

D2 Inventory of statements



Household Appliances - child appealing designs: Inventory of statements (D2)

Introduction

This is the second deliverable (D2) of the Joint Action. This deliverable describes the activities undertaken to create an inventory of the existing statements on child appealing appliances. Its purpose was to better understand the commonly held views on “child appealing appliances”. Statements were gathered from stakeholders, representatives of participating countries in Member States and other actors. In addition, a survey based on those statements was created to establish a common understanding of the characteristics that may make household electrical appliances child appealing. The following chapters of this report provide a description of the method used to collect the statements and information about the distribution of the survey questionnaire and its results.

Methodology

A considerable amount of research has been conducted on the safety of toys and electrical household appliances over the past years. Some of these studies raise issues on the design of electrical equipment that have characteristics that appeal to children but are not meant for children to play with. The Dutch market surveillance authority began to collect documents and opinions on this topic and to search for unique statements in 2006. This information provided the original basis for this Joint Action. These documents and others submitted by representatives from participating country are filed in the PROSAFE web office: WebEx.

Those documents were used to create the basis for a survey, conducted through use of a questionnaire. The objective of the survey was to gather insight on child appealing appliances and to gain more information about the topic. Its main purpose was to provide background material for the research institute, which would be responsible for conducting in-depth scientific research on the topic. It was recognised from the outset that the questionnaire had its own limits and should only be used as a possible source of information.

The questionnaire was distributed to the participants from Member States and various stakeholders.

There were 65 questions in the final questionnaire. Pilot trials were conducted to determine the functionality and the time it would take to complete the

questionnaire. It was determined that it could be completed within thirty minutes and was practical in use for all.

It was not possible to reach consensus on the wording and structure of the questionnaire with the stakeholders due to the time limitations dictated by the timetable that formed part of the formal Grant Agreement. The stakeholders were given the opportunity to provide comments at the kick-off meeting but, with the exception of ANEC, did not do so until much later. Since the stakeholder statements were received late, they could not be included in the questionnaire.

The results of the survey have been made available to the research institute, Intertek RAM. They have additionally been given access to the inventory of statements.

Distribution

The questionnaire was distributed to the thirteen participating Member States, members of LVD-AdCo and various stakeholders. The Member States were asked to distribute the questionnaire to a minimum of twenty-five interested parties and the stakeholders were asked to distribute it to as many interested parties as they could. The importance of obtaining a wide range of opinions was made clear. Everyone was given three weeks to distribute and complete the questionnaire. Some stakeholders expressed concern about the short time frame given to complete the questionnaire. Therefore, certain stakeholders were given an additional week to complete the questionnaire. It was not possible to allow additional time to complete the questionnaire due to the timetable dictated by the Grant Agreement of the Joint Action.

The stakeholders from industry decided not to distribute the questionnaire further. Those stakeholders provided similar statements in which they gave an explanation for not distributing the questionnaire. Copies of these documents were given to the research institute.

Results

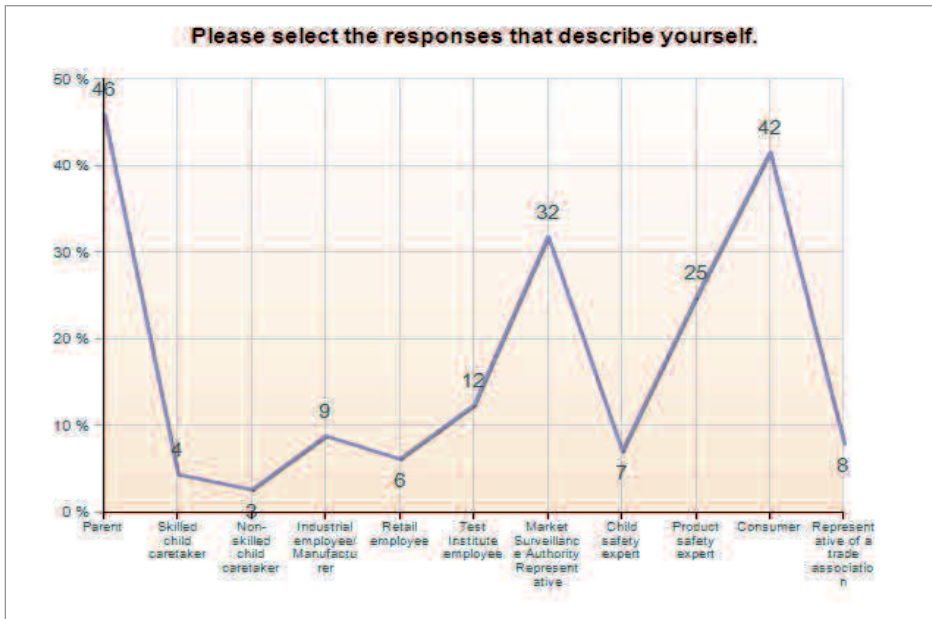
113 completed questionnaires were received. The questionnaire results can be found in Appendix 1. The results from the research institute will be available in the fall of 2010. Those results will be evaluated and discussed with the Member States and the stakeholders. Only then can conclusions be drawn.

Results of Questionnaire on Household Appliance – Child appealing designs

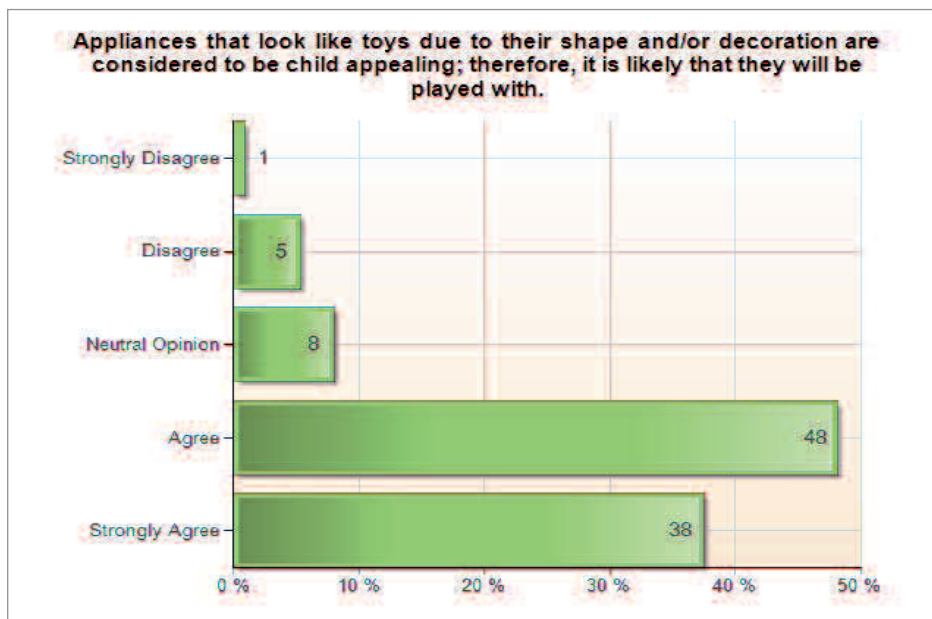
INFORMATION ABOUT QUESTIONNAIRE

- ▶ The questionnaire was launched on 24 March 2010 and it was closed on 21 April 2010.
 - ▶ There were 65 questions. The first question has been omitted due to security issues.
 - ▶ 113 responses were received. However, some respondents did not complete every question. The graphs represent percentages. At least 108 responses were received for each question.
 - ▶ In most cases, respondents were asked to choose one answer for each question. For certain questions, respondents were asked to select all of the responses that applied.
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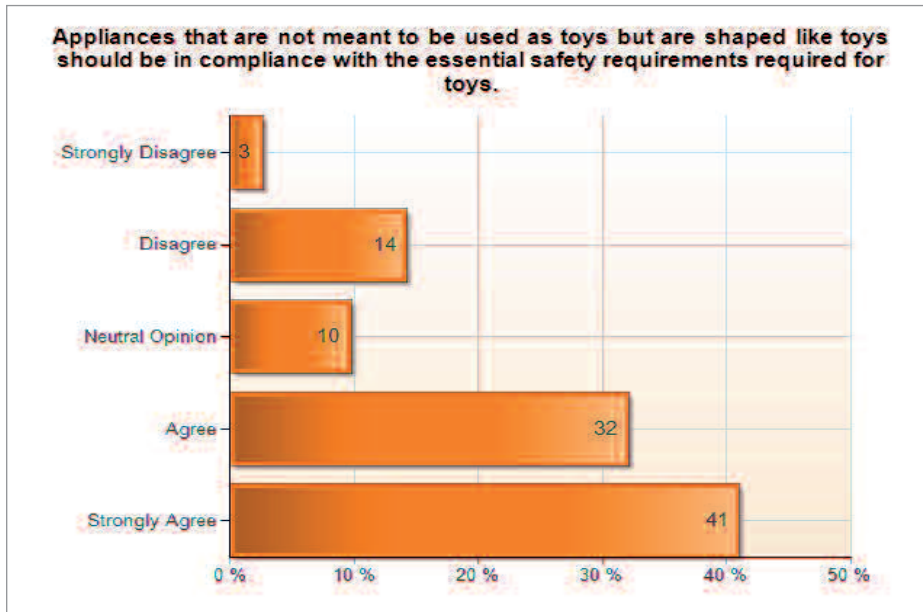
Question 2



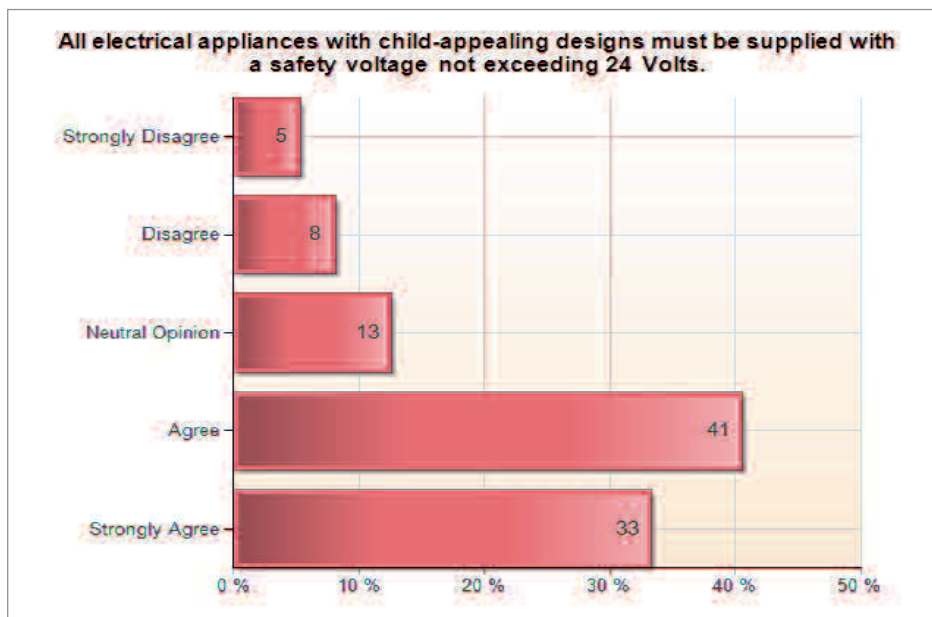
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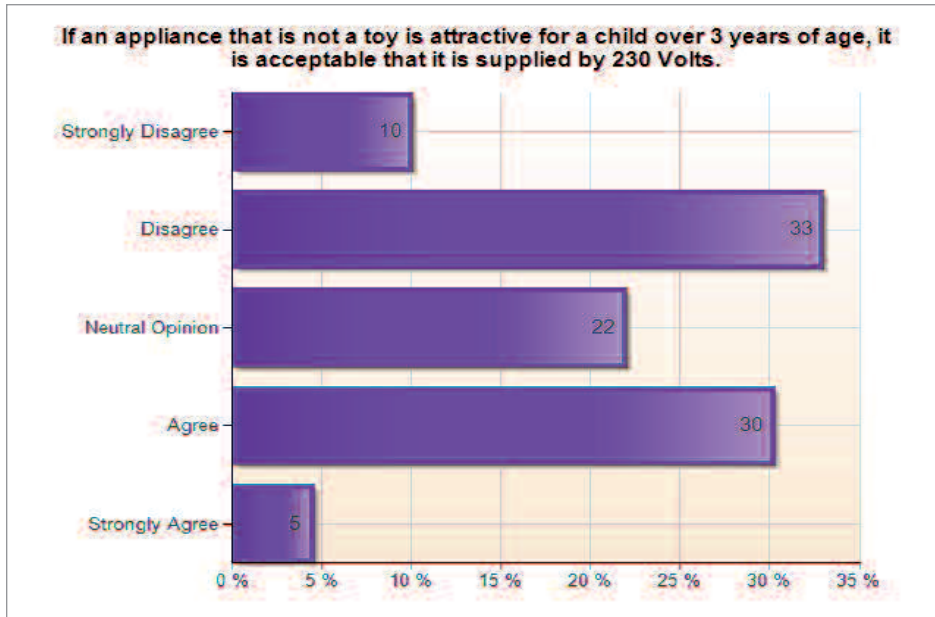
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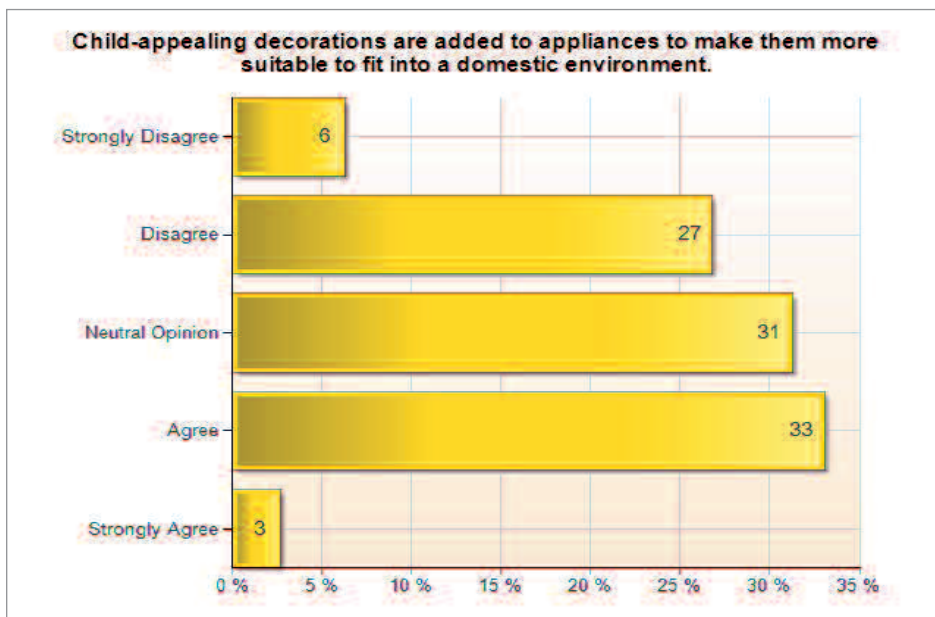
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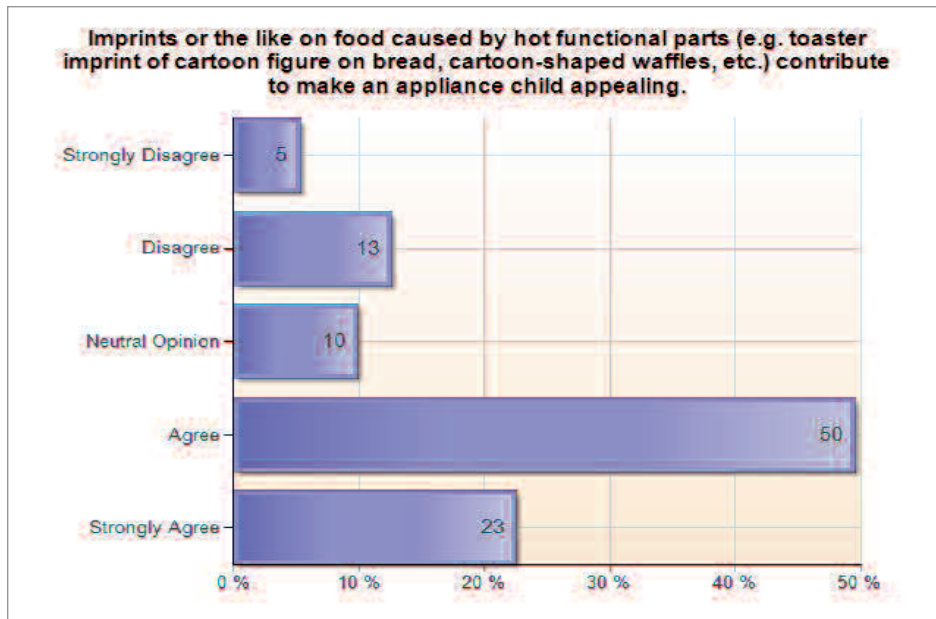
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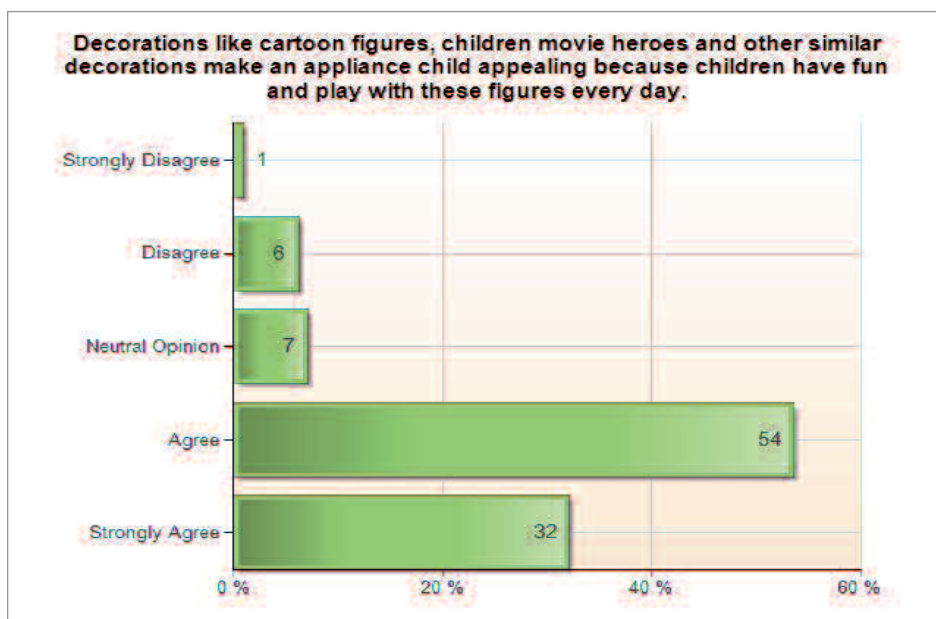
Question 7



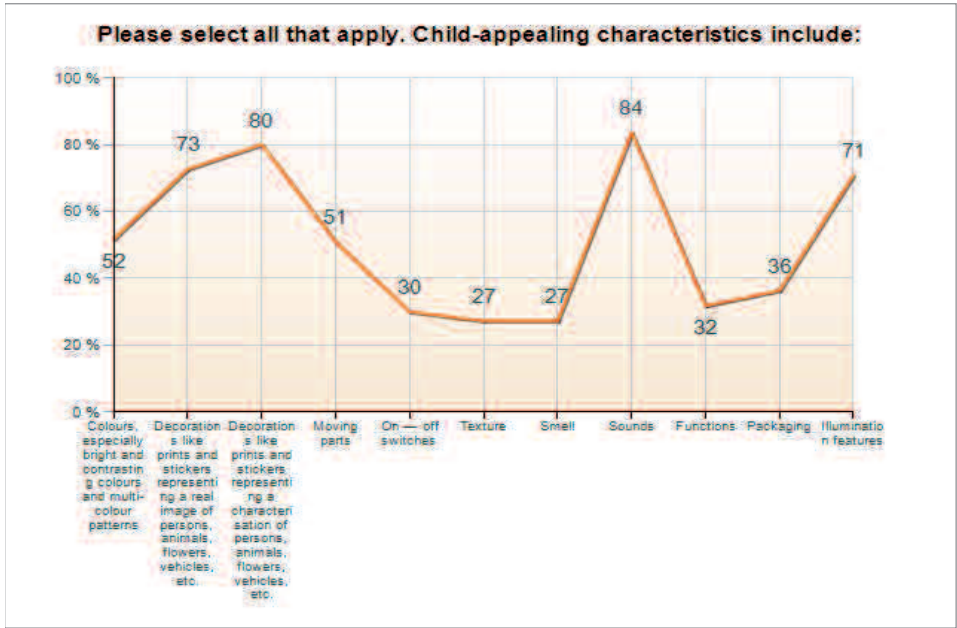
Question 8



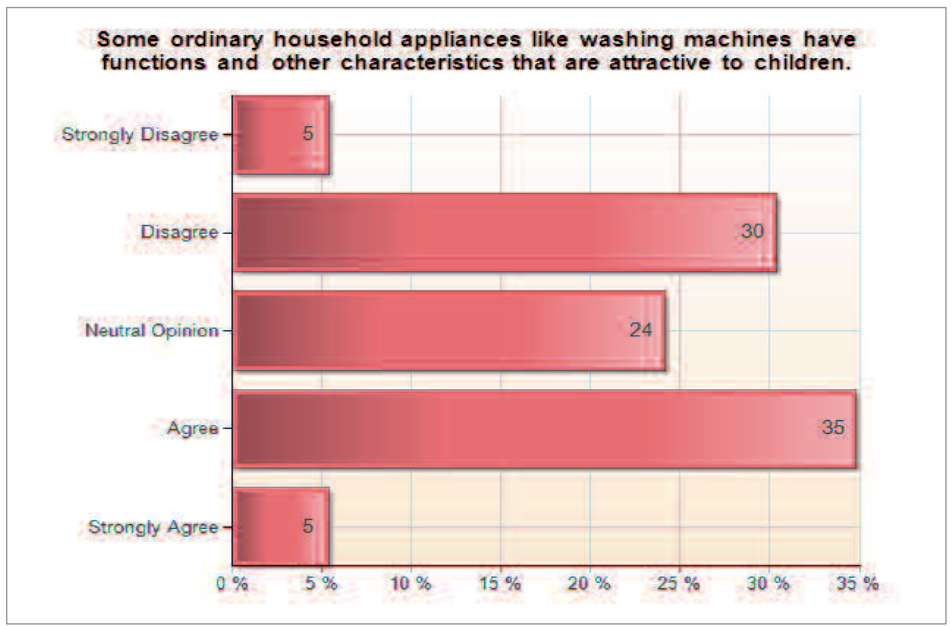
Question 9



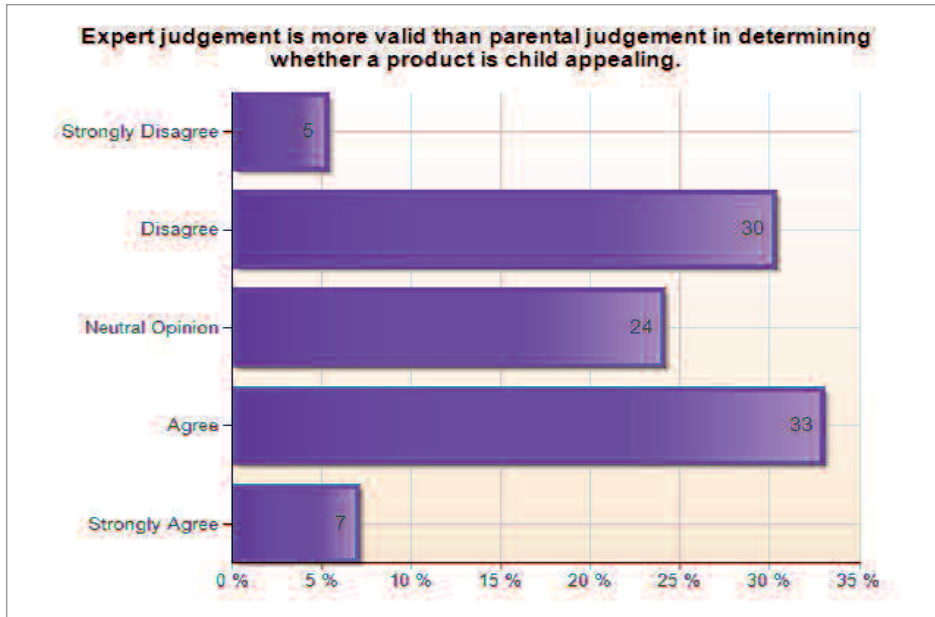
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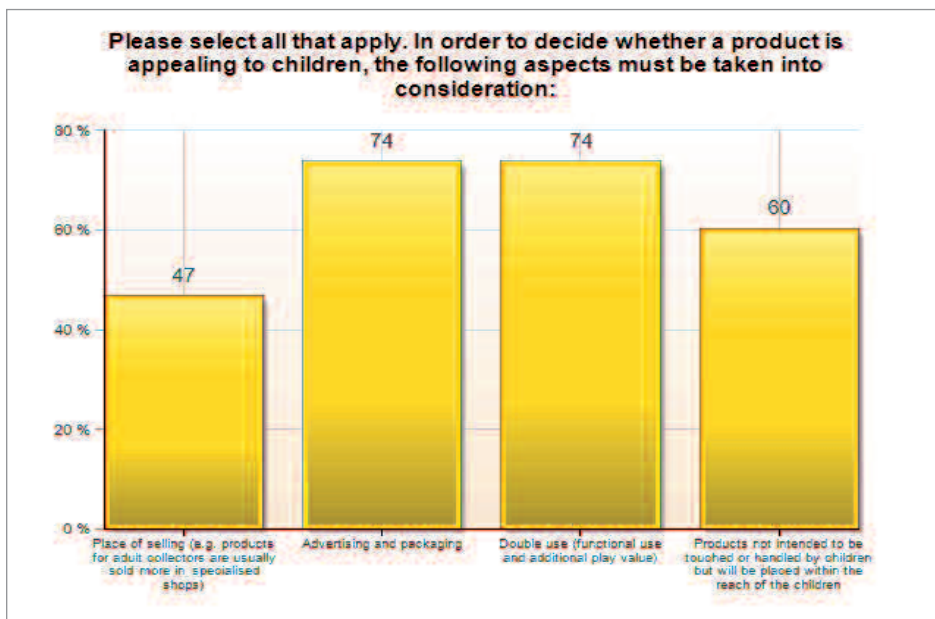
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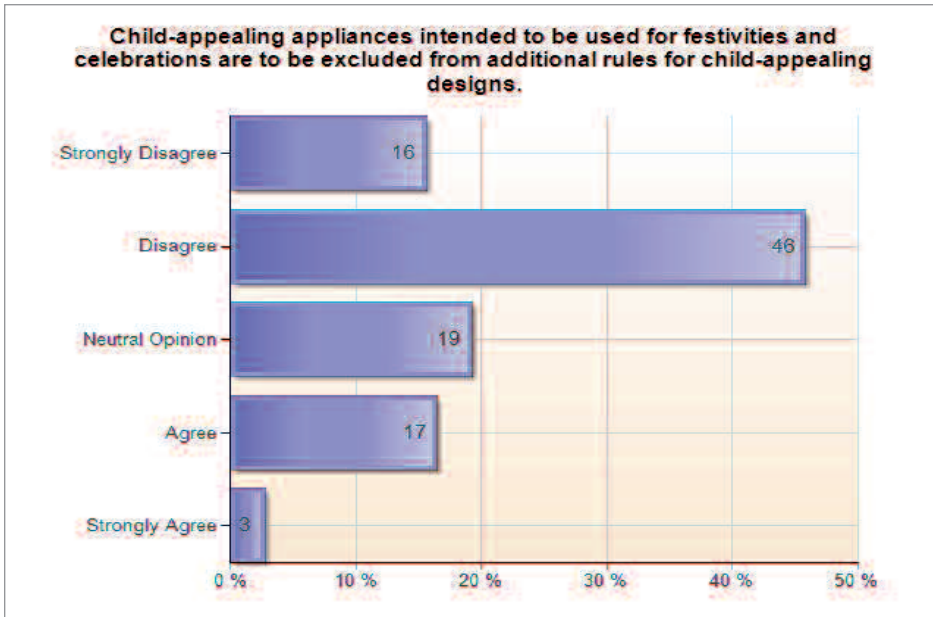
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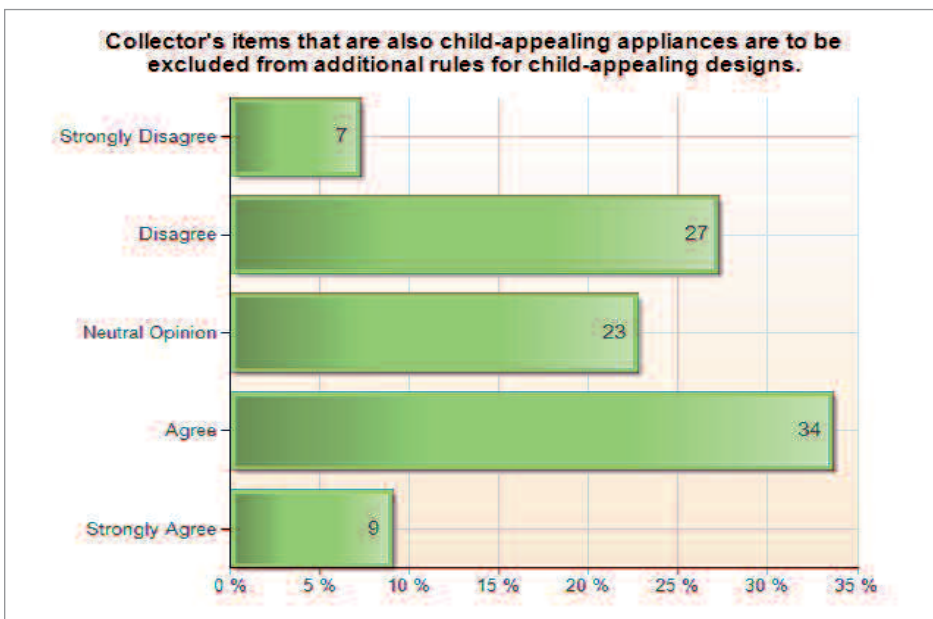
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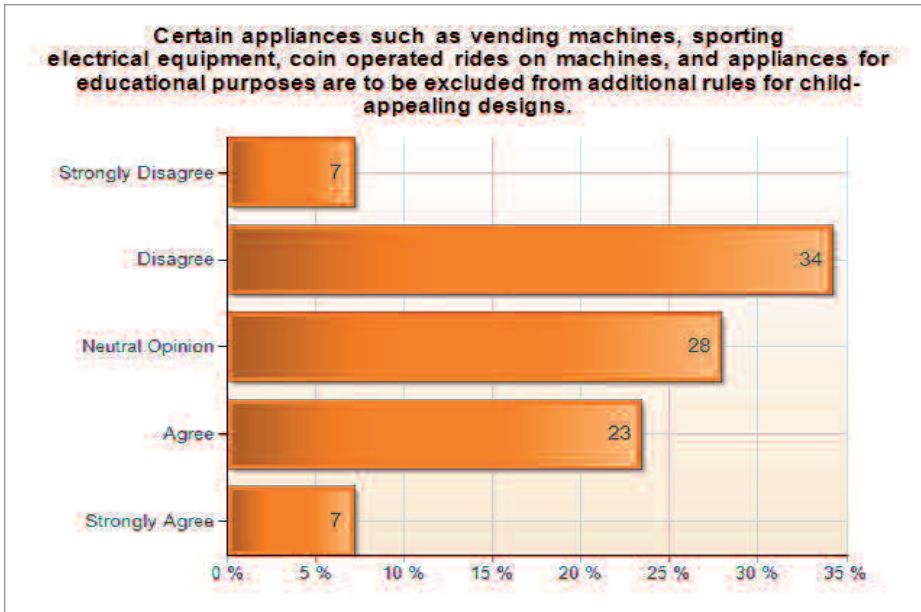
Question 14



Question 15



Question 16



Question 17

