape of a woman under the influence of drugs or alcohol is considered sexual abuse, not sexual assault, but the questionnaire calls it sexual assault to aid understanding.

<sup>54</sup> Jewkes, R., Sen, P., Garcia-Moreno, C. *Sexual violence* (2002) in Krug, E., Dahlberg, L., Mercy, J., Zwi, A., & Lozano, R. (Eds.). (2002). *World report on violence and health*. Geneva, Switzerland: World Health Organization: 147–182.

<sup>55</sup> 92/131/EEC: Commission Recommendation of 27 November 1991 on the protection of the dignity of women and men at work. Official Journal L 049 of 24/02/1992 pp. 0001 - 0008

## SEXUAL INTERCOURSE

Set of practices and behaviours, carried out by two or more persons of the same or different sex, of a sexual nature (vaginal or anal penetration, oral sex, touching, kissing, masturbation, etc.) with or without excitation and/or sexual desire.

## SEXUAL CONSENT

Sexual consent occurs when someone agrees, gives permission, or says “yes” to sexual activity with other persons. Consent implies that all the persons involved should feel able to say “yes” or “no” or stop the sexual activity at any time (for example, if someone is semi-unconscious due to excessive alcohol consumption, they cannot consent to sexual activity).

## INTIMATE PARTNER

A person who has a sexual and emotional relationship with another, whether or not they live together or there is a legal link between them.

### 4- Classification variables

This section summarises the main classification variables used and their distribution in the sample.

#### 4.1 Sex of the interviewee:

- Male
- Female

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Male	1,196	48.5	48.5
Female	1,269	51.5	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.2 Age of the interviewee:

Mean age: 48.57

Standard deviation: 18.15

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
16-24	260	10.5	10.5
25-34	352	14.3	24.8
35-44	497	20.2	45.0
45-54	448	18.2	63.2
55-64	368	14.9	78.1
65-74	313	12.7	90.8
75+	227	9.2	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.3 Educational level:

- Primary or lower education
- Secondary education
- Advanced VET
- University education

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Primary or lower education	506	20.5	20.5
Secondary education	1,173	47.6	68.1
Advanced VET	216	8.8	76.9
University education	569	23.1	100.0
DK/NR	1	0.0	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.4 Employment status:

- Employed
- Retiree or pensioner
- Unemployed
- Student
- Unpaid domestic work
- Other situation

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Employed	1,245	50.5	50.5
Retiree or pensioner	587	23.8	74.3
Unemployed	307	12.5	86.8
Student	158	6.4	93.2
Unpaid domestic work	165	6.7	99.9
Other situation	3	0.1	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.5 Country of birth:

- Spain
- Other country

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Spain	2,192	88.9	88.9
Another country	273	11.1	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.6 Accredited disability greater than or equal to 33 %:

- Yes
- No

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Yes	127	5.2	5.2
No	2,319	94.1	99.2
No response	19	0.8	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.7 Size of municipality of residence:

- 10,000 inhabitants or less
- More than 10,000 inhabitants

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
<=10,000	524	21.3	21.3
>10,000	1,941	78.7	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

#### 4.8 Type of household:

- Lives alone
- Lives alone with her children
- Lives with his partner, with or without children
- Other situation

	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative percentage
Lives alone	333	13.5	13.5
Lives alone with her children	130	5.3	18.8
Lives with his partner, with or without children	1,450	58.8	77.6
Other situation	544	22.1	99.7
NR	8	0.3	100.0
Total	2,465	100.0	

## 5- Psychometric scales used to draw up the questions

Items from the following internationally validated psychometric scales were used in the survey:

### 5.1 Sexism

- Modern Sexism scale

This is published in:

Swim, J. K., Aikin, K. J., Hall, W. S., and Hunter, B. A. (1995). Sexism and Racism: Old-Fashioned and Modern Prejudices. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 68: 199-214

- Neosexism scale

This is published in:

Tougas, F., Brown, R., Beaton, A. M., and Joly, S. (1995). Neosexism: Plus Ça Change, Plus C'est Pareil. *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 21: 842-849.

- Ambivalent Sexism Inventory

The validated Spanish version is published in:

Expósito, F., Moya, M.C., and Glick, P. (1998). Sexismo ambivalente: medición y correlatos. *Revista de Psicología Social*, 13 (2): 159-169.

### 5.2 Sexual harassment in the workplace

- Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance scale (ISHMA)

The validated Spanish version is published in:

Expósito, F., Herrera, A., Valor-Segura, I., Herrera, M.C., and Lozano, L.M (2014). Spanish Adaptation of the Illinois Sexual Harassment Myth Acceptance. *Spanish Journal of Psychology*, 17, e40, 1-13.

### 5.3 Sexual assault

- Acceptance of Modern Myths About Sexual Aggression scale (AMMSA)

The validated Spanish version is published in:

Megías, J.L., Romero-Sánchez, M., Durán, M., Moya, M., and Bohner, G. (2011). Spanish Validation of the Acceptance of Modern Myths about Sexual Aggression Scale (AMMSA). *The Spanish Journal of Psychology*, 14(2), 912-925.

## **6- Sample design**

### **SURVEY FRAMEWORK. TYPE OF SAMPLING.**

The sample was designed to deliver results on a national scale.

Multi-stage sampling was employed, which was stratified by cluster, selecting primary sampling units (municipalities) and secondary units (sections) in a proportional random manner, and the last units (individuals) with random routes and quotas of sex and age. Allocation is proportional. With this sampling design, weightings are not applicable. The sampling points were 256 municipalities in 50 provinces.

### **STRATA**

The strata were formed by cross-referencing the 17 autonomous communities with the size of municipality, divided into 7 categories: less than or equal to 2,000 inhabitants; from 2,001 to 10,000; from 10,001 to 50,000; from 50,001 to 100,000; from 100,001 to 400,000; from 400,001 to 1,000,000 inhabitants and more than 1,000,000 inhabitants.

### **SAMPLE SIZE**

A theoretical sample size of 2,500 people was set. The final effective sample comprises 2,465 people.

### **SAMPLING ERROR**

For a confidence level of 95.5 %, and  $P = Q$ , the real error is  $\pm 2.0$  % for the overall sample and in the case of simple random sampling.

## **7- Data collection**

The information was collected between 5 and 20 July 2017. Data collection was carried out by means of a personal interview at home.

The field work was performed by the Center for Sociological Research (study number 3,182).

## **8- Information processing**

Data editing and clean-up was carried out by the Center for Sociological Research, which delivered the survey microdata to the Government Office for Gender-Based Violence on 7 November 2017.

## **9- Availability of survey microdata**

Under Act 39/1995, of 19 December, on the Organisation of the Center for Sociological Research, the survey microdata will be made available to the public in November 2018 by the Center for Sociological Research as the agency that performed the fieldwork.



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