



Police Professionalism

THROUGH THE EYES OF THE PARENTS AT THE CHILDREN'S JUSTICE
CENTER

Group 5



How is Law Enforcement in Utah Valley doing when dealing with child victims of sexual abuse from perspective of their caregivers?



“Just the facts, kids!”



The Children's Justice Center for Utah Valley



Forensic interviewing of children

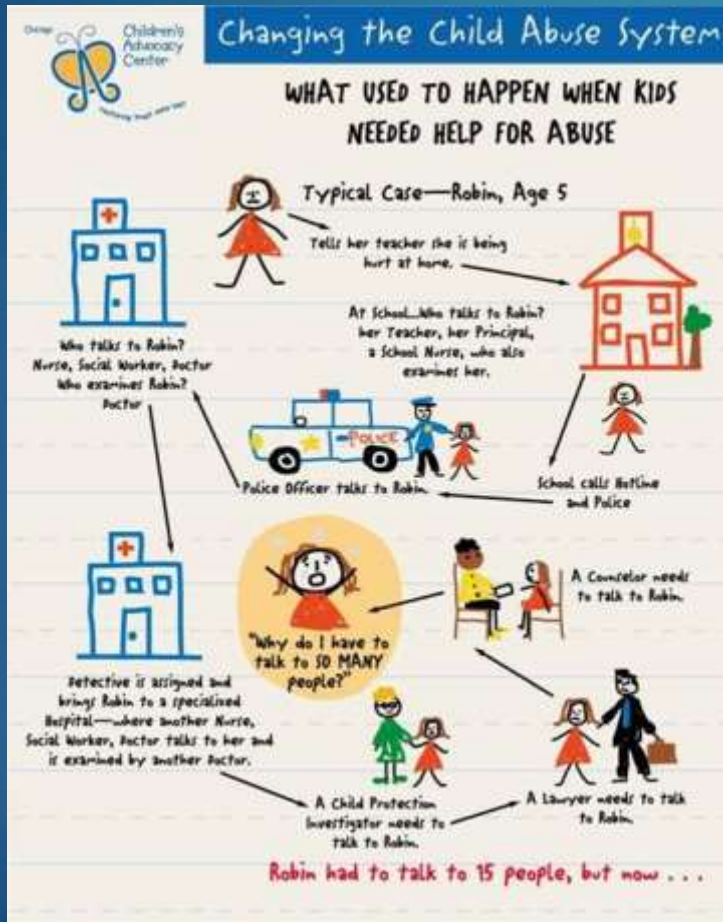
That was then...



This is now...



Today's child interviews are much less invasive than a few years ago



Concerns with the project

“The caregivers are often in crisis when they are the Children’s Justice Center so they may not be in the best frame of mind to be answering survey questions.”

- CJC Staff

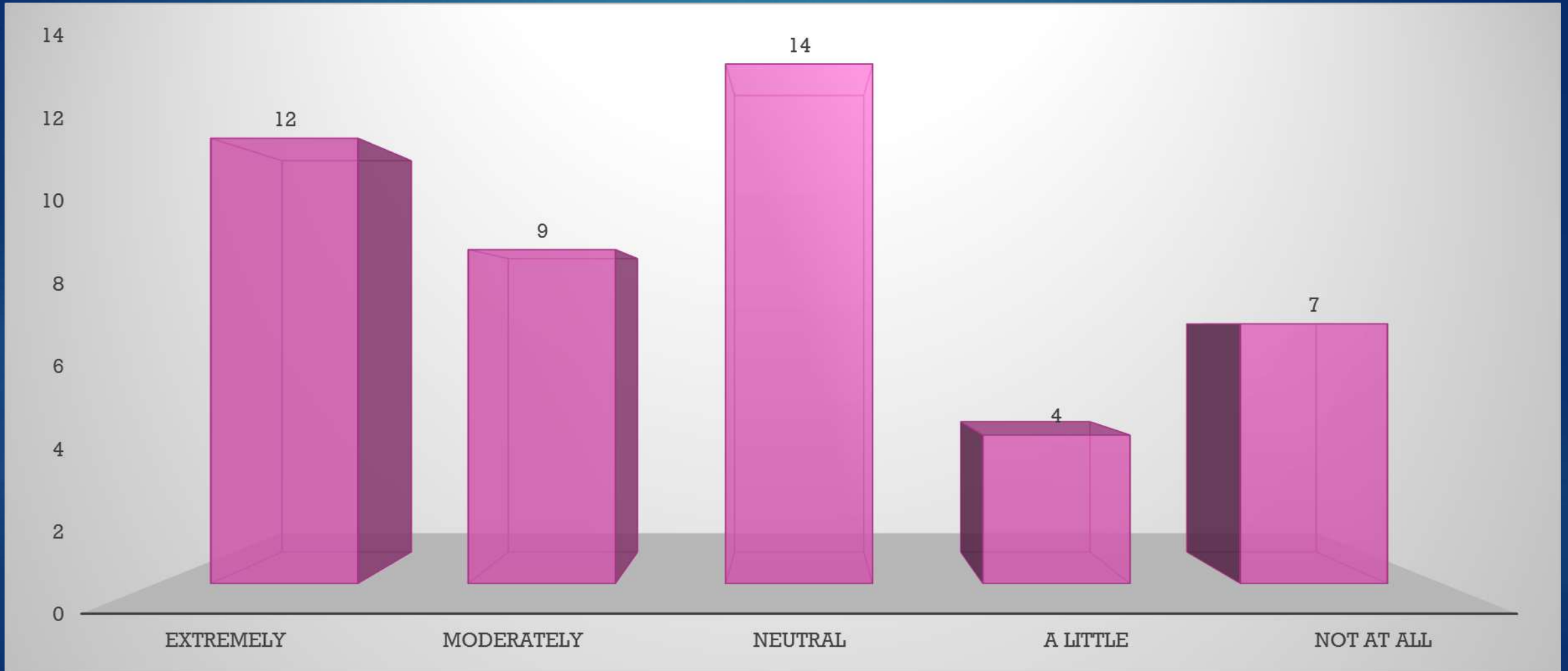
- ▶ Complete anonymity for the families involved
- ▶ How the survey would be administered



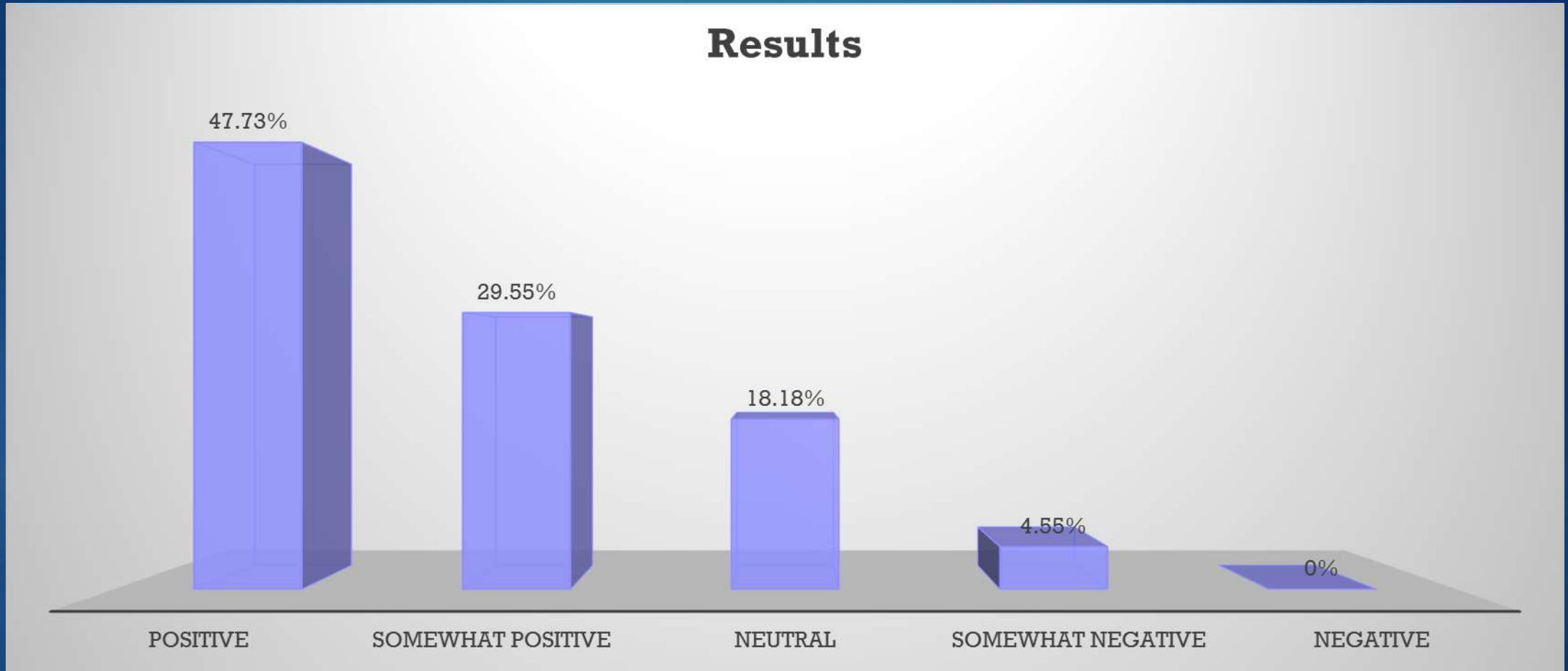
Application of the Survey

- ▶ The CJC staff administered the 10 question paper surveys to the parents while their child was being interviewed by LE or DCFS.
- ▶ Most willingly accepted the survey.
- ▶ They were asked only once to complete the survey so not to feel pressured.
- ▶ Appeared to be “brutally” honest.
- ▶ CJC staff was very helpful and excited for such a survey.

How beneficial do you think it would be to have a female officer on your case?

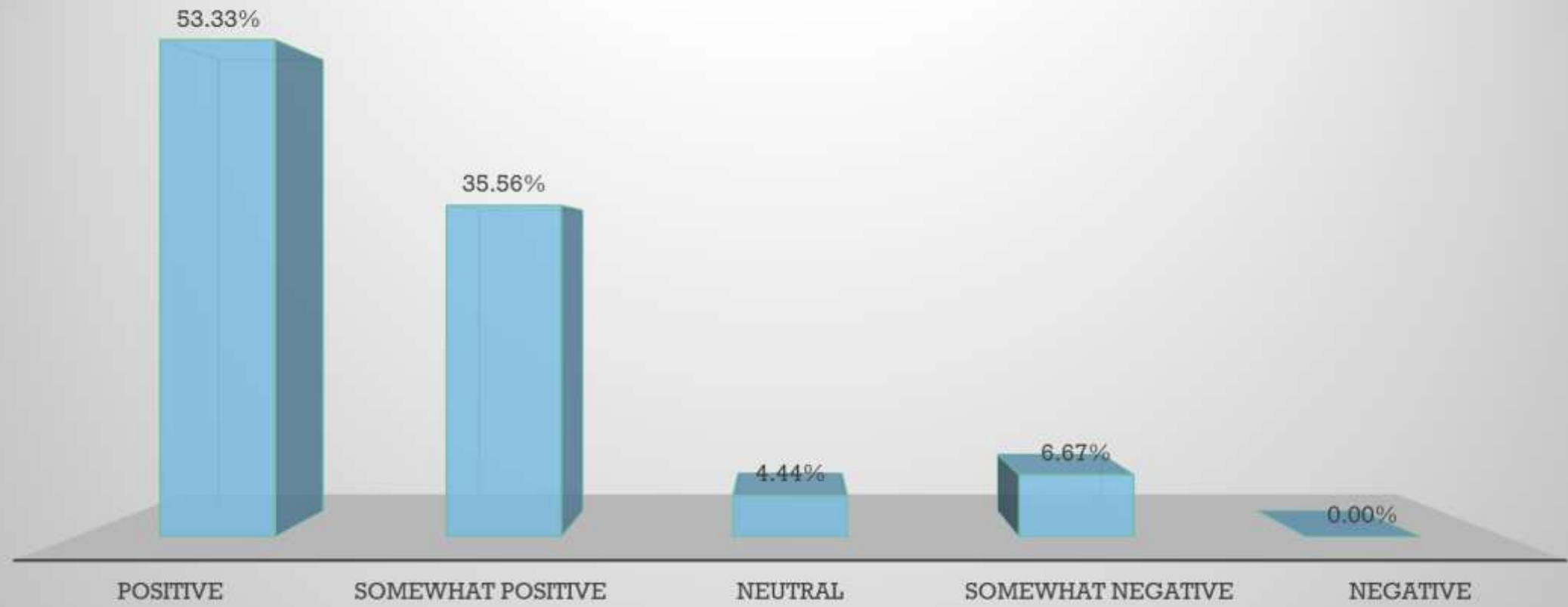


What was your attitude towards law enforcement before the incident?



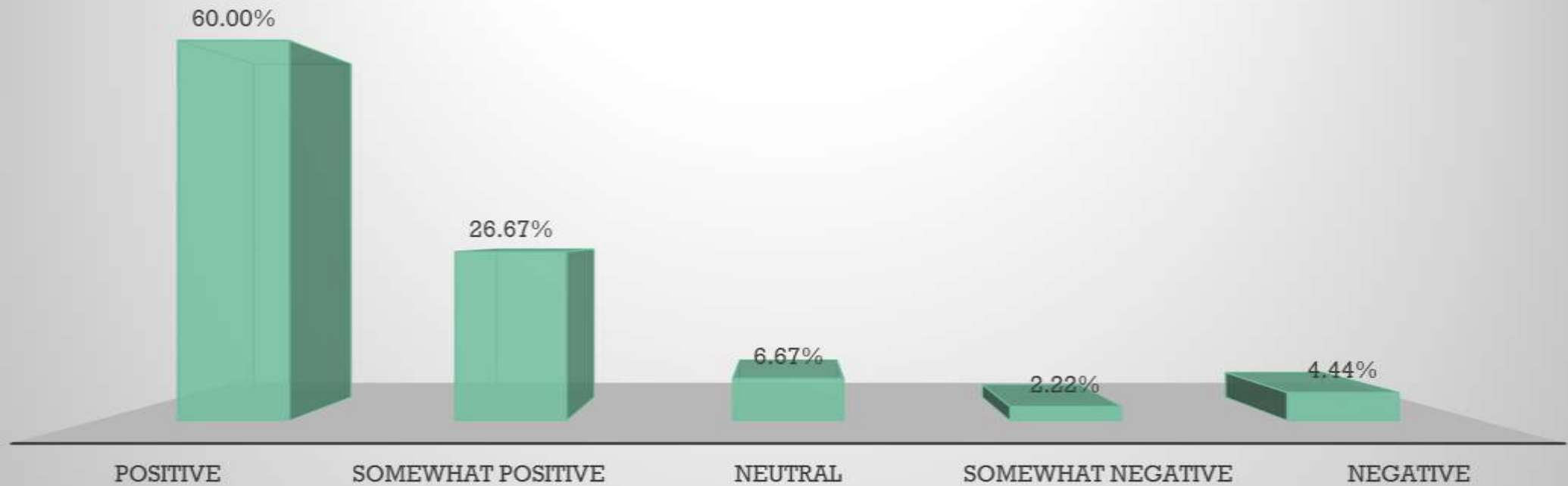
What is your attitude towards law enforcement now?

Results



If you had to give a review of the police offer you're working with, what would it be?

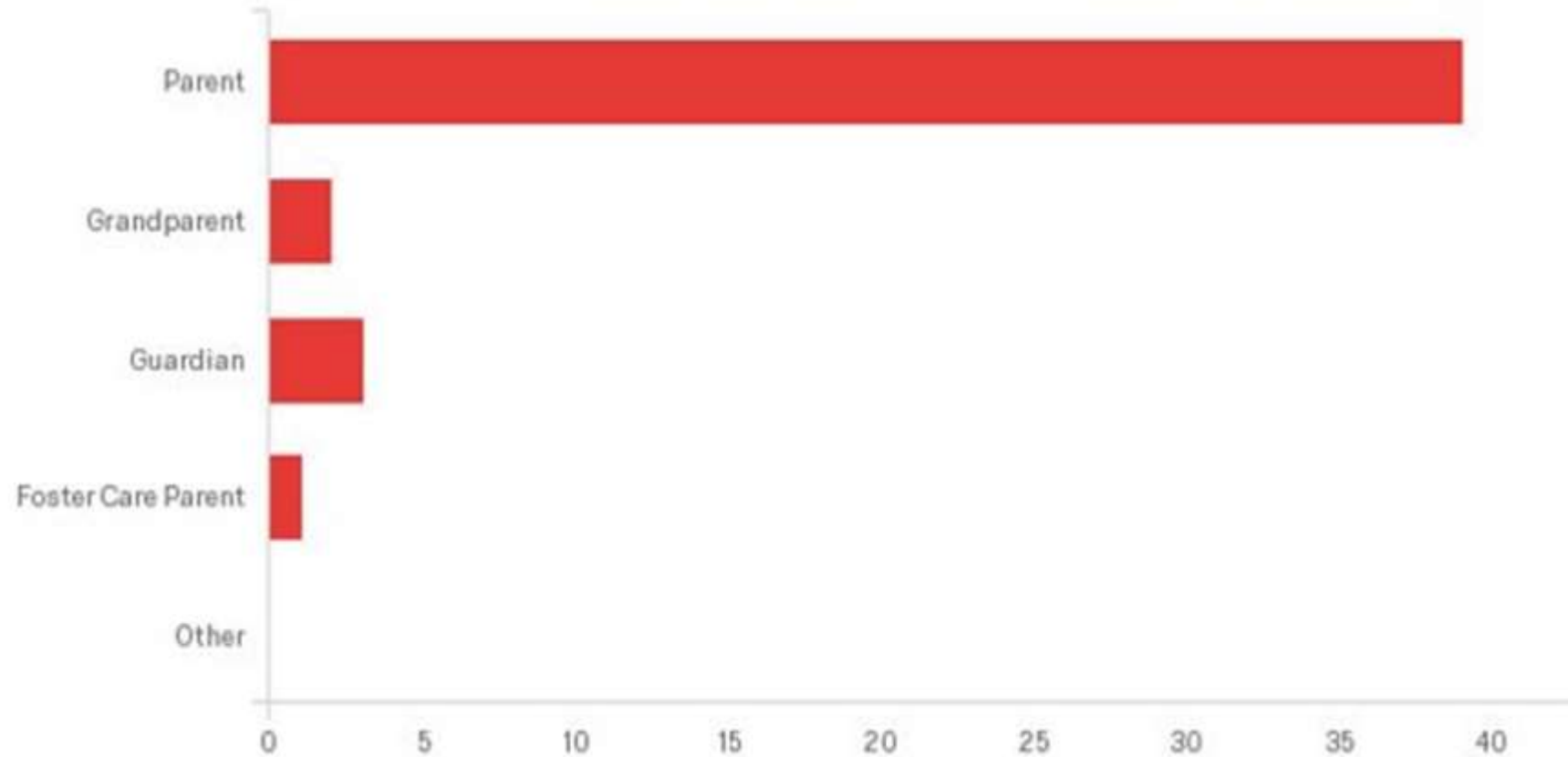
Results



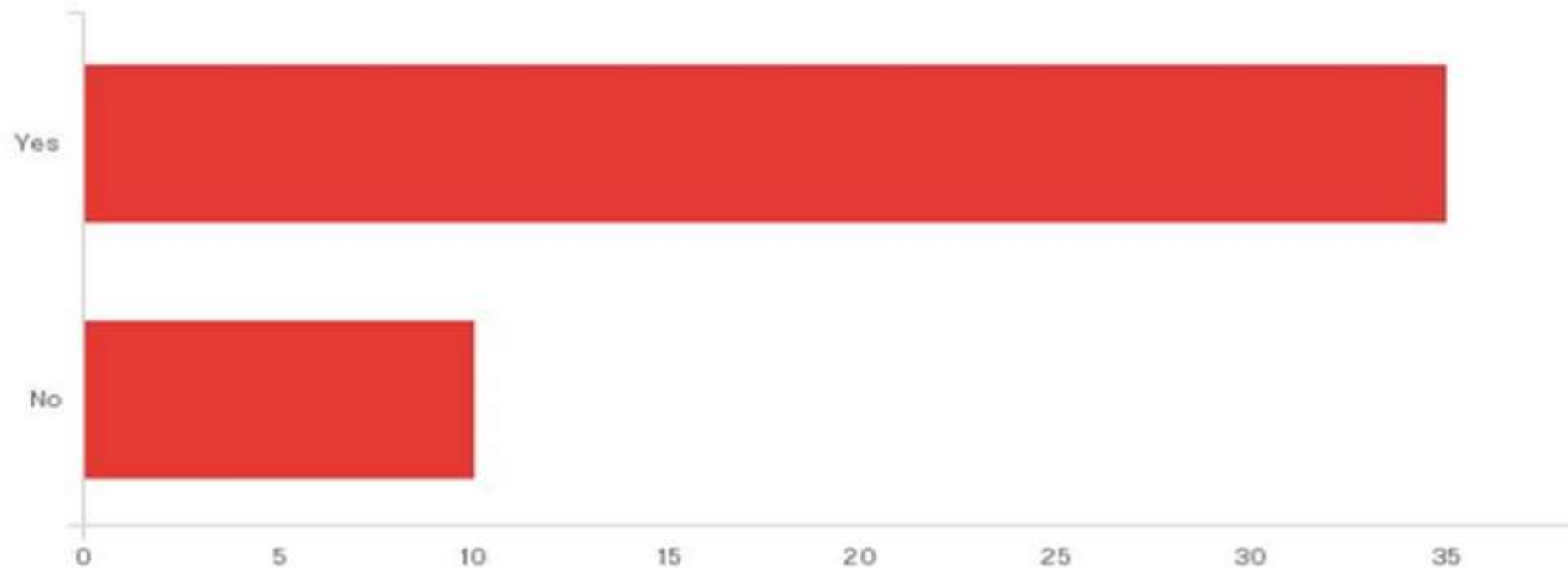
Question	Very Satisfied	Satisfied	Somewhat satisfied	Neutral	Somewhat dissatisfied	Dissatisfied	Very dissatisfied	Total
How satisfied are you with the professionalism of the police officer?	13	8	15	5	3	2		46
How satisfied are you with your own understanding of the process of the inv...	12	9	12	6	1	2	4	46
How satisfied are you with the police officer attitude towards your child?	16	13	10	4	1	1	1	46
How satisfied are you with the police department you're working with, and th...	15	13	10	4	2		2	46
Are you satisfied with the amount of time the officer took with you when yo...	14	15	8	4	3	1	1	46
Total	70	58	55	23	10	6	8	230

Provo Police	18%	8
Orem Police	22%	10
American Fork Police	4%	2
Lehi Police	9%	4
Lindon Police	7%	3
Lone Peak Police	0%	
Payson Police	7%	3
Pleasant Grove Police	4%	2
Springville Police	9%	4
<u>Santaquin Police</u>	0%	
Salem Police	7%	3
Spanish Fork Police	13%	6
Total	100%	45

Q5 - What is your relationship to that child?



Q6 - Did a police officer put you in contact with a victims advocate for extra support?



Results

Things that currently effect the attitude towards law enforcement, and why we wanted to study it:

- ▶ External environment: Effects of the media
- ▶ Stressful circumstances: Dealing with children and sexual abuse

How are our police departments doing?

Results

- ▶ **78%** of our subjects had a **positive** outlook on police **before** the incident
- ▶ **88%** of our subjects had a **positive** outlook on police **after** the incident

This number grew by 10%

Results

- ▶ So far in 2016 there are 224 child related cases for Utah County
- ▶ CJC stated they do at least 1000 interviews with children *every year*

With those statistics in mind:

- ▶ Number of surveys we received back
- ▶ 10 different Police Departments in Utah County
- ▶ Multiple responses from each police department

Conclusion

87% would rate their police department positively

6% Neutral

7% Negative

- ▶ Positive results!
- ▶ Negative, what is it contributed to?



Any Questions?