

Screens and children aged 0-6

A study into the representations and attitudes of parents and early childhood professionals

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General context (1)

L'Office de la Naissance et de l'Enfance (ONE) in Belgium

Missions

- Family support and consultations for children aged 0-6
- Services for children aged 0-12

In partnership with *Conseil Supérieur de l'Education aux Medias* (CSEM)

General context (2)

“How screens are used in the households, by children aged 0-6 ?”

⇒ An inventory of children's uses of screens in the households and also, of representations, attitudes of parents and childhood professionals about these practices.

The results should feed the new campaign “Children and screens” initiated
by ONE

⇒ To equip professionals and families to develop a critical attitude over the place and role of screens in the education of children.

General context (3)

To analyse the children's (aged 0-6) use of screens:

- Parents and childhood professionals
- Two approaches: quantitative and qualitative
- Four dimensions :
 - Use of screens
 - Educational uses
 - Attitudes
 - Representations

Method : complementary approaches

Data collection

Data
processing

Analysis

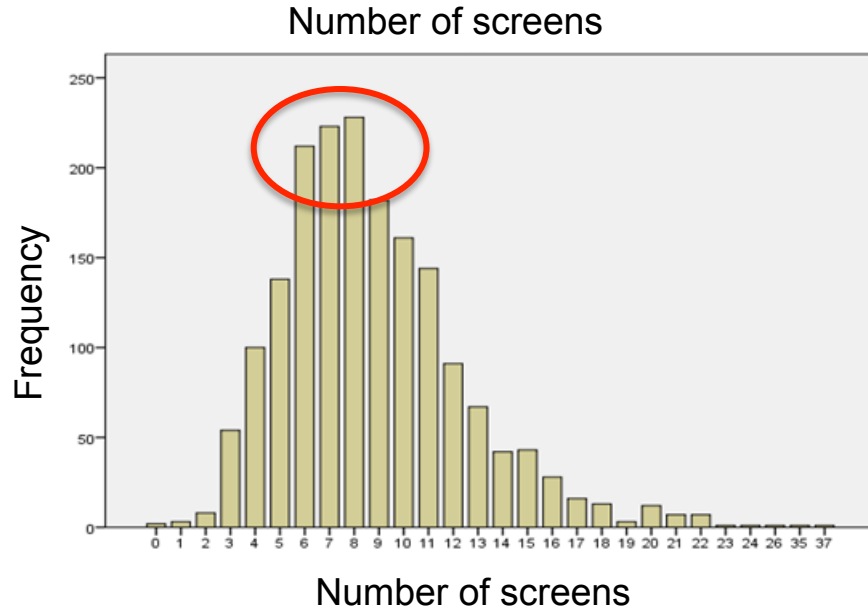
Synthesis

	Uses of screens	Educational uses	Attitudes	Representations
Parents (children 0 - 6 years old)	Questionnaire (N : 1789) Online (Web) Face to Face			Focus Groups (N : 21)
Childhood professionals	/	Questionnaire (N : 643) Online (Web)		Focus groups (N : 3)

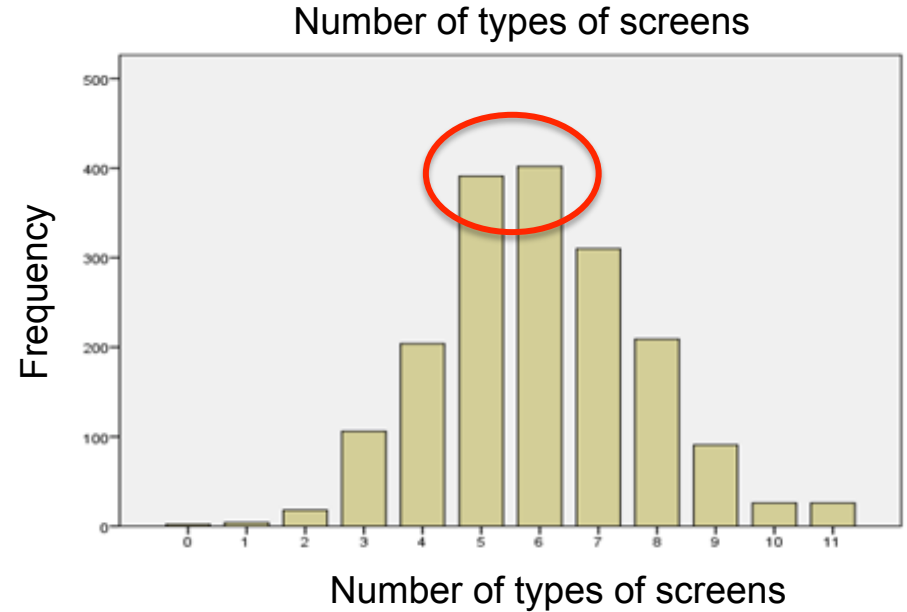
Parents

access, uses, regulation

Screens are everywhere



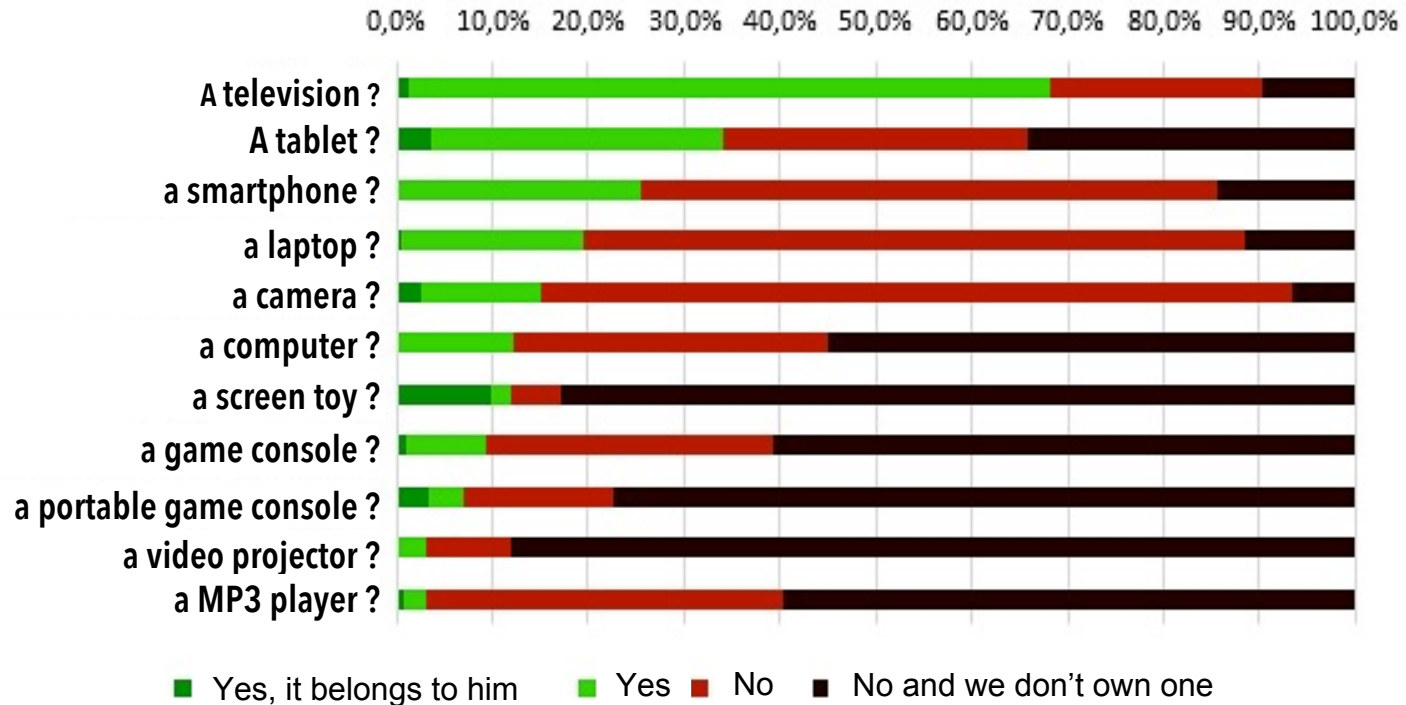
On average 6 - 8 screens per family



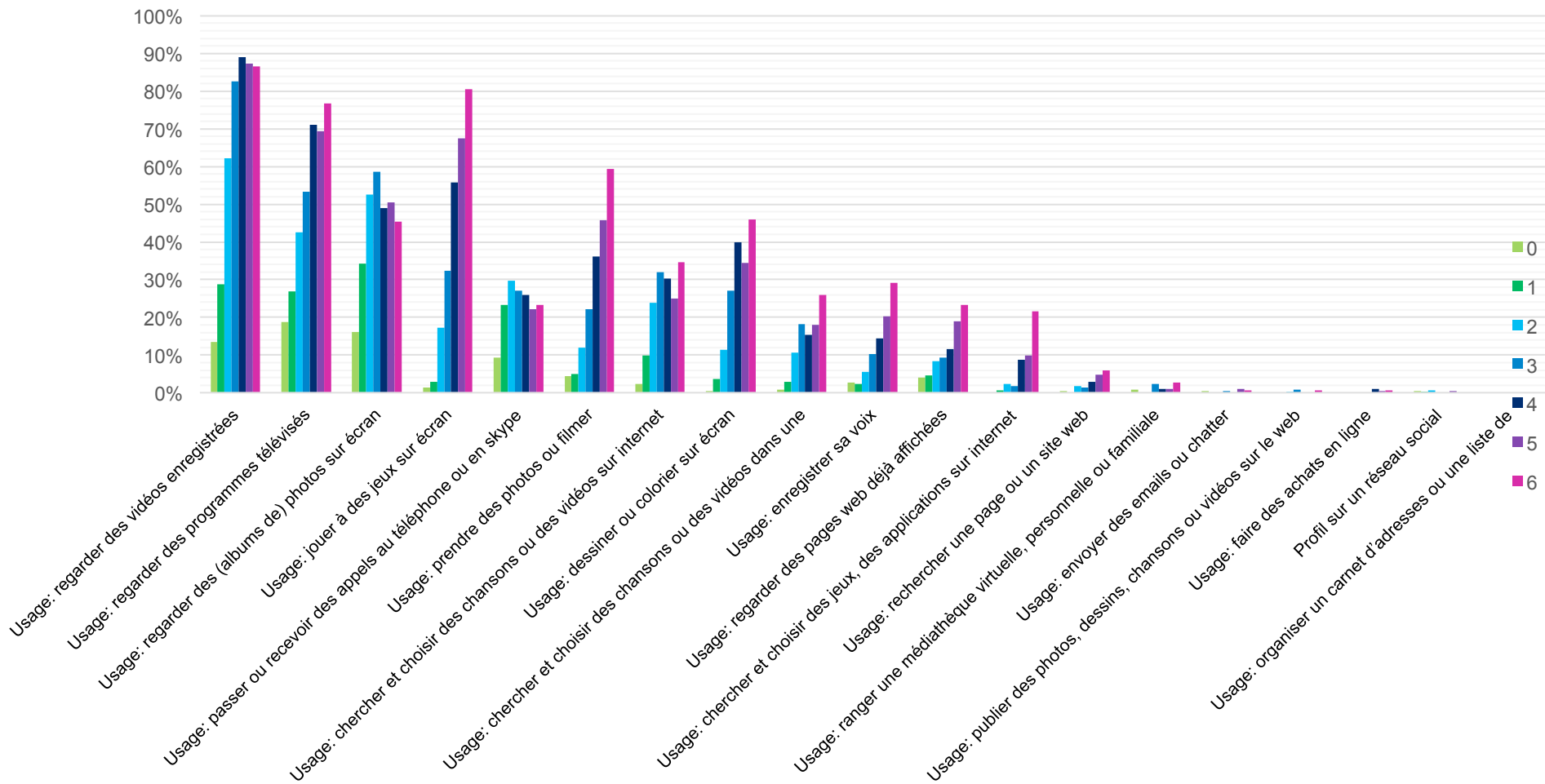
On average 5 - 6 types of screens per family

Children aged 0-6: access and use

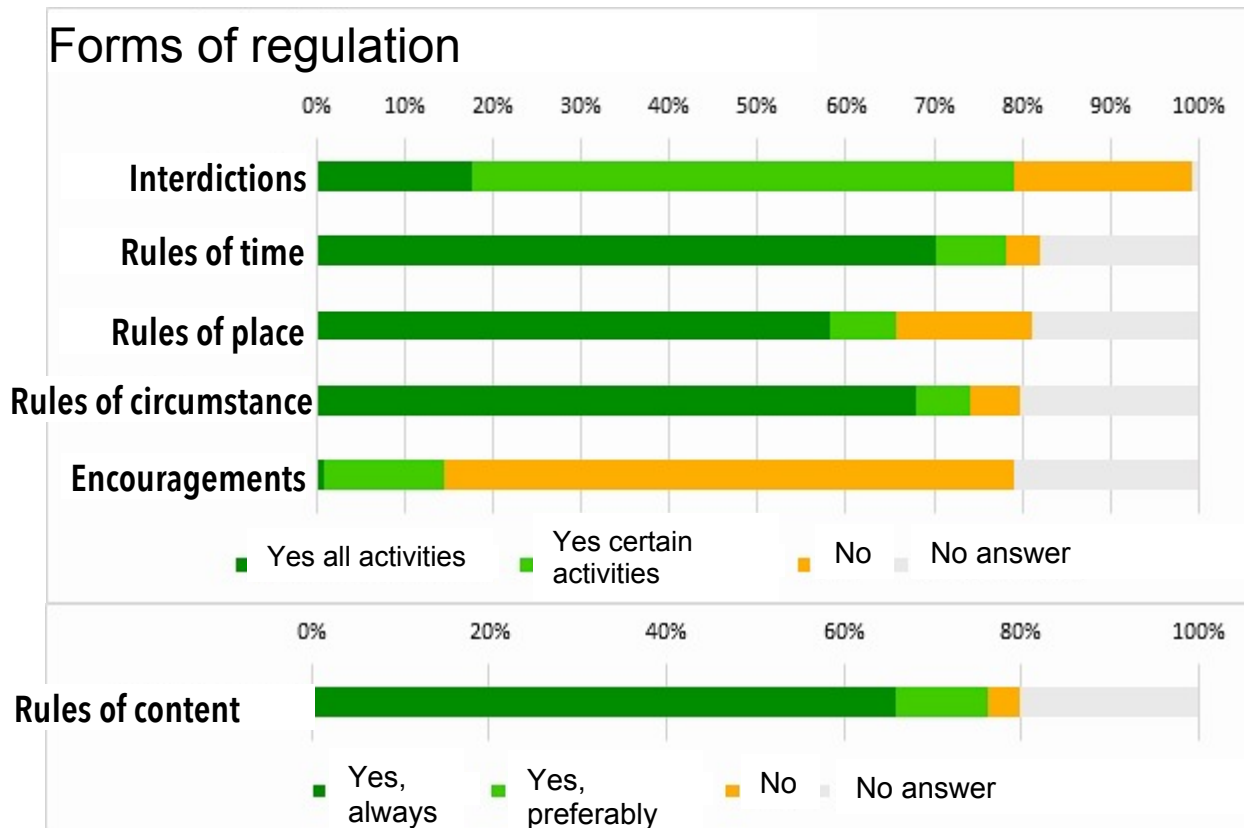
The child has access to



The percentage of children in each age/uses



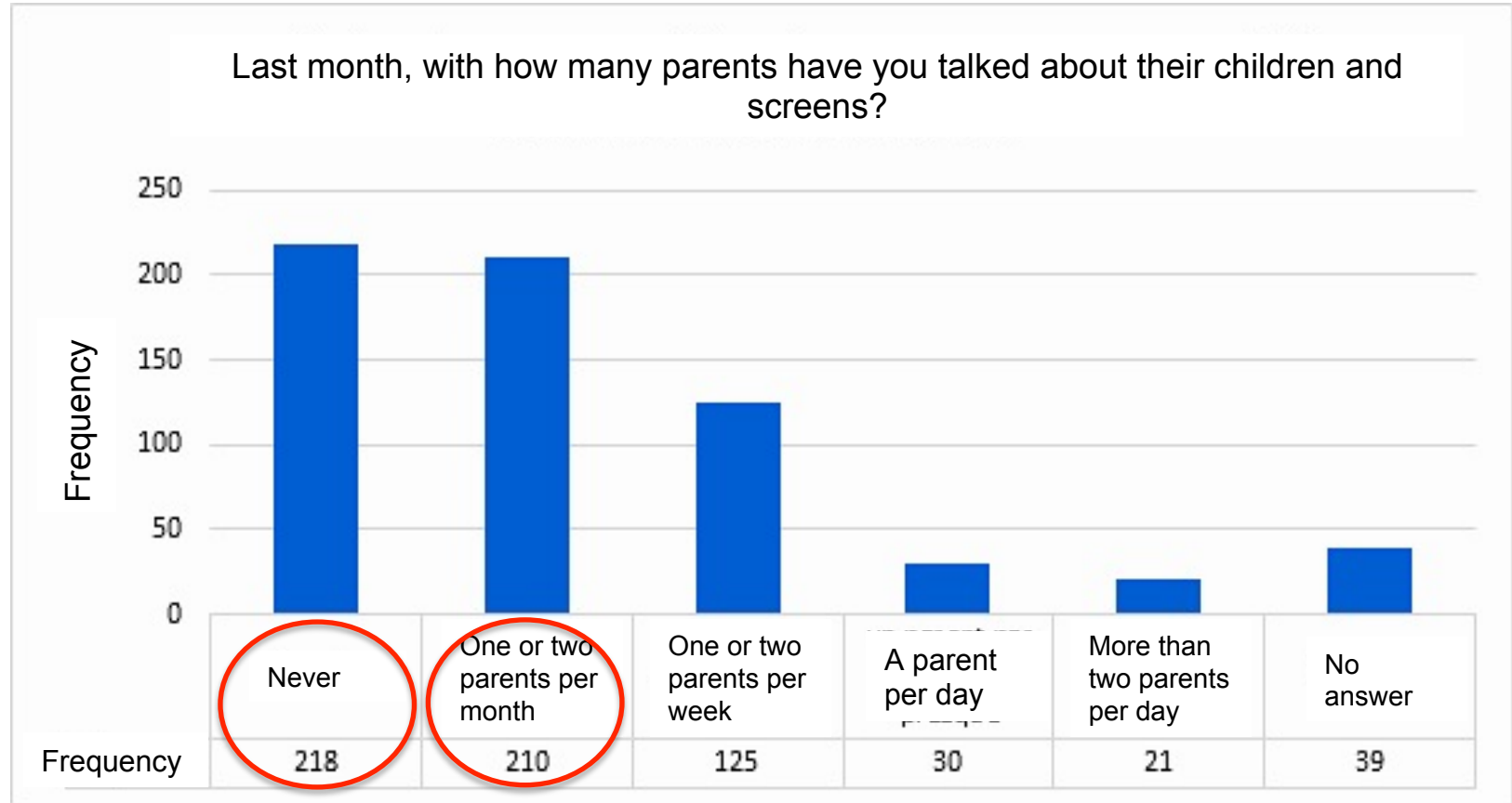
Parents restrict rather than encourage



Childhood professionals

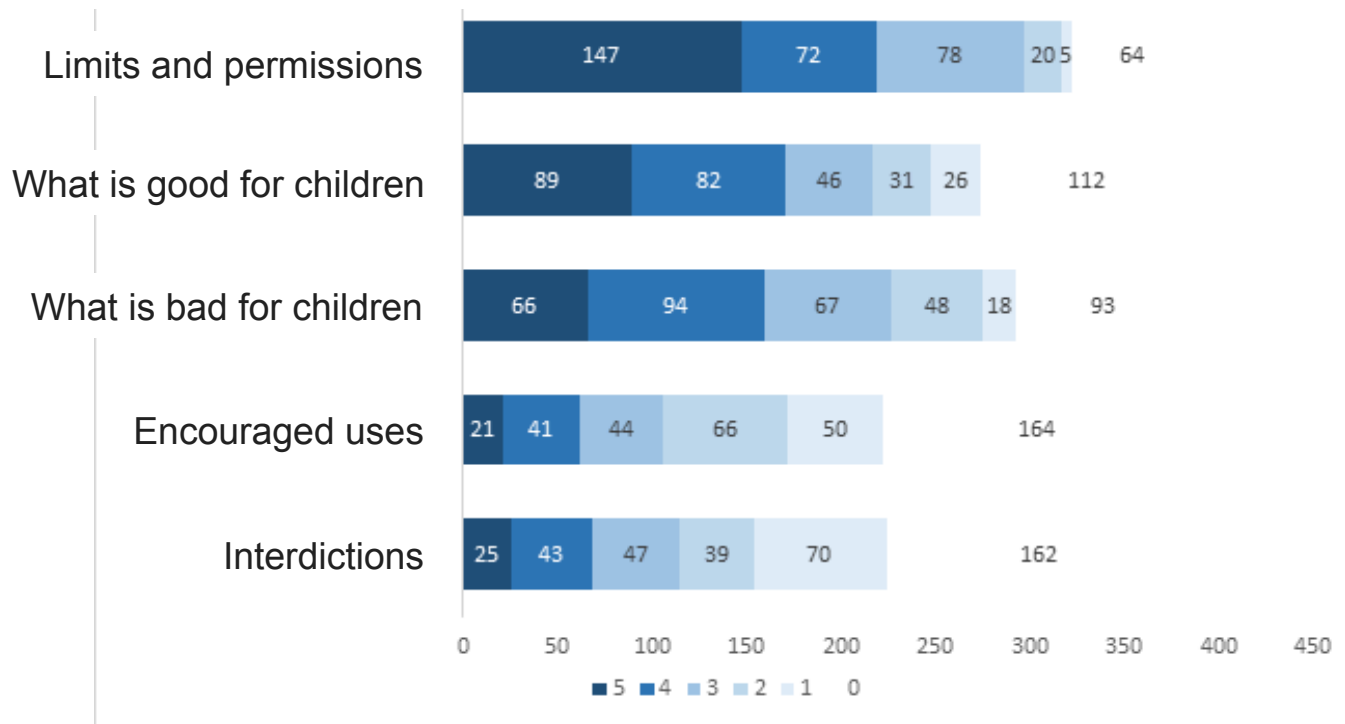
Interactions with parents

Between professionals and parents: little dialogue about screens



Professionals and parents: subjects of discussions

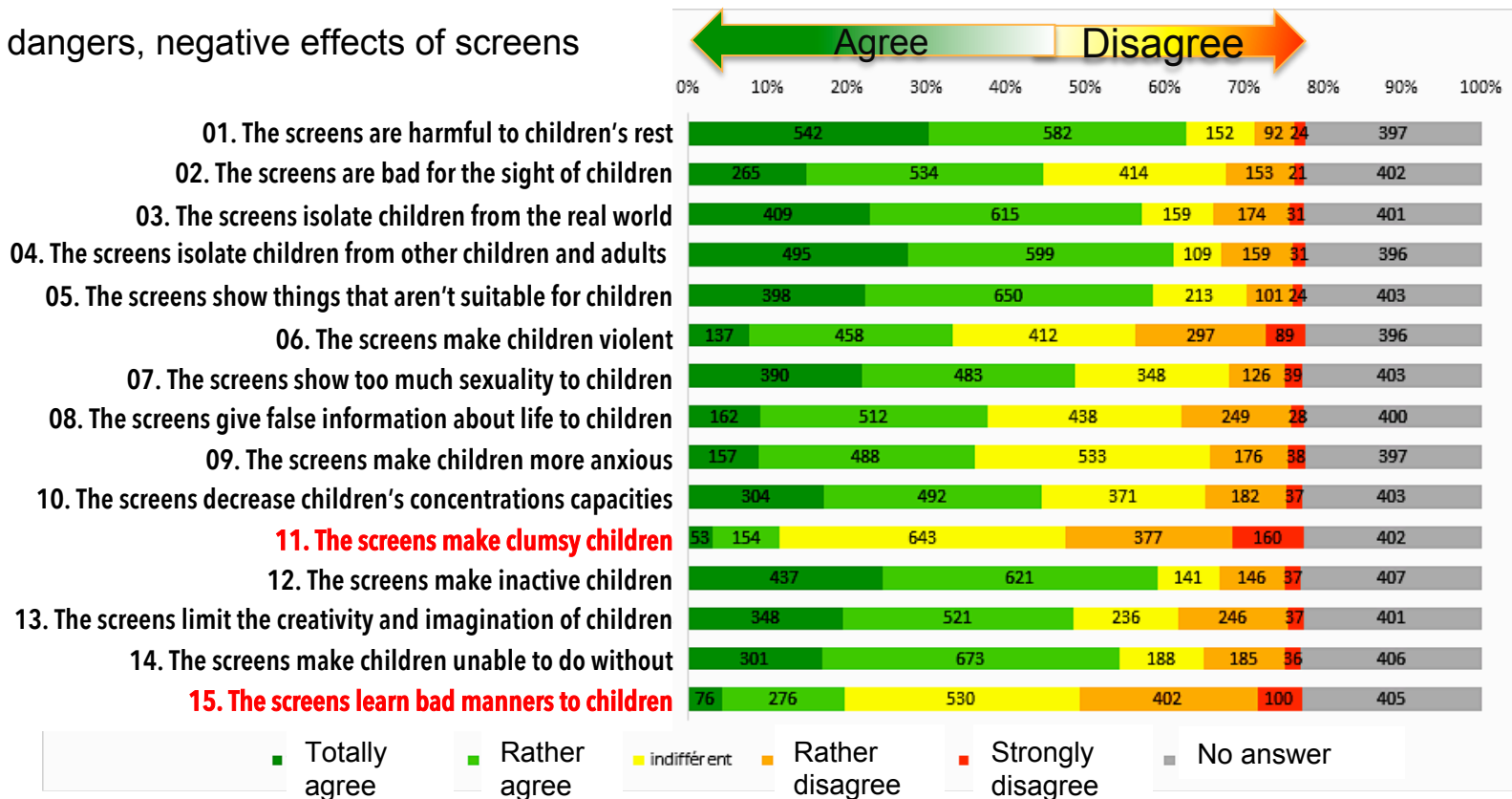
Subjects about children and screens discussed with parents
From the most frequent (5) to the least frequent (1)



Attitudes of parents and childhood professionals

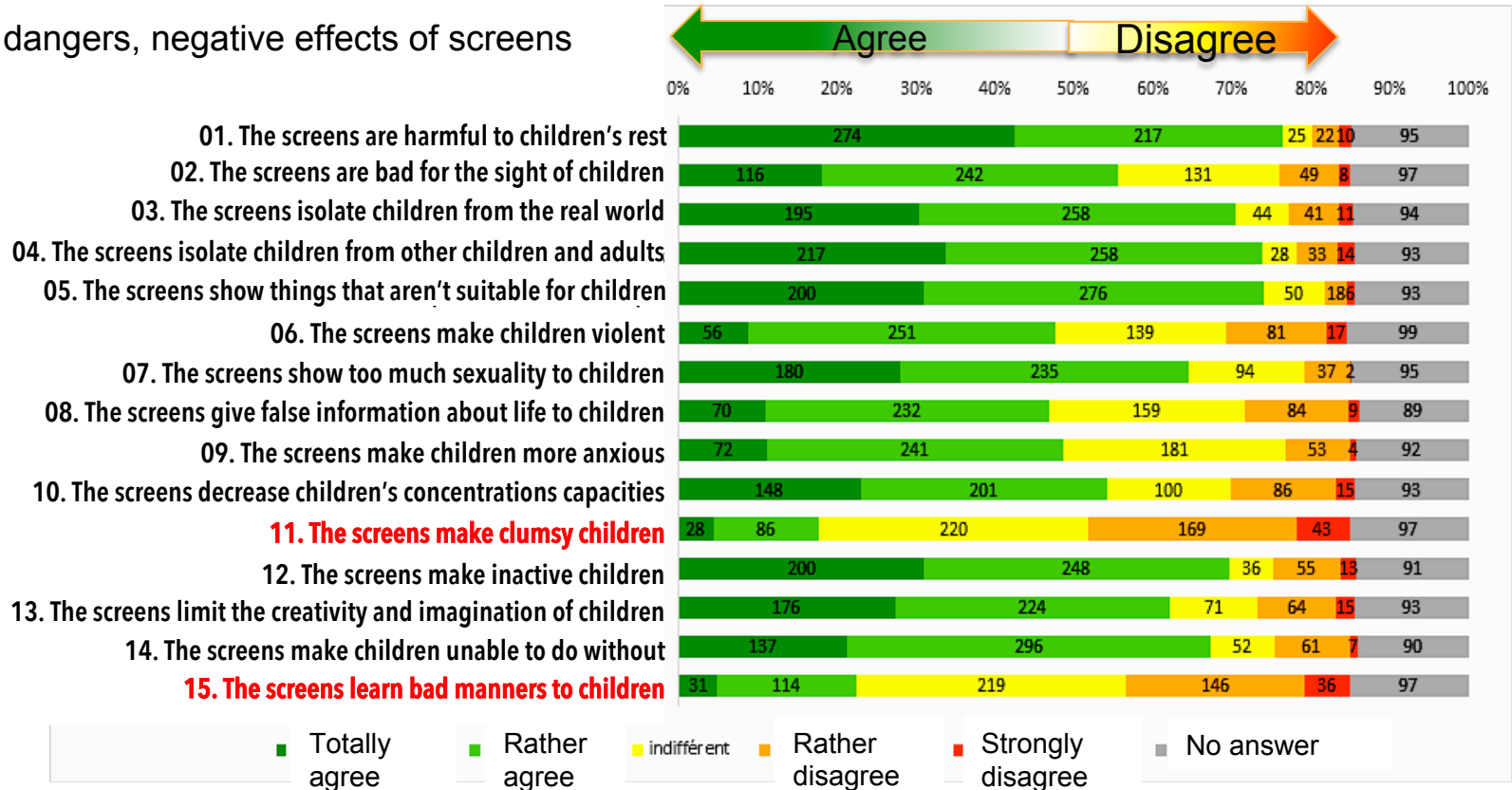
According to parents: screens are harmful for children

Risks, dangers, negative effects of screens



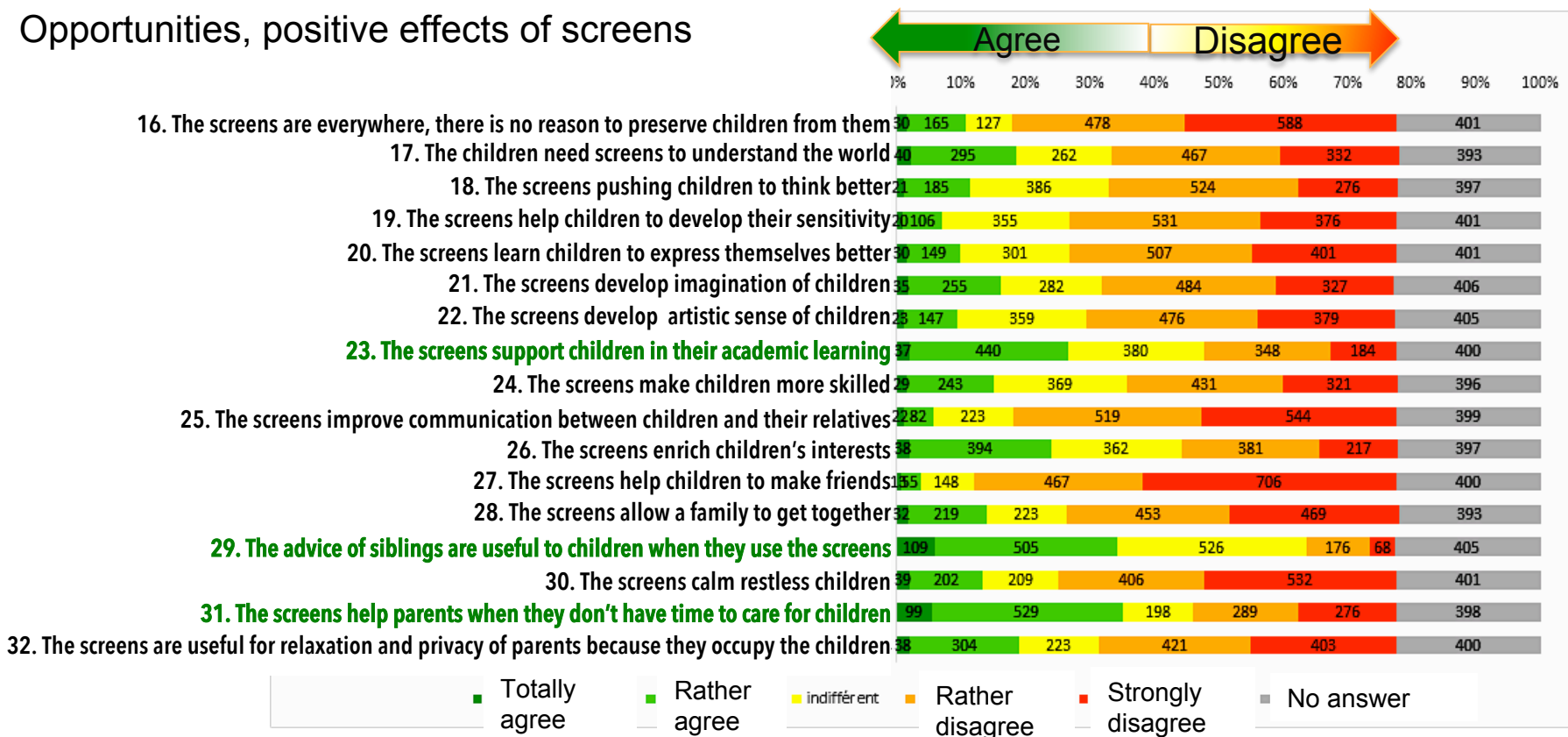
According to childhood professionals: screens are harmful for children

Risks, dangers, negative effects of screens



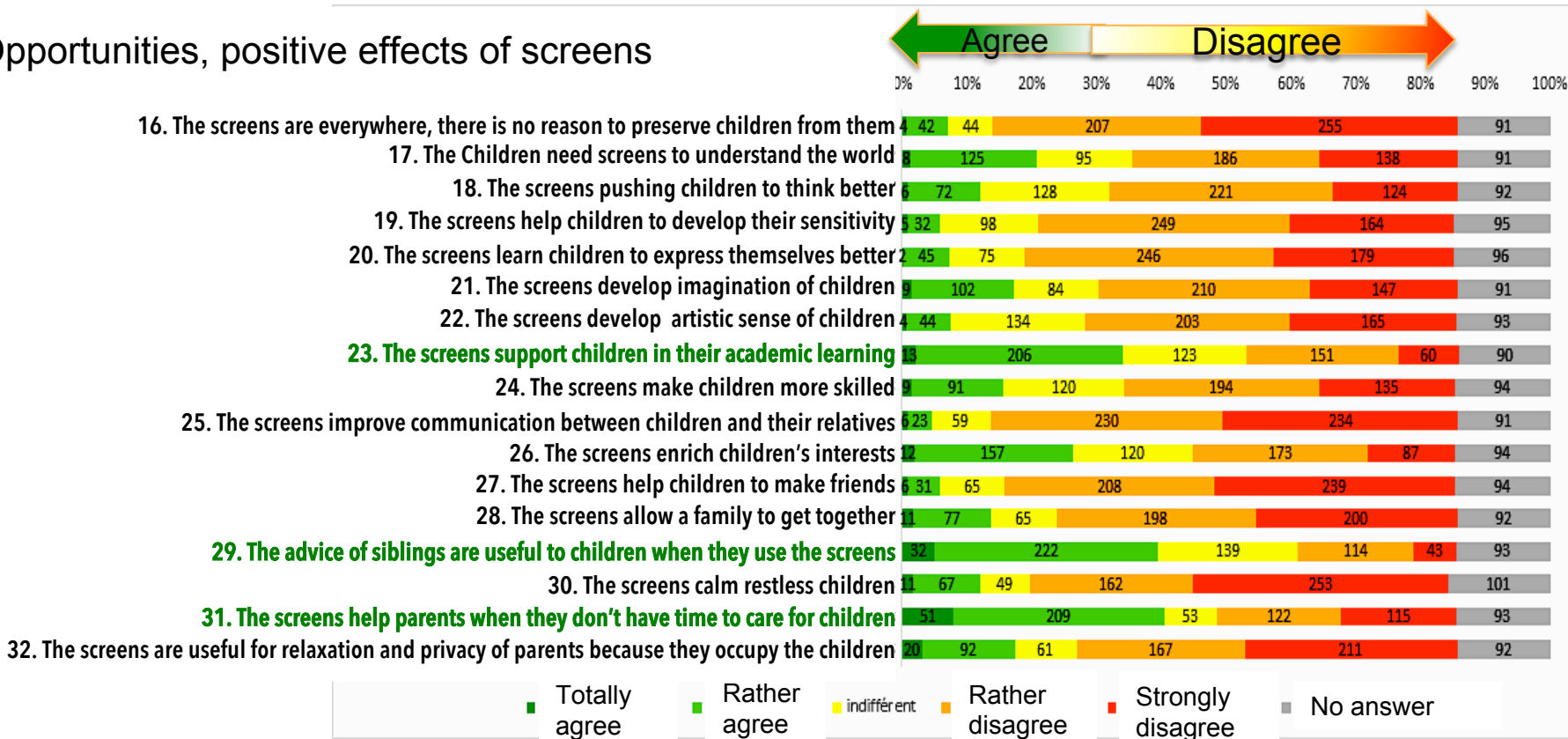
According to parents, screens don't have (or few) positive effects

Opportunities, positive effects of screens



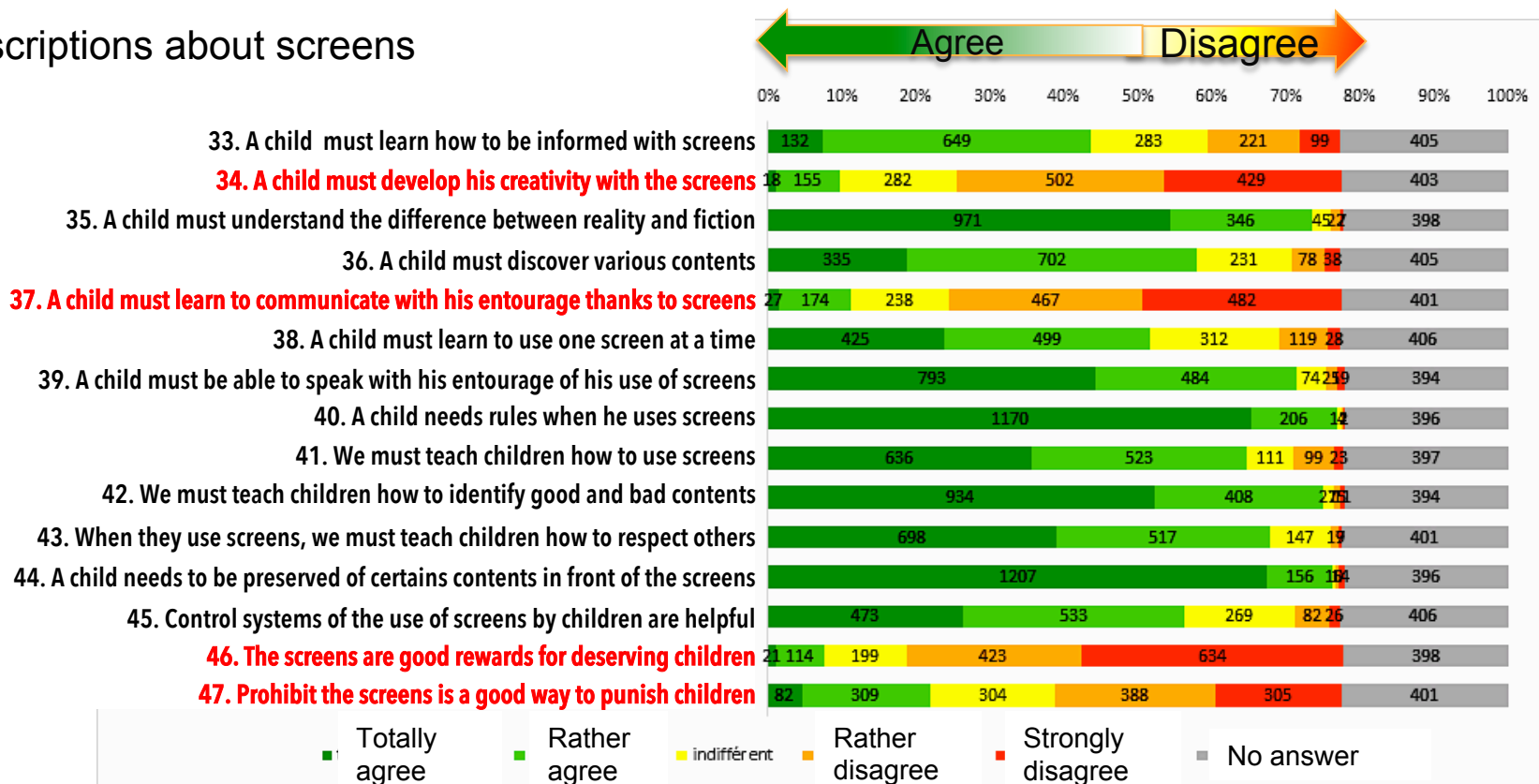
According to professionals, the screens don't have (or few) positive effects

Opportunities, positive effects of screens



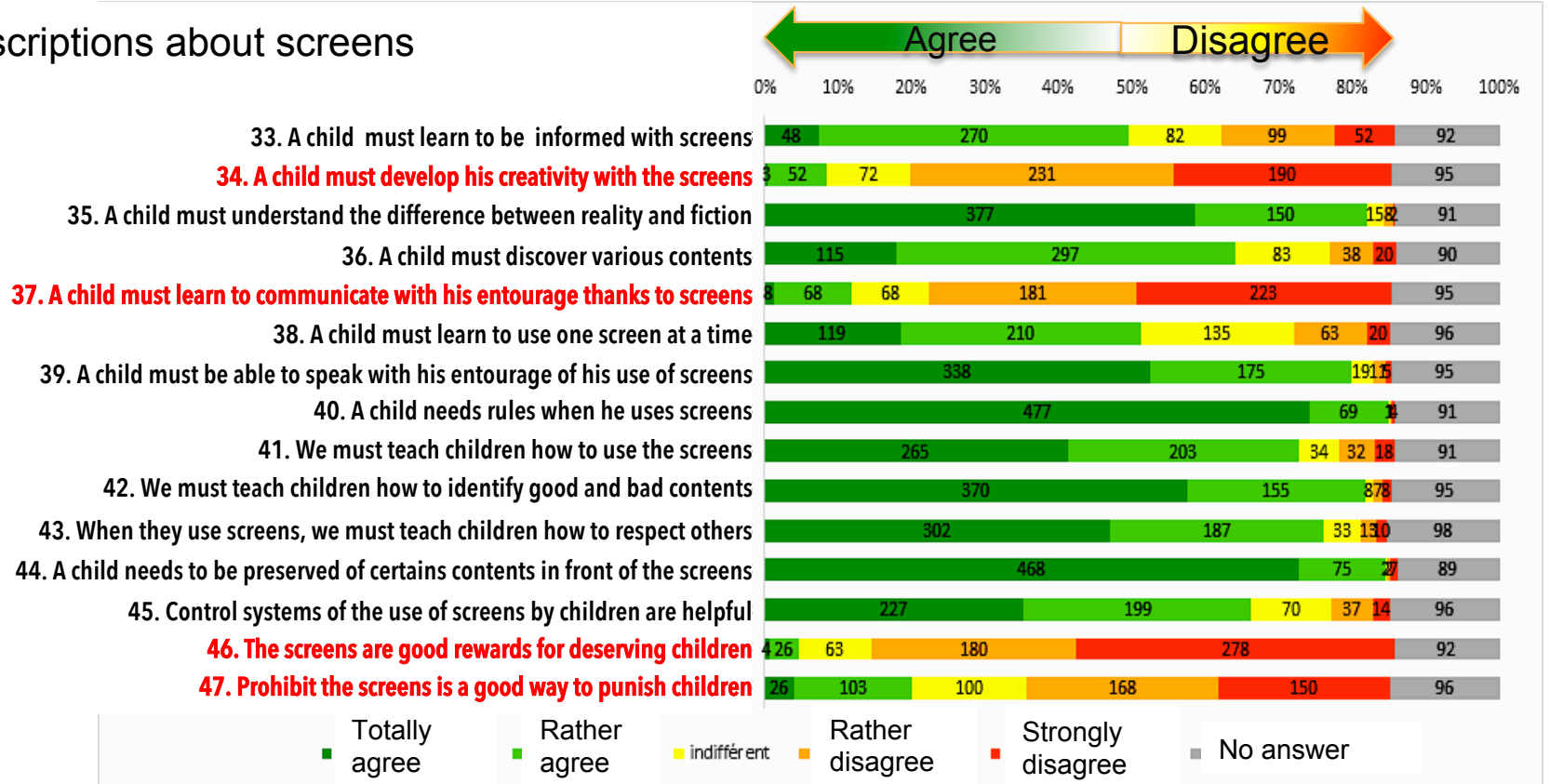
Parents: choose suitable content, limit contacts via screens

Prescriptions about screens



Professionals agree with parents

Prescriptions about screens



Conclusion

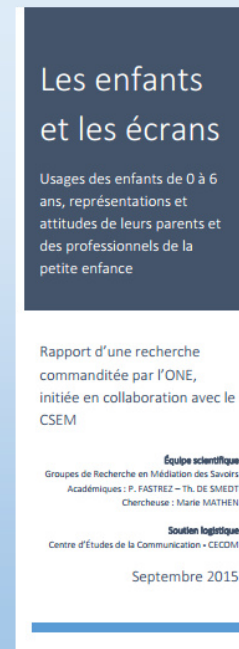
1. Screens are everywhere, children grow up in screen-rich environments.
2. A distrust of parents and professionals and an educational vision almost non-existent
3. Parents and professionals:
 - have same attitudes and practices
 - are aware of the need to educate children to screens

Research report

Available online <http://www.one.be/>

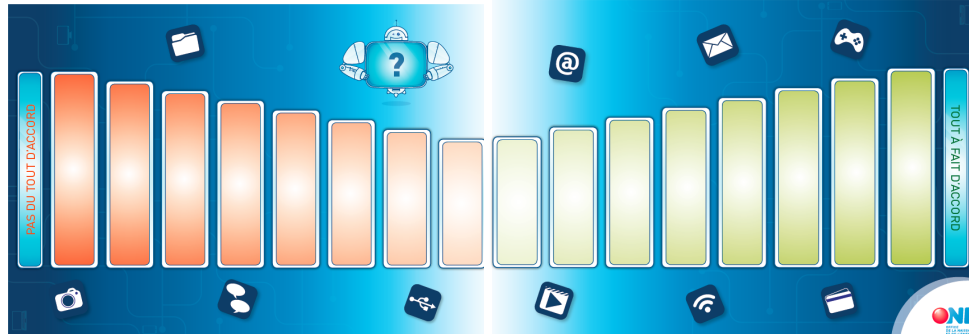
De Smedt, T., Fastrez, P., Mathen, M. (2015). *Les enfants et les écrans. Usages des enfants de 0 à 6 ans représentations et attitudes de leurs parents et des professionnels de la petite enfance*. Rapport d'une recherche commanditée par l'ONE, initiée en collaboration avec le CSEM. Disponible à http://www.one.be/fileadmin/user_upload/one_des/Recherches/RapportEnfantsEcransONE_web.pdf

Thank you for your attention



ONE Campaign

- Recommendations from *ONE* and *CSEM*
 - Identify the children environment
 - Find a balance
 - “Nobody is an expert”
 - “Be positive”
 - Establish a framework for each child
- Animation tool for parents in consultations (“agree”/”disagree”)



- Information tools : website, brochure