

# **Working Group on Misogyny and Criminal Justice**

## **Lived Experience Survey Analysis**

**February 2022**

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## 1. Key Findings

- A total of 930 people responded to the lived experience online survey which was circulated to a range of organisations in Scotland, including local authorities and third sector organisations such as Zero Tolerance and Age Scotland, and ran between 15 June 2021 and 23 July 2021.
- The vast majority (93.7%) of the respondents reported being “female”, in line with the sampling approach.
- The majority (44.7%) of participants were aged 45 - 59 years old. Younger age groups (18 - 24 and 25 - 34 year olds) were less well represented (2.9% and 13.1% respectively). The sample was therefore not representative and cannot be generalised to the population.
- It is important to note that where differences between groups (e.g. disabled versus non-disabled) are referred to, these differences have not been tested for statistical significance.

### Experiences of misogynistic behaviour

- The majority (63.5%) of reported misogynistic behaviours were experienced in the street, followed by online (59.9%), and the majority (72.8%) of misogynistic behaviours witnessed were online, followed by in the street (71.4%).
- The most common misogynistic behaviours experienced or witnessed were: whistling; name calling; comments on physical appearance; dismissive or derogatory comments and behaviour, and shouting and catcalling.
- Many experiences reported by respondents included more than one misogynistic behaviour in the same incident, and suggested an escalating pattern of abusive behaviour, where if participants did not respond positively or as expected to the first behaviour then more serious behaviours followed.
- There were considerably less responses reporting misogyny in the home or within intimate relationships.
- Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely than any other age group to report both experiencing and witnessing misogyny across all spaces. They were most likely to report experiencing misogyny in the street (77.6% compared to 66.3% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 47.6% of respondents aged 60+) and to witness misogyny online (83.1% of all those aged 18 – 34, compared to 73.7% of 35 – 59 year olds and 71.5% of 60+ respondents).
- Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report experiencing and witnessing misogyny. They were most likely to report experiencing misogyny (80.3% compared to 64.0% of white respondents) and witnessing misogyny in the streets (83.6% compared to 72.9% of white respondents).

- Gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents were more likely than heterosexual/straight respondents to report having experienced misogyny online (81.8% gay/ lesbian, 83.3% bisexual, 56.1% heterosexual/straight) and in the streets (77.3% gay/lesbian respondents, 77.8% bisexual and 61.8% heterosexual/straight). They were also more likely to report witnessing misogyny online (89.4% of gay/lesbian respondents, 91.1% of bisexual respondents, compared to 70.8% of heterosexual /straight respondents).
- Disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report experiencing and witnessing misogyny across almost all settings (with the exception of the workplace). The most common setting for disabled people to report experiencing misogyny was in the street, with 7 in 10 (69.9%) of disabled respondents experiencing misogyny here, compared to 61.6% of non-disabled respondents. This was also the most common setting for disabled respondents to report witnessing misogyny (76.8% of disabled respondents compared to 69.9% of non-disabled respondents).

### **Impact of misogynist behaviour on victims**

- Only 0.7% participants reported that the experience did not impact them in some way; 3 in 4 (75.0%) participants felt angry, 69.2% felt annoyed or irritated, and 67.1% felt uncomfortable. Just over 2 in 5 (42.7%) became more vigilant, a third (33.4%) became more suspicious of strangers, and 30.0% changed their behaviour to avoid future occurrences (e.g. clothing choices or posting online).
- The most common emotional response to misogyny reported amongst respondents aged 18 – 34 was to feel uncomfortable (77.6%, compared 69% of respondents aged 35 – 59 and 53.1% of respondents aged 60+). For minority ethnic respondents the most common response reported was to feel angry (78.7% compared to 74.8% of white respondents), and this was also the case for gay/lesbian respondents (80.6%) and bisexual respondents (78.9% compared to 73.6% of heterosexual respondents), and for disabled respondents (76.1% compared to 74.7% of non-disabled respondents).<sup>1</sup>
- Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely than older respondents to report changing their behaviour in some way as a result of experiencing or witnessing misogyny. The most common behaviour change reported was to become more suspicious of strangers. Just under a half (44.1%) of respondents aged 18 – 34 changed their behaviour in this way, compared to a third (33.3%) of 35 – 59 year olds and just under a quarter (23.1%) of those aged 60+.
- Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report changing their behaviour as a result of experiencing or witnessing misogyny. The most common behaviour change reported was to become more vigilant (62.3% of all minority ethnic respondents compared to 41.1% of all white respondents).

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<sup>1</sup> The age profile of the minority ethnic, gay/lesbian, bisexual and disabled sample may impact this finding.

- Bisexual respondents were most likely to say they changed their behaviour as a result of experiencing or witnessing misogyny. The most common behaviour change reported by bisexual respondents was to become more vigilant (62.2% of bisexual respondents compared to 47.8% of gay/lesbian respondents, and 39.1% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- Disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report changing their behaviour in response to the misogynistic incident. The most common behaviour change reported amongst disabled respondents was to become more vigilant (51.2%), compared to 2 in 5 (40.2%) non-disabled respondents.

## **Reporting misogynistic incidents**

### **Reporting an incident**

- Most (93.4%) survey respondents did not report the incident(s) to the police, and 71.9% did not report to another person or agency in a position of authority. The main reason (52.2%) for not reporting was believing the police or authority would not be bothered/ interested, followed by believing the experience was not criminal, too trivial or not worth reporting (38.2%).
- Of those who did report, 61.2% reported that the police, person or agency did not take action, a quarter (25.3%) reported they did take action, and 12.6% reported not knowing if any action was taken. Most (61.1%) respondents reported being dissatisfied with the response of the police and/or authority, and the minority (4.7%) reported that they were satisfied.
- Minority ethnic respondents who had experienced misogyny were twice as likely than white respondents to say that they reported the incident to the police (12% versus 6%) and to another person or agency in a position of authority (34.4% versus 27.4%).

### **Satisfaction with how incidents were dealt with**

- Minority ethnic respondents who said they did report were less likely than white respondents who reported to state that the police/authority took action (15% versus 25.7%).
- Heterosexual/straight respondents (26%) were more likely to report that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, than gay/lesbian respondents (22.2%) and bisexual respondents (18.8%).<sup>2</sup>
- Disabled respondents were less likely than non-disabled respondents to report that the police and/or authority took action. 17.6% of disabled respondents who reported the incident stated that action was taken, compared to just over a

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<sup>2</sup> It should be noted that sample sizes for this question were small and this affects the validity of these findings. There were 230 white respondents but only 20 minority ethnic respondents to this question. There were 192 heterosexual/ straight respondents to this question, but only 18 gay/ lesbian and 32 bisexual respondents.

quarter (28.9%) of non-disabled respondents who reported the incident to the police and/or another authority.

- Younger respondents aged 18 - 34 were more likely than 35 – 59 year olds and those aged 60+ to report being satisfied or very satisfied with the response of the police and/or authority. Just over a quarter (25.9%) of those 18 – 34 who reported the incident of misogyny were satisfied or very satisfied with the response, compared to 1 in 10 (10.4%) of 35 - 59 year olds, and 17.6% of respondents aged 60+.<sup>3</sup>
- Those minority ethnic respondents who reported the incident of misogyny to the police or another authority were more likely than white respondents to report that they were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the action taken (100% of minority ethnic respondents who reported compared to 77% of white respondents who reported).<sup>4</sup>

### **Reasons for not reporting**

- Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely than older respondents to report that their reason for not reporting the incident was because they thought it was not criminal/too trivial/not worth reporting (50%), compared to 36.9% of 35 – 59 year olds and 31.2% of those aged 60+. Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were also more likely than respondents aged 35 – 59 year olds and 60+ to say they didn't report because the police or authority could have done nothing (46.8% of 18 – 34 year olds, 31.1% of 35 – 59 year olds and 35% of respondents aged 60+), and to say that they didn't report due to a fear of being or not being believed (37.3% of 18 – 34 year olds, 30% of 35 – 59 year olds and 25.6% of respondents aged 60+).
- The most common reason for not reporting among minority ethnic respondents was that the police or authority would not have been bothered/not been interested (68.8% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 50.9% of white respondents). This was also the most common reason for not reporting amongst gay/lesbian (68.3%) and bisexual respondents (56.1%), compared to just under half (49.4%) of heterosexual/straight respondents.

### **Interventions – how to tackle misogyny**

- The option of a misogyny offence was viewed by the most respondents to be 'very effective' at addressing misogynistic conduct (42.3%) when compared to other options including police fines and public awareness raising. However, when the 'very effective' and 'effective' categories are combined education interventions were viewed most favourably, with over 3 in 4 (76.8%) respondents viewing education interventions as effective or very effective.

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<sup>3</sup> The reduced sample size for this question impacts the validity of these findings. There were 31 respondents to this question aged 18 – 34, 164 aged 35 – 59 and 34 aged 60+.

<sup>4</sup> As above the small sample size impacts the validity of these findings. There were 209 minority ethnic respondents to this question, but only 17 minority ethnic respondents.

- Over 1 in 7 (71.9%) respondents viewed the introduction of a sex or gender aggravator as effective or very effective, while over two thirds (68%) viewed the creation of a misogyny offence as effective or very effective.
- Police powers for on the spot fines was viewed less favourably, with just over half (54.5%) of respondents viewing this intervention as effective or very effective.
- Looking at qualitative responses, education interventions were most commonly cited as the most effective strategy to address misogynistic conduct by respondents. This was followed by multiple interventions and public awareness raising.
- Educating on what is not acceptable behaviour and on what misogyny is were the most commonly cited education strategies. The need to communicate what misogyny is was also the strongest theme for public awareness raising, and was a common theme in the “other”<sup>5</sup> category.
- Respondents often cited “other” intervention strategies outside the five provided in the survey as effective at addressing misogynistic conduct.
- Most responses in the “other” category included more than one approach suggesting that respondents felt that more than one intervention strategy was required in order to effectively address misogynistic conduct.
- Some of the common themes within the “other” category included the need to utilise existing VAWG laws to address misogynistic conduct, a desire to maintain the Equalities Act, harsher sanctions, controls on porn, and the need to tackle institutional misogyny within, for example, the police and education settings.
- Respondents did not commonly cite adding gender to Hate Crime legislation, whereas adding sex was much more commonly cited. There was also a common theme for adding misogyny to Hate Crime legislation.
- Though including sex in Hate Crime legislation and misogyny as a standalone offence were not the most commonly cited strategies by respondents, legal consequences were a common theme in the “other” category. This suggests that there is a desire for some kind of legal response to misogynistic conduct, but perhaps an uncertainty about what that response should look like.
- Younger people aged 18 - 34 were more likely than respondents aged 35 - 59 and 60+ to view education interventions as very effective or effective at tackling misogyny (83.2% for respondents aged 18 - 34, compared to 76.7% of respondents aged 35 - 59 and 71.4% of respondents aged 60+). Older respondents (those aged 60+) were more likely than younger respondents (aged 18 - 34) to view all interventions as ineffective or very ineffective.

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<sup>5</sup> The five strategies proposed by the survey were: Education interventions, Public awareness raising, Including sex or gender in the Hate Crime Bill, Giving police powers for on the spot fines, and a Standalone misogyny offence. Any other strategies that were outside of these five, were added to an “Other” category.

- Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to view education interventions as very ineffective or ineffective at tackling misogyny than white respondents (16.9% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 9.2% of white respondents).
- Minority ethnic respondents were also more likely than white respondents to view police powers for on-the-spot fines as effective or very effective (62.1% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 53.9% of white respondents), and also more likely to view the creation of a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour as effective or very effective (72.2% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 62.9% of white respondents).
- Education interventions were the intervention most likely to be viewed as very effective or effective amongst gay/lesbian and heterosexual/straight respondents (81.3% of gay/lesbian respondents compared to 79.5% of bisexual respondents and 76.4% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- The most popular intervention amongst bisexual respondents was a sex or gender aggravator, with more than 4 in 5 (81.6%) of bisexual respondents viewing a sex or gender aggravator as effective or very effective, compared to 70.0% of heterosexual/straight respondents and 76.6% of gay/lesbian respondents.

## **2. Introduction**

This survey was conducted for the Working Group on Misogyny and Criminal Justice in Scotland. This work consisted of primary research requested by the Working Group, and conducted and analysed by analysts in the Scottish Government. This work aimed to provide the Working Group with a lived experiences perspective of misogynistic behaviour in Scotland.

## **3. Methodology**

### **3.1 Survey creation**

The survey was created by developing questions to meet the main objectives of the Working Group, the questions cover the following themes:

- the contexts in which misogynistic behaviours occur
- the types of misogynistic behaviours experienced by people in Scotland
- the impact that a misogynistic incident had on people
- whether they reported it to the police and/or authority
- how satisfied they were with the response from the police/authority
- why they did not report it, and
- what interventions they think would be most effective at addressing misogynistic behaviour in Scotland.

A mixture of open and closed questions reflecting these themes were then inputted into Questback, an online survey tool, and the survey was live from 15 June 2021 to 23 July 2021.

A definition of misogyny was provided to respondents based on the working definition that was being used by the Working Group at the time the survey went live. This is not a legal definition. The definition was as follows:

“[Misogyny is] a way of thinking that upholds the primary status of men and a sense of male entitlement, while subordinating women and limiting their power and freedom. Conduct based on this thinking can include a range of abusive or controlling behaviours; such conduct can be conscious or unconscious, and women themselves can be socialised to believe that this is the natural order. This behaviour/conduct can include (but is not limited to) being made to feel undermined or belittled, receiving gendered comments, or being the victim of verbal and non-verbal harassment and assault.”

### 3.2 Recruitment and Sample

The survey was originally intended to be disseminated to members of the Circle (the First Minister's National Advisory Council on Violence against Women and Girls; NACWG) for participation. However, after a slow initial response, it was decided that to maximise engagement the survey would be disseminated more widely, across various organisations including local councils across Scotland, and organisations that are known stakeholders in the Equally Safe Strategy. However, it is not known the extent to which the survey was disseminated within or outwith these groups. See Annex A for a full list of the organisations contacted.

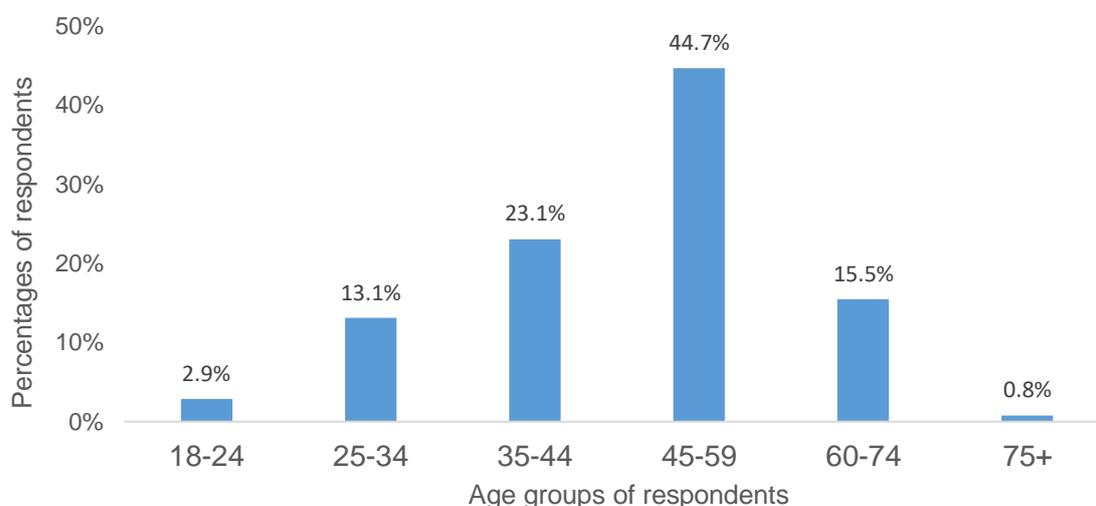
The aim of the survey was to understand women's experiences of misogyny, and the recruitment strategy reflected this, but the research was also interested in the views of those who had witnessed misogyny (including men). The majority (93.7%) of the respondents reported as being "female", 2.9% reported as being "male", 1.5% reported as being "trans", with 1.9% not providing their gender.

Overall, 930 people responded to the survey. As can be seen in Figure 1, the majority (44.7%) of participants were in the 45 - 59 age category. The 18 - 24 and 25 - 34 age categories had small percentages (2.9% and 13.1% respectively) of participants. This has important implications for the findings presented in this paper as younger women are more likely to be subject to misogynistic behaviour.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> All Party Parliamentary Group for UN women (2021), 'Prevalence and reporting of sexual harassment in UK public spaces', [APPG-UN-Women-Sexual-Harassment-Report\\_Updated.pdf \(unwomenuk.org\)](https://www.unwomen.org/en/digital-library/publications/2021/06/appg-un-women-sexual-harassment-report-updated)

**Figure 1.** Percentages of participants representing different age groups



The majority (79.6%) of respondents reported as being “heterosexual”, 7.6% reported as being “gay/lesbian”, 10.1% reported as being “bisexual”, and 2.7% reported as being “other”.

The majority (93.1%) of respondents reported as being “White”, 2.9% reported as being of a “Mixed or multiple ethnic group”, 1.9% reported as being “Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British”, 0.1% reported as being “African”, and 1.9% reported as being from an “other ethnic group”.

22.6% (210 respondents) of the sample were disabled, and 77.4% (720 respondents) were not disabled.<sup>7</sup>

### 3.3 Qualitative analysis

There are two main questions within the survey which were analysed qualitatively, Q3 and Q11.

#### **Q3. Thinking about a specific incident from Q1 or Q2, if you feel comfortable, can you briefly describe what kind of behaviour you experienced or witnessed?**

Given the time constraints for this analysis to fit with the Working Group’s timetable, a deductive approach was taken, whereby behaviours were categorised according to the Working Group’s interests on the experiences of misogynistic behaviour across different

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<sup>7</sup> A respondent was defined as disabled if they answered ‘yes’ to the question ‘Do you have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?’ and also ‘yes, a little’ or ‘yes, a lot’ to the question ‘Does your condition or illness reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?’.

contexts. These included “in the workplace”, “in education settings”<sup>8</sup>, “in public spaces”, “online”, “in the home”, and “no context mentioned”. Within these contexts, behaviours were then further categorised into "verbal", "non-verbal", "physical, and "sexual" behaviours. These categories are widely recognised within the literature<sup>9,10</sup>, and also align with a continuum approach to misogynistic behaviour, where violence can range from "less serious" (verbal and non-verbal) to "more serious" (physical and sexual). Thereafter, an inductive approach was taken, whereby the data guides the more specific labelling of behaviours within their separate categories. This involved using specific words from the experiences provided, such as "catcalling" and "bullying", as well as, identifying themes across experiences reported such as behaviours that constitute as "belittling" or "dismissing".

In order to be included as a standalone category, a behaviour had to be described by at least 5 different respondents. Some contexts had more behaviours than others, namely workplace, followed by public spaces. Educational settings and the home/within intimate relationships were referred to in fewer responses, and this is likely to have been influenced by the age profile of the sample. In addition, it is worth noting that behaviours which were very common in some contexts, were not possible in others, for example catcalling was very common when talking about public spaces, but is not possible online, and the same goes for leering/staring and a number of other behaviours.

It is also important to note that while there were 757 responses to Q3, which asks respondents to describe what kind of behaviour they experienced/witnessed, there were many more individual behaviours coded – around 2,300 in total. This is because this was an open text question where respondents were able to list more than one example of misogynistic behaviour, for example, a distinct workplace behaviour was listed, as was a different behaviour that was experienced in a bar.

In addition, where only one scenario was provided this often included multiple misogynistic behaviours. See the following example, which covers invasion of personal space, touching and following or stalking:

“A man sat beside me on the bus, I had earphones in and was just ignoring him. The man proceeded to take my earphones out and touch my leg. I got off the bus right away but the man followed me down the street and into a butcher shop.”

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<sup>8</sup> Which includes schools, colleges and universities.

<sup>9</sup> E.g., Olweus, D. (1993). *Bullying in schools: What we know and what we can do*. Oxford: Blackwell.

<sup>10</sup> E.g., Björkqvist, K. (1994). Sex differences in physical, verbal, and indirect aggression: A review of recent research. *Sex Roles*, 30(3-4), 177-188, [Sex differences in physical, verbal, and indirect aggression: A review of recent research | SpringerLink](#)

## **Q11. What do you think would be the most effective way to tackle misogyny and why?**

A qualitative analysis of this question was conducted to gain understanding of what respondents thought would be the most effective strategy to address misogynistic conduct and why. Responses were categorised in the following ways based on categories presented in Q10 of the survey: education interventions, public awareness raising, including sex or gender in the Hate Crime Bill<sup>11</sup>, giving police powers for on the spot fines, and a standalone misogyny offence. Any other strategies that were outside of these five, were added to an “other” category. Thereafter, the coding of the data and emerging of themes was completely data led (inductive).

The analysis breaks down each strategy down by “what” specifically respondents think would be most effective strategy and “why”. However, it should be noted that respondents tended to respond to the “what” aspect of the question rather than the “why” aspect. Nevertheless, where reasons were given, these have been incorporated into the analysis,

The qualitative findings are broken into three elements: higher codes, subcodes and extracts. The higher code represents a larger theme that emerged from the data. The subcode represents smaller themes that emerged within the larger themes. These can either be represented by the “what” or the “why” component of the answer respondents gave. Extracts represent quotes from respondents to illustrate the emerging themes.

### **3.4 Limitations of this study**

As the survey was circulated amongst a discreet number of organisations and groups, and the sample was self-selecting, the results are likely to be biased. This is because respondents were likely to be those who had a stronger motivation to share their views, and who belonged to violence against women and girls’ organisations rather than the general public. Also, as the survey was anonymous, it was not possible to determine what responses came from which organisation or group, potentially further biasing the results. Furthermore, the percentages of women representing the different age categories were highly skewed towards those who are 35-59. As a result, the findings are not representative of the opinions and/ or experiences of Scotland’s female population as a whole, and should not be interpreted as such. It is therefore likely that the findings of this survey underestimate misogynistic behaviour in Scotland. In addition, it is likely that experiences of misogyny might be qualitatively different among younger people vs older people, and this survey may miss some of that nuance. The reader is advised to keep these points in mind when interpreting the findings. See

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<sup>11</sup> It should be noted that the Bill for this Act of the Scottish Parliament was passed by the Parliament on 11th March 2021 and received Royal Assent on 23rd April 2021, creating the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021”.

Annex B for a discussion of wider evidence on younger women's experiences of misogyny.

Demographic breakdowns have been included by four protected characteristics: age, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and disability. While the overall samples for each demographic group were considered sufficient (over 50 respondents) to allow for analysis, on certain questions the sample reduced considerably because respondents chose not to answer. This will affect the validity of these findings and this should, therefore, be noted when interpreting these results. Where this is the case it has been noted in a footnote. In addition, as noted above this is a self-selecting non-representative sample, which should be kept in mind when interpreting all of the demographic breakdowns.

It should also be noted that where differences between groups (e.g. disabled versus non-disabled) are referred to these differences have not been tested for statistical significance.

#### **4. Findings**

This section presents an analysis of each survey question in turn.

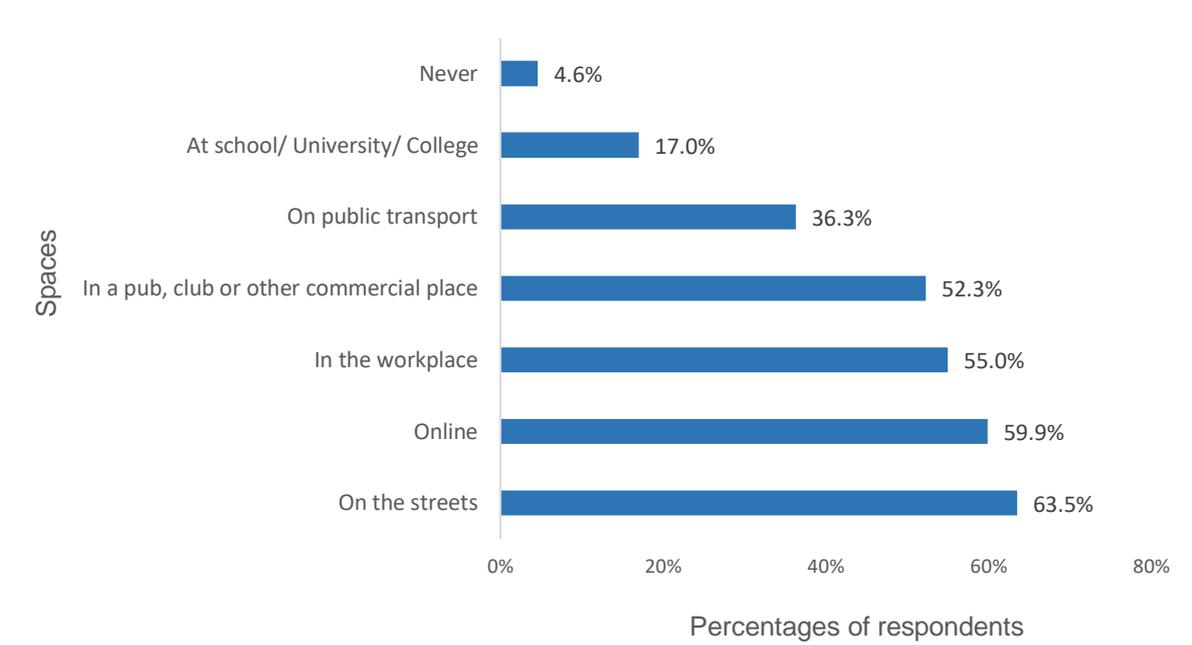
##### **4.1 Q1. Have you experienced misogynistic behaviour in the last 5 years in any of the following places? Select all that apply**

###### **Key finding for this question:**

- The majority (63.5%) of reported misogynistic behaviours were experienced in the street, followed by online (59.9%).

A total of 925 participants responded to this question. As shown in figure 2 below, the majority of misogynistic behaviours personally experienced by the participants in the previous five years took place in the street (63.5%), followed by online (59.9%). The context with least amount of misogynistic behaviour personally experienced was in education settings (17.0%). However, this is not wholly surprising given that respondents were all over the age of 18, and that only 2.9% of respondents were in the age category 18-24. Therefore, most respondents are unlikely to have been in an educational setting in the previous five years. Only 4.6% of respondents reported never having experienced misogynistic behaviours.

**Figure 2.** Percentages of respondents who have experience misogynistic behaviour across different spaces.



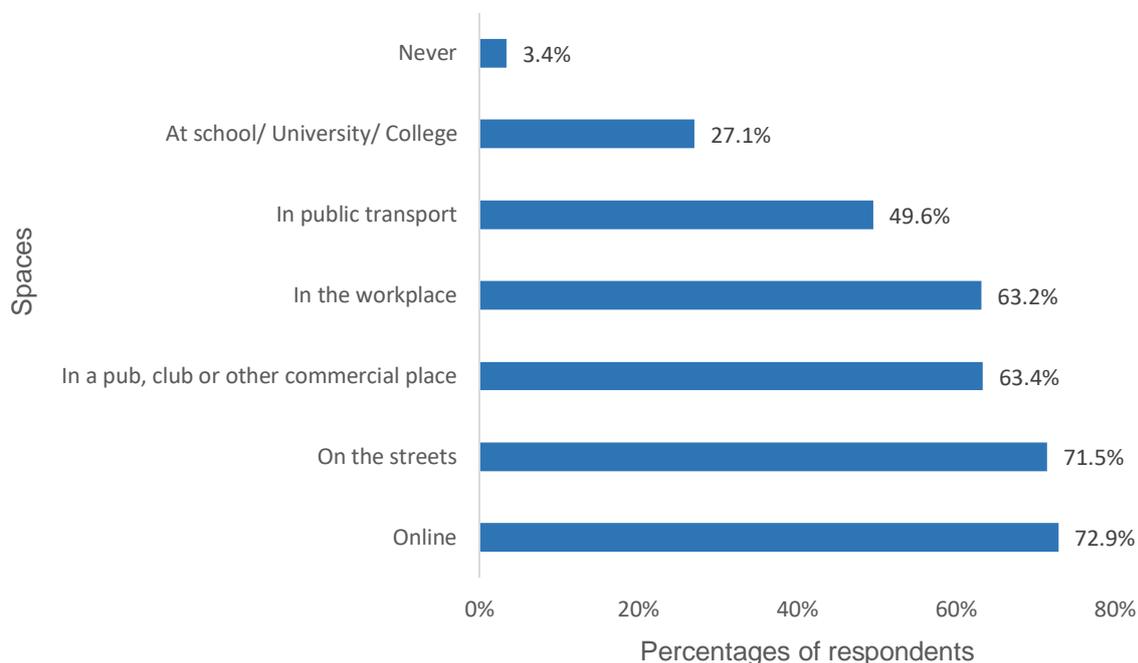
**4.2 Q2. Have you witnessed misogynistic behaviour, in the last 5 years in any of the following places? Select all that apply**

**Key finding for this question:**

- The majority (72.8%) of misogynistic behaviours witnessed were online, followed by in the street (71.4%).

A total of 920 participants responded to this question. Figure 3 below indicates that the context in which most misogynistic behaviours were witnessed was online (72.8%), closely followed by in the street (71.4%). Again the context in which the least amount of misogynistic behaviours were witnessed was in education settings (27.1%). Only 3.4% of participants reported never having witnessed misogynistic behaviours.

**Figure 3.** Percentages of people who have witnessed misogynistic behaviour across different contexts.



**4.3 Q3. Thinking about a specific incident from Q1 or Q2, if you feel comfortable, can you briefly describe what kind of behaviour you experienced or witnessed?**

**Key findings for this question:**

- The most common misogynistic behaviours experienced or witnessed were: whistling; name calling; comments on physical appearance; dismissive or derogatory comments and behaviour, and shouting and catcalling.
- Many experiences reported by respondents included more than one misogynistic behaviour in the same incident, and suggested an escalating pattern of abuse, where if participants’ did not respond positively or as expected to the first behaviour then more serious behaviours followed.
- There were considerably less responses reporting misogyny in the home or within intimate relationships.

There were 758 responses to this question, but one response had to be excluded<sup>12</sup>, leaving 757 responses. The most common experiences of misogynistic behaviour that respondents described experiencing/witnessing are listed below (Table 1). This is then followed by sections detailing misogynistic behaviours experienced across different contexts (Tables 2 to 7).

<sup>12</sup> As it included personal identifying details, and was therefore deleted.

It is also important to note that many of the experiences described by respondents comprised more than one misogynistic behaviour in the same incident, where if the participant did not respond positively or as expected, more severe misogynistic behaviours ensued. This highlighted an important pattern of escalation of behaviour severity throughout many of the experiences. Some examples of this are set out are below.

“Called a ‘f\*\*king whore’ when I politely told the man chatting me up in a pub that I was married.”

“Drunk man sitting behind me on the bus firstly complimenting my hat, then my face and body, then asking if I was single, etc. Despite politely responding, then trying to ignore him. He continued. He got off at the same stop as me which thankfully was on a busy main road. I quickly walked home but was watching over my shoulder the whole time.”

"Having a man make unwelcome advances in a public setting and, when politely turned down, turn abusive, insulting and intimidating.”

“Being threatened by a man in a pub for not laughing at what he thought was a funny remark.”

**Table 1.** Examples of the most common direct/witnessed experiences described by respondents in the last 5 years across all contexts, ranked from the most common behaviour to the least common behaviour

<b>Behaviour – high-level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>
<b>Verbal and non-verbal</b>	Belittling and patronising comments and behaviour
<b>Verbal</b>	Name calling
<b>Verbal</b>	Comments on physical appearance
<b>Verbal and non-verbal</b>	Dismissive comments and behaviour
<b>Verbal and non-verbal</b>	Derogatory comments and behaviour
<b>Verbal</b>	Shouting
<b>Verbal</b>	Catcalling
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual remarks
<b>Sexual and Physical</b>	Unwanted touching (groping and touching)
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual assault or threats of sexual assault
<b>Physical</b>	Invasion of personal space
<b>Physical</b>	Physical violence (domestic abuse, pushing and shoving) and threats of physical violence
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Stalking or following
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Leering or staring
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Wolf-Whistling

In addition to the themes discussed above, another common theme in respondents’ descriptions were issues related to trans and women’s rights. Many of these responses related to online name-calling and bullying, and these were therefore categorised as

such. In addition, a number of respondents viewed the acceptance of self-identifying trans women into single sex spaces as misogynistic, and a number also expressed the view that characterising women and girls based on gendered characteristics rather than sex was misogynistic. On the other hand, other respondents discussed the online abuse of trans women in particular as misogynistic.

### Experiences of misogyny in public spaces

For the purposes of this analysis, 'in public spaces' includes misogyny that took place in the streets, on public transport, and in commercial settings such as bars, clubs and shops, for example car dealerships. The most common behaviours described which took place in public spaces were verbal:

- shouting
- name calling
- cat calling
- comments on physical appearance
- belittling or patronising comments
- derogatory comments.

Sexual remarks were also very commonly described, as was groping and sexual assault. Non-verbal behaviours, particularly: stalking/ following, leering or staring and whistling were also common, while some respondents also discussed physical behaviours, including: invasion of personal space, touching and shoving. Table 2 provides examples of misogynistic behaviours experienced by respondents in public spaces.

**Table 2.** High level codes and sub-codes of behaviours with examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour in public spaces

<b>Behaviour – high level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Verbal</b>	Shouting	"Drunken men on train, shouting and inappropriate comments to female passengers."
<b>Shouting</b>	While exercising	"I am a runner and regularly get shouted at in the street."
<b>Shouting</b>	Shouting from vans or cars	"Someone in a white van driving past me shouted out the window at me."
<b>Verbal</b>	Name calling	"I have been called a slut in a car park because I accidentally moved my trolley too close to a man's car."
<b>Name calling</b>	Swearing	"Called a 'f**king whore' when I politely told the man chatting me up in a pub that I was married."
<b>Name calling</b>	Homophobic	"In the park myself and my female partner were out running and a group of young people were walking towards us... one of the young men started shouting at us. This was specifically lesbophobic misogyny - so, shouting 'f**king lezzies' etc. There were lots of

		people around... I felt it was too risky to respond."
<b>Verbal</b>	Catcalling	"I have been whistled at and catcalled numerous times in the street, once a group of men passed me and one of them grabbed their crotch and asked if I wanted a taste of their sausage."
<b>Verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising comments	"Told repeatedly on the street during an exchange I'm weak because I'm female."
<b>Belittling or patronising comments</b>	Stereotyping	"Man offered to guide me out of a tight parking space (to avoid bumping his car) and said 'even men have had to be helped out of here!'"
<b>Overlooked</b>	Dismissive	"Women know when to challenge or manage a situation and I decided to avoid confrontation but stated I was going to the bar to ask the manager to intervene. Two of us went to the bar and were told by the manager that ""this is kind of a blokey bar maybe you should have went somewhere else"."
<b>Verbal</b>	Commenting on physical appearance	"References to 'what did she expect wearing an outfit like that?' when talking about a women who challenged a group of young guys on a train when they were making sexual comments about her (in a not-so-quiet way)."
<b>Verbal</b>	Derogatory comments	"The latest was through an open car window when I was loading up my car, 'how much for the hour?'"
<b>Verbal</b>	Bothering	"Drunk man sitting behind me on the bus firstly complimenting my hat, then my face and body, then asking if I was single, etc. Despite politely responding, then trying to ignore him. He continued. He got off at the same stop as me which thankfully was on a busy main road. I quickly walked home but was watching over my shoulder the whole time."
<b>Verbal</b>	Being told to smile or cheer up	"Walking along with the shopping. Random bloke walking the other way. "Give us a smile blondie"."
<b>Verbal</b>	Intimidating	"Having a man make unwelcome advances in a public setting and, when politely turned down, turn abusive, insulting and intimidating."
<b>Verbal</b>	Threatening	"Being threatened by a man in a pub for not laughing at what he thought was a funny remark."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Stalking or following	"I have been followed by a man in a car, I ended up running and flagging a taxi, I had no money."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Leering or staring	"Leering, obvious stares in the street from men much older than me when I had a top on that showed my cleavage when walking home from work."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Whistling	"Man whistled and shouted obscene comment at me while I was walking down a busy street in broad daylight."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Invasion of personal space	"A male aggressively shouting and encroaching on my personal space because I

		had inadvertently parked in a space belonging to him."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Ignored	"Buying a new performance car and salesman directed all attention to male companion despite being told I was the primary customer."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising	"When I attended a family friendly event with limited parking. One man who was directing the cars started clapping at me when I got my car in the space."
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual remarks	"Someone asking me to suck his cock whilst just walking in the street."
<b>Sexual</b>	Groping	"In a club, I was grabbed by a man. He groped my bottom and tried to touch my breasts. I pulled away. He laughed and called me frigid."
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual assault	"Man sexually assaulting me in a crowded pub."
<b>Sexual</b>	Flashing	"Men have exposed themselves on Public Transport."
<b>Sexual</b>	Masturbation	"I was travelling on a bus alone and the man in front of me started talking about how attractive I was and then began to masturbate."
<b>Physical</b>	Invasion of personal space	"On a bus recently a young girl was harassed by a drunk man who sat really close to her I moved to be beside her and asked him to move he did but the young girl was frightened."
<b>Invasion of personal space</b>	Intimidation	"Someone stopped me to ask for directions and then looked me up and down and came far within my personal boundaries. When I stepped away (I was on my own outside my house) he stepped back into my space and asked me for a kiss. He was very much trying to touch me. When I said no, he laughed and didn't move."
<b>Physical</b>	Touching	"I had a man undo my halter neck top from behind in a club, had never seen him before."
<b>Physical</b>	Shoving or pushing	"I have been pushed and shoved in the street."

### Experiences of misogyny online

The most common misogynistic behaviours online were: name calling, belittling or patronising comments, threats of sexual violence and threats of physical violence. Table 3 provides examples of misogynistic behaviours experienced by respondents in online settings.

**Table 3** High level codes and sub-codes of behaviours with examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour online

<b>Behaviour – high level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Verbal</b>	Name calling	"On Twitter, I've been called an old witch, old hag and an old boomer. I've been told I'll soon be dead recently by a young male. I've been told by me that I'm ugly and alone."
<b>Name calling</b>	Being called a 'TERF'	"Being called Karen or TERF online."
<b>Name calling</b>	Swearing	"Online I've been told to ""shut the f**k up"", ""get back into the kitchen"", ""drop dead you ugly f**ker"" etc."
<b>Verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising comments	"Online, I've been told to get back to the kitchen when tweeting about sport - on many, many occasions."
<b>Sexual</b>	Threats of sexual violence	"Appalling comments about perpetration of extreme physical and sexual violence against Greta Thunberg expressed by a group of men and posted on Facebook."
<b>Threats of sexual violence</b>	Rape threats	"Online. Men threatening rape. Threatening physical violence against women who wouldn't date them. Men threatening corrective rape to lesbians."
<b>Physical</b>	Threats of physical violence	I have also experienced death/violence/rape threats online for speaking up publicly about this type of street harassment. One man tweeted that they would love to watch me getting my teeth kicked in, many others said I was too unattractive for my experiences to be true, they didn't believe it had happened."
<b>Threats of physical violence</b>	Death threats	"Online misogyny is rife. Women are threatened with rape and death and are bombarded with pornographic pictures."

### **Experiences of misogyny in the workplace**

The most common behaviours in the workplace were: belittling or patronising behaviour (both verbal and non-verbal); dismissive behaviour (both verbal and non-verbal); ignoring; bullying; comments on physical appearance; derogatory comments; sexual remarks; discrimination and touching. Table 4 provides examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviours in the workplace.

**Table 4** High level codes and sub-codes of behaviours with examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour in the workplace

<b>Behaviour – high level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising	"In a workplace situation, I was constantly demeaned as too young, too stupid, too fat. The way I laughed was mocked, my suggestions were dismissed as stupid and pointless, I was dismissed as having nothing relevant to say"

		because I was a woman and who cares what you think."
<b>Belittling or patronising</b>	Stereotyping	"Being told that a woman is a good administrator but never a good Director or Manager."
<b>Belittling or patronising</b>	Spoken over	"I'm often interrupted at work in meetings - by men. I'll often put a view across that is ignored, only for a man to say something similar and be praised."
<b>Belittling or patronising</b>	Mansplaining	"I've been mansplained to by a male boss on a subject I have a masters degree in."
<b>Verbal</b>	Dismissive	"Continually being told my work is wrong and not up to standard but a male colleague has work that is outstanding. We have tested it a few times and swapped work. The outcome is the same. The female is treated like she has no knowledge of what she is talking/about (even as a specialist) while a junior colleague (not a specialist) is hailed as the best example that the female should be seeking to be (even when the information they give is inaccurate or ill informed)."
<b>Dismissive</b>	Passed over for opportunity or promotion	"Board resist hiring women for some roles as "there's too many women on the staff"."
<b>Dismissive</b>	Complaint not taken seriously	"Verbal, volatile attack, by male colleague, witnessed by male senior manager, who then wouldn't give a witness statement when case was raised against the colleague. Male colleague and senior manager were also friends, which I believe played a momentous part in decision not to uphold the initial complaint."
<b>Verbal</b>	Bullying	"Bullying by a male member of staff to a female member of staff in a large predominantly male meeting where she was the only woman. Bullying was by dismissing any suggestions ideas etc., by saying 'please only talk when you know what you are talking about'. The same suggestion made later by a male colleague was met with approval."
<b>Verbal</b>	Commenting on physical appearance	"When I worked in bookmakers being told "you used to have to be good looking to work in here, maybe tart yourself up a bit.""
<b>Verbal</b>	Derogatory comments	"A male Senior Manager commented to a roomful of female subordinates "Who'd want to be in charge of a bunch of hormonal women"."
<b>Verbal</b>	Shouting	"Being shouted at by a man while explaining point of view during a meeting."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Dismissive	"As one of two supervisors in a team, the other being male, my manager, also male, did not direct any tasks/ questions to me but to my colleague. When looking for updates etc. he would actively walk past me in order to reach my male colleague for an update, even when they were not the one dealing with the task in hand."
<b>Dismissive</b>	Overlooked for opportunity or promotion	"Despite having more than enough skills and qualifications being treated as second class and deliberately stopped from progressing in a workplace, jobs for the boys was rife and sexist ""banter"" toward women also rife. Made to feel

		uncomfortable and inadequate every working day."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Ignoring	"At work I was the only women in the management team and was often ignored at meetings only to have my ideas adopted when repeated or endorsed by a male team member."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising	"Unconscious behaviours in the workplace e.g. assuming women will be better organised to set up meetings, to take notes, to organise food, and women also unconsciously moving into the lead role on that even though there is a mixed gender grouping and women may be in the minority (sometimes of one!)."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Bullying	"In the workplace, I've witnessed schoolboys bullying women teachers by closing the classroom door and holding it closed from the other side."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Taking credit	"Male boss taking credit for female Subordinate's hard work."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Discrimination	"Whilst pregnant I was informed by line managers that pregnancy is not a protected characteristic in terms of the equalities act and as such what happens with women like me is that we get put in an office. I was also told that it was good to have a pregnant member of the team as there were cupboards that needed cleaning out. I felt that by fighting to stay in my role the expectation on me was higher and I had to prove myself taking on more work than usual and completing menial tasks which were apparently kept for pregnant women."
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual remarks	"Colleague senior to me made inappropriate comments. Worst comment - do you shave your arsehole?"  "Senior colleague repeatedly jokingly asked me to sit on his lap whilst I was stood next to him providing an update on a work project."
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual harassment	"Unwanted attention and affectionate/sexual gestures from a particular junior manager, openly in the work place. This was so normal that there was nothing I could do about it, apart from resign my position, which I did not want to do."
<b>Physical</b>	Touching	"Whilst working in a fast food establishment the male manager and owner continually touched and put their arms around the young girls' shoulders including my own."

## Experiences of misogyny in education settings

Education settings include schools, universities and colleges. It's worth noting that a number of the responses which refer to experiences of misogyny in school were reported by the parents of children who have experienced what is perceived to be

misogynistic behaviour. There were considerably less responses referring to misogyny in education settings than in other contexts, most likely because of the age profile of the sample and the question's focus on the last five years. Nevertheless, the most common behaviours are presented below in Table 5.

**Table 5.** High level codes and sub-codes of behaviours with examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour in education settings

<b>Behaviour – high level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Verbal</b>	Name calling	“In university a young boy called me a bitch because I did not have a lighter for his cigarette.”
		“Thirteen year old school boys followed a thirteen year old school girl asking what sexual positions she liked, how many times she had had sex etc. When she refused to answer they called her a slut and told her she didn't deserve to breathe the same air as men. This was on the school playground; I was the teacher on duty. I reported it only to be told "boys will be boys" "it is just banter, they will grow out of it".”
<b>Verbal</b>	Overlooked	“During online Zoom teaching (during Covid) on International Women's Day a boy in my daughter's class said girls and women should be at home doing the laundry. When challenged he said it was a 'joke'. And that was it. Nothing else was done.”
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual remarks	“In college as a mature student comments made by male students about my menstrual cycle, that I must have sexual experience beyond that of the fellow women in our class.”
<b>Physical</b>	Touching	“At primary school my daughter was inappropriately touched by a male student. She told a staff member and it was dealt with approximately. I worry that this boy will repeat this behaviour to other girls in the future.”

## Experiences of misogyny in the home/intimate relationships

This category includes behaviours which were perceived as misogynistic and which took place in the home. As was the case with education settings above, there were considerably less responses focusing on misogyny in the home or within intimate relationships as there were responses focusing on misogyny in other contexts. The most common behaviours are listed below in Table 6.

**Table 6.** High level codes and sub-codes of behaviours with examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour in the home

<b>Behaviour – high level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising	“Belittling and humiliating comments made to myself over a period of years in an attempt to keep me in my place...”
<b>Verbal</b>	Name calling	“I was frequently called a “lazy f**king cow” as I was a stay at home mother.”
<b>Verbal and Non-verbal</b>	Controlling	“Partner speaking to me like a subordinate person, having expectations that I will do what he says and being insulting and undermining when I don't. Questioning how I spend my time/ money and if we have a difference of views or values, not respecting or supporting mine, but expecting me to take on his.”
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual assault	“I was in a relationship where I experienced rape, assault and coercive control.”
<b>Physical</b>	Domestic abuse	“My ex-partner would sometimes hit me and be physically violent towards me.”

## Experiences of misogyny - no specific context

Responses were coded to ‘no specific context’ when an example of misogynistic behaviour was provided but a context was not. The most common behaviours were similar to those in other contexts: name calling; catcalling; comments on physical appearance; sexual remarks; groping; touching; invasion of personal space; dismissive, and belittling and patronising behaviour. Table 7 provides examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour in no specific context.

**Table 7.** High level codes and sub-codes of behaviours with examples of participants' experiences of misogynistic behaviour in no specific context

<b>Behaviour – high level code</b>	<b>Behaviour – subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising	"Tell me I can't do it; I need a man to help out. You need to smile often. Belittle me."
<b>Belittling or patronising</b>	Stereotyping	"In a discussion being told by a man I'm ""too emotional"" while the men in the room shout without challenge."
<b>Belittling or patronising</b>	Mansplaining	"Intimidation, sexual harassment, having my opinion disregarded/devalued because of my sex, mansplaining - misogyny is still rife, and in my experience has had something of a resurgence in the last few years."
<b>Verbal</b>	Name calling	"Name calling - bitch, slut, hag."
<b>Verbal</b>	Catcalling	"I have also experienced unwanted advances on many occasions, including: catcalling; wolf whistles; and being groped."
<b>Verbal</b>	Commenting on physical appearance	"Inappropriate comments about women's physical appearance or age directed at women by groups or men; vulgar comments about women's physical ""attributes"" and whether or not this made them more or less sexually attractive, available or relevant, again from groups of men."
<b>Verbal</b>	Shouting	"Just groups of men shouting, for the most part. Drunk men seem to take a delight in intimidating women of all ages."
<b>Verbal</b>	Jeering	"Gendered comments and jokes" "Had guys ask for sexual favours then had another clown make fun of me about it."
<b>Verbal</b>	Derogatory	"Derogatory remarks about women (usually in anger/annoyance)."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Leering or staring	"Men looking too long at me or other women."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Whistling	"Belittling of women, wolf whistling, gas lighting, threatening."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Belittling or patronising	"Women not being viewed as capable of doing things because of their gender. A man being overly chivalrous towards me because he thinks I can't do something because I'm a woman."

<b>Non-verbal</b>	Dismissive	"As an older woman, these days the misogyny I experience is usually offensive psychological behaviour - being ignored, patronised, stereotyped, talked over etc."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Ignoring	"Seeing friends being ignored and folk going to speak to men instead."
<b>Non-verbal</b>	Stalking or following	"Being flashed at, followed, groped, pressured to talk to men and be nice out of fear."
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual remarks	"It has usually involved something meant as a joke, or meant to be flattering. Comments such as 'oh you're so beautiful, come on give me a kiss' or other comments about getting in a shower together."
<b>Sexual</b>	Groping	"Experienced and witnessed being groped then laughed at when complained."
<b>Sexual</b>	Sexual assault	"I've had guys kiss me without consent, sexually assaulted me when they were told no and abused me because they haven't gotten what they wanted from me."
<b>Physical</b>	Touching	"Being physically touched in an intimate way without permission."
<b>Physical</b>	Invasion of personal space	"Men standing overly close to me."
<b>Invasion of personal space</b>	Intimidation	"Males using their size or numbers to intimidate normally younger females. Males assuming their company is welcome and ignoring personal space or boundaries."

#### 4.4 Q4. What impact did the incident have on you? Select all that apply

##### Key findings for this question:

- Only 0.7% participants reported that the experience did not impact them; 75.0% of participants felt angry, 69.2% felt annoyed or irritated, and 67.1% felt uncomfortable. 42.7% became more vigilant, 33.4% became more suspicious of strangers, and 30.0% changed their behaviour to avoid future occurrences (e.g. clothing choices or posting online).

A total of 898 participants responded to this question. The data were split into two categories: impacts based on feelings (Figure 4) and impacts based on behaviour changes (Figure 5). Overall, only 0.7% of participants reported that the misogynistic behaviour did not have an impact on them. Figure 4 highlights that the majority of participants felt angry (75.0%) and annoyed or irritated (69.2%), followed by uncomfortable (67.1%). The feeling that participants reported the least was feeling depressed (29.0%).

**Figure 4.** Percentages representing how participants felt after experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour.

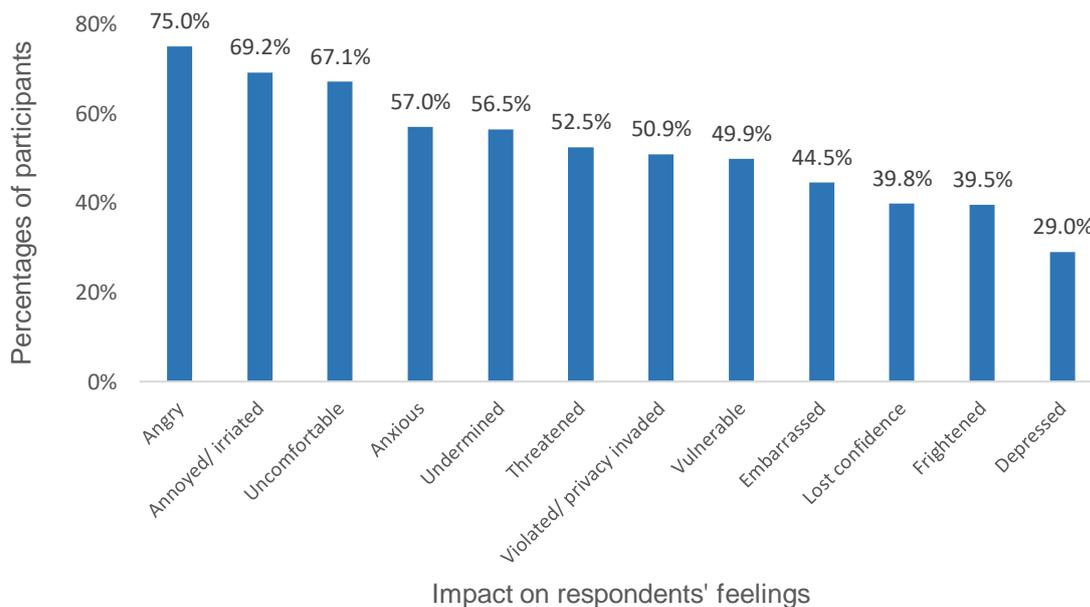
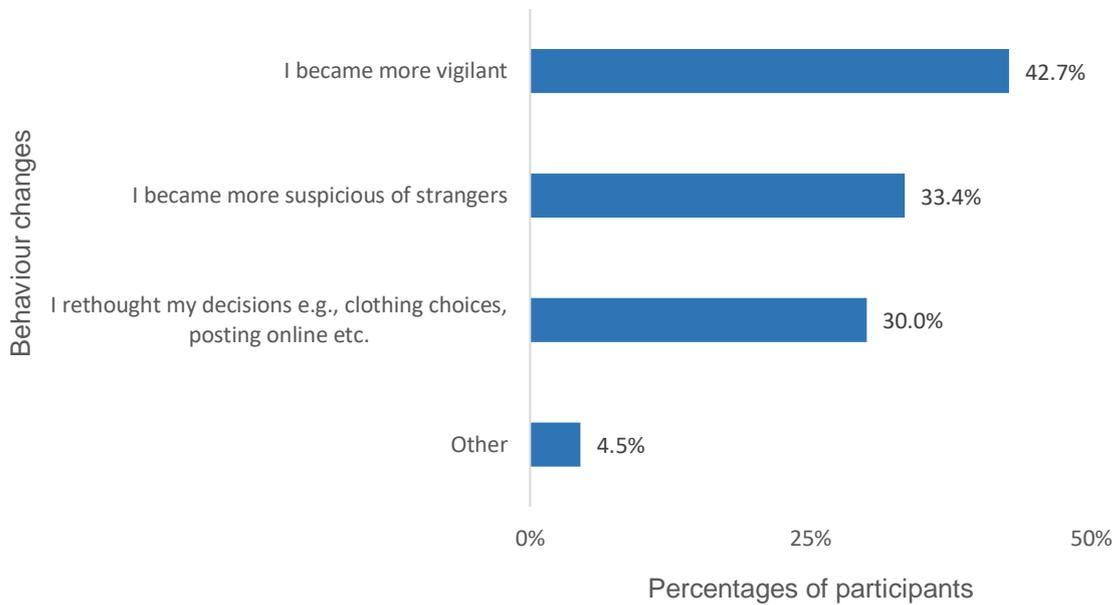


Figure 5 highlights that smaller percentages of participants changed their behaviour in contrast with having negative feelings after experiencing the misogynistic behaviour. Although almost all respondents reported a negative impact, this did not in all cases lead to a change in behaviour. That said the behaviour that participants reported changing the most was becoming more vigilant (42.7%), followed by becoming more suspicious of strangers (33.4%), then rethinking decisions such as clothing choices or posting online (30.0%).

**Figure 5.** Percentages representing how participants changed their behaviour in response to experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour.



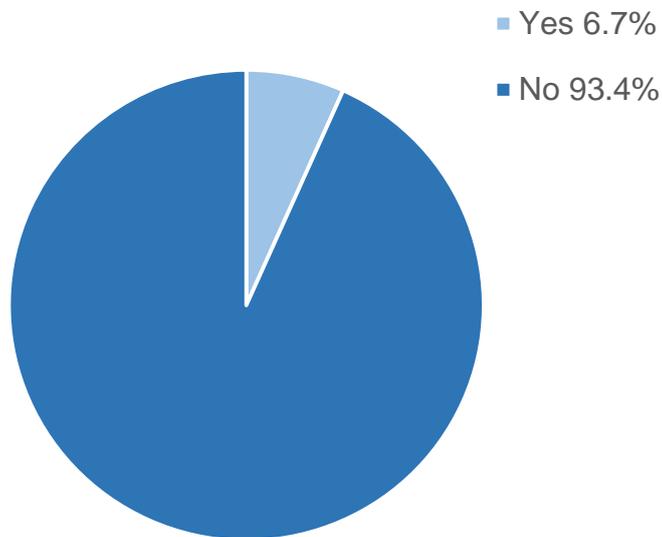
#### 4.5 Q5. Did you report this incident to the police?

##### Key findings for this question:

- Most (93.4%) survey respondents did not report the incident(s) to the police.

A total of 895 participants responded to this question. Figure 6 shows that a much larger proportion (93.4%) of participants said they did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police than those who said they did (6.7%).

**Figure 6.** Proportions of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police.



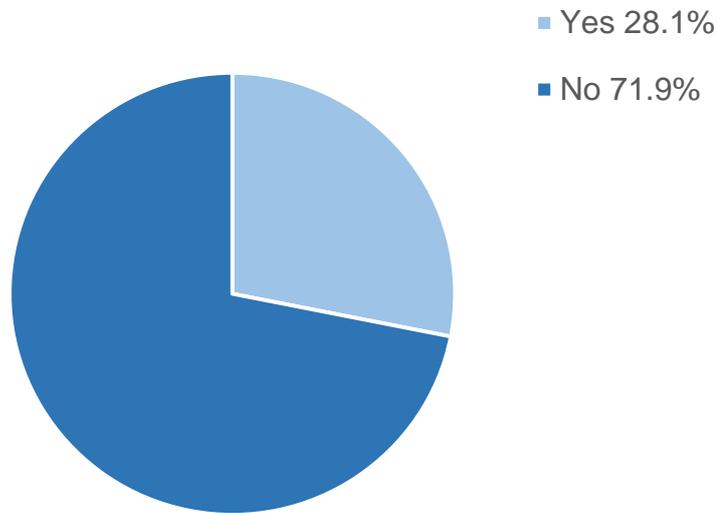
**4.6 Q6. Did you report this incident to another person or agency in a position of authority (e.g. management, security staff, internet platforms)?**

**Key finding for this question:**

- 71.9% did not report to another person or agency in a position of authority.

A total of 894 participants responded to this question. As can be seen in Figure 7, as was the case in question 5, a greater proportion of participants (71.9%) said they did not report the incident to another person or agency in a position of authority compared to those said they who did (28.1%). However, in comparison to question 5, a larger percentage of participants (28.1%) reported their experience of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority than those who reported to the police (6.7%).

**Figure 7.** Proportion of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority.



Those participants who responded “yes” to questions 5 and/or 6 were then presented with question 7:

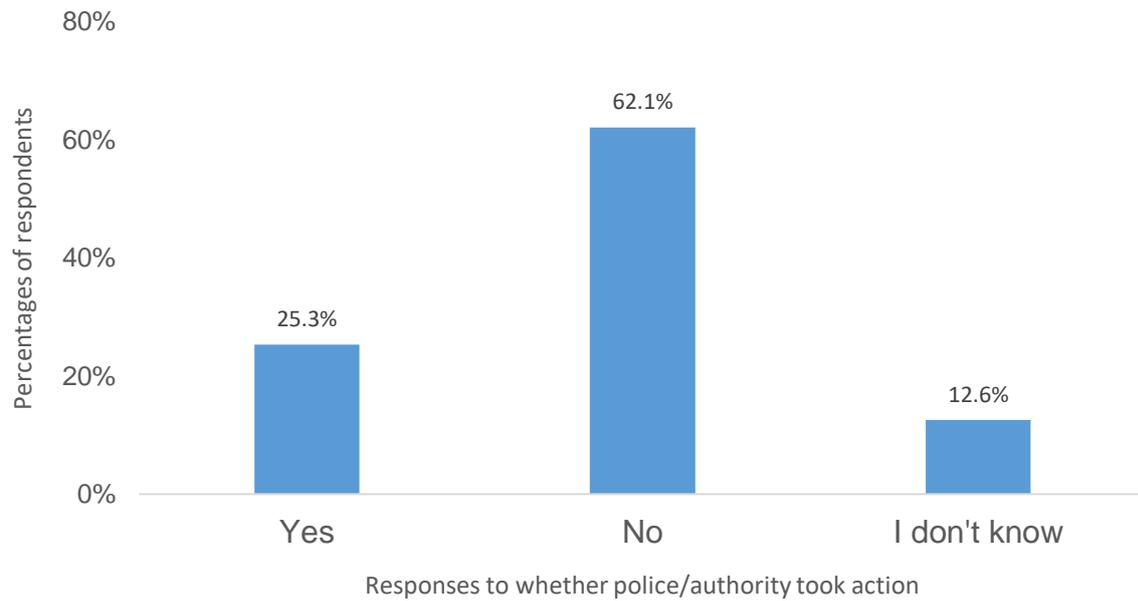
#### **4.7 Q7. Did the police and/or authority you reported the incident to take action?**

##### **Key finding for this question:**

- 61.2% reported that the police, person or agency did not take action, 25.3% reported they did take action, and 12.6% reported not knowing if any action was taken.

A total of 255 participants responded to this question. As Figure 8 shows, the majority (62.1%) of respondents who reported the misogynistic behaviour(s) said that the police, person or agency in authority did not take action in response to the participants’ experience of misogynistic behaviour. Just over a quarter (25.3%) reported that they did take action, and 12.6% reporting that they did not know whether or not the police, another person or agency did take action.

**Figure 8.** Percentages of participants who reported that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience.



Those participants were then asked:

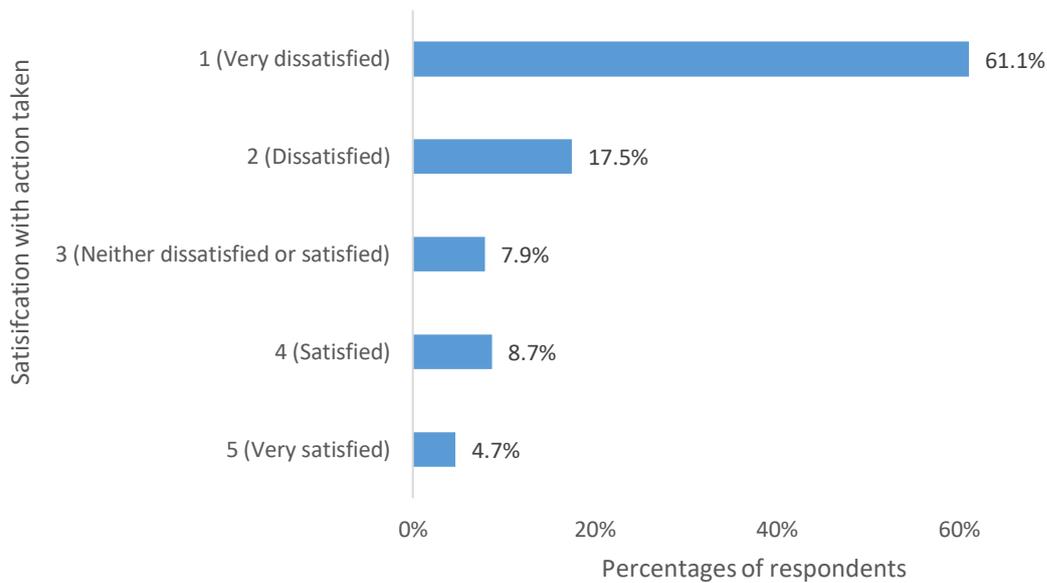
**4.8 Q8. On a scale of 1 to 5 (very dissatisfied to very satisfied), how satisfied were you with their response?**

**Key finding for this question:**

- Most (61.1%) respondents reported being dissatisfied with the response of the police and/or authority, and the minority (4.7%) reported that they were satisfied.

A total of 231 participants responded to this question. As can be seen in Figure 9, the majority (61.1%) of participants reported that they were very dissatisfied with the response of the police and/or authority, and the minority (4.7%) of participants reported that they were very satisfied with the response.

**Figure 9.** Participants' levels of satisfaction with the response from police and/or authority



For those that did not report the incident to the police, they were presented with the question:

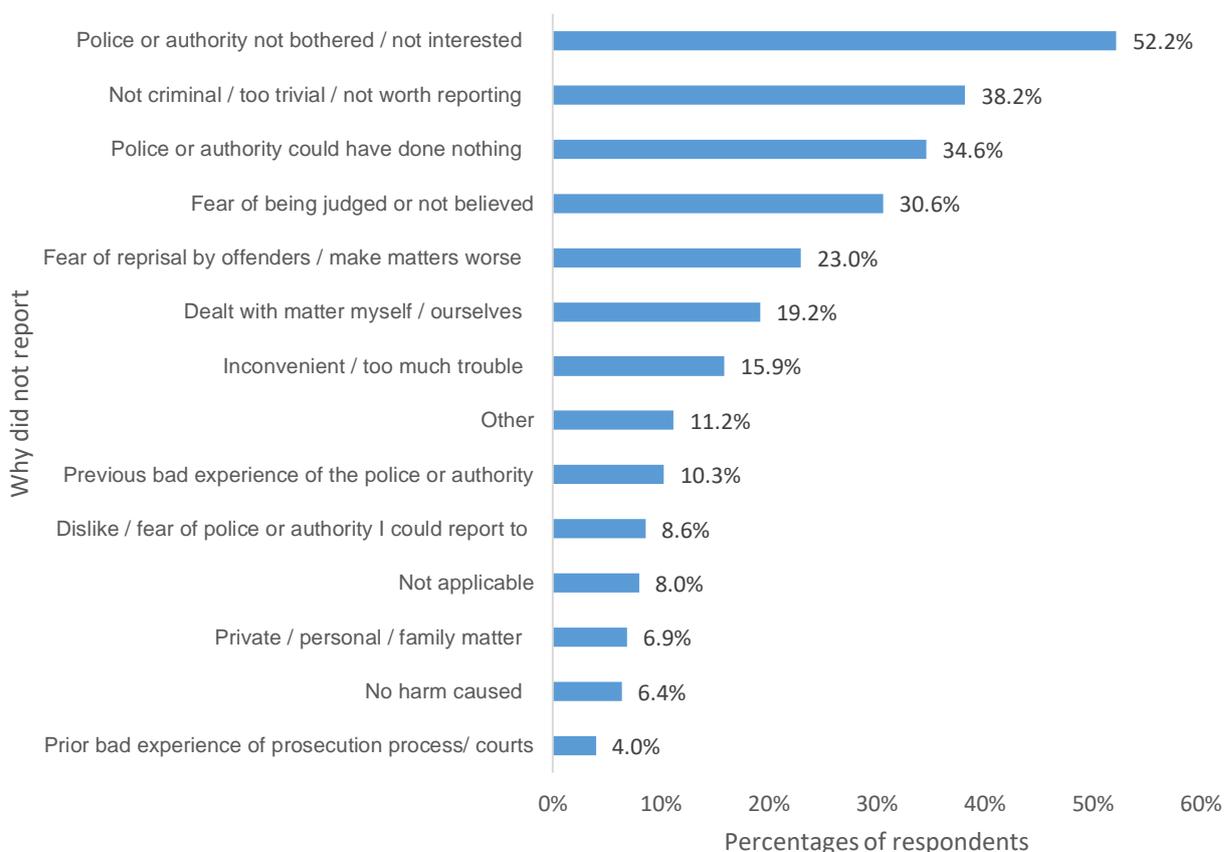
**4.9 Q9. If no, why didn't you report it to the police or someone in a position of authority? Tick All That Apply:**

**Key finding for this question:**

- The main reason for not reporting (52.2%) was believing the police or authority would not be bothered/interested, followed by believing the experience was not criminal, too trivial or not worth reporting (38.2%).

A total of 780 participants responded to this question. As can be seen in Figure 10, the main reason for not reporting was the belief that the police or authority would not be bothered/interested (52.2%). This was followed by the belief that the misogynistic incident was either not criminal, too trivial or not worth reporting (38.2%). The least reported reason for not reporting was having previous bad experience of the prosecution process or courts (4.0%).

**Figure 10.** Reasons for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police



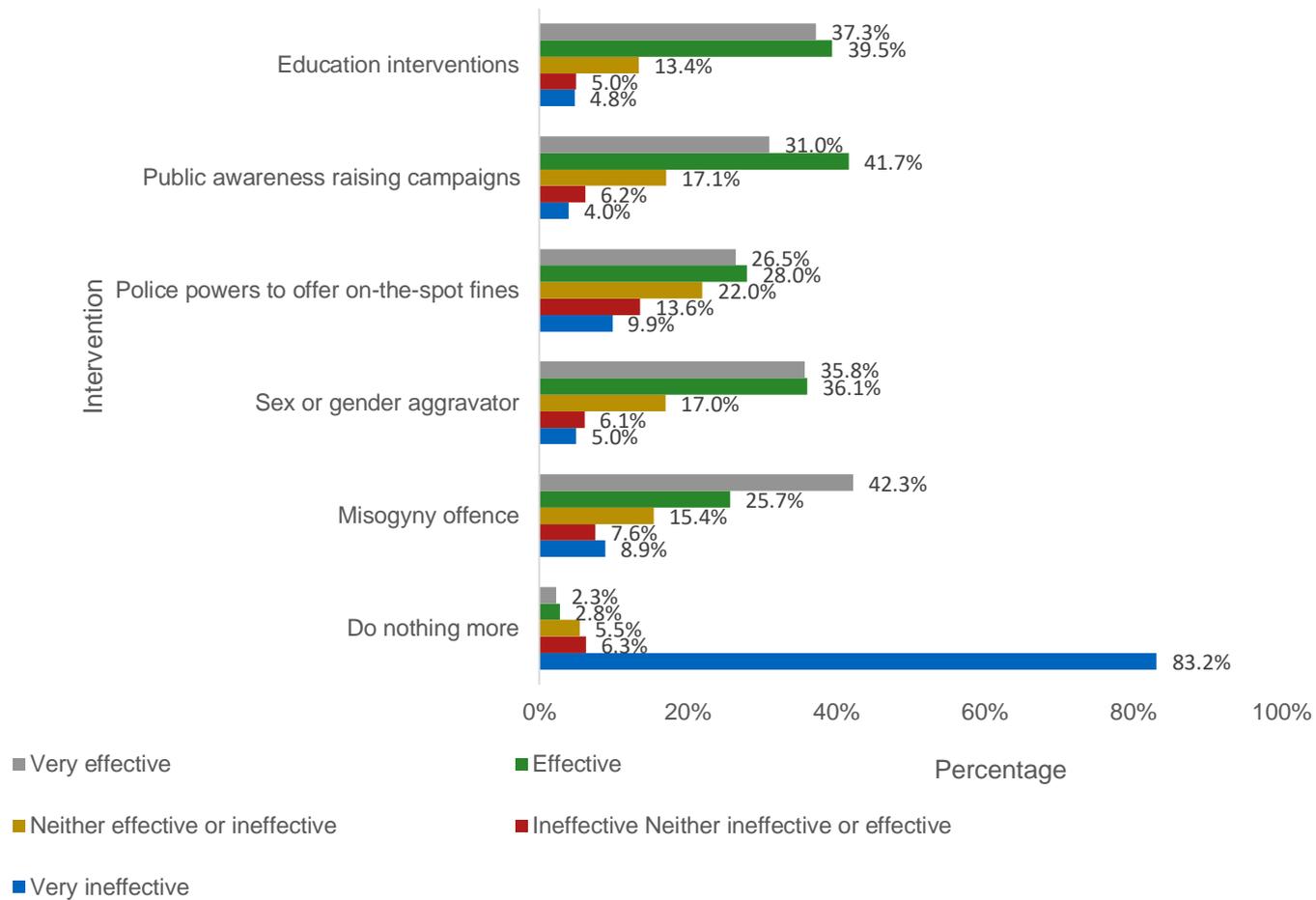
**4.10 Q10. Below is a list of possible options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society. On a scale of 1 to 5 (very ineffective to very effective) how effective do you think the following would be?**

**Key finding for this question:**

- Over 3 in 4 (76.8%) respondents viewed education interventions as effective or very effective at tackling misogyny, while 72.7% rated public awareness raising campaigns as effective or very effective.

A total of 874 people responded to this question. Figure 11, below, demonstrates that the option of a misogyny offence was reported by the most to be 'very effective' (42.3%), followed by education interventions (37.3%). When looking at the effective and very effective categories combined, however, education interventions were considered to be the most effective option to tackle misogyny with 76.8% of respondents viewing it as effective or very effective. This is followed by public awareness raising campaigns (72.7% rated this as effective or very effective at tackling misogyny). The introduction of a sex or gender aggravator and a misogyny offence were also viewed favourably (71.9% and 68% respectively). 9 in 10 (89.5%) of respondents viewed 'doing nothing' as ineffective or very ineffective.

**Figure 11.** Options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society rated from very ineffective to very effective



#### 4.11 Q11. What do you think would be the most effective way to tackle misogyny and why?

##### Key findings on this question:

- Education interventions were most commonly cited as the most effective strategy to address misogynistic conduct by respondents. This was followed by multiple interventions and public awareness raising.
- Educating on what is not acceptable behaviour and on what misogyny is were the most commonly cited education strategies. The need to communicate what misogyny is was also the strongest theme for public awareness raising, and was a common theme in the “other” category.
- Respondents often cited “other” intervention strategies outside the five provided in the survey as effective at addressing misogynistic conduct. More details are provided below.

- Most responses in the “other” category included more than one approach suggesting that respondents felt that more than one intervention strategy was required in order to effectively address misogynistic conduct.
- Giving police powers for fines was the least commonly cited of the five survey strategies. Though respondents commonly citing the need for police to take violence against women and girls (VAWG) seriously, and the need to tackle misogyny within the police force (both in “other” category), may help to explain why this was the case.
- Respondents did not commonly cite adding gender to the Hate Crime Bill, whilst adding sex was much more commonly cited. There was also a common theme for adding misogyny to the Hate Crime Bill.
- Though including sex in the Hate Crime Bill and misogyny as a standalone offence were not the most commonly cited strategies by respondents, legal consequences were a common theme in the “other” category. This suggests that there is a desire for some kind of legal response to misogynistic conduct but perhaps an uncertainty about what that response should look like.
- Utilising existing laws for VAWG to address misogynistic conduct was the second most common theme in the “other” category. The specific laws were not always stated. However, a theme emerged where respondents expressed desire to maintain the Equalities Act.

Table 8 presents the full list of interventions cited by respondents in order of the most commonly mentioned. It is important to first note that many participants frequently cited “other” potential intervention strategies to address misogynistic conduct proposed by the survey. These are included separately in Table 8, and the five strategies proposed by the survey are highlighted in bold.

With regards to the five strategies proposed by the survey, education interventions was the most commonly cited strategy for addressing misogynistic conduct. This was followed by public awareness raising, including a sex aggravation, a standalone misogyny offence, and giving police powers for on the spot fines.

**Table 8.** Full list of interventions from most common to least common

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**Education interventions**

Multiple interventions

**Public awareness raising**

Utilise existing VAWG laws

**Sex as an aggravation factor**

Sanctions (incl. legal consequences, tougher penalties)

Social media restrictions or monitoring

**Standalone misogyny offence**

Bystander intervention  
**Give police powers for on the spot fines**  
 Policies and laws focussing on sex not gender  
 Misogyny as aggravation factor  
 Controls on porn  
 Tackle institutional misogyny  
 More support for women  
 Tackle misogyny in the media  
 Addressing public roles  
 Tackling financial misogyny  
 Cultural or societal change  
 Give women a voice and take them seriously  
 Clear definition  
 Increase resources  
 Sanction sex industry (incl. addressing prostitution and controls on porn)  
 Support families to challenge misogyny  
 Good leadership and role models  
 Redesign systems to tackle inequality  
 Introduce reporting system  
 Improve childcare system

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## Education interventions

Table 9 provides the higher code, subcode, and extract for each of the education interventions. The most commonly cited strategy for education interventions was to educate men/boys on what is not acceptable behaviour, and to educate on what misogyny is.

**Table 9.** Higher code, subcode, and extract for education interventions

Higher Code	Subcode	Example
<b>Education interventions</b>	Educate on what is not acceptable	“Give clear guidelines to what is acceptable behaviour.”
<b>Educate on what is not acceptable</b>	Educate on what misogyny is	“By increasing understanding of what misogyny is, how insidious and widespread it is and challenging it on all fronts.”
<b>Educate on what is not acceptable</b>	Teach boys how to behave and take emphasis off girls’ behaviour	“I think teaching boys/men how to behave is fundamental, too much emphasis on girls/women protecting ourselves, which in isolation, only makes us more accommodating of bad

		behaviour, as we think we've caused it."
<b>Educate on what is not acceptable</b>	Young men do not realise that their behaviour is wrong	"Educating both males and females on misogyny as many times men don't realise what they're doing is wrong because of the environment they may have grew up in so educational resources would teach them right from wrong."
<b>Education interventions</b>	Educate to change attitudes, beliefs, and behaviours	"Education. Openly talking about misogyny could help those understand that they may be behaving in this way and question their own behaviours and thought processes."
<b>Education interventions</b>	Teach respect for women and girls	"Education. Boys and men have to be educated from an early age to respect women as equals and not treat them as weak and to be used as objects"
<b>Education interventions</b>	Educate to call out and intervene	"Education, especially of the people who are around misogynistic individuals to empower them to call it out when they see it, so misogynistic people cannot continue to think that the 'silent majority' agrees with their... beliefs."
<b>Education interventions</b>	Educate on impacts on women and girls	"Education, education and more education. It's only from learning from others and how those experiences have affected the women in question that we can ever hope to move away from these behaviours."
<b>Educate on sex and relationships</b>	Teach children about healthy relationships	"Education first - give children the tools to develop healthy relationships."
<b>Educate on sex and relationships</b>	Educate on pornography and prostitution	"Talk about porn honestly and its impact on society and individuals, especially women and girls."  "Education from primary school age. Prostitution to be seen as exploitation of vulnerable women not work."
<b>Educate on sex and relationships</b>	Educate on consent and boundaries	"Clear lessons on setting personal boundaries for children as children are unable to understand nuance until over 10 years old."

		“We need to ensure that our children understand consent and appropriate behaviour.”
<b>Education needs to be continuous</b>	Educate all parts of society	“Education in schools and education for all members of our community, some misogyny is criminal but most is a lack of understanding, education, and sits within the intersectionality of sexism and other issues around gender.”
<b>Education needs to be continuous</b>	Needs to be embedded into education system	“Education - but not just a one off lesson. It needs to be ingrained in our education system.”
<b>Education needs to be continuous</b>	Education needs to be multifaceted	“Educating everyone through various platforms and in a variety of ways, from bitesize to in depth information.”
<b>Education needs to be continuous</b>	Ongoing training for police and authorities	“The police and authorities would also require extensive training to understand their position of power and privileges, their own prejudices, biases and their responsibilities. They would need to understand why women wouldn't trust them and avoid reporting incidents.”
<b>Education interventions</b>	Focus on schools	“Tackling the issue at secondary schools where there is a lot of sexism from teenage boys. Currently there's a lot of 'boys will be boys' attitudes which is not appropriate.”
<b>Education interventions</b>	Focus on boys and men	“Provide free mental health services for all and targeted free mental health services for boys/young men to prevent misogyny/violence against women from happening in the first place-discover why they are acting that way in the first place to prevent it and break the cycle of behaviour passing down the generations.”
<b>Focus on the workplace</b>	Staff training	“Education within the work place, increased awareness and champions within to report to.”

<b>Education interventions</b>	Prevention is better than treatment	“Education. We should work on prevention rather than cure.”
<b>Education interventions</b>	Educate on gender equality	“Teaching young boys from early on that women are their equals could prevent this.”

## Public awareness raising

Table 10 presents the higher codes, subcodes and some examples for the Public awareness raising strategy. Similar to education interventions, respondents most commonly cited the importance of communicating what misogyny is for Public awareness raising. The strategy of having well known figures speak out about misogyny was also a strong theme, followed by having influential adults as role models.

**Table 10.** Higher code, subcode, and extract for Public awareness raising

<b>Higher code</b>	<b>Subcode</b>	<b>Example</b>
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	Important to communicate what misogyny is	"Improve public understanding of what misogyny is and where it happens, so the public can be more vigilant and understand what is happening."
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	Well known male figures speaking out	"A high profile and ongoing campaign by male celebrities from sports etc. which is aimed at boys and men which talks about respect for women."
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	Influential adults as role models	"much more support is needed for boys and young men to be given better role models and more praise for demonstrating respect for all peers."
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	To highlight impact on women and girls	"A public campaign to highlight how demeaning, degrading and hurtful it is for females, in particular young girls."

## Adding sex or gender or misogyny to the Hate Crime Bill

Table 11 highlights the higher codes, subcodes and extracts for this category. The most commonly cited strategy was to add sex to the Hate Crime Bill.<sup>13</sup> The only theme that emerged for reasoning behind this was because women should have the same protection as other protected groups.

<sup>13</sup> The Bill for this Act of the Scottish Parliament was passed by the Parliament on 11th March 2021 and received Royal Assent on 23rd April 2021, creating the Hate Crime and Public Order (Scotland) Act 2021".

It is important to note that no theme emerged with regards to the other proposed strategy in the survey: adding gender to the Hate Crime Bill. However, a theme did emerge for adding misogyny to the Hate Crime Bill. There was no clear or consistent theme emerging from the data about why people supported this option.

**Table 11.** Higher codes, subcodes and extracts for adding sex or gender or misogyny to the Hate Crime Bill

Higher code	Subcode	Example
<b>Adding sex or gender or misogyny to the Hate Crime Bill</b>	Add sex to the hate crime law	“Recognise that it’s a hate crime based on sex.”
<b>Add sex to the hate crime law</b>	Women should have the same protection as other protected characteristics	“a protected category of sex in the hate crime bill would signal that women’s concerns about hate crime are being given equal consideration as other protected groups. It is likely that certain crimes would be taken more seriously by the police if a hate crime aggravator of sex could be added.”
<b>Adding sex or gender or misogyny to the Hate Crime Bill</b>	Add misogyny to the hate crime law	“Make misogyny a hate crime. When racism or homophobia became a crime then societal attitudes changed.”

### Misogyny as a standalone offence

Table 12 displays the higher codes, subcodes and extracts for the category of Misogyny as a standalone offence. Respondents tended to state that misogyny should be a standalone offence without providing reasoning for this. However, one theme emerged for reasoning which was that having misogyny as a standalone offence would send out a strong message or act as a deterrent.

**Table 12. Higher codes, subcodes, and extracts for Misogyny as a standalone offence**

Higher code	Subcode	Example
	Misogyny as a standalone offence	“Above an objectively agreed threshold of impact on the victim it should be a criminal offence.”
<b>Misogyny as a standalone offence</b>	Sends a strong message or is a deterrent	“I do think offences re misogyny could work as there has been success with coercive control and other types of domestic violence which are being seen as much less acceptable across the board now.”

### **Give police powers for on the spot fines**

Table 13 shows the higher codes, subcodes and extracts for the strategy of Giving police powers for on the spot fines. Respondents tended to state this strategy would be effective without providing reasoning for this. However, one theme emerged for why giving police powers for on the spot fines would be effective which was that real consequences will make a difference.

**Table 13.** Higher codes, subcodes, and extracts for giving police powers for on the spot fines.

Higher code	Subcode	Example
	Give police powers for on the spot fines	“I like the stance France have taken with on the spot fines for this behaviour we do it in this country for littering, for idling in cars why not for behaviours which are demeaning and harmful that can lead to violence against women and girls.”
<b>Give police powers for on the spot fines</b>	Real consequences will make a difference	“I think there has to be an element of law enforced action this will allow people to feel that their concerns are valid and that behaviour won't be tolerated. This may also allow perpetrators to consider repeating certain language or actions due to the severity of the repercussions.”

## “Other” Category on what interventions would address misogyny

Table 14 displays the higher codes, subcodes, and extracts for the other category. This table gives a more detailed insight into the interventions referenced in the “other” category. The interventions are listed in order of how often they were cited by respondents.

Multiple interventions was the most commonly referenced strategy. This was represented by either the respondents saying that there was a need for more than one approach or by respondents listing more than one approach in their answers. Once these responses had been coded into the “multiple interventions” sub category, they were then coded within the categories of the different strategies that they mentioned e.g., education interventions and/or giving police powers for on the spot fines.

**Table 14.** Higher code, subcode, and extract for each of the “other” interventions

Higher code	Subcode(s)	Example
<b>Multiple interventions</b>	Number of approaches are needed	“There is no single way. It has to be tackled in a wide range of ways from education to law enforcement.”
<b>Utilise existing VAWG laws</b>	Police need to take violence against women seriously	“I think until women are believed by police when reporting crimes, no matter what they were wearing or whether they were intoxicated then women will not report these crimes”
<b>Utilise existing VAWG laws</b>	Improve criminal justice system	“a complete re-working of the justice system (it is currently built for and run by men, and women have little chance of getting justice).”
<b>Utilise existing VAWG laws</b>	Maintain and reinforce Equality Act	“An audit of whether public sector organisations are following the Equality Act's Public Sector Equality Duty”
<b>Utilise existing VAWG laws</b>	Improve existing laws	“Must have legislation which recognises misogyny and that should be included in every civil and criminal law. We need to avoid the option for the Police to say “sorry, we can't deal with that as it's a Civil matter.”
<b>Utilise existing VAWG laws</b>	Protect sex based rights	“Recognise sex and gender properly in law, maintain sex based rights.”

<b>Sanctions</b>	Legal consequences	“Sending a strong message through legal actions. Anything else is easy to ignore.”
<b>Sanctions</b>	Tougher penalties	“stronger penalties for online abuse, harsher sentencing.”
<b>Sanctions</b>	Social media restrictions or monitoring	“All platforms in my view should be limited to any teenager until they are of an adult age 16-18 years old and if platforms are seen to breach these rules and allowing fake accounts and not monitoring access to youngsters they should be fined and money go back into the Public purse for further protection for teenagers and children”
<b>Bystander intervention</b>	Call it out to stop it being normalised	“Men should be taught to speak up when they see or hear their friends disparage girls/women that it's not acceptable. They should be taught to step up when other men are inappropriate with girls/women instead of laughing it off as ""what lads do"" or remaining silent.”
<b>Policies and laws focussing on sex not gender</b>	Single sex spaces	“Women need access to single sex spaces and services”
<b>Policies and laws focussing on sex not gender</b>	Recognise misogyny as sex based	“To recognise that misogyny happens to women because of their sex. And to recognise that removing any acknowledgement of sex as a material reality removes safeguarding which makes crimes against women far more likely.”
<b>Controls on porn</b>	Porn normalises VAWG	“Porn needs to be heavily regulated as it gives young boys, men and young girls unrealistic ideas of what good sexual relations should be and normalises harmful practices for girls.”

<b>Tackle institutional misogyny</b>	In the police force	“The police not being misogynistic - when I tried to report an incident once I was shamed out of it.”
<b>Tackle institutional misogyny</b>	Through institutional policies	“Supporting schools, universities and workplaces to have a strong policy of intolerance of this behaviour and discouraging it, even when it is difficult to prove.”
<b>Tackle institutional misogyny</b>	In education settings	“Gender based violence and misogyny are embedded in the traditions of our elite universities... and since universities train professionals in law, health, governance, education, I suggest that investigating and auditing the source of institutional misogyny may be the most effective long term approach.”
<b>More support for women</b>	Women given a voice and taken seriously	“Ask women and girls from ALL sectors of society for their reflections and opinions in ways that allow their views and experience to be safely expressed. Listen to women and girls. Take action based on listening to women and girls.”
<b>More support for women</b>	Safe spaces for women	“Acknowledge the fears that women have from around men in their previously safe spaces and not being believed or their concerns dismissed as bigotry or hate.”
<b>Deal with the pervasiveness of misogyny in society</b>	Tackle misogyny in the media	“it needs to throw a much wider net, and include all the media organisations whose treatment of women is currently part of the problem.”
<b>Addressing public roles</b>	More women in positions of power	“Women need to be at least 50% of the people making decisions in government, law, design, planning, healthcare, education etc.”

<b>Addressing public roles</b>	Address misogyny at the top	“making sure people in roles of responsibility are not allowed to continue to hold those roles if guilty of misogyny.”
<b>Other</b>	Tackling financial misogyny	“Better work on gender balance and equal pay : too many excuses by senior leaders as to why this isn't happening at pace.”
<b>Deal with the pervasiveness of misogyny in society</b>	Cultural or societal change	“There needs to be a major societal shift in all societies and men need to recognise they have generally more power in society and be prepared to give that up in order for genuine equality to prevail.”
<b>Other</b>	Clear definition of misogyny	“By increasing understanding of what misogyny is.”
<b>Increase resources</b>	Funding for VAWG organisations	“Increase funding for safe/resource centres for people affected by misogyny to access information.”
<b>Sanction sex industry</b>	Address the purchasing of sex	“To criminalise women who sell sex to meet male demand legitimises male violence. We need well-funded, trauma informed programmes to help women move out of prostitution.”
<b>Other</b>	Support families to challenge misogyny	“We must start young - support for parents.”
<b>Other</b>	Good leadership and role models	“Leaders and those in relevant positions need to act NOW to move the parameters of what is deemed acceptable within society, and they should not be under the illusion that their power is not considerable.”
<b>Redesign systems to tackle inequality</b>	Systems have been designed by men for men	“It would take a wholesale shift for our culture to admit that they are patriarchies, that are set up to benefit men and subjugate women.”

<b>Other</b>	Introduce reporting system	“Better options for women to report any incidents with the knowledge they will be treated fairly.”
<b>Other</b>	Improve childcare system	“Child care - make child care affordable and allow more women to earn money being less reliant on their partners.”

#### **4.12 Q12. Is there anything else you would like to add? (effective interventions)**

This question elicited 415 responses. A number of these responses were thematically similar to issues which have already been discussed previously in this report, in particular the view that any legislation should be based on sex not gender, and that single sex spaces need to be protected, as well as discussion around the need for controls on pornography. The focus of this section is on themes which did not emerge anywhere else in the survey, as discussed below.

One such theme was around the need for reform of the justice system and the police. Some respondents cited that in their experience the police were misogynistic and that officers needed more training:

"I worked in criminal justice, predominantly with police and prison staff. My experience is that men in these organisations need the most training and support to be better at understanding abuse of power."

Another theme emerged around the need to take an intersectional approach to any discussion of misogyny, centring the experiences of minority group women:

"Taking an intersectional approach from the beginning is super important, to include and uplift all those who are affected by misogyny including trans and non-binary folks and women of colour's perspectives and putting those affected at the heart of this work."

## 5. Findings by protected characteristics

### 5.1 Key findings

- It's important to note that the comparisons referred to in this section have not been tested for statistical significance.

#### Age

- Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely than any other age group to report both experiencing and witnessing misogyny across all spaces. They were most likely to report experiencing misogyny in the street (77.6% compared to 66.3% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 47.6% of respondents aged 60+) and to report witnessing misogyny online ((83.1% of all those aged 18 – 34, compared to 73.7% of 35 – 59 year olds and 71.5% of 60+ respondents).
- The most common emotional response to misogyny reported amongst respondents aged 18 – 34 was to feel uncomfortable (77.6%, compared to 69% of respondents aged 35 – 59 and 53.1% of respondents aged 60+).
- Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely than older respondents to report changing their behaviour in some way as a result of experiencing or witnessing misogyny. The most common behaviour change reported was to become more suspicious of strangers. Just under half (44.1%) of respondents aged 18 – 34 reported changed their behaviour in this way, compared to a third (33.3%) of 35 – 59 year olds and just under a quarter (23.1%) of those aged 60+.
- Younger respondents aged 18 - 34 were more likely than 35 – 59 year olds and those aged 60+ to report being satisfied or very satisfied with the response of the police and/or authority. Just over a quarter (25.9%) of those 18 – 34 who reported the incident of misogyny were satisfied or very satisfied with the response, compared to 1 in 10 (10.4%) of 35 - 59 year olds, and 17.6% of respondents aged 60+.<sup>14</sup>
- Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely than older respondents to report that their reason for not reporting the incident was because they thought it was not criminal/too trivial/not worth reporting (50%), compared to 36.9% of 35 – 59 year olds and 31.2% of those aged 60+. Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were also more likely than respondents aged 35 – 59 year olds and 60+ to say they didn't report because the police or authority could have done nothing (46.8% of 18 – 34 year olds, 31.1% of 35 – 59 year olds and 35% of respondents aged 60+), and to say that they didn't report due to a fear of being or not being believed (37.3% of 18 – 34 year olds, 30% of 35 – 59 year olds and 25.6% of respondents aged 60+).
- Younger people age 18 - 34 were more likely than respondents aged 35 - 59 and 60+ to report viewing education interventions as very effective or effective at tackling misogyny (83.2% for respondents aged 18 - 34, compared to 76.7% of

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<sup>14</sup> The reduced sample size for this question impacts the validity of these findings. There were 31 respondents to this question aged 18 – 34, 164 aged 35 – 59 and 34 aged 60+.

respondents aged 35 - 59 and 71.4% of respondents aged 60+). Older respondents (those aged 60+) were more likely than younger respondents (aged 18 - 34) to view all interventions as ineffective or very ineffective.

## Ethnicity

- Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report experiencing and witnessing misogyny. They were most likely to report experiencing misogyny (80.3% compared to 64.0% of white respondents) and witnessing misogyny in the streets (83.6% compared to 72.9% of white respondents).
- Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report changing their behaviour as a result of experiencing or witnessing misogyny. The most common behaviour change reported was to become more vigilant (62.3% of all minority ethnic respondents compared to 41.1% of all white respondents).
- Minority ethnic respondents who had experienced misogyny were twice as likely than white respondents to say they had reported the incident to the police (12% versus 6%) and to another person or agency in a position of authority (34.4% versus 27.4%). However, minority ethnic respondents who said they did report were less likely than white respondents who reported to state that the police/authority took action (15% versus 25.7%).
- Those minority ethnic respondents who said they reported the incident of misogyny to the police or another agency were more likely than white respondents to report that they were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied with the action taken (100% of minority ethnic respondents who reported compared to 77% of white respondents who reported).<sup>15</sup>
- The most common reason provided for not reporting among minority ethnic respondents was that the police or authority would not have been bothered/ not been interested (68.8% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 50.9% of white respondents).
- Minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report viewing education interventions as very ineffective or ineffective at tackling misogyny than white respondents (16.9% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 9.2% of white respondents).
- Minority ethnic respondents were also more likely than white respondents to report viewing police powers for on-the-spot fines as effective or very effective (62.1% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 53.9% of white respondents), and also more likely to view the creation of a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour as effective or very effective (72.2% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 62.9% of white respondents).

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<sup>15</sup> The reduced sample size impacts the validity of these findings. There were 209 minority ethnic respondents to this question, but only 17 minority ethnic respondents.

## Sexual Orientation

- Gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents were more likely than heterosexual/straight respondents to report experiencing misogyny online (81.8% gay/lesbian, 83.3% bisexual, 56.1% heterosexual/straight) and in the streets (77.3% gay/lesbian respondents, 77.8% bisexual and 61.8% heterosexual/straight respondents). They were also more likely to report witnessing misogyny online (89.4% of gay/lesbian respondents, 91.1% of bisexual respondents, compared to 70.8% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- The most common emotional response to experiencing or witnessing misogyny reported amongst gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents was to feel angry (80.6% gay/lesbian, 78.9% bisexual, compared to 73.6% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- Bisexual respondents were most likely to report changing their behaviour as a result of experiencing or witnessing misogyny. The most common behaviour change reported by bisexual respondents was to become more vigilant (62.2% of bisexual respondents compared to 47.8% of gay/lesbian respondents, and 39.1% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- Amongst those who said they reported the incident to the police or another authority, heterosexual/straight respondents (26%) were more likely to report that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, than gay/lesbian respondents (22.2%) and bisexual respondents (18.8%).<sup>16</sup>
- The most common reason for not reporting amongst gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents was that the police or authority would not have been bothered/not been interested (68.3% of gay/lesbian respondents, 56.1% bisexual, compared to 49.4% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- Education was the intervention most likely to be viewed as very effective or effective at addressing misogyny amongst gay/lesbian and heterosexual/straight respondents (81.3% of gay/lesbian respondents compared to 79.5% of bisexual respondents and 76.4% of heterosexual/straight respondents).
- The most popular intervention amongst bisexual respondents was a sex or gender aggravator, with more than 4 in 5 (81.6%) of bisexual respondents viewing a sex or gender aggravator as effective or very effective, compared to 70.0% of heterosexual/straight respondents and 76.6% of gay/lesbian respondents.

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<sup>16</sup> It should be noted that sample sizes for this question were considerably reduced and this affects the validity of these findings. There were 230 white but only 20 minority ethnic respondents to this question. There were 192 heterosexual/straight respondents to this question, but only 18 gay/lesbian and 32 bisexual respondents.

## Disability

- Disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report experiencing and witnessing misogyny across almost all settings (with the exception of the workplace). The most common setting for disabled people to report experiencing misogyny was in the street, with 7 in 10 (69.9%) of disabled respondents experiencing misogyny here, compared to 61.6% of non-disabled respondents. This was also the most common setting for disabled respondents to report witnessing misogyny (76.8% of disabled respondents compared to 69.9% of non-disabled respondents).
- Disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report changing their behaviour in response to the misogynistic incident. The most common behaviour change reported amongst disabled respondents was to become more vigilant (51.2%), compared to 2 in 5 (40.2%) non-disabled respondents.
- Disabled respondents were less likely than non-disabled respondents to report that the police and/or authority took action. 17.6% of disabled respondents who reported the incident stated that action was taken, compared to just over a quarter (28.9%) of non-disabled respondents who reported the incident to the police and/or another authority.”
- Disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report experiencing all emotional responses to misogyny, with the exception of feeling annoyed/ irritated.
- Disabled respondents who reported the incident were less likely than non-disabled people to report that the police and/or authority took action. Almost 3 in 5 (58.9%) of disabled respondents who reported the incident stated that action was taken, compared to just under three quarters (70.6%) of non-disabled respondents who reported the incident to the police and/or another authority.
- The most common reason provided amongst disabled respondents for not reporting was that the police would not have been bothered/interested (57.6% of disabled respondents who did not report, compared to 50.1% of non-disabled respondents who did not report).

## 5.2 Analysis of findings by protected characteristics

This section includes further breakdowns for the quantitative questions by the four protected characteristics gathered: age, sexual orientation, ethnicity and disability. Percentage breakdowns for each demographic group are provided below:

**Age:** 2.9% (26 respondents) of the sample were aged 18 - 24; 13.1% (118 respondents) were 25 – 34. Given the small proportion of 18 - 24 year olds this category was merged with the 25 - 34 group, meaning that combined 16% (144 respondents) of the sample were aged 18 – 34. 67.8% (608 respondents) of the sample were aged 35 – 59; 15.5% (139 respondents) were aged 60 – 74 and 0.8% (7 respondents) were 75+. Given the small proportion of the sample in the 75+ this category has been merged with the 60 – 74 group in order to allow meaningful analysis. The combined category of 60+ makes up 16.3% of the sample (146 respondents).

**Sexual orientation:** 79.6% of the sample (706 respondents) described themselves as heterosexual/straight; 7.6% (67 respondents) described themselves as gay/ lesbian; 10.1% (90 respondents) described themselves as bisexual, and 2.7% (24 respondents) described themselves as other. Given the small proportion of respondents describing themselves as other, this group was not included in the analysis which follows.

**Ethnicity:** 93.1% of the sample (827 respondents) described themselves as white; 2.9% (26 respondents) described themselves as mixed or multiple ethnic; 1.9% (17 respondents) described themselves as Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British; 0.1% (1 respondent) described themselves as African and 1.9% (17 respondents) identified as being part of an other ethnic group. Unfortunately, the sample size does not allow for analysis of each of these individual groups. In order to provide any analysis by ethnicity the categories of mixed or multiple ethnic, Asian, Asian Scottish or Asian British, African and other ethnic group was combined into 'minority ethnic' (6.9% of sample or 61 respondents) and compared to white (93.1% of sample or 827 respondents).

**Disability:** 22.6% (210 respondents) of the sample were disabled, and 77.4% (720 respondents) were not disabled.<sup>17</sup>

For each question the number of respondents will be provided by breakdown/group. It is worth noting that the total number of respondents may differ from the number provided in the previous analysis of the questions. This is because not everyone who responded to the survey provided demographic details. For example, while 930 respondents responded to Q1 on misogynistic behaviour, the sample size when looking at responses to this question is the sample size is 892 because not all respondents provided information on their age. In addition, some demographic groups may have more respondents than others because respondents may have provided answers to some demographic questions but not others. For example, when looking at responses to Q1 by ethnicity there were 882 respondents, 10 fewer responses than provided for age.

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<sup>17</sup> A respondent was defined as disabled if they answered 'yes' to the question 'Do you have a physical or mental health condition or illness lasting or expected to last 12 months or more?' and also 'yes, a little' or 'yes, a lot' to the question 'Does your condition or illness reduce your ability to carry-out day-to-day activities?'.

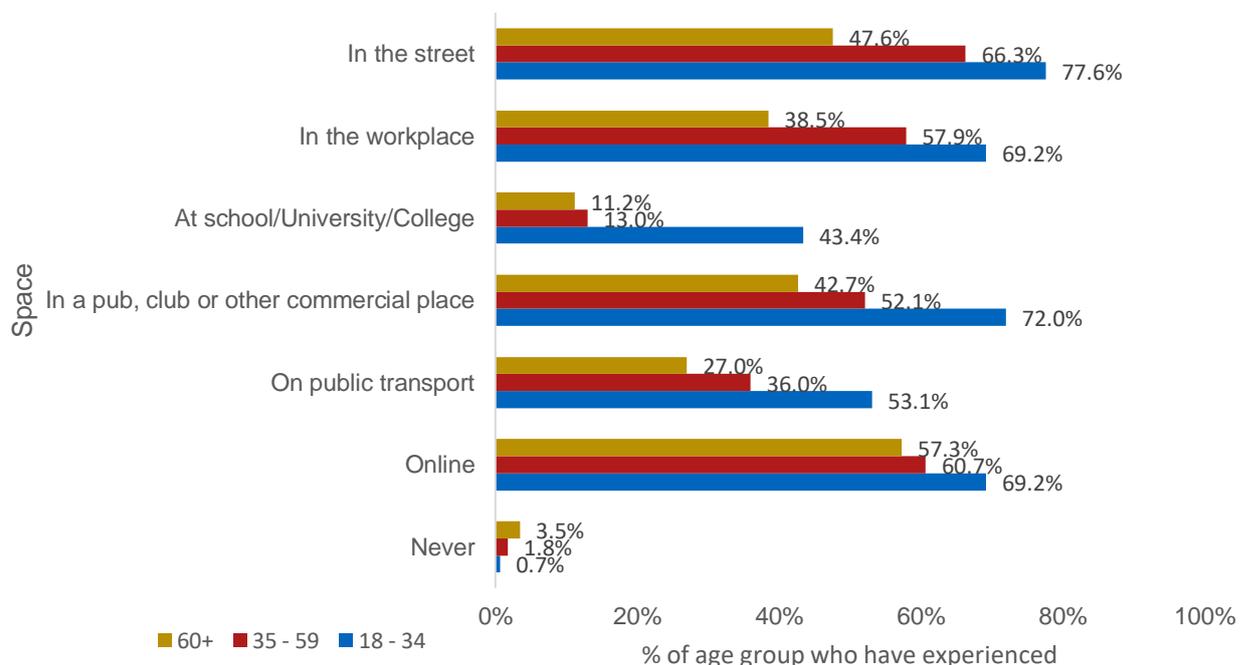
Given that the sample is not representative it is not meaningful to directly compare categories. This is because, for example when looking at age break downs, the 35 -59 category is considerably over represented when compared to the 18 – 34 and 60+ categories. Meaningful data can be achieved, however, by considering the percentage within each group who have experienced misogynistic behaviours in each space. Therefore, it is important to keep in mind that the percentages presented below are the percentage within a group, not the percentage of the total number of respondents. For example, for Q2 the percentages refer to the total number within each age group who had witnessed misogyny, not the percentage of the total sample across all age groups. This also explains why the percentages do not equal 100.

It is important to note that these findings have not been tested for statistical significance. In addition, as the sample is not representative these findings cannot be generalised to the Scottish population as a whole. It should also be noted that some of the findings presented here may be due to other factors e.g. findings related to one protected characteristic (e.g. ethnicity) may be better explained by another factor (e.g. age).

### 5.3 Q1. Have you experienced misogynistic behaviour in the last 5 years in any of the following places? Select all that apply

#### Results by age

**Figure 12.** Percentages of respondents who have experienced misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by age.



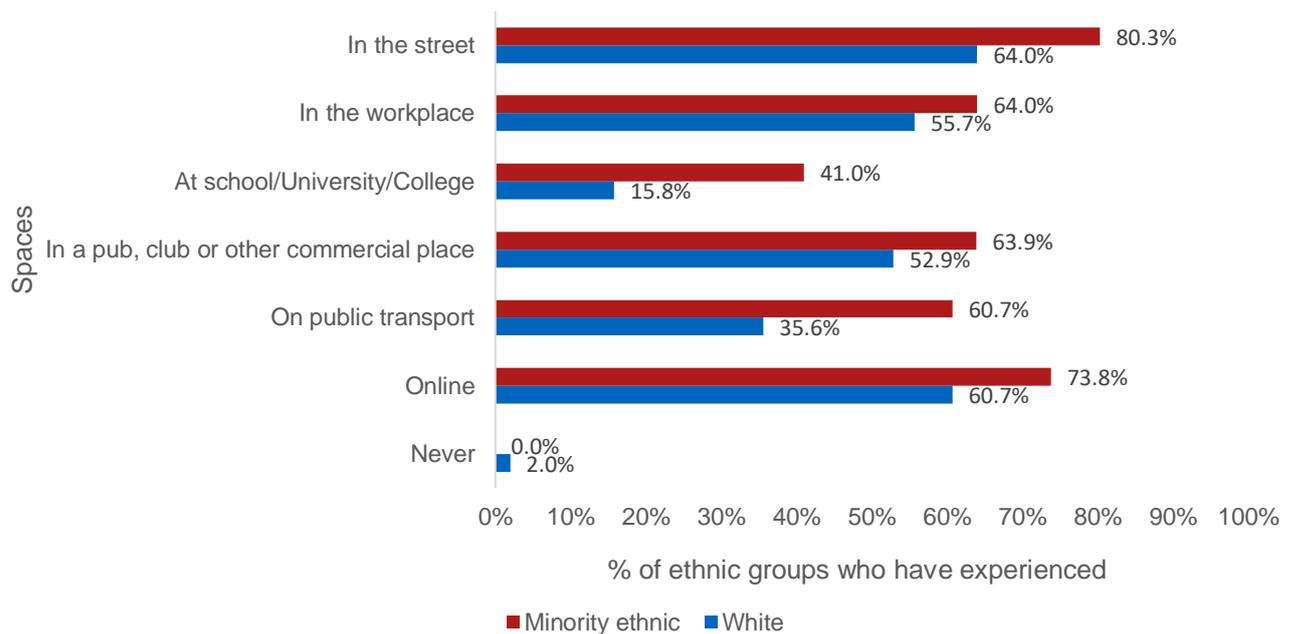
There were 892 responses to this question, 143 amongst respondents aged 18 - 34, 606 amongst respondents aged 35 - 59 and 143 amongst respondents aged 60+.

As Figure 12, above, shows, younger people aged 18 - 34 were more likely to self-report experiencing misogyny than older age groups across all the spaces. They were

most likely to report experiencing misogyny in the street (77.6%, compared to 66.3% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 47.6% of respondents aged 60+), followed by in a pub, club or other commercial space (72.0% of 18 - 34 year olds, compared to 52.1% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 42.7% of respondents aged 60+), followed by online (69.2%, compared to 60.7% of respondents aged 35 – 59 and 57.3% aged 60+) and the workplace (69.2% compared to 57.9% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 38.5% aged 60+). Those aged 60+ were least likely to self-report experiencing misogyny across all spaces.

## Results by ethnicity

**Figure 13.** Percentages of respondents who have experienced misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by ethnicity.

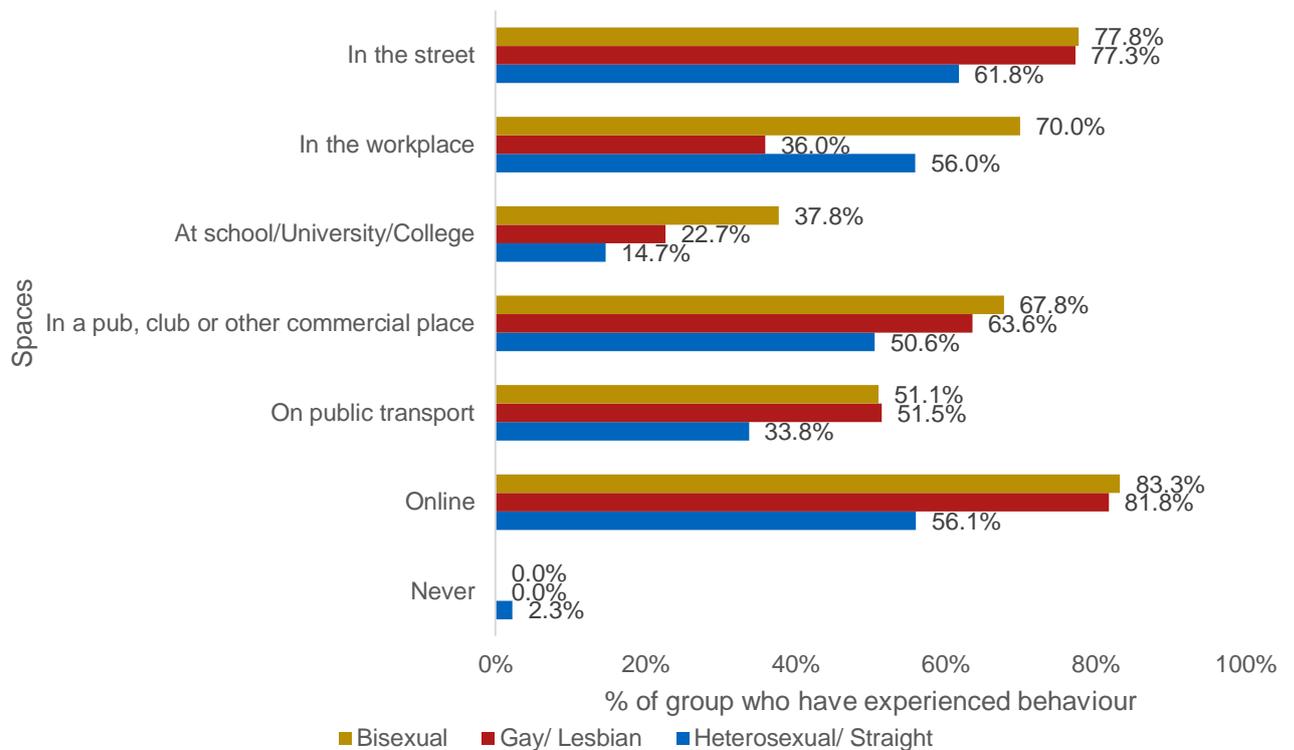


882 people responded to this question, 821 of whom were white and 61 of whom were minority ethnic.

Figure 13, above, demonstrates that minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report experiencing misogyny across all spaces. Both minority ethnic and white respondents were most likely to report experiencing misogyny in the street (80.3% for minority ethnic respondents and 64% for white respondents), followed by online (73.8% minority ethnic, 60.7% white) and in the workplace (64.0% minority ethnic, 55.7% white).

## Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 14.** Percentages of respondents who have experienced misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by sexual orientation.



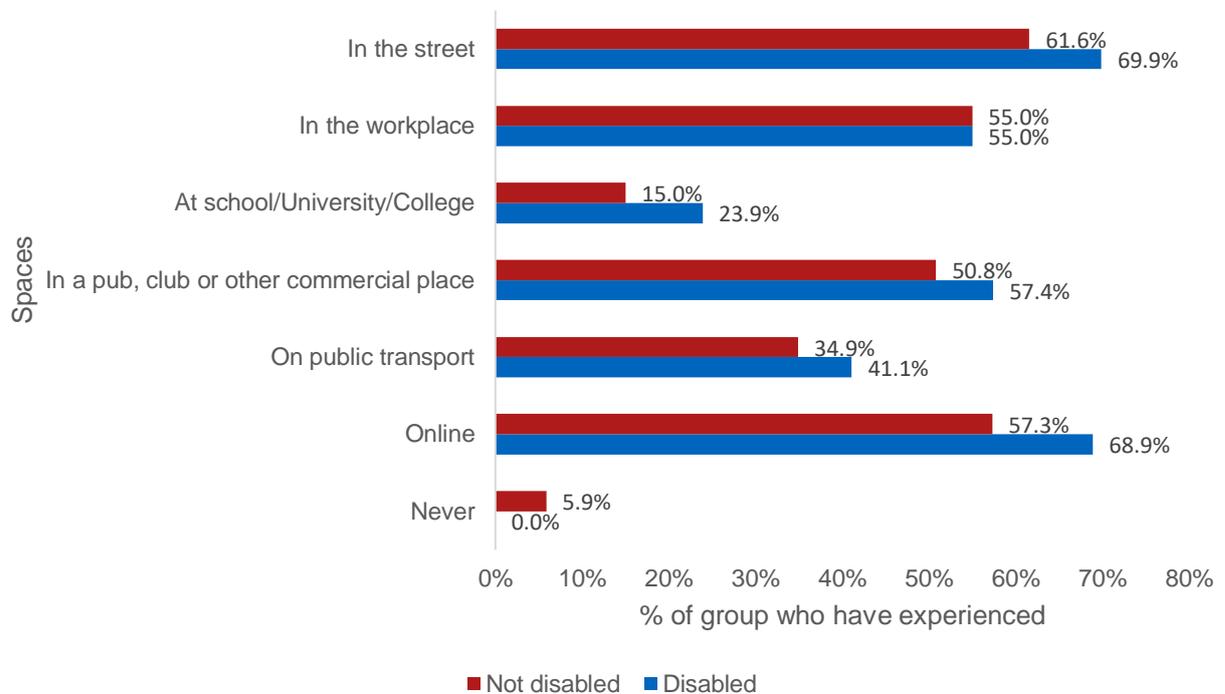
There were 881 responses to this question. 701 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 66 were gay/lesbian, 90 were bisexual, and 24 respondents described their sexual orientation as other<sup>18</sup>.

Figure 14, above, demonstrates, that those respondents who described themselves as gay/lesbian or bisexual were more likely to report having experienced misogyny than those respondents who described themselves as heterosexual/straight across the majority of spaces. Just over 4 in 5 (81.8%) of gay/lesbian respondents and 83.3% of bisexual respondents reported experiencing misogyny online, compared to just over half (56.1%) of heterosexual respondents. Just over three quarters (77.3%) of gay/lesbian and 77.8% of bisexual respondents reported experiencing misogyny in the street, compared to just two thirds (61.8%) of heterosexual respondents.

<sup>18</sup> Due to the small number of respondents in the “other” category this category is not included in this analysis or the analysis that follows.

## Findings by disability

**Figure 15.** Percentages of respondents who have experienced misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by disability.

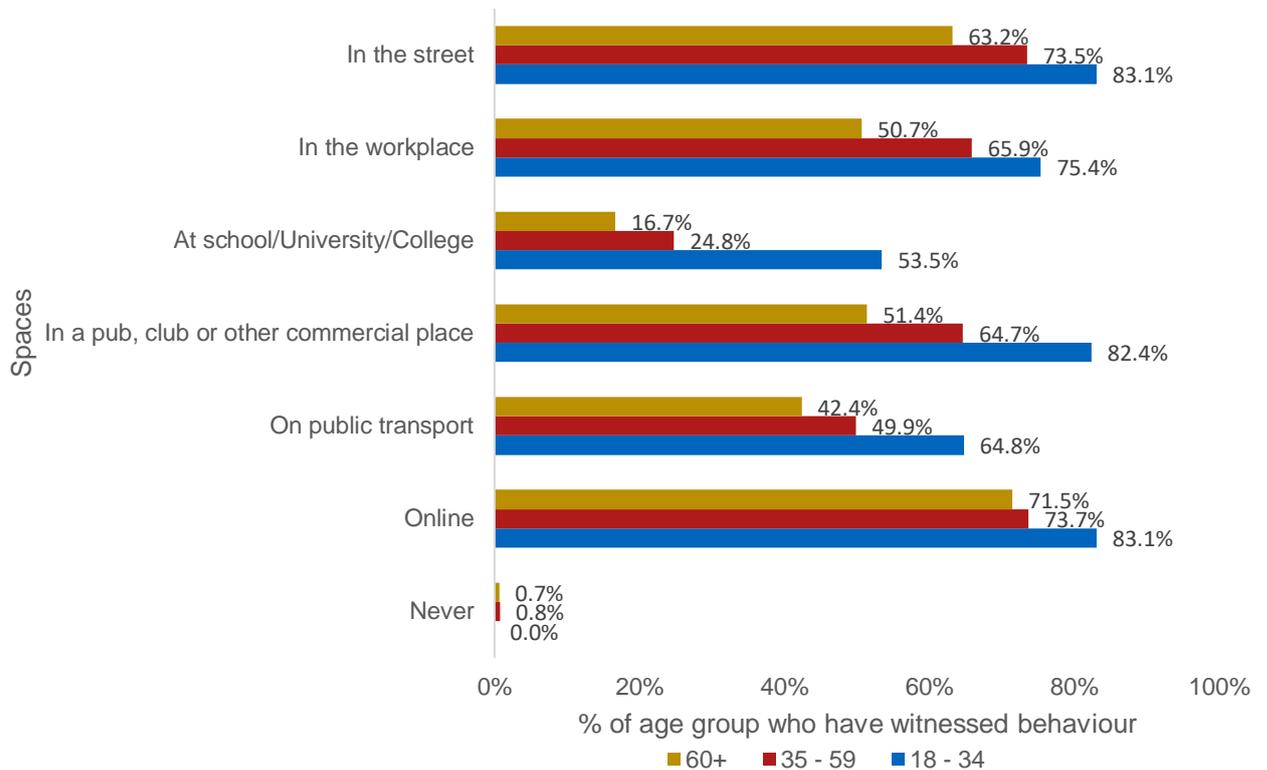


There were 923 responses to this question. 209 respondents were disabled, and 714 were not disabled. Figure 15, above, demonstrates that disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report experiencing misogyny across almost all settings (with the exception of the workplace). The most common setting for disabled people to report experiencing misogyny was in the street, with 7 in 10 (69.9%) of disabled respondents experiencing misogyny here, compared to 61.6% of non-disabled respondents. The next most common setting for disabled respondents to report experiencing misogyny was online (68.9% versus 57.3% of non-disabled respondents), followed by in a pub, club or other commercial place (57.4% versus 50.8% non-disabled), and in the workplace (55.0% for both disabled and non-disabled respondents).

**Q2. Have you witnessed misogynistic behaviour, in the last 5 years in any of the following places? Select all that apply**

**Findings by age**

**Figure 16.** Percentages of respondents who have witnessed misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by age.

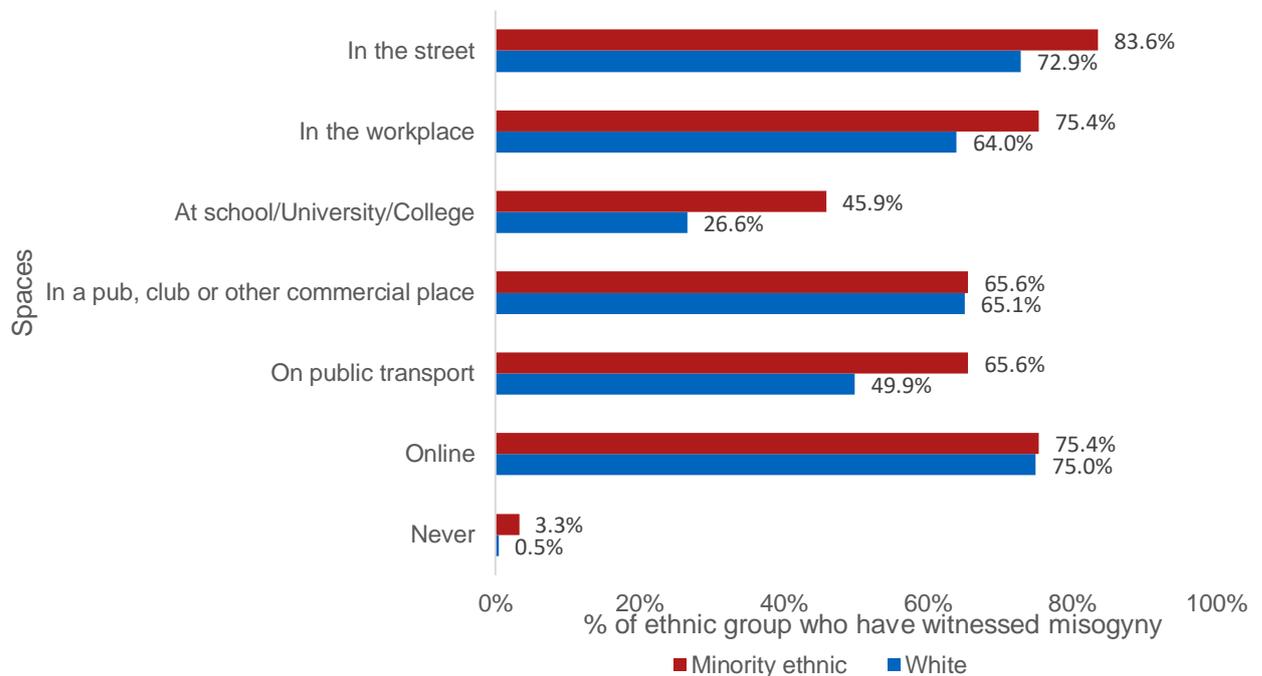


There were 887 responses to this question. 142 respondents were aged 18 – 34, 601 were aged 35 – 59 and 144 were aged 60+.

Figure 16, above, demonstrates that younger respondents aged 18 - 34 were more likely than any other age group to report witnessing misogyny across all spaces. They were most likely to report having witnessed misogyny online (83.1% of all those aged 18 – 34, compared to 73.7% of 35 – 59 year olds and 71.5% of 60+ respondents), in the street (83.1% of all those aged 18 – 34, compared to 73.5% of 35 – 59 year olds and 63.2% of respondents aged 60+), followed by in a pub, club or other commercial places (82.4%, compared to 64.7% of respondents aged 35 – 59 and 51.4% of those aged 60+). Those aged 60+ were the least likely to report having witnessed misogyny across all settings.

## Findings by ethnicity

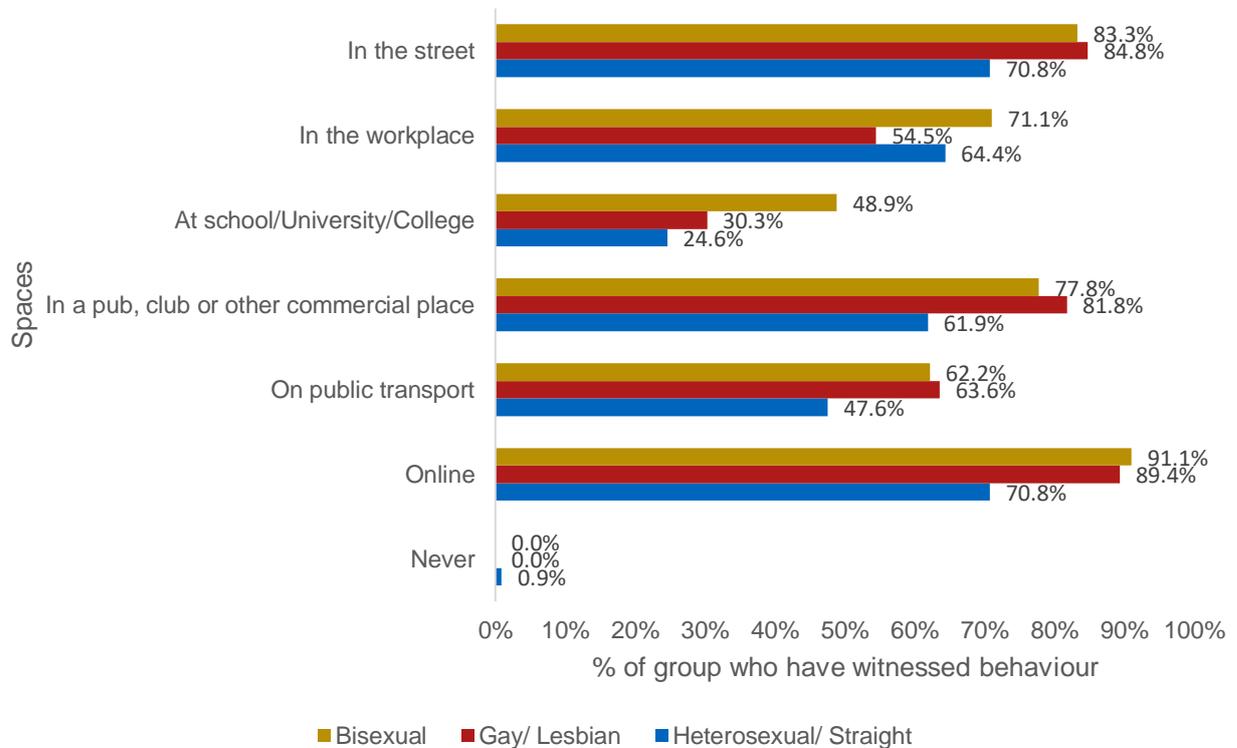
**Figure 17.** Percentages of respondents who have witnessed misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by ethnicity.



There were 880 responses to this question, of these 816 of respondents were white, and 61 were minority ethnic. Figure 17, above, demonstrates that minority ethnic respondents were more likely report having witnessed misogyny than white respondents across all spaces, although in some spaces this difference was small. Minority ethnic respondents were most likely to report witnessing misogyny in the street (83.6% of all minority ethnic respondents, compared to 72.9% of white respondents), followed by in the workplace (75.4% of all minority ethnic respondents, compared to 64.0% of white respondents), and online (75.4% of all minority ethnic respondents, compared to 75.0% of white respondents).

## Findings by sexual orientation

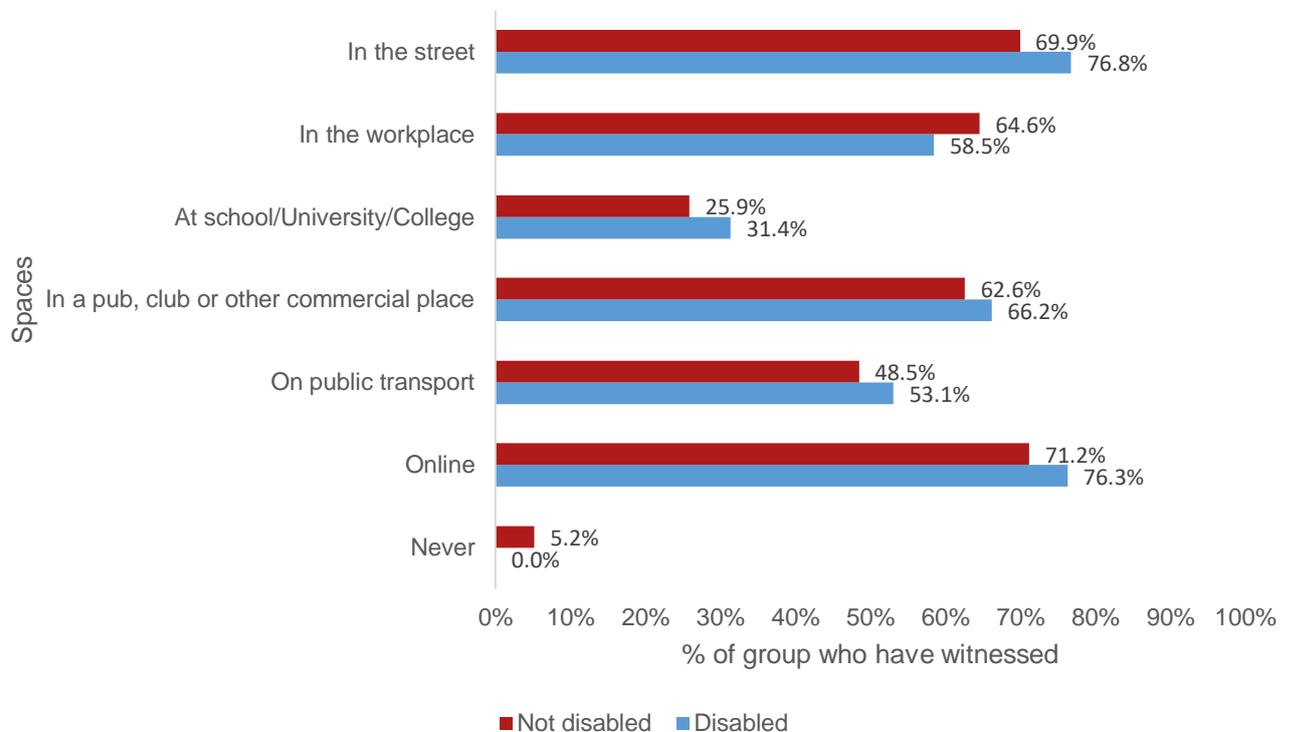
**Figure 18.** Percentages of respondents who have witnessed misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by sexual orientation.



There were 876 responses to this question. Of these respondents, 696 were heterosexual/ straight, 66 were gay/lesbian, 90 were bisexual, and 24 described their sexual orientation as other. Figure 18, below, demonstrates that respondents who identified as gay/lesbian and bisexual were more likely to report witnessing misogyny than heterosexual respondents across all contexts, with the exception of the workplace. The most common place for gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents to report witnessing misogyny was online (89.4% of gay/lesbian respondents, 91.1% of bisexual respondents, compared to 70.8% of heterosexual respondents). The next most common setting within which to witness misogyny was in the street (84.8% of gay/lesbian respondents, 83.3% of bisexual respondents, compared to 70.8% of heterosexual respondents).

## Findings by disability

**Figure 19.** Percentages of respondents who have witnessed misogynistic behaviour across different spaces, by disability.

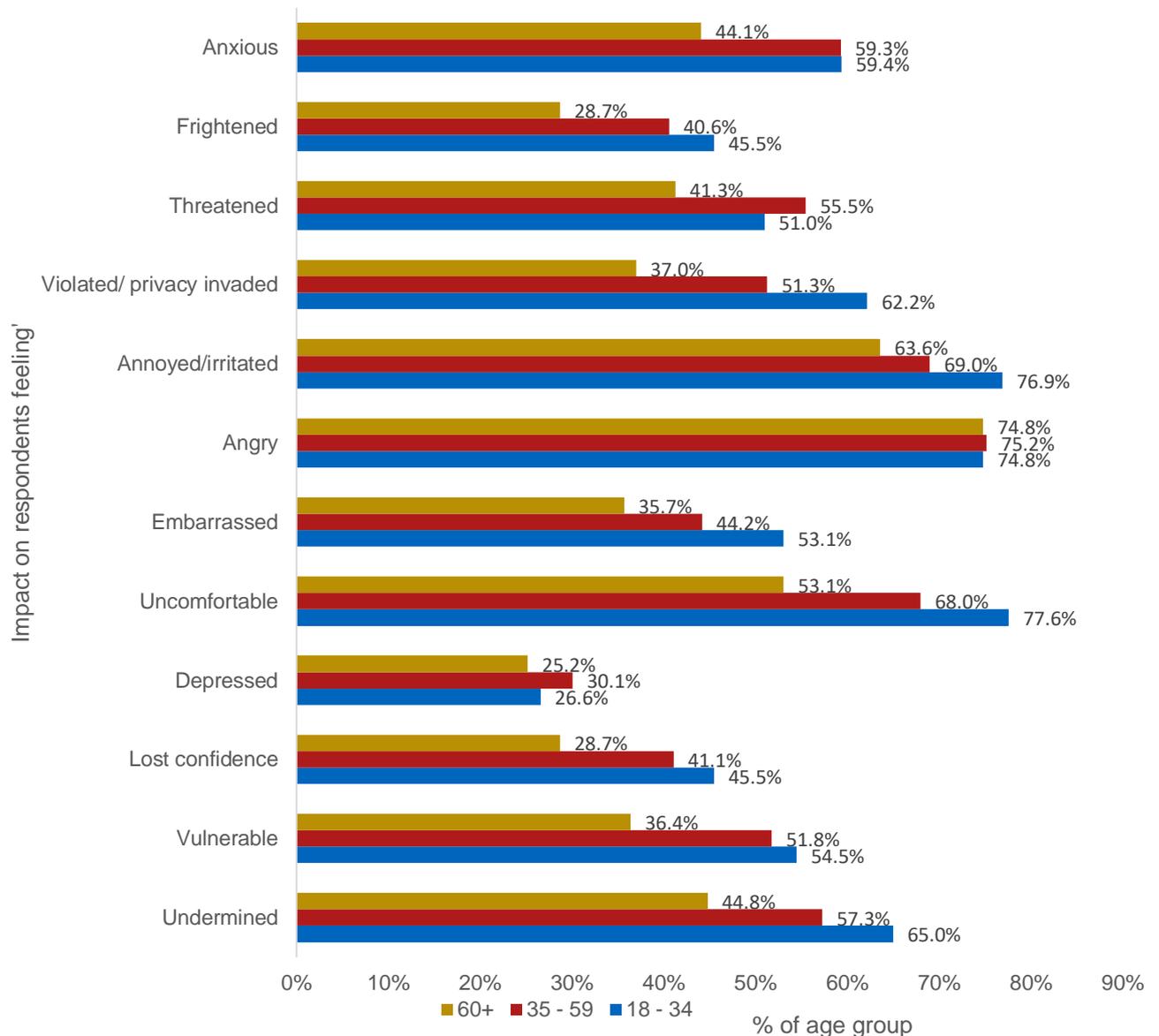


There were 918 responses to this question. 207 respondents were disabled, and 711 were not disabled. Figure 19, below, demonstrates that disabled people were more likely than non-disabled people to report witnessing misogyny across all spaces, with the exception of the workplace. The most common space for disabled respondents to have witnessed misogyny was in the street (76.8% compared to 69.9% of non-disabled respondents), followed by online (76.3% compared to 71.2% of non-disabled respondents).

## 5.4 Q4. What impact did the incident have on you? Select all that apply

### Findings by age

**Figure 20.** Percentages representing how participants felt after experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by age.



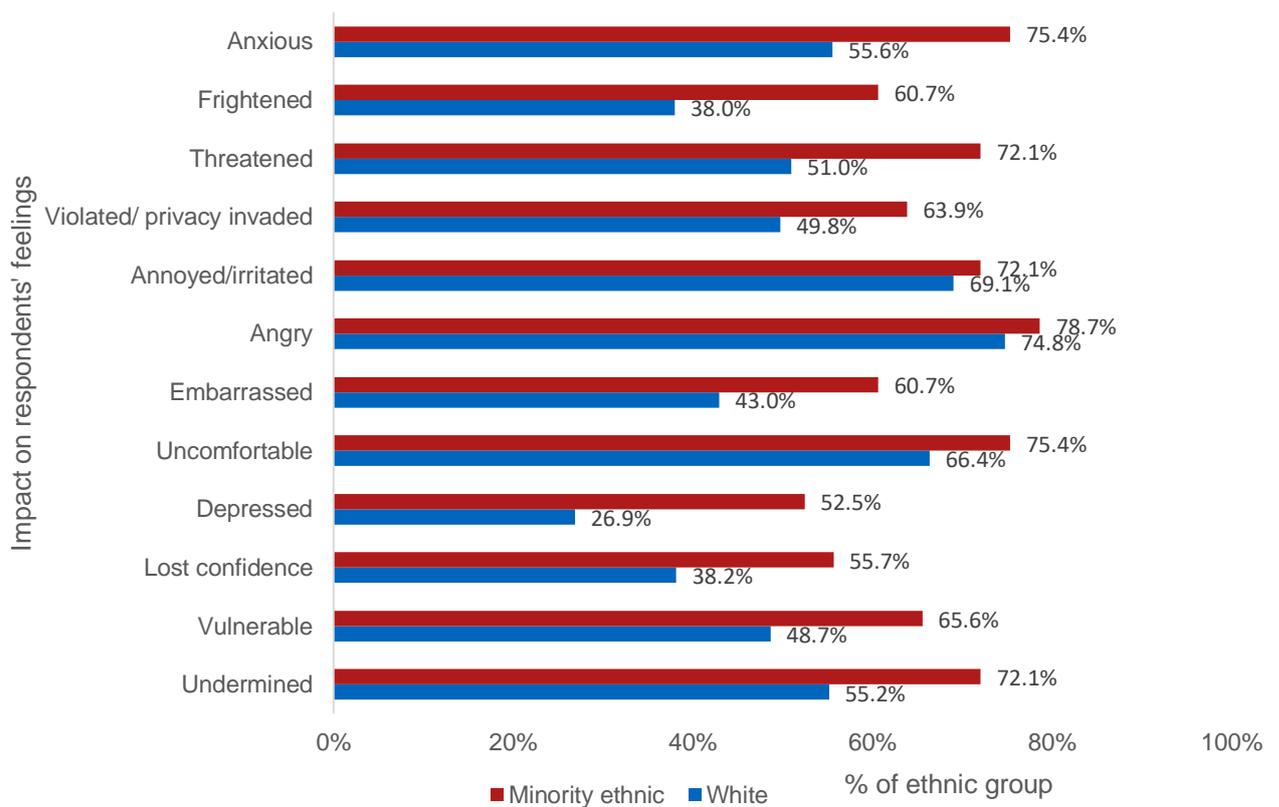
There were 890 responses to this question. 143 respondents were aged 18 – 34, 604 were aged 35 - 59 and 143 were aged 60+.

Figure 20, above, demonstrates that the most common impact on respondents' feelings reported amongst 18 – 34 year olds was to feel uncomfortable. Over three quarters (77.6%) of 18 – 34 year olds reported feeling this way, compared to just under two thirds (68.0%) of 35 – 59 year olds, and just over half (53.1%) of respondents aged 60+. The next most common emotional response reported by 18 – 34 year olds was to feel annoyed/irritated (76.9%), compared to 69.0% of 35 - 59 year olds and 63.6% of those aged 60+. Younger respondents were also more likely to feel undermined (65.0%

compared to 57.3% of 35 – 59 year olds and 44.8% of 60+), to feel violated or that their privacy had been invaded (62.2% compared to 51.3% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 37.0% of respondents aged 60+), and to feel embarrassed (53.1% compared to 44.2% of 35 – 59 year olds, and 35.7% of those aged 60+). By comparison, the most common emotion reported by respondents aged 35 – 59 was to feel angry (75.2%), which was similar for 18 -34 year olds (74.8%) and those aged 60+ (74.8%).

## Findings by ethnicity

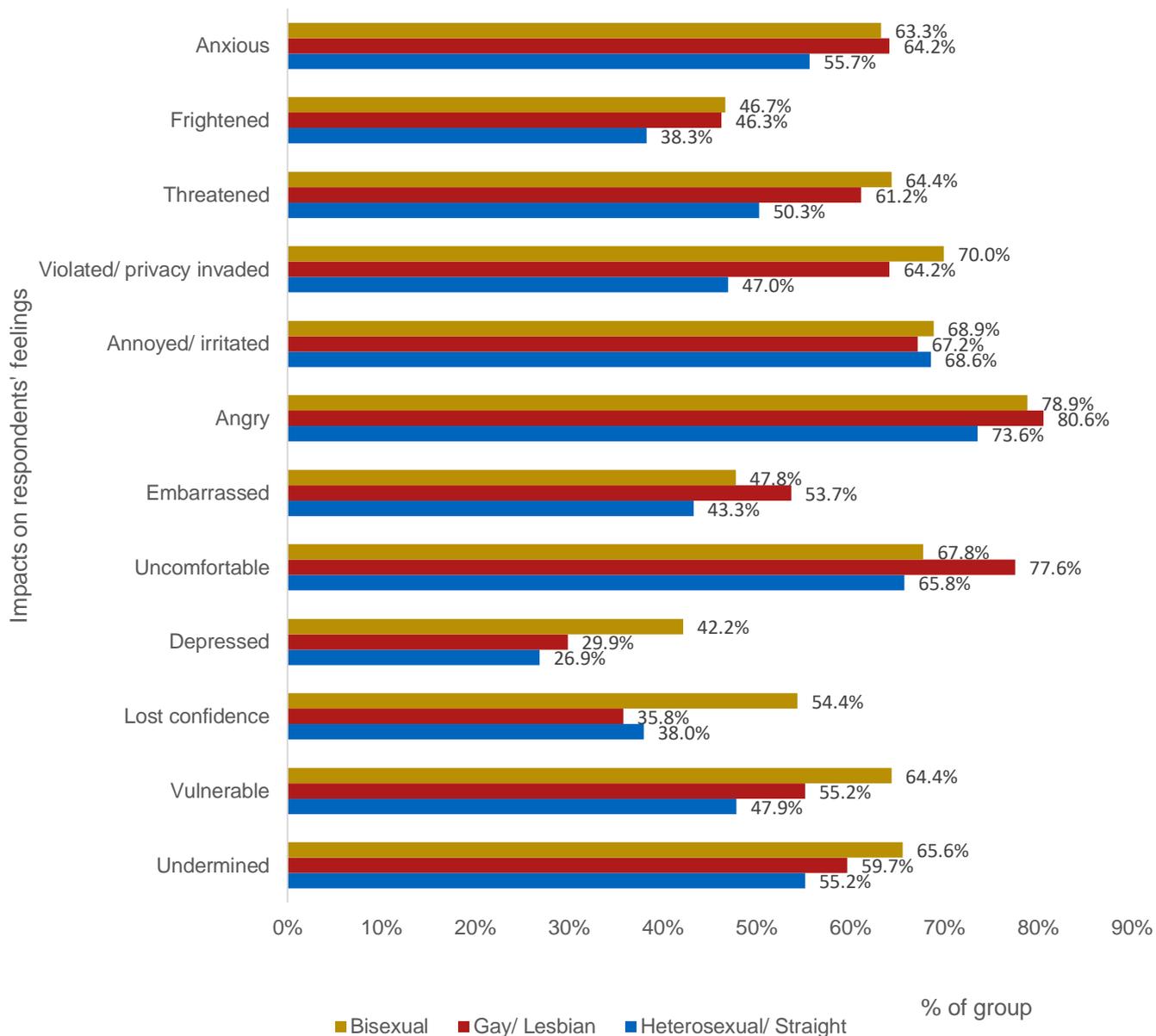
**Figure 21.** Percentages representing how participants felt after experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by ethnicity.



There were 880 responses, 819 of which were amongst white respondents, and 61 of which was among minority ethnic respondents. Figure 21, above, demonstrates that minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report experiencing all of the emotional responses to misogyny. The most common emotional response reported by minority ethnic respondents was to feel angry (78.7% of all minority ethnic respondents, and 74.8% of all white respondents), followed by feeling uncomfortable (75.4% of all minority ethnic respondents, and 66.4% of all white respondents), and feeling anxious (75.4% of all minority ethnic respondents, compared to only 55.6% of white respondents).

## Findings by sexual orientation

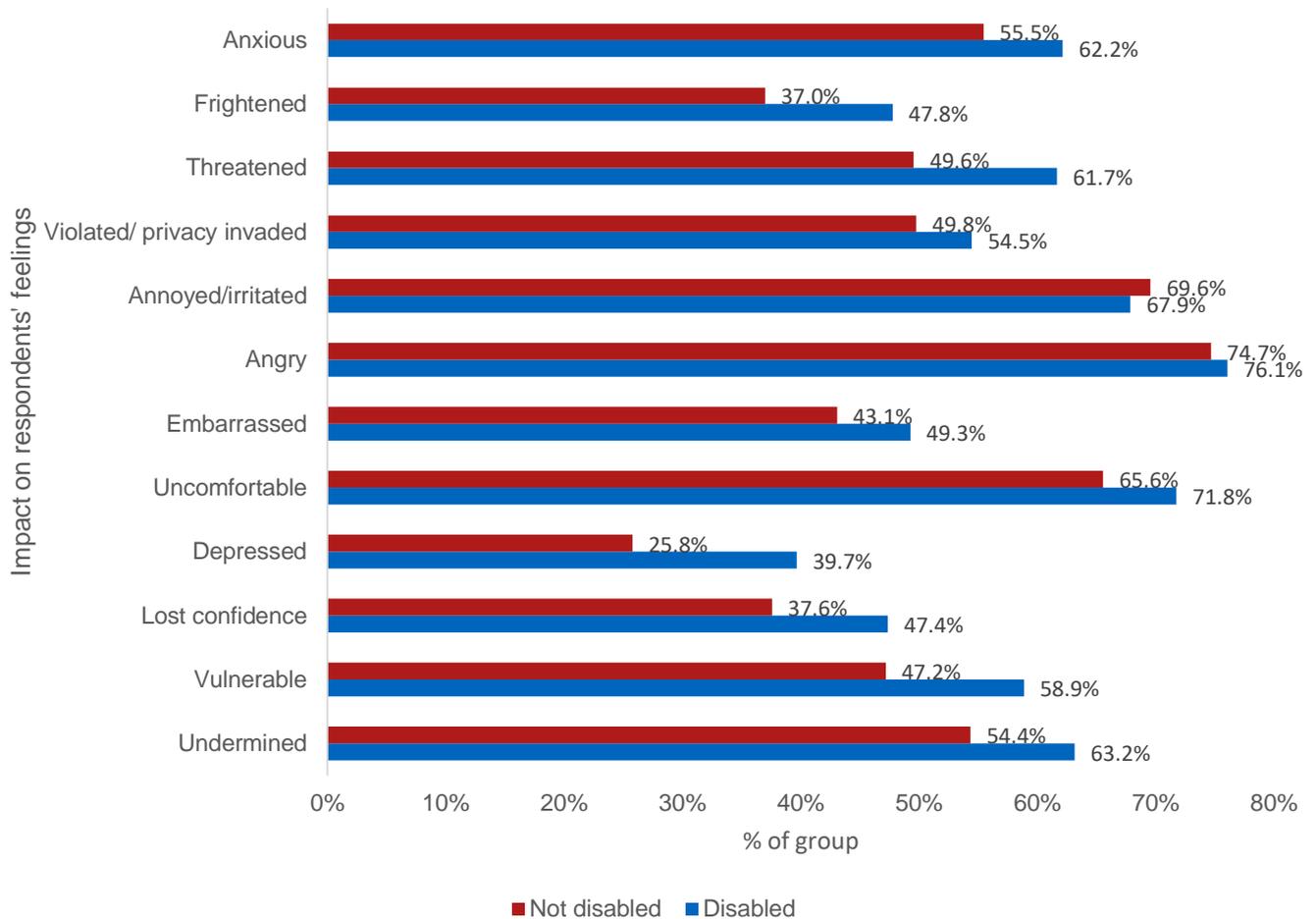
**Figure 22.** Percentages representing how participants felt after experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by sexual orientation.



There were 879 responses to this question. 698 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 67 were gay/lesbian, 90 were bisexual, and 24 respondents described themselves as other. Figure 22, above, shows that gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents were more likely than white respondents to report experiencing the majority of emotional responses to misogyny. Over 4 in 5 (80.6%) of gay/lesbian and 78.9% of bisexual respondents reported feeling angry in response to misogyny, compared to just under three quarters (73.6%) of heterosexual/straight respondents. The next most common emotional response among gay and lesbian respondents was to feel uncomfortable (77.6% compared to 65.8% of heterosexual respondents). The next most common emotional response among bisexual respondents to feel violated (70.0% compared to 47.0% of heterosexual/straight respondents).

## Findings by disability

**Figure 23.** Percentages representing how participants felt after experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by disability.

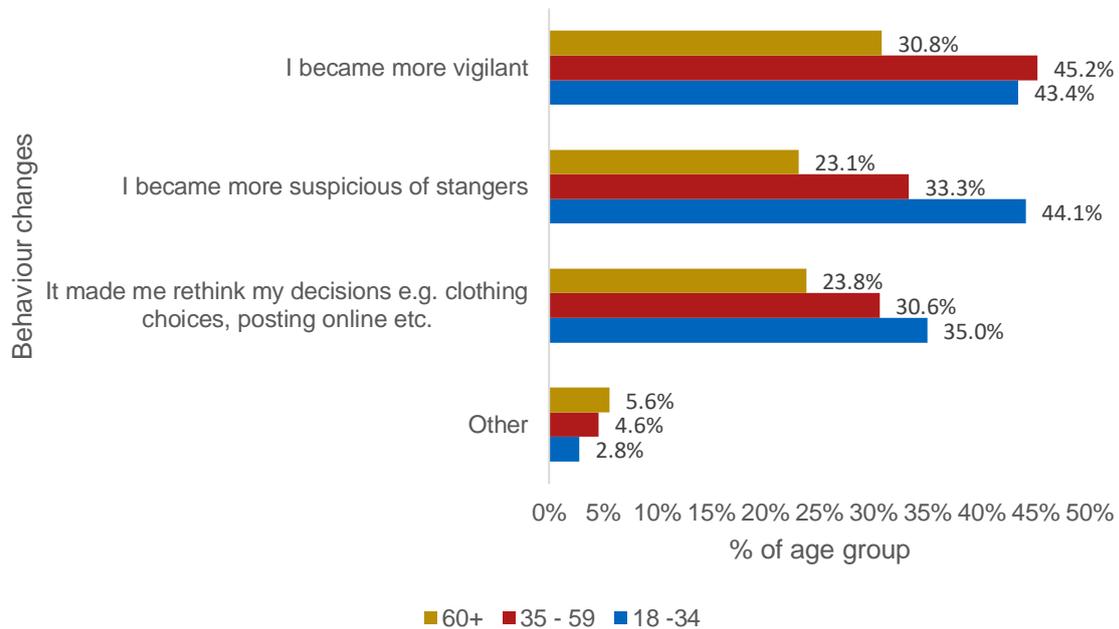


There were 896 responses to this question, 209 of the respondents were disabled and 687 respondents were not disabled.

Figure 23, above, demonstrates that disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report experiencing all emotional responses to misogyny, with the exception of feeling annoyed/irritated. The most common emotional response reported by disabled respondents was to feel angry, and this was similar to non-disabled respondents (76.1% of disabled respondents versus 74.7% of non-disabled respondents). The next most common emotional response reported amongst disabled respondents was to feel uncomfortable (71.8%), compared to just under two thirds (65.6%) of non-disabled respondents.

## Findings by age

**Figure 24.** Percentages representing how participants changed their behaviour in response to experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by age.

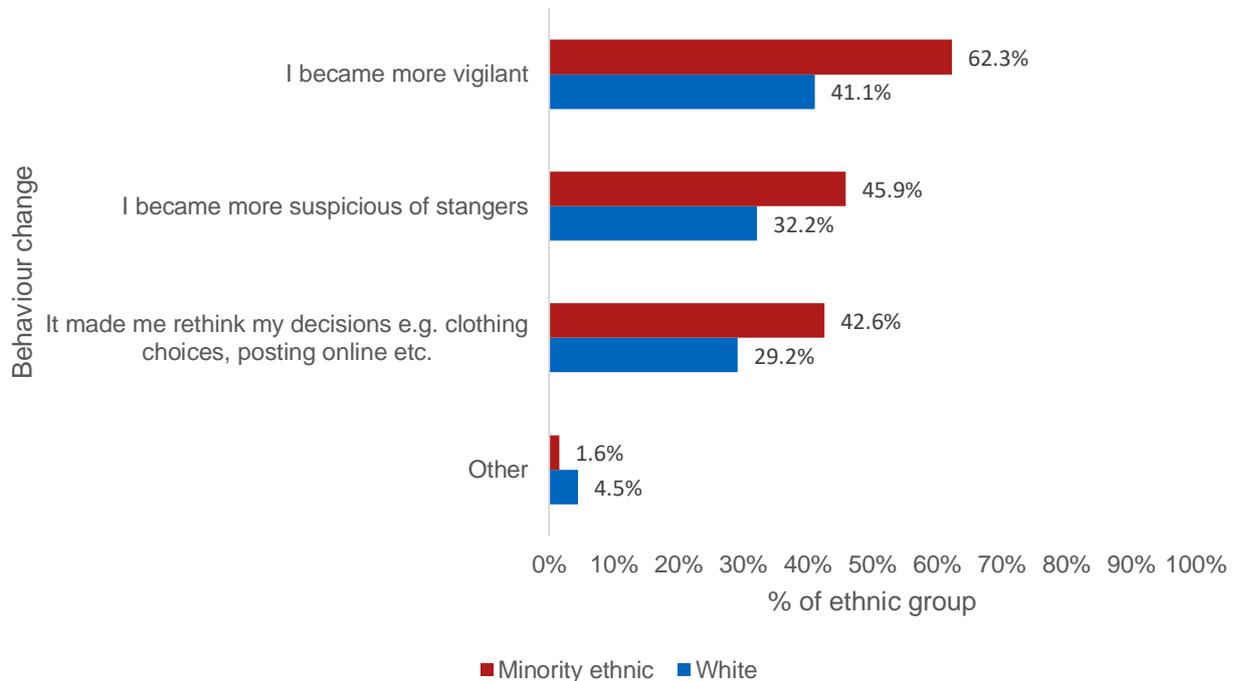


There were 890 responses to this question. 143 respondents were aged 18 – 34, 604 were aged 35 - 59 and 143 were aged 60+.

Figure 24, above, demonstrates that younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were more likely to report becoming more suspicious of strangers than older respondents. Just under a half (44.1%) of respondents aged 18 – 34 changed their behaviour in this way, compared to a third (33.3%) of 35 – 59 year olds and just under a quarter (23.1%) of those aged 60+. In addition, younger respondents were more likely than older respondents to report rethinking their decisions, e.g. clothing choices, posting online etc. Just over a third (35.0%) of respondents aged 18 - 34 changed their behaviour in this way, compared to 30.6% respondents aged 35 – 59 and under a quarter (23.8%) of those aged 60+.

## Findings by ethnicity

**Figure 25.** Percentages representing how participants changed their behaviour in response to experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by ethnicity.

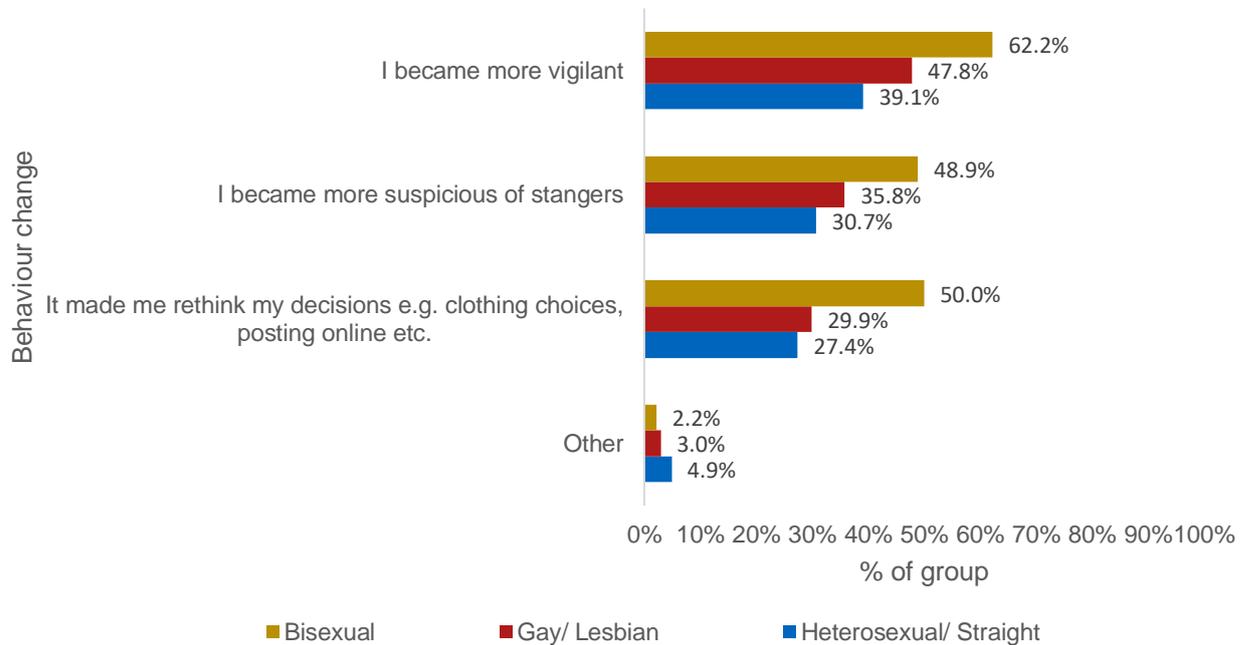


There were 880 responses, 819 of which were amongst white respondents, and 61 of which was among minority ethnic respondents.

Figure 25, above, demonstrates that minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report that they have become more vigilant as a result of misogyny (62.3% of all minority ethnic respondents compared to 41.1% of all white respondents). Minority ethnic respondents were also more likely than white respondents to report that they have rethought their decisions, e.g. clothing choices, posting online (42.6% minority ethnic versus 29.2% white respondents), and have become more suspicious of strangers (45.9% minority ethnic versus 32.2% white respondents).

## Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 26.** Percentages representing how participants changed their behaviour in response to experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by sexual orientation.

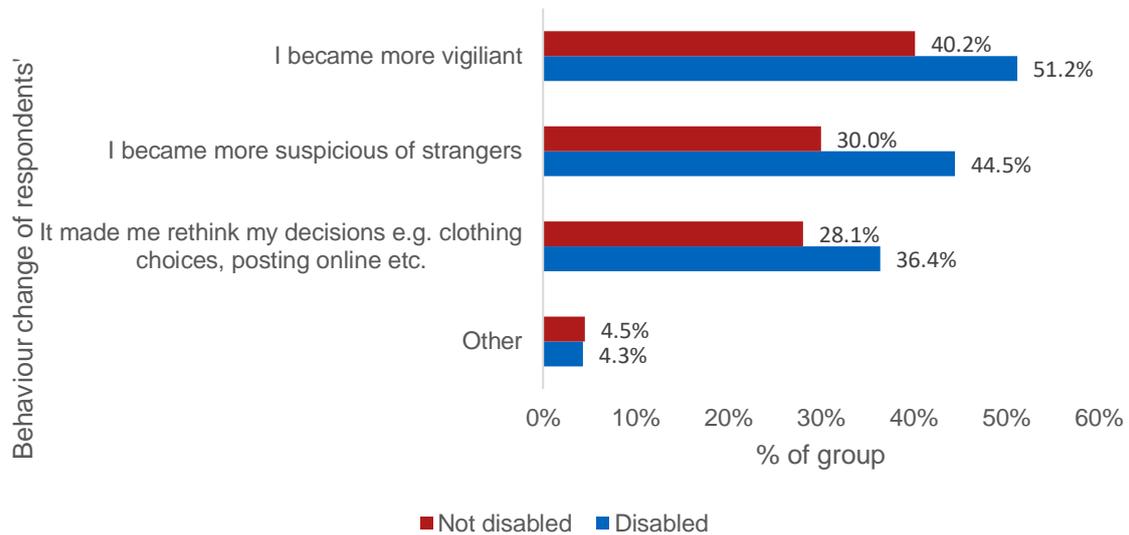


There were 879 responses to this question. 698 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 67 were gay/lesbian, 90 were bisexual, and 24 respondents described their sexual orientation as other.

Figure 26, above, shows that gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents were more likely than heterosexual/straight respondents to report changing their behaviour in response to experiencing misogyny. Half (50%) of all bisexual respondents reported rethinking their decisions, e.g. clothing choices, posting online, as a result of the misogynistic experience, compared to 29.9% of gay/lesbian respondents, and 27.4% of heterosexual/straight respondents. Just under half (47.8%) of gay/lesbian respondents and just under two thirds (62.2%) of bisexual respondents reported becoming more vigilant, compared to 39.1% of heterosexual respondents. In addition, over a third (35.8%) of gay/lesbian respondents and just under half (48.9%) of bisexual respondents reported becoming more suspicious of strangers, compared to 30.7% of heterosexual/straight respondents.

## Findings by disability

**Figure 27.** Percentages representing how participants changed their behaviour in response to experiencing the incident of misogynistic behaviour, by disability.



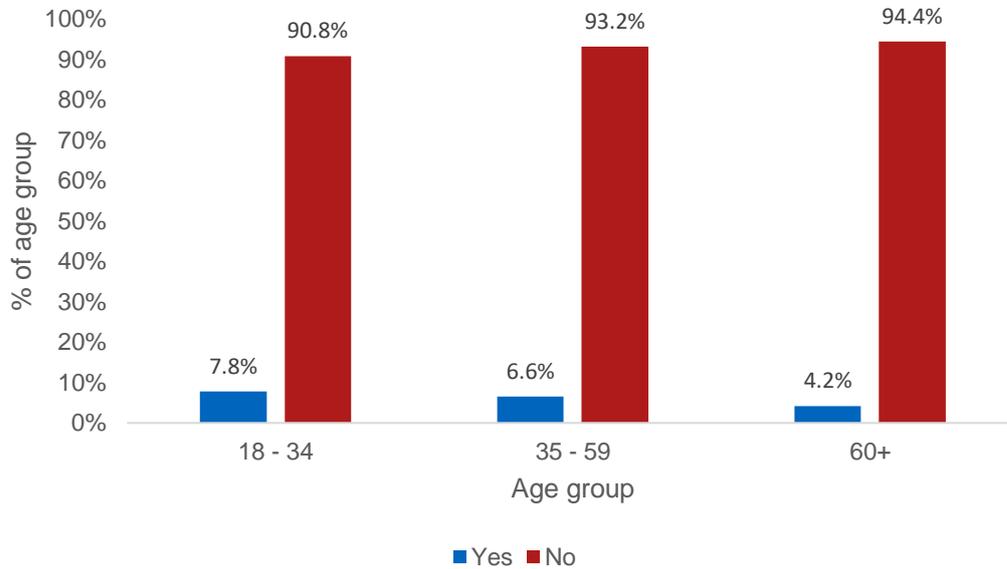
There were 896 responses to this question. 209 respondents were disabled, and 687 were not disabled.

Figure 27, above, demonstrates that disabled respondents were more likely than non-disabled respondents to report changing their behaviour in response to the misogynistic incident. The most common behaviour change reported amongst disabled respondents was to become more vigilant (51.2%), compared to 2 in 5 (40.2%) non-disabled respondents.

## 5.5 Q5. Did you report this incident to the police?

### Findings by age

**Figure 28.** Proportions of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police, by age.

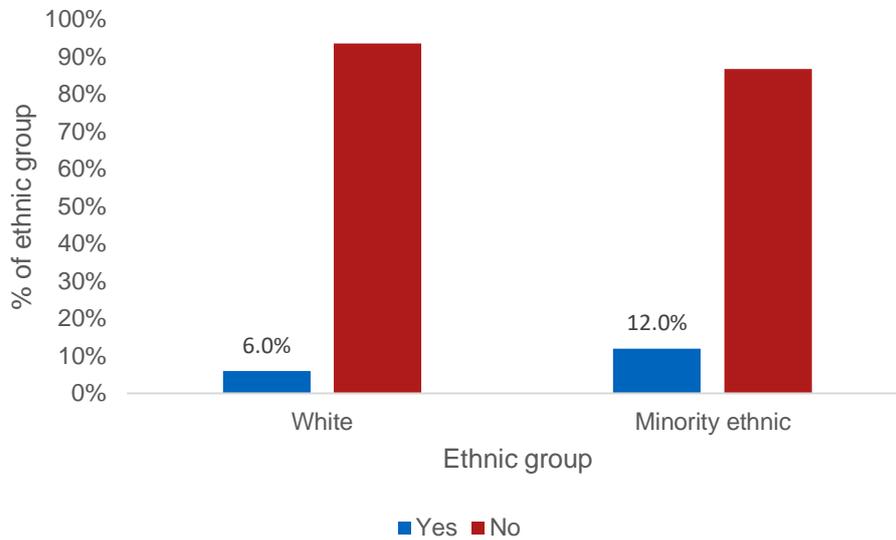


There were 887 responses to this question, 141 of which were among respondents aged 18 – 34, 602 were among respondents aged 35 – 59 and 144 of which were among those aged 60+.

Figure 28, above, shows that there was little difference in the likelihood of reporting the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police depending on age. 9 in 10 (90.8%) respondents aged 18 - 34 said they did not report the incident to the police, compared to 93.2% of respondents aged 35 – 59 and 94.4% of those aged 60+.

## Findings by ethnicity

**Figure 29.** Proportions of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police, by ethnicity.

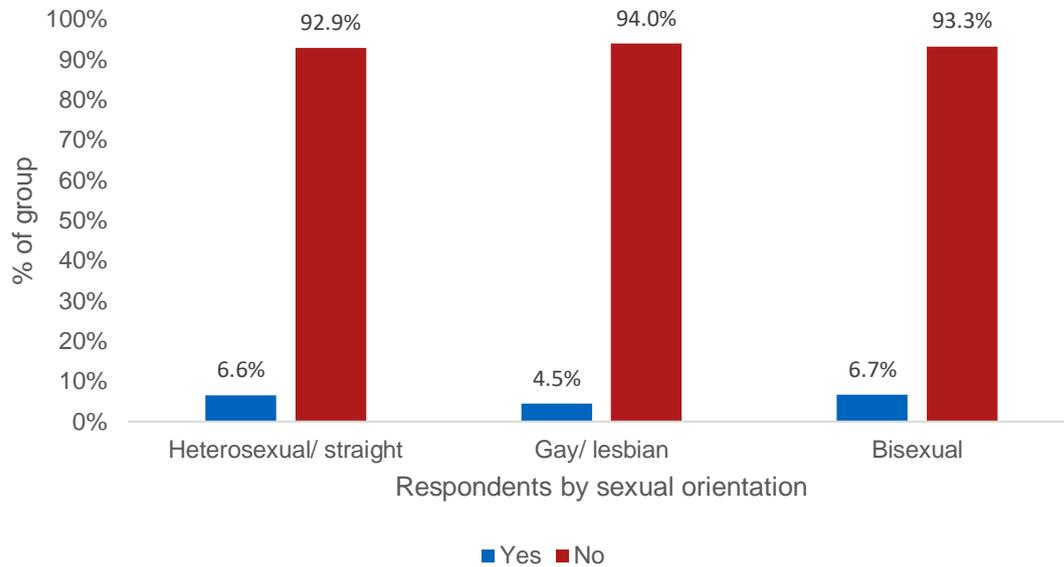


There were 876 responses to this question. 815 respondents were white and 61 were minority ethnic.

Figure 29, above, shows that minority ethnic respondents were twice as likely to say that they reported the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police than white respondents. Just over 1 in 10 (12.0%) minority ethnic respondents said they reported the incident to the police, compared to 6.0% of white respondents.

## Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 30.** Proportions of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police, by sexual orientation.

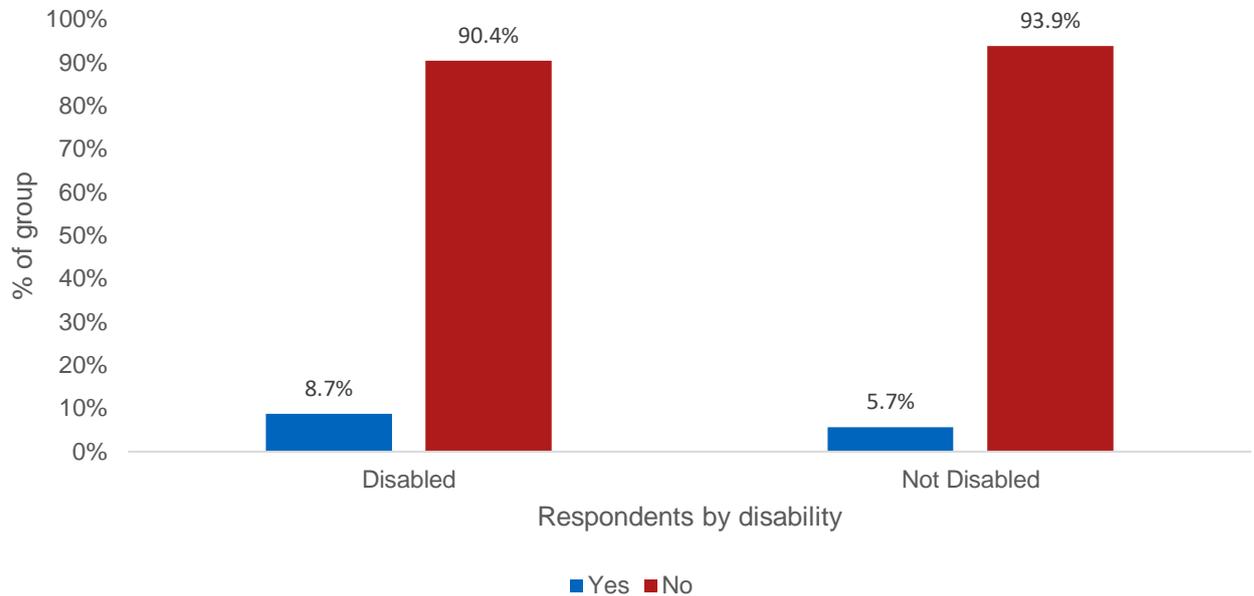


There were 875 responses to this question. 694 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 67 were gay/lesbian, 90 were bisexual, and 24 respondents described their sexual orientation as other.

Figure 30, above, demonstrates that there was little difference in the likelihood of reporting to the police based on sexual orientation. 6.6% of heterosexual/straight respondents said they reported the incident to the police, compared to 4.5% of gay/lesbian respondents, and 6.7% of bisexual respondents.

## Findings by disability

**Figure 31.** Proportions of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to the police, by disability.

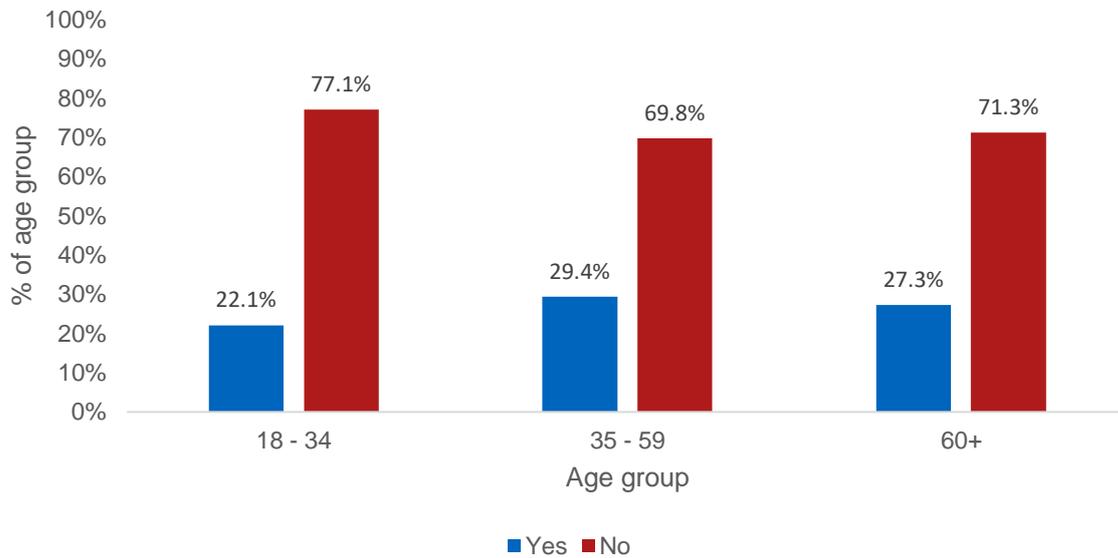


There were 893 responses to this question, 208 respondents were disabled and 685 were not. Figure 31, above, demonstrates that there was little difference between disabled and non-disabled respondents in the likelihood of reporting to the police. 8.7% of disabled people said that they reported the incident to the police, compared to 5.7% of non-disabled respondents.

**5.6 Q6. Did you report this incident to another person or agency in a position of authority (e.g. management, security staff, internet platforms)?**

**Findings by age**

**Figure 32.** Proportion of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority, by age.

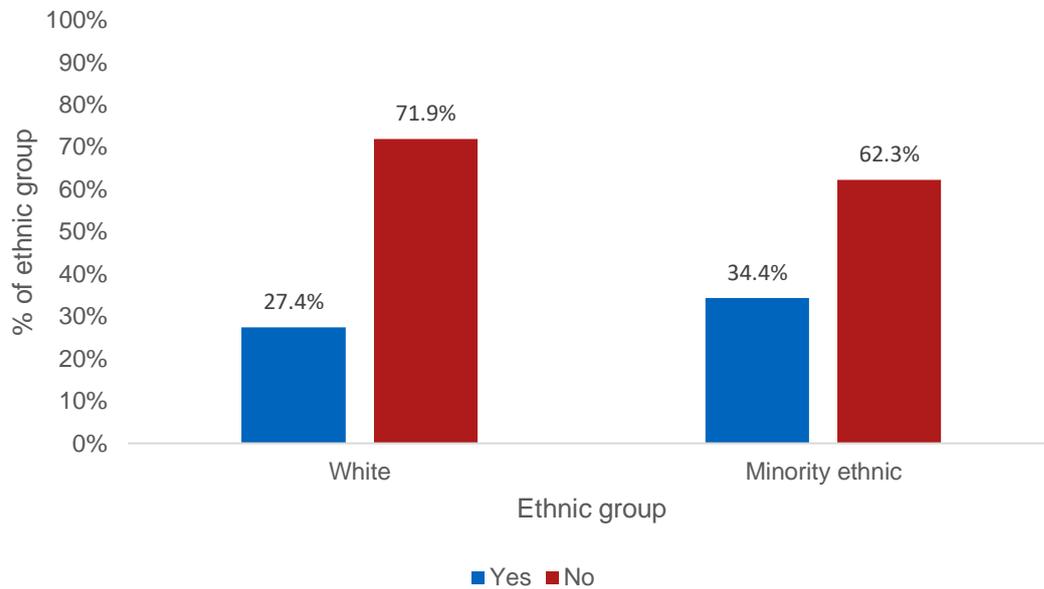


There were 886 responses to this question. 140 respondents were aged 18 – 34, 603 were aged 35 – 59 and 143 were aged 60+.

Figure 32, above, demonstrates that those respondents aged 18 – 34 were less likely than those aged 35 – 59 and 60+ to say that they reported the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority. Just over 1 in 5 (22.1%) of respondents aged 18 – 34 said that they reported the incident, compared to 3 in 10 (29.4%) of respondents aged 35 – 59, and 27.3% of those aged 60+.

## Findings by ethnicity

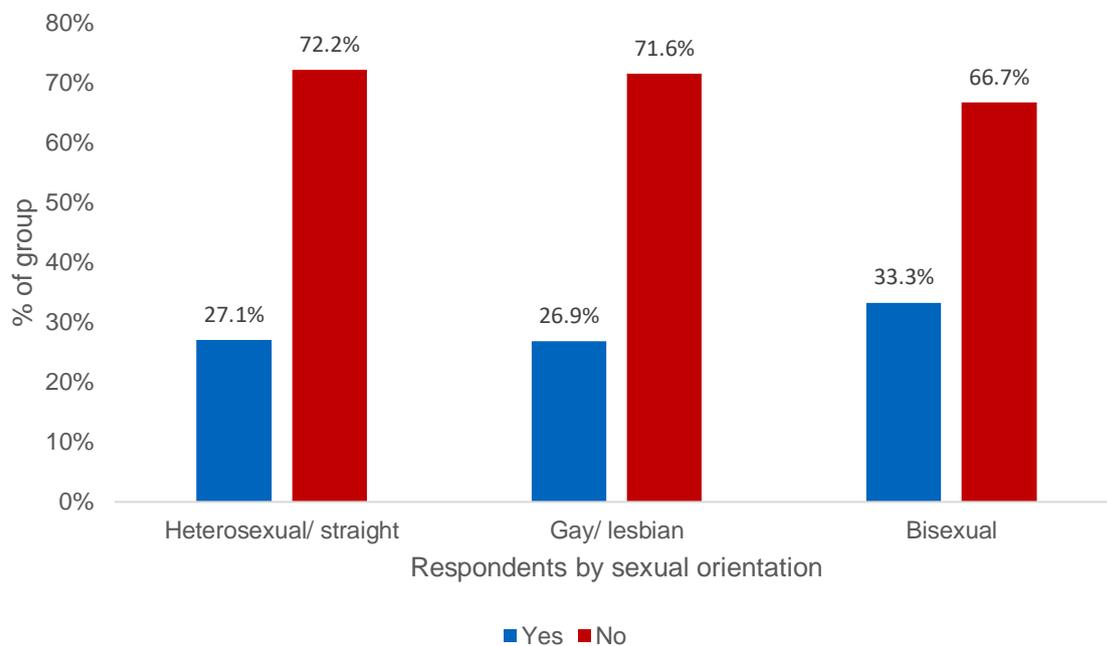
**Figure 33.** Proportion of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority, by ethnicity.



There were 876 responses to this question, 815 of which were amongst white respondents and 61 of which were among minority ethnic respondents. Figure 33, above, shows that minority ethnic respondents were more likely to say that they reported the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority. Just over one third (34.4%) of minority ethnic respondents said that they reported to a person or agency in a position of authority, compared to just over a quarter (27.4%) of white respondents.

## Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 34.** Proportion of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority, by sexual orientation.

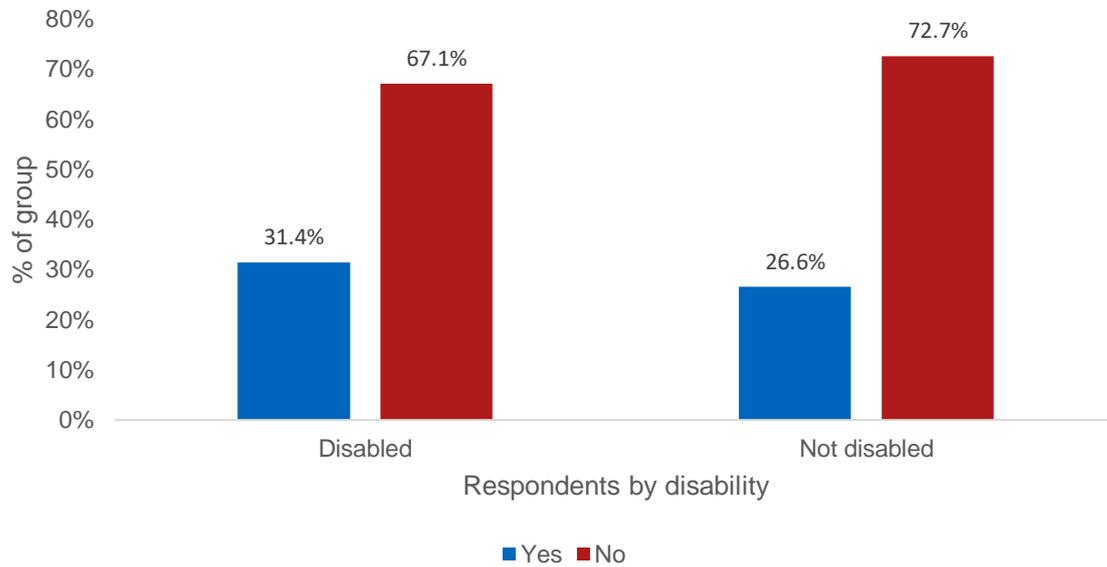


There were 875 responses to this question, 694 of which were among heterosexual/straight respondents, 67 among gay/lesbian respondents, 90 among bisexual respondents, and 24 among respondents who described their sexual orientation as other.

Figure 34, above, demonstrates that there was little difference in the likelihood to report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority between heterosexual/straight and gay/lesbian. 27.1% of heterosexual/straight respondents, and 26.9% of gay/lesbian respondents said that they reported the incident to a person or agency in a position of authority. Bisexual respondents, however, were more likely to say that they reported, with 1 in 3 (33.3%) doing so.

## Findings by disability

**Figure 35.** Proportion of participants who did vs. did not report the incident of misogynistic behaviour to another person or agency in a position of authority, disability.



There were 892 responses to this question. 207 respondents were disabled, and 685 respondents were not disabled.

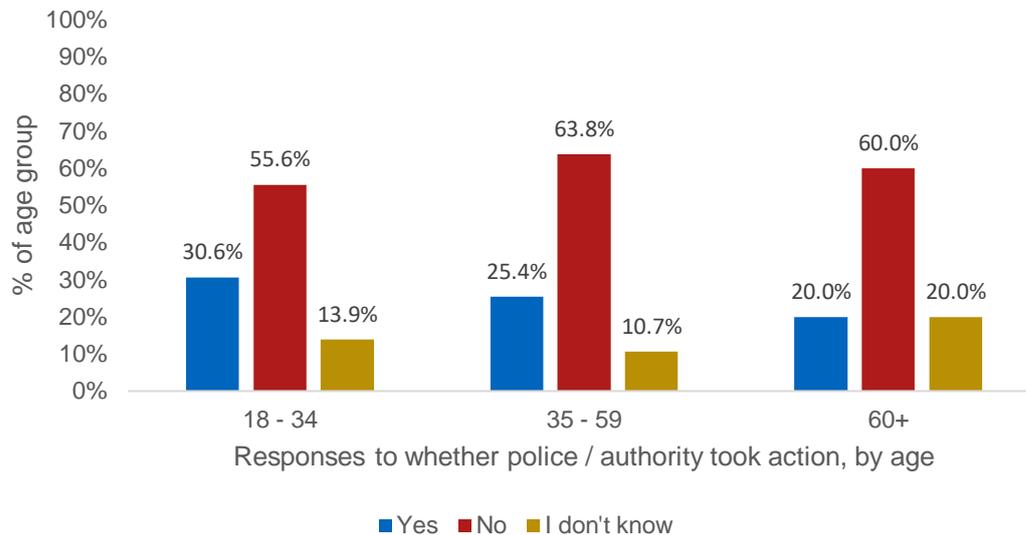
Figure 35, above, demonstrates that disabled respondents were slightly more likely than non-disabled people to say that they reported the misogynistic incident to another person or agency in a position of authority (31.4% of disabled respondents compared to 26.6% of non-disabled respondents).

Those participants who responded “yes” to questions 5 and/ or 6 were then presented with question 7:

## 5.7 Q7. Did the police and/or authority you reported the incident to take action?

### Findings by age

**Figure 36.** Percentages of participants who reported that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, by age.



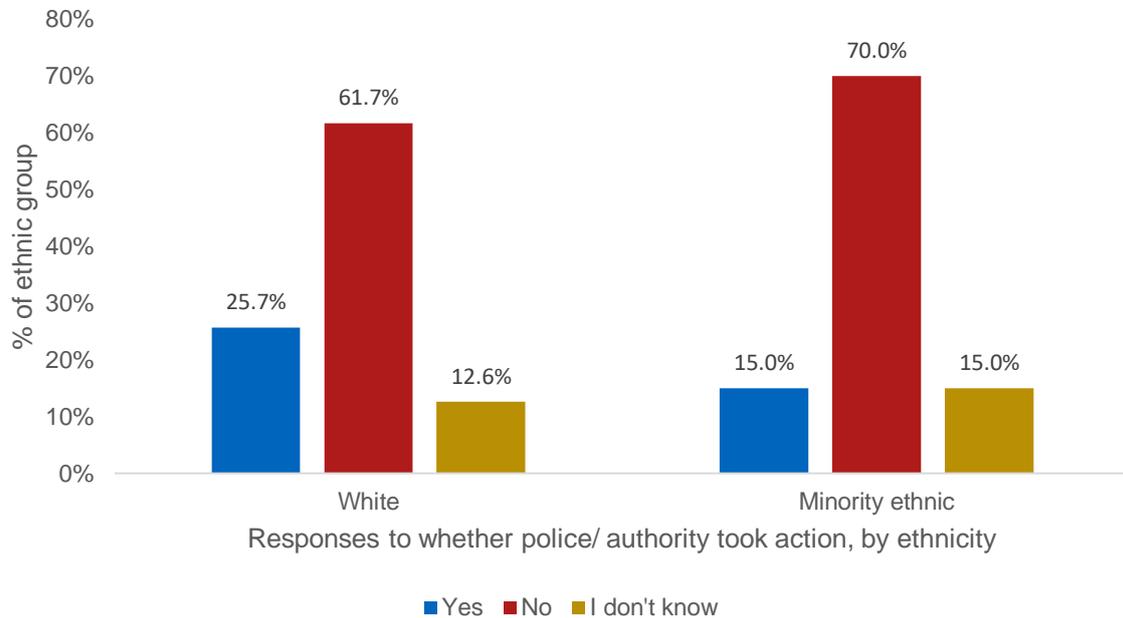
There were 253 responses to this question, 35 were among respondents aged 18 – 34, 177 among respondents aged 35 – 59 and 40 among respondents aged 60+.<sup>19</sup>

Figure 36, above, demonstrates that younger respondents aged 18 - 34 were more likely than respondents aged to 35 – 59 and those aged 60+ to report that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience. Just under a third (30.6%) of respondents aged 18 - 34 reported that the police and/or authority took action, compared to a quarter (25.4%) of 35 – 59 year olds and 1 in 5 (20.0%) of 60+ respondents.

<sup>19</sup> The reduced sample sizes amongst 18 – 34 year olds and those aged 60+ impacts the validity of these findings.

## Findings by ethnicity

**Figure 37.** Percentages of participants who reported that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, by ethnicity.

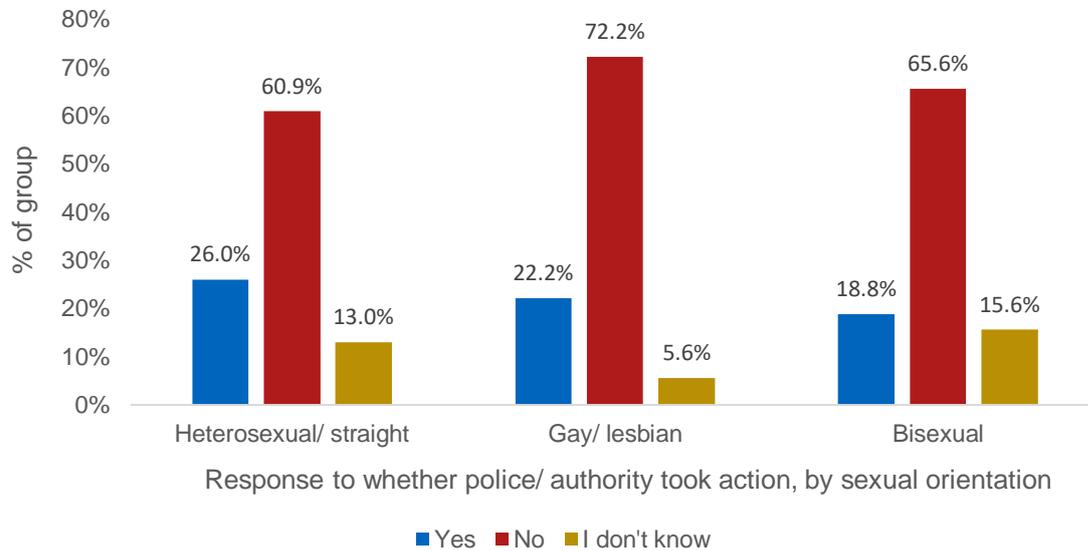


There were 230 responses to this question. 230 respondents were white and 20 were minority ethnic.<sup>20</sup> Figure 37, above, shows that minority ethnic respondents were less likely than white respondents to report that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience. 15.0% of minority ethnic respondents reported that the police and/or authority took action, compared to just over a quarter (25.7%) of white respondents.

<sup>20</sup> The reduced sample size for minority ethnic people has an impact on the validity of these findings.

## Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 38.** Percentages of participants who reported that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, by sexual orientation.



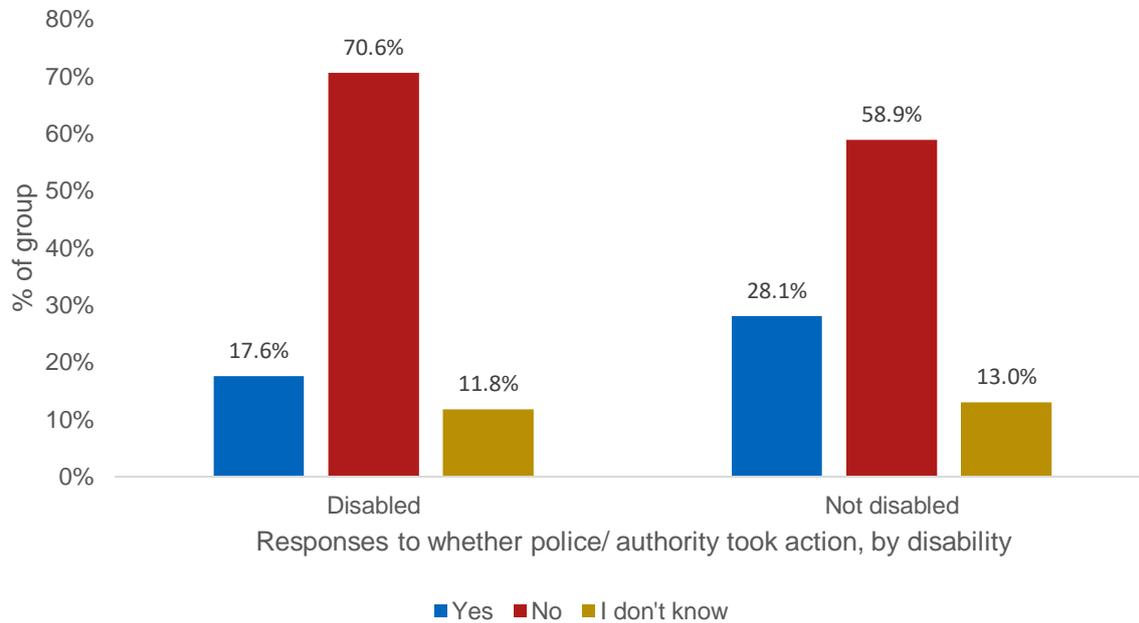
There were 249 responses to this question. 192 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 18 were gay/lesbian, 32 were bisexual, and 7 described their sexual orientation as other.<sup>21</sup>

Figure 38, above, demonstrates that heterosexual/straight respondents (26.0%) were slightly more likely to report that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, than gay/lesbian respondents (22.2%) and more likely than bisexual respondents (18.8%).

<sup>21</sup> The reduced sample of gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents for this question impacts the validity of these findings.

## Findings by disability

**Figure 39.** Percentages of participants who reported that the police and/or authority took action in relation to their misogynistic experience, by disability.



There were 253 responses to this question. 68 respondents were disabled and 185 respondents were not disabled.

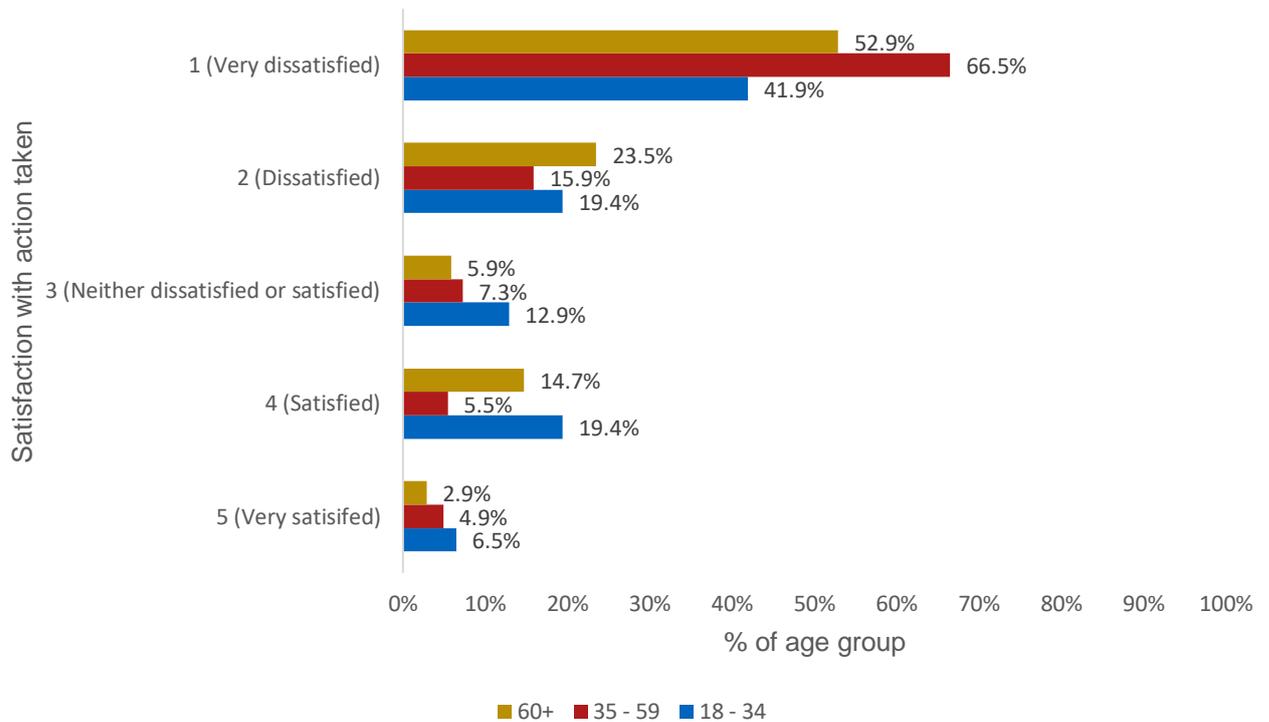
Figure 39 above, demonstrates that disabled respondents were less likely than non-disabled respondents to report that the police and/or authority took action. 17.6% of disabled respondents who reported the incident stated that action was taken, compared to just over a quarter (28.9%) of non-disabled respondents who reported the incident to the police and/or another authority.

Those participants were then asked:

**5.8 Q8. On a scale of 1 to 5 (very dissatisfied to very satisfied), how satisfied were you with their response?**

**Findings by age**

**Figure 40.** Participants' levels of satisfaction with the response from police and/or authority, by age



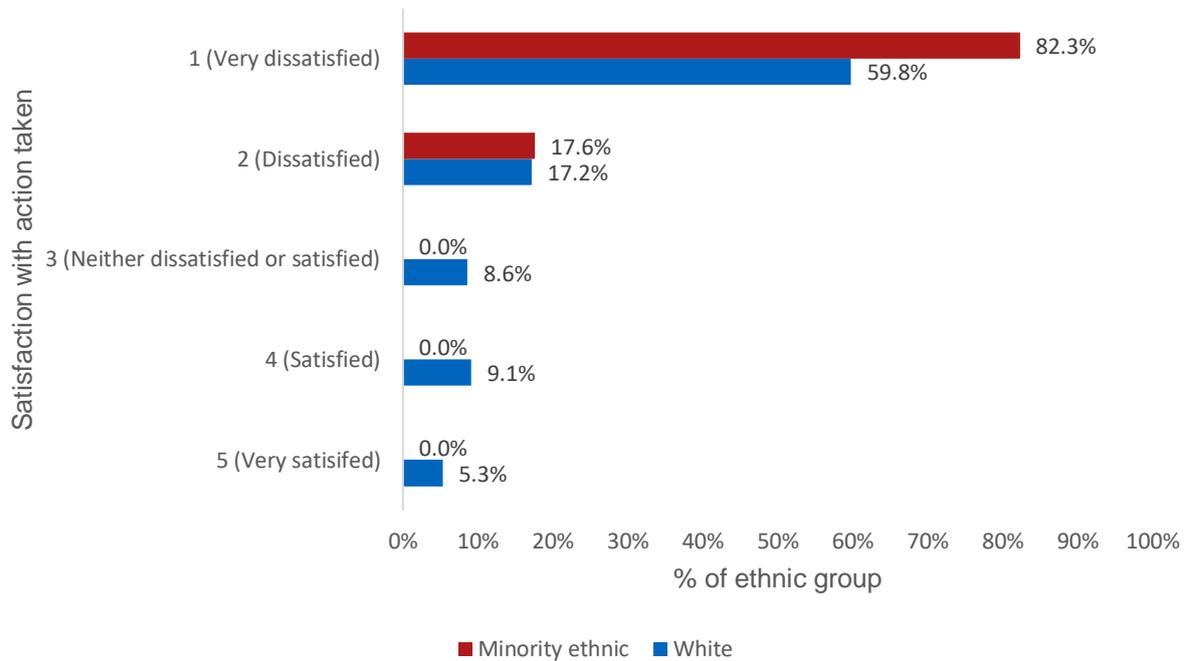
There were 229 responses to this question. 31 respondents were aged 18 – 34, 164 were aged 35 – 59 and 34 were aged 60+.<sup>22</sup>

Figure 40, above, shows that 18 - 34 year olds were more likely than 35 – 59 year olds and those aged 60+ to report being satisfied or very satisfied with the response of the police and/or authority. Just over a quarter (25.9%) of those 18 – 34 who reported the incident of misogyny reported being satisfied or very satisfied with the response, compared to 1 in 10 (10.4%) of 35 - 59 year olds, and 17.6% of respondents aged 60+. Respondents aged 35 – 59 were most likely to report being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (82.4%), compared to just under two thirds (61.3%) of 18 – 34 year olds, and over 1 in 4 (76.4%) respondents aged 60+.

<sup>22</sup> The reduced sample sizes amongst 18 – 34 year olds and those aged 60+ impacts the validity of these findings.

## Findings by ethnicity

**Figure 41.** Participants' levels of satisfaction with the response from police and/or authority, by ethnicity



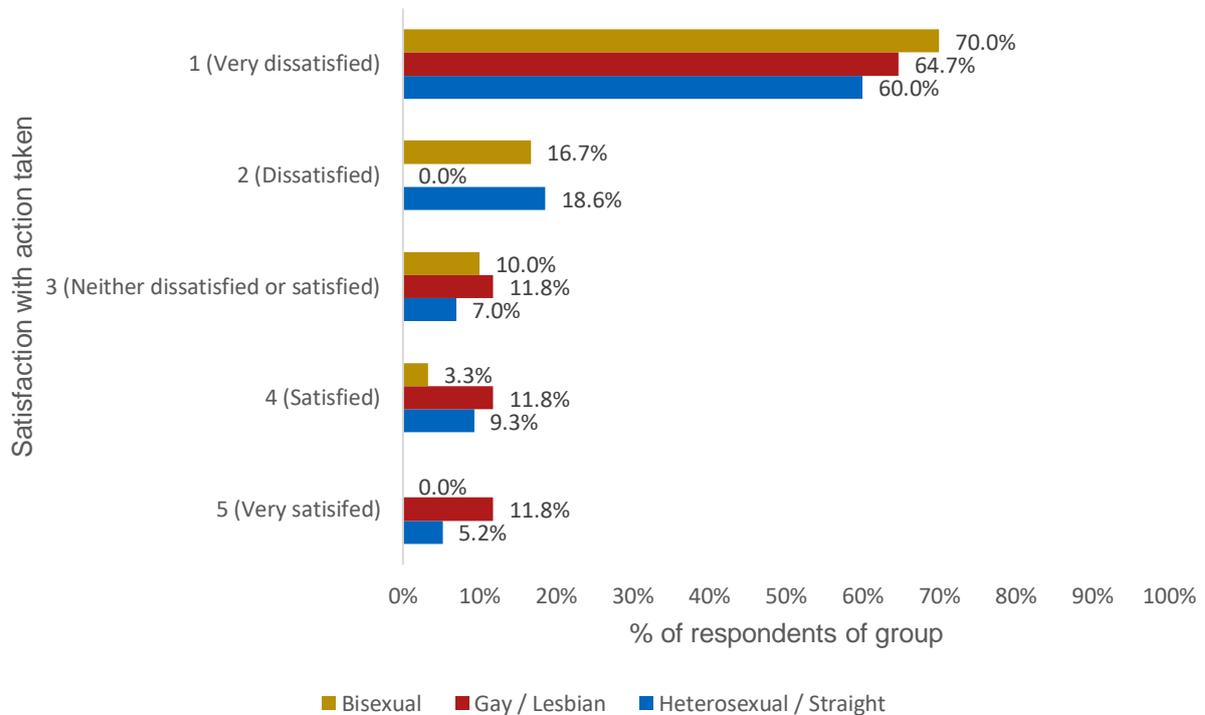
There were 226 responses to this question, 209 of which were among white respondents, and 17 of which were among minority ethnic respondents.<sup>23</sup>

Figure 41, above, shows that of those respondents who reported the misogynistic experience, white respondents were more likely than minority ethnic respondents to report being satisfied or very satisfied with the action taken (14.4% of white respondents versus 0% of minority ethnic respondents). All of the minority ethnic respondents (100%) reported being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied (compared to 77.0% of white respondents).

<sup>23</sup> This reduced sample size for minority ethnic respondents has an impact on the validity of these findings.

## Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 42.** Participants' levels of satisfaction with the response from police and/or authority, by sexual orientation.



There were 226 responses to this question. 172 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 17 were gay/lesbian, 30 were bisexual, and 7 respondents were other.<sup>24</sup>

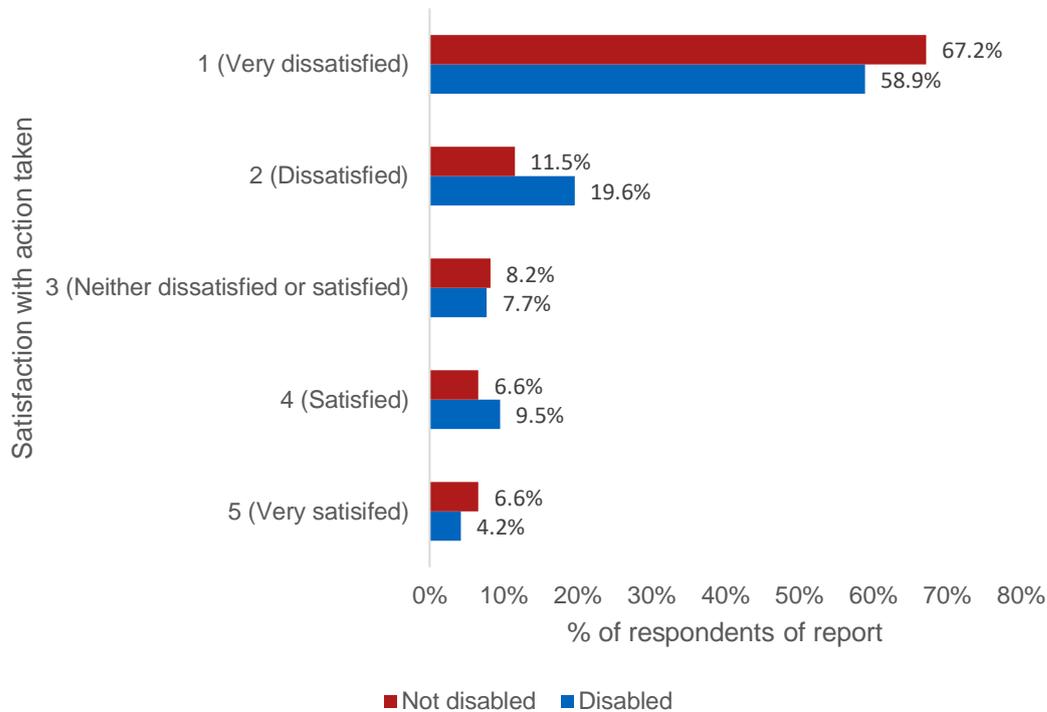
Figure 42, above, demonstrates that gay/lesbian respondents who reported the misogynistic experience were more likely than heterosexual/straight or bisexual respondents to report being satisfied or very satisfied with the response from police and/or authority (23.6% for gay/lesbian respondents, compared to 14.5% of heterosexual/straight respondents and 3.3% of bisexual respondents).

Heterosexual/straight and bisexual respondents were more likely to report being dissatisfied or very dissatisfied than gay/lesbian respondents (78.6% of heterosexual/straight respondents, and 86.7% of bisexual respondents, compared to 64.7% of gay/lesbian respondents).

<sup>24</sup> The reduced sample of gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents for this question impacts the validity of these findings.

## Findings by disability

**Figure 43.** Participants' levels of satisfaction with the response from police and/or authority, by disability.



There were 229 responses to this question. 61 respondents were disabled and 168 were not disabled.

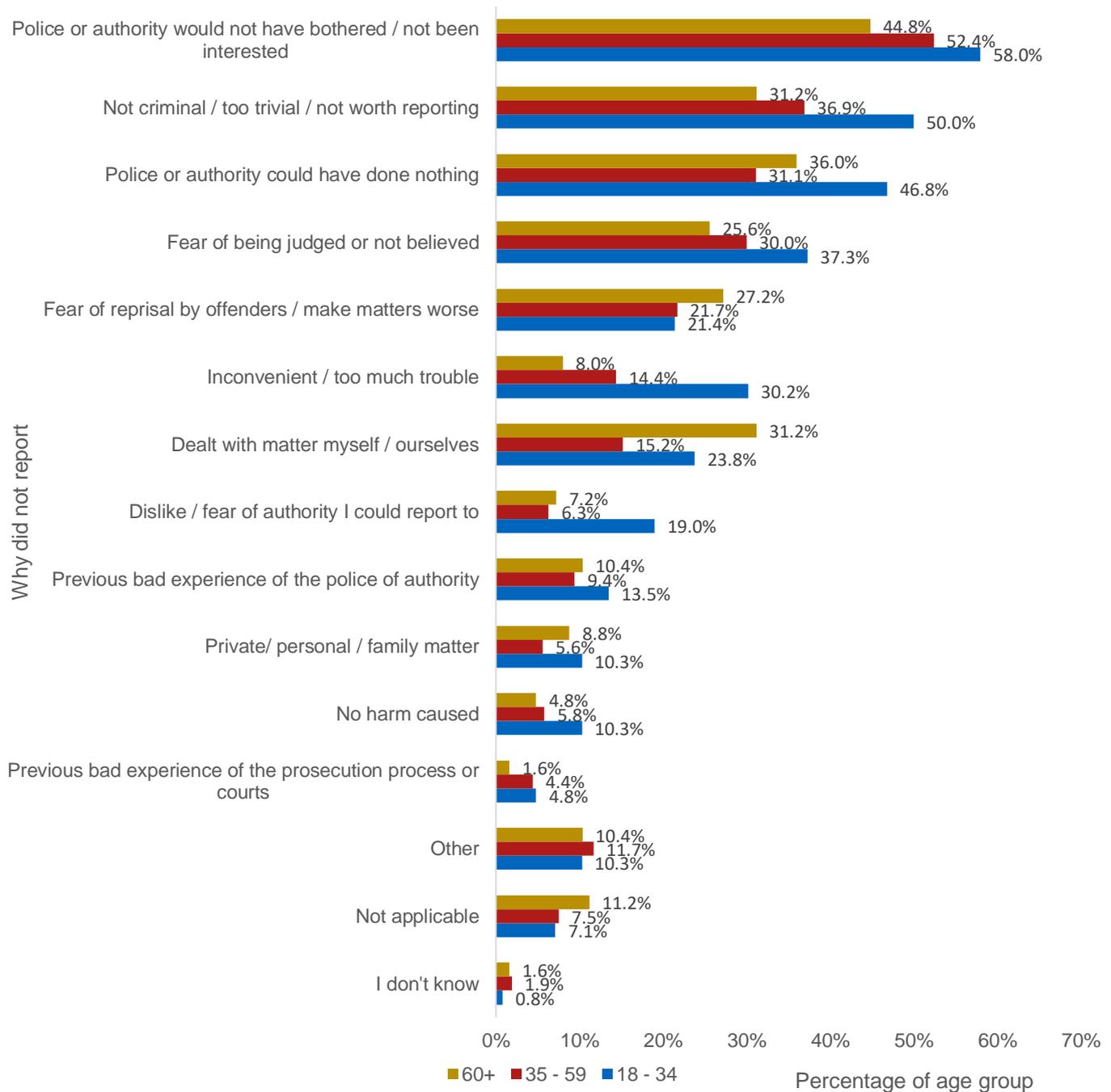
Figure 43, above, demonstrates that there was little difference between disabled and non-disabled respondents who reported the incident in their level of self-reported satisfaction with the response from the police and/or authority. The majority of both disabled and non-disabled respondents reported being dissatisfied with the response (78.5% and 78.7% respectively), but non-disabled respondents were more likely to report being very dissatisfied (67.2% non-disabled compared to 58.9% of disabled respondents who reported), and disabled respondents were more likely to report being dissatisfied (19.6% of disabled respondents who reported compared to 11.5% of non-disabled).

For those that did not report the incident to the police, they were presented with the question:

**5.9 Q9. If no, why didn't you report it to the police or someone in a position of authority? Tick All That Apply:**

**Findings by age**

**Figure 44.** Reasons for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority, by age.

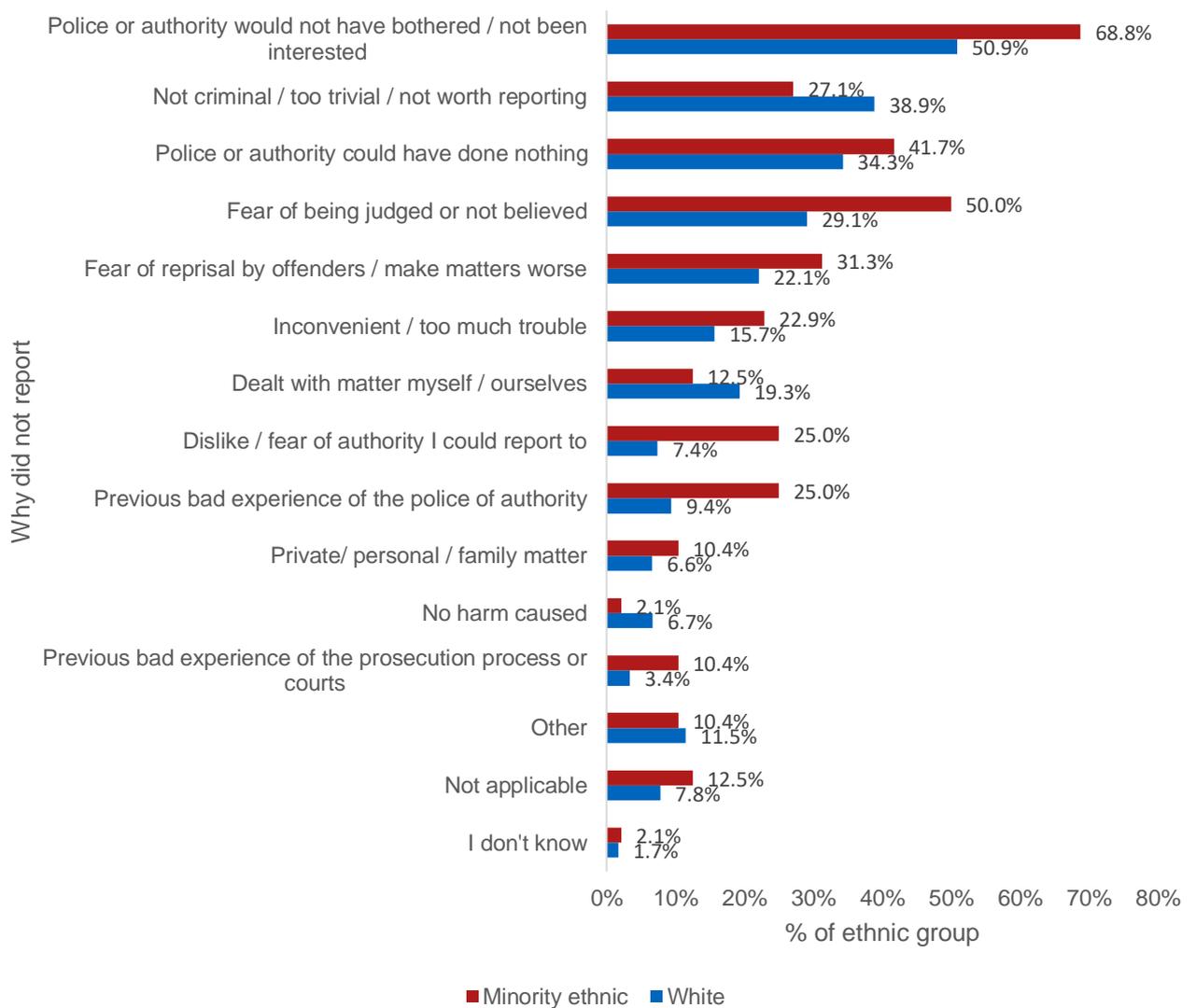


There were 772 responses to this question. 126 respondents were aged 18 - 34, 521 were aged 25 – 59 and 125 were aged 60+. Figure 44, above, shows that the most common reason provided for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority amongst respondents aged 18 – 34 was that the

police or authority would not have bothered/not been interested (58.0%). This was also the most common reason reported by respondents aged 35 – 59 (52.4%) and 60+ (44.8%). The next most common reason reported by respondents aged 18 – 34 was that the incident was not criminal/too trivial/not worth reporting (50.0%), compared to 36.9% of 35 – 59 year olds and 31.2% of those aged 60+. Younger respondents aged 18 – 34 were also more likely than respondents aged 35 – 59 year olds and 60+ to state that they didn't report because the police or authority could have done nothing (46.8% of 18 – 34 year olds, 31.1% of 35 – 59 year olds and 36.0% of respondents aged 60+), and to say that they didn't report due to a fear of being or not being believed (37.3% of 18 – 34 year olds, 30.0% of 35 – 59 year olds and 25.6% of respondents aged 60+).

### Findings by ethnicity

**Figure 45.** Reasons for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority, by ethnicity.

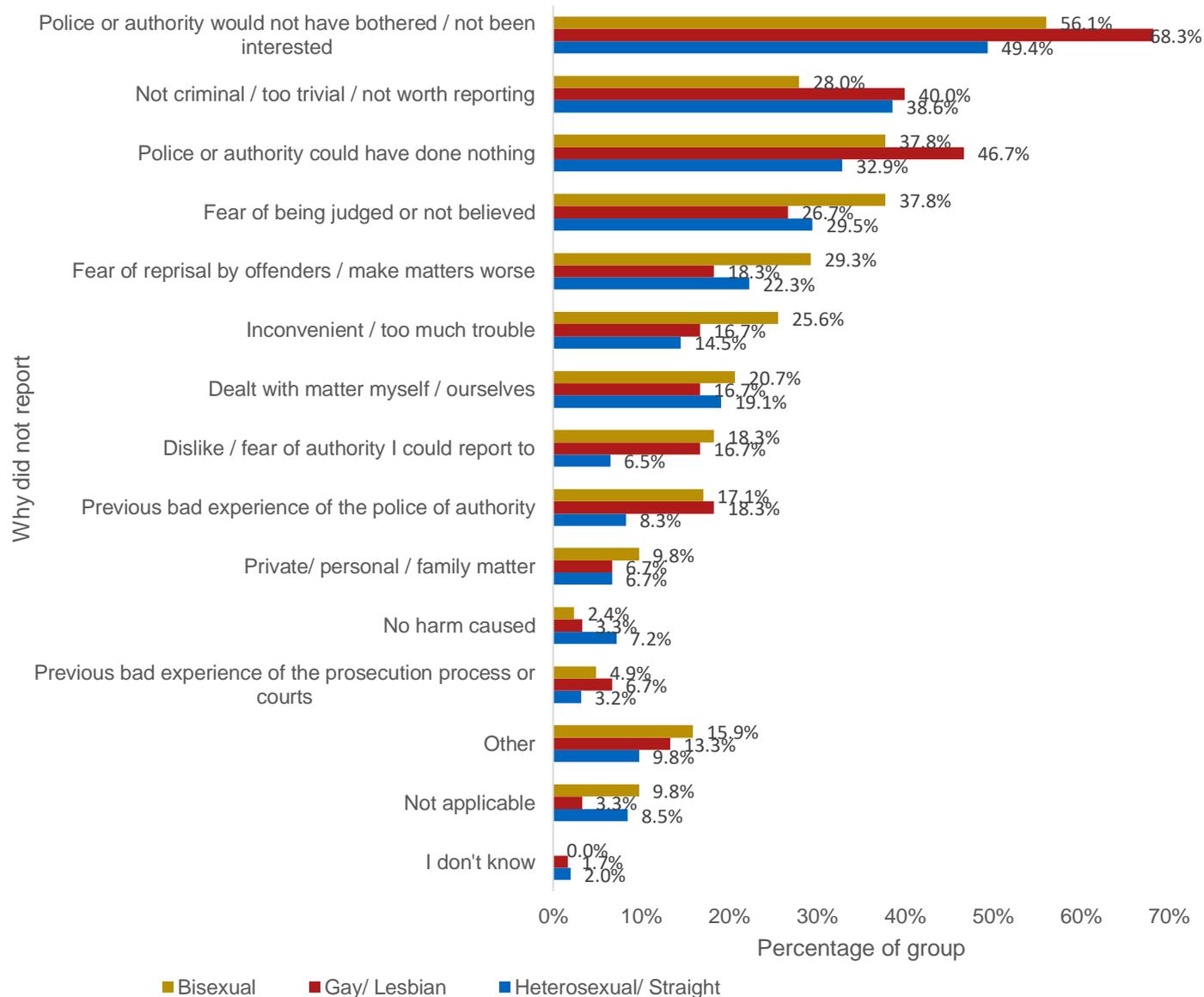


There were 763 responses to this question, of these 715 respondents were white and 48 were minority ethnic.

Figure 45, above, shows that the most common reason reported for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority for minority ethnic respondents was that the police or authority would not have been bothered/not been interested. Over two thirds (68.8%) of minority ethnic respondents who had not reported the incident cited this as a reason, compared to just over half (50.9%) of white respondents. The next most common reason minority ethnic respondents cited for not reporting was fear of being judged or not believed (50.0% of minority ethnic respondents who did not report, compared to 29.1% of white respondents).

### Findings by sexual orientation

**Figure 46.** Reasons for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority, by sexual orientation.

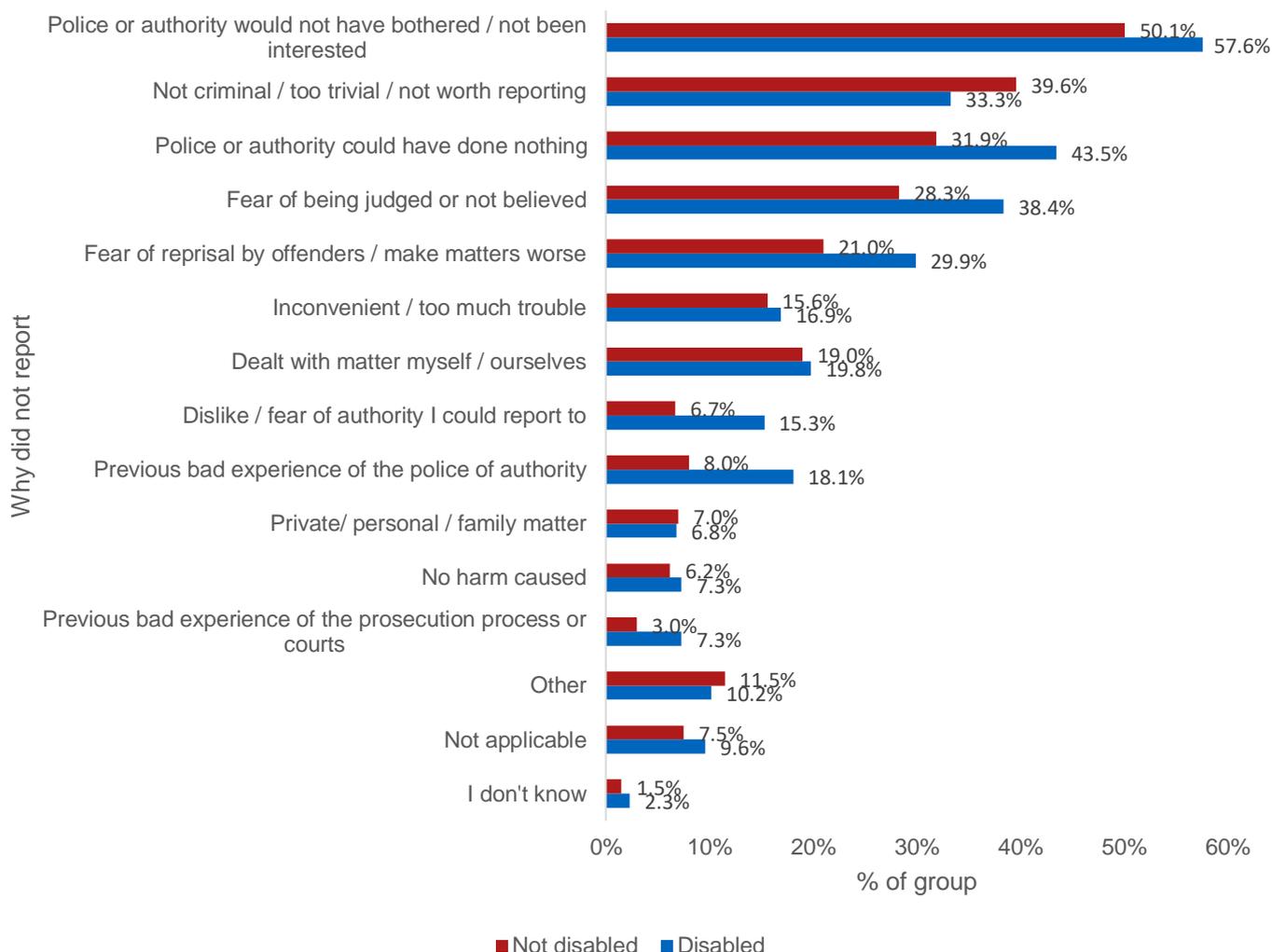


There were 762 responses to this question. 601 respondents were heterosexual/straight, 60 were gay/lesbian, 82 were bisexual, and 19 were other.

Figure 46, above, demonstrates that the most common reason stated for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority amongst gay/lesbian and bisexual respondents who did not report their experience of misogynistic behaviour was ‘police or authority would not have been bothered/not been interested.’ Over two thirds (68.3%) of gay/lesbian respondents and 56.1% of bisexual respondents who did not report cited this as a reason, compared to just under half (49.4%) of heterosexual/straight respondents. Just under a half (46.7%) of gay/lesbian respondents and 37.8% of bisexual respondents reported that the ‘police or authority could have done nothing’, compared to just under a third (32.9%) of heterosexual/straight respondents.

### Findings by disability

**Figure 47.** Reasons for not reporting misogynistic behaviour to the police or someone in a position of authority, by disability.



There were 778 responses to this question. 177 respondents were disabled and 601 were not disabled.

Figure 47, above, demonstrates that the most common reason provided amongst disabled respondents for not reporting was that the police would not have been

bothered/interested. Almost 6 in 10 (57.6%) of disabled respondents cited this reason which was also the most common response reported amongst non-disabled respondents albeit slightly less common (50.1%). The next most common reason for not reporting amongst disabled respondents was that the police or authority could have done nothing (43.5% of disabled respondents compared to 31.9% of non-disabled respondents).

**5.10 Q10. Below is a list of possible options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society. On a scale of 1 to 5 (very ineffective to very effective) how effective do you think the following would be?**

**Findings by age**

**Table 15.** Options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society rated from very ineffective to very effective, by age.

How effective do you think the following would be?	Number of respondents	Very ineffective or ineffective			Neither ineffective or effective			Very effective or effective		
		18 - 34	35 - 59	60+	18 - 34	35 - 59	60+	18 - 34	35 - 59	60+
<b>Education interventions</b>	<b>870</b> (143 aged 18 - 34; 587 aged 35 - 59; 140 aged 60+)	4.9%	10.9%	10.7%	11.9%	12.4%	17.9%	83.2%	76.7%	71.4%
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	<b>868</b> (141 aged 18 - 34; 587 aged 35 - 59; 138 aged 60+)	10.6%	9.8%	11.6%	17.0%	16.3%	20.3%	72.3%	73.9%	68.1%
<b>Police powers for on-the-spot fines</b>	<b>856</b> (142 aged 18 - 34; 580 aged 35 - 59; 134 aged 60+)	21.1%	22.6%	29.9%	17.6%	22.6%	23.9%	61.3%	54.8%	46.3%
<b>Sex or gender aggravator</b>	<b>842</b> (140 aged 18 - 34; 571 aged 35 - 59; 131 aged 60+)	10.0%	10.7%	14.5%	18.6%	16.3%	18.3%	71.4%	73.0%	67.2%

<b>Create a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour</b>	<b>835</b> (137 aged 18 - 34; 565 aged 35 - 59; 133 aged 60+)	13.9 %	16.5 %	19.5 %	12.4 %	15.6 %	17.3 %	73.7 %	68.0 %	63.2 %
<b>Do nothing more</b>	<b>396</b> (85 18 - 34; 257 35 - 59; 54 60+)	98.8 %	82.0 %	81.5 %	1.2%	6.6%	7.4%	0%	5.4%	11.1 %

Table 15, above, demonstrates that younger people age 18 - 34 were more likely than respondents aged 35 – 59 and 60+ to report that education interventions would be very effective or effective at tackling misogyny (83.2% for respondents aged 18 - 34, compared to 76.7% of respondents aged 35 - 59 and 71.4% of respondents aged 60+).

Younger respondents were also more likely to report that police powers for the on-the-spot fines would be very effective or effective (61.3% of respondents aged 18 -34, compared to 54.8% of respondents aged 35 - 59 and 46.3% of respondents aged 60+), and also slightly more likely to view the creation of a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour as effective or very effective (73.7% of respondents aged 18 - 34, compared to 68.0% of respondents aged 35 - 59 and 63.2% amongst respondents aged 60+).

Older respondents (those aged 60+) were more likely than younger respondents (aged 18 to 34) to report that all interventions would be ineffective or very ineffective, in particular both those aged 35 – 59 and those aged 60+ were more likely than respondents aged 18 – 34 to view education interventions as ineffective or very ineffective (10.9% of 35 to 59 year olds, 10.7% of respondents aged 60+, compared to 4.9% of respondents aged 18 to 34).

### Findings by ethnicity

**Table 16.** Options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society rated from very ineffective to very effective, by ethnicity.

How effective do you think the following would be?	Number of respondents	Very ineffective or ineffective		Neither ineffective or effective		Very effective or effective	
		White	Minority ethnic	White	Minority ethnic	White	Minority ethnic
<b>Education interventions</b>	860 (801 white and 59 minority ethnic)	9.2%	16.9%	13.4%	11.9%	77.4%	71.2%
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	857 (798 white and 59 minority ethnic)	10.3%	10.2%	16.7%	16.9%	73.1%	72.9%

<b>Police powers for on-the-spot fines</b>	845 (787 white and 58 minority ethnic)	24.1%	17.2%	22.0%	20.7%	53.9%	62.1%
<b>Sex or gender aggravator</b>	831 (777 white and 54 minority ethnic)	11.8%	1.9%	16.5%	24.0%	71.7%	74.1%
<b>Create a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour</b>	824 (769 white and 55 minority ethnic)	16.9%	9.1%	15.2%	18.2%	67.9%	72.2%
<b>Do nothing more</b>	394 (367 white and 27 minority ethnic)	89.6%	88.9%	5.7%	3.7%	4.6%	7.4%

Table 16, above, demonstrates that minority ethnic respondents were more likely than white respondents to report that education interventions would be very ineffective or ineffective at tackling misogyny (16.9% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 9.2% of white respondents). Minority ethnic respondents were also more likely than white respondents to report that police powers for on-the-spot fines would be effective or very effective (62.1% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 53.9% of white respondents), and also more likely to report that the creation of a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour would be effective or very effective (72.2% of minority ethnic respondents compared to 62.9% of white respondents).

### Findings by sexual orientation

**Table 17.** Options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society rated from very ineffective to very effective, by sexual orientation.

How effective do you think the following would be?	No. of respondent	Very ineffective or ineffective			Neither ineffective or effective			Very effective or effective		
		Straight	Gay/Lesbian	Bi-sexual	Straight	Gay/Lesbian	Bi-sexual	Straight	Gay/Lesbian	Bi-sexual
<b>Education interventions</b>	859 (685 straight; 64 gay/lesbian; 88 bisexual; 22 other)	10.4%	7.8%	8.0%	13.3%	10.9%	12.5%	76.4%	81.3%	79.5%
<b>Public awareness</b>	857 (683 heterosexual/	10.2%	14.3%	8.0%	16.7%	19%	17%	73.1%	66.7%	75.0%

<b>raising campaigns</b>	straight; 63 gay/lesbian; 88 bisexual; 23 other)									
<b>Police powers for on-the-spot fines</b>	<b>845</b> (672 heterosexual/straight; 63 gay/lesbian; 87 bisexual; 23 other)	24.1 %	17.5 %	21.8 %	22.3 %	20.6 %	18.4 %	53.6 %	61.9 %	59.8 %
<b>Sex or gender aggravator</b>	<b>831</b> (659 heterosexual/straight; 64 gay/lesbian; 87 bisexual; 21 other)	11.5 %	7.8 %	10.3 %	18.5 %	15.6 %	8.0 %	70.0 %	76.6 %	81.6 %
<b>Create a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour</b>	<b>825</b> (655 heterosexual/straight; 63 gay/lesbian; 88 bisexual; 19 other)	17.1 %	6.3 %	19.3 %	15.7 %	12.3 %	15.9 %	67.2 %	81.0 %	64.8 %
<b>Do nothing more</b>	<b>393</b> (317 heterosexual/straight; 24 gay/lesbian; 41 bisexual; 11 other)	89.0 %	87.5 %	95.1 %	6.0 %	4.2 %	7.3 %	5.0 %	8.3 %	0 %

Table 17, above, demonstrates that education interventions were the intervention most likely to be reported as very effective or effective amongst gay/lesbian and heterosexual/straight respondents (81.3% of gay/lesbian respondents compared to 79.5% of bisexual respondents and 76.4% of heterosexual/straight respondents). The most popular intervention reported amongst bisexual respondents was a sex or gender aggravator, with more than 4 in 5 (81.6%) of bisexual respondents viewing a sex or gender aggravator as effective or very effective, compared to 70.0% of heterosexual/straight respondents and 76.6% of gay/lesbian respondents.

## Findings by disability

**Table 18.** Options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society rated from very ineffective to very effective, by disability.

How effective do you think the following would be?	Number of respondents	Very ineffective or ineffective		Neither ineffective or effective		Very effective or effective	
		Disabled	Not disabled	Disabled	Not disabled	Disabled	Not disabled
<b>Education interventions</b>	<b>874</b> (200 disabled respondents and 674 non-disabled)	9.5%	9.9%	14%	13.2%	76.5%	76.9%
<b>Public awareness raising campaigns</b>	<b>872</b> (199 disabled respondents and 673 non-disabled)	10.6%	10.1%	19.6%	16.3%	69.8%	73.6%
<b>Police powers for on-the-spot fines</b>	<b>860</b> (194 disabled respondents and 666 non-disabled)	20.1%	24.5%	24.2%	21.3%	55.7%	54.2%
<b>Sex or gender aggravator</b>	<b>846</b> (193 disabled respondents and 653 non-disabled)	11.4%	11.0%	18.1%	16.7%	70.5%	72.3%
<b>Create a new criminal offence for all types of misogynistic behaviour</b>	<b>839</b> (195 disabled respondents and 644 non-disabled)	16.9%	16.5%	13.3%	16.0%	69.7%	67.5%
<b>Do nothing more</b>	<b>398</b> (80 disabled respondents and 318 non-disabled).	86.3%	90.3%	7.5%	5.0%	6.3%	4.7%

Table 18, above, demonstrates that there is little difference in opinions on options to tackle misogynistic behaviour in society between disabled and non-disabled people.

## **6. Annex A. Table with names of organisations to which the survey was disseminated**

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### **List of Organisations contacted to take part in the lived experiences survey**

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- 6VT Youth Café
- Advocating Together (Dundee) SCIO
- Age Scotland
- Amnesty International
- Angus Child Protection Committee, Adult Protection Committee and Violence Against Women Partnership
- Angus Community Justice Partnership
- Antisocial Behaviour Officers Forum (ASBOF)
- Antisocial Behaviour Lawyers Forum (ASBLF)
- Bridges Programme
- British Transport Police
- CARE for Scotland
- Carnegie
- Children and Young People's Commissioner Scotland
- Children In Scotland
- City of Edinburgh Council
- Community Justice Ayrshire
- Community Justice Scotland
- Community Justice Scotland (CJS)
- Community Safety Glasgow, Violence Against Women
- COSLA
- dsdfamilies
- Dumfries and Galloway Council
- Dundee City Council
- East Ayrshire Council
- East Dunbartonshire Council
- East Renfrewshire Violence Against Women Partnership
- Edinburgh Women's Aid
- Education Scotland
- Educational Institute of Scotland
- Equate Scotland
- Falkirk Council
- Fife Centre for Equalities
- For a Fair, Just and Inclusive Scotland (FJSS)
- Glasgow Violence Against Women Partnership
- Glasgow Women's Library

- Health and Social Care Alliance (the Alliance)
- Highland Council
- Hourglass
- Inclusion Scotland
- Leap Sports
- LGBT Healthy Living Centre
- Midlothian Community Safety and Justice Partnership
- NHS Health Scotland
- Outside the Box
- People First Scotland
- Perth & Kinross Council
- RESPECT
- Respectme
- SACRO
- Safe Lives
- Scottish Bi+ Network
- Scottish Borders Council
- Scottish Care
- Scottish Children's Reporter Administration
- Scottish Community Safety Network
- Scottish Human Rights Commission
- Scottish Legal Board (SLAB)
- Scottish Older People's Assembly
- Scottish Sentencing Council
- Scottish Trades Union Congress
- Scottish Women's Convention
- SCVO Highland
- SCVO Edinburgh
- Shetland Islands Council
- South Ayrshire Council
- STEP
- Stirling Violence Against Women Partnership
- Stonewall Scotland
- The City of Edinburgh Council
- Together: Scottish Alliance for Children's Rights
- Victim Support Scotland
- West Lothian Council
- White Ribbon Scotland
- Who Cares? Scotland
- Wise Women

- Women and Girls in Scotland
  - Women Together in Fife
  - Women's Support Project
  - YoungScot
  - Youth Community Support Agency YCSA
  - Zero Tolerance
-

## 7. Annex B. Young women's experiences of misogyny

A limitation of this survey is that younger women's views and experiences are underrepresented. This annex provides a summary of wider evidence on young women's experiences of misogyny. From this evidence, it is clear that younger women and girls are at particular risk of experiencing misogynistic behaviours across all contexts (from Scotland, UK and international evidence).

The range of gender based violence and misogynistic behaviours young women and girls experience include:

- sexual assault (i.e. forced or attempted forced sexual intercourse or activity, unwanted sexual touching, indecent exposure, sexual threats)<sup>25 26 27 28 29 30</sup>
- sexual violence from a partner<sup>31 32 33 34</sup> including the sharing of sexually explicit images of them without consent<sup>35 36</sup>
- stalking (higher among 16 to 24 year olds than any other age group)<sup>37 38 39</sup>

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<sup>25</sup> [Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2019/20: main findings - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

<sup>26</sup> Alison Phipps, Isabel Young, 'That's What She Said: Women Students' Experiences of 'Lad Culture' in Higher Education', 2013, [Layout 1 \(sussex.ac.uk\)](http://sussex.ac.uk) p. 29, p. 47

<sup>27</sup> [Recorded Crime in Scotland 2019-2020](http://www.gov.scot)

<sup>28</sup> End Violence Against Women (EVAW), 'YouGov Poll Exposes High Levels Sexual Harassment in Schools', 2010, [YouGov Poll Exposes High Levels Sexual Harassment in Schools \(endviolenceagainstwomen.org.uk\)](http://endviolenceagainstwomen.org.uk)

<sup>29</sup> National Union of Students, 'Hidden Marks: a study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault', 2011, [Hidden Marks: a study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault @ NUS Connect](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk), p. 3

<sup>30</sup> National Union of Students, 'Sexual Violence in Further Education: A study of students' experiences and perceptions of sexual harassment, violence and domestic abuse in further education', June 2019, [Sexual Violence in Further Education Report @ NUS Connect](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk), p. 6

<sup>31</sup> NSPCC, [Partner Exploitation and violence in teenage intimate relationships](http://www.nspcc.org.uk), 2009

<sup>32</sup> [Recorded Crime in Scotland 2019-2020](http://www.gov.scot)

<sup>33</sup> C Marston and R Lewis, [Anal heterosexual among young people and implications for health promotion: a qualitative study in the UK](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk), 2014

<sup>34</sup> Coy et al, ["Sex without consent, I suppose that is rape": How young people in England understand sexual consent](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk), 2013

<sup>35</sup> Gill et al, [Teen girls, sexual double standards and 'sexting': Gendered value in digital image exchange](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk), 2013

<sup>36</sup> Educational Institute of Scotland, 'Get it Right for Girls', 2016, [Get it Right for Girls \(eis.org.uk\)](http://eis.org.uk)

<sup>37</sup> [Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2019/20: main findings - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](http://www.gov.scot)

<sup>38</sup> National Union of Students, 'Hidden Marks: a study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault', 2011, [Hidden Marks: a study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault @ NUS Connect](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk)

<sup>39</sup> National Union of Students, 'Sexual Violence in Further Education: A study of students' experiences and perceptions of sexual harassment, violence and domestic abuse in further education', June 2019, [Sexual Violence in Further Education Report @ NUS Connect](http://www.nusconnect.org.uk),

- verbal harassment including uninvited sexual comments, name-calling, whistling<sup>40 41 42 43 44 45 46</sup>
- being sent unwanted messages by text, email, messenger or posts on social media sites<sup>47 48 49 50</sup>

Available research demonstrates that young women and girls in particular experience harassment in public spaces, including unwanted sexual attention or sexual or physical contact and verbal harassment like catcalling, wolf-whistling and sexual comments.<sup>51</sup> This is particularly prevalent in commercial spaces both as a customer<sup>52</sup> or as a staff member. Young workers are overrepresented in public-facing jobs, and are more likely to be working in caring, sales and elementary occupations<sup>53</sup> than older workers. Therefore, they are more likely to be the victim of harassment, abuse or violence committed by a customer, client, patient, member of the public or a business contact than any other age group.<sup>54</sup> Young women workers often cite a lack of management

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<sup>40</sup> National Union of Students, 'Hidden Marks: a study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault', 2011, [Hidden Marks: a study of women students' experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault @ NUS Connect](#), p. 3

<sup>41</sup> End Violence Against Women (EVAW), 'YouGov Poll Exposes High Levels Sexual Harassment in Schools', 2010, [YouGov Poll Exposes High Levels Sexual Harassment in Schools \(endviolenceagainstwomen.org.uk\)](#)

<sup>42</sup> Fixers, 'Fixers Investigates: the trouble with... sex in schools', in Support of the Women & Equalities Committee, 2016, [Fixers Report \(parliament.uk\)](#)

<sup>43</sup> YWCA Scotland - The Young Women's Movement, 'Young Women Lead Committee: Report on Sexual Harassment in Schools', 2018, [YWL-Report-FINAL.pdf \(ywcascotland.org\)](#), p. 8-9

<sup>44</sup> YWCA Scotland utilise Citizen's Advice definition of sexual harassment as "unwanted behaviour of a sexual nature which violates your dignity, makes you feel intimidated, degraded or humiliated, [and/or] creates a hostile or offensive environment".

<sup>45</sup> Stefania Pagani, (2021). Evaluating the Mentors in Violence Prevention Programme: A theoretical, longitudinal, and process approach. Unpublished thesis.

<sup>46</sup> Girlguiding (2018), 'Girls in Scotland 2018', [Girls-in-Scotland-survey-2018.pdf \(girlguidingscotland.org.uk\)](#), p. 9

<sup>47</sup> [Scottish Crime and Justice Survey 2019/20: main findings - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

<sup>48</sup> [Young People's Attitudes To Violence Against Women Report On Findings From The Young People In Scotland Survey 2014 - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](#)

<sup>49</sup> European Institute for Gender Equality (2019). Gender equality and youth: opportunities and risks of digitalisation – Main report. Available at: <https://eige.europa.eu/publications/gender-equality-and-youth-opportunities-and-risks-digitalisation>

<sup>50</sup> European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (2014), 'Violence against women: an EU-wide survey', [Violence against women: an EU-wide survey. Main results report | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights \(europa.eu\)](#)

<sup>51</sup> Plan International UK (2018), 'Street Harassment It's Not OK: Girls' experiences and views', [download \(plan-uk.org\)](#)

<sup>52</sup> Drinkaware (2017) 'Inappropriate behaviour in pubs, bars and clubs', [PowerPoint Presentation \(drinkaware.co.uk\)](#)

<sup>53</sup> 'Elementary occupations' are defined by the Office for National Statistics (ONS) as occupations which will usually require a minimum general level of education (i.e. that which is acquired by the end of the period of compulsory education). Some occupations at this level will also have short periods of work-related training in areas such as health and safety, food hygiene, and customer service requirements. Examples of these kinds of occupations include warehouse operatives, delivery operatives and bar staff. See: [SOC 2020 Volume 1: structure and descriptions of unit groups - Office for National Statistics](#)

<sup>54</sup> TUC (2018), 'Not part of the job: Young workers' experiences of third-party harassment: polling and survey findings', [NotPartoftheJob.pdf \(tuc.org.uk\)](#), p. 3

support, with sexual harassment and assault apparently being viewed by some employers as a 'normal' part of the job.<sup>55</sup>

“Customers sexually harassing staff members and myself whilst drunk. It also occurs when they are sober. It happens every time I work. My managers think it’s funny.” Customer service assistant, retail, aged 18 – 21<sup>56</sup>

Online misogyny also appears to be a particular problem for young women and girls. For example, one survey found that the risk of young women aged between 18 and 29 years becoming a target of threatening and offensive advances on the internet is twice as high as the risk for women aged between 40 and 49 years.<sup>57</sup>

Minority ethnic and LGBTI young women report higher rates of all experiences of harassment, often being harassed both for their ethnicity or sexual orientation, as well as their gender.<sup>58 59</sup>

“It’s like a micro aggression, because they try to use your race as a compliment, but I don’t want to be complimented because of my skin colour. I think it’s a big issue, it’s the kind of thing that only happens to girls. I have a little brother and no one ever comes up to him.” Khadija, 19, Edinburgh<sup>60</sup>

Young disabled women’s experience with misogyny is a gap in the evidence but this example from a news article provides some insight:

"I was in a nightclub with some friends in a manual wheelchair and a guy kept coming over and trying to interact with me. I very clearly kept saying 'no, go away'," she said. "He waited until my friends moved away. He knew I couldn't go anywhere. He came over and stuck his hand down my shirt."<sup>61</sup>

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<sup>55</sup> Equality and Human Rights Commission. (2018) Turning the Tables: Ending Sexual Harassment at Work. EHRC, [ending-sexual-harassment-at-work.pdf \(equalityhumanrights.com\)](https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/sexual-harassment-at-work/ending-sexual-harassment-at-work), p. 4

<sup>56</sup> TUC (2018), 'Not part of the job: Young workers' experiences of third-party harassment: polling and survey findings', [NotPartoftheJob.pdf \(tuc.org.uk\)](https://www.tuc.org.uk/sites/default/files/NotPartoftheJob.pdf), p. 10

<sup>57</sup> European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (2014), 'Violence against women: an EU-wide survey', [Violence against women: an EU-wide survey. Main results report | European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights \(europa.eu\)](https://www.europa.europa.eu/press_room/media_corner/docs/attachments/140522_vaw_survey_en.pdf) p. 105

<sup>58</sup> Plan International UK (2018), 'Street Harassment It's Not OK: Girls' experiences and views', [download \(plan-uk.org\)](https://www.plan-uk.org/press-releases/2018/08/21/street-harassment-it-s-not-ok-girls-experiences-and-views/)

<sup>59</sup> YWCA Scotland - The Young Women's Movement, 'Young Women Lead Committee: Report on Sexual Harassment in Schools', 2018, [YWL-Report-FINAL.pdf \(ywcascotland.org\)](https://www.ywcascotland.org/sites/default/files/2018-07-19/YWL-Report-FINAL.pdf), p. 12

<sup>60</sup> Plan International UK (2018), 'Street Harassment It's Not OK: Girls' experiences and views', [download \(plan-uk.org\)](https://www.plan-uk.org/press-releases/2018/08/21/street-harassment-it-s-not-ok-girls-experiences-and-views/)

<sup>61</sup> Gemma Dunstan (2021), 'Women with disabilities 'groped and not taken seriously'', [Women with disabilities 'groped and not taken seriously' - BBC News](https://www.bbc.com/news/health-57844444)

## Impact of misogynistic conduct on victims

Women often experience misogynistic behaviour from a young age and it continues throughout their lives:

“The worst thing about being a girl is you have to wear dresses. One time on the bus someone looked up this girl’s skirt at her underwear. And she was only in P2!” – Girl, age 7<sup>62</sup>

“I’ve never experienced harassment like I did then [at school]. Men would ask if they could take a picture with me in my uniform. It was awful. Before that I used to be walking home, and I was so scared walking home.” Ffion, 25, Edinburgh.<sup>63</sup>

Young women tend to respond to street harassment with feelings of anger, while groping, exposure and following/stalking provoke fear and anxiety. Groping/fondling was the most likely form of street harassment to lead to feelings of depression and to low self-esteem. A common refrain is that women secretly find street sexual harassment to be flattering. Although some women do seem to feel this way, an international study reported that it was a negligible amount.<sup>64</sup>

The evidence around young women and girls’ experiences of misogynistic behaviour is often referred to as a result of “lad culture” which degrades and objectifies women and girls, while at the same time minimises and normalises this behaviour.

“Lad culture is a big issue; it is really common. In my school lads would come up to girls and grab their ass, try and push them into the changing rooms and stuff and say don’t get upset it’s just banter.”<sup>65</sup>

To mitigate the likelihood of these experiences happening, there is some evidence from small to medium surveys that suggests that women adopt defensive strategies and self-censor their words and actions. Examples of this include:

- limiting their access to certain places
- not travelling at certain times of day

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<sup>62</sup> Girlguiding (2018), ‘Girls in Scotland 2018’, [Girls-in-Scotland-survey-2018.pdf](#) ([girlguidingscotland.org.uk](#)), p. 9

<sup>63</sup> Plan International UK (2018), ‘Street Harassment It’s Not OK: Girls’ experiences and views’, [download](#) ([plan-uk.org](#))

<sup>64</sup> Hollaback! (2014), ‘Cornell International Survey on Street Harassment’, [Cornell International Survey on Street Harassment | Hollaback! Together We Have the Power to End Harassment](#) ([ihollaback.org](#))

<sup>65</sup> Fixers, ‘Fixers Investigates: the trouble with... sex in schools’, in Support of the Women & Equalities Committee, 2016, [Fixers Report](#) ([parliament.uk](#))

- mentally planning possible ‘escape routes’ or taking alternative journeys – even if these were not the most direct – to avoid potential harassment<sup>66 67</sup>
- trying to ‘brush’ or ‘shrug’ comments off and ‘keep going’<sup>68</sup>
- avoiding posting images or comments online that are likely to evoke negative responses
- being ‘careful’ or ‘more mindful’ about not posting ‘anything that’s controversial’ or that could provoke “arguments”
- not posting things online that were “inappropriate,” typically citing as examples “revealing” photographs, or avoiding voicing their opinions during “contentious discussions online” or posting “things that would cause a fuss”.<sup>69</sup>

In one UK study, many of the young women and girls felt that harassers exploited the perceived vulnerability of younger women, thinking they could “get away with it” more easily as girls were less likely to “fight back” or report what had happened to them. They also thought that harassers played on an anticipated fear amongst girls that they would not be believed if they did tell anyone.<sup>70</sup>

## Reporting misogynistic incidents

Reporting of misogynistic behaviour, as with all age groups, is low. A number of studies suggest that the most common reasons for not reporting are: that women are unsure or do not realise the behaviour could be reported, they don’t know who to report to, they feel ashamed or embarrassed, they think they will be blamed for what happened, or think they will not be believed.<sup>71 72 73 74</sup>

By comparison, this lived experience survey found that the main reason for not reporting was the belief that the police or authority would not be bothered/ interested (52.2%). This was followed by the belief that the misogynistic incident was either not criminal, too trivial or not worth reporting (38.2%).

<sup>66</sup> Plan International UK (2018), ‘Street Harassment It’s Not OK: Girls’ experiences and views’, [download \(plan-uk.org\)](#)

<sup>67</sup> Girlguiding (2016), ‘Girls’ Attitudes Survey’, [girls-attitudes-survey-2016.pdf \(girlguiding.org.uk\)](#)

<sup>68</sup> Kalyani Chadha, Linda Steiner, Jessica Vitak, Zahra Ashktorab, ‘Women’s Responses to Online Harassment’, *International Journal of Communication* 14(2020), 239–257, p. 247

<sup>69</sup> Kalyani Chadha, Linda Steiner, Jessica Vitak, Zahra Ashktorab, ‘Women’s Responses to Online Harassment’, *International Journal of Communication* 14(2020), 239–257, p. 247 - 248

<sup>70</sup> Plan International UK (2018), ‘Street Harassment It’s Not OK: Girls’ experiences and views’, [download \(plan-uk.org\)](#)

<sup>71</sup> National Union of Students, 2011, [Hidden Marks: a study of women students’ experiences of harassment, stalking, violence and sexual assault @ NUS Connect](#), p. 4

<sup>72</sup> Reclaim Stirling, ‘An Evaluation of the University of Stirling’s efforts to tackle sexual violence, and of the perception of the #IsThisOkay campaign’, 2021, [Reclaim Stirling Report - Google Docs](#), p. 8 -9

<sup>73</sup> Alison Phipps, Isabel Young, ‘That’s What She Said: Women Students’ Experiences of ‘Lad Culture’ in Higher Education’, 2013, [Layout 1 \(sussex.ac.uk\)](#), p. 29

<sup>74</sup> YWCA Scotland - The Young Women’s Movement, ‘Young Women Lead Committee: Report on Sexual Harassment in Schools’, 2018, [YWL-Report-FINAL.pdf \(ywcascotland.org\)](#), p. 8-9