

R.C. MURPHY JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL



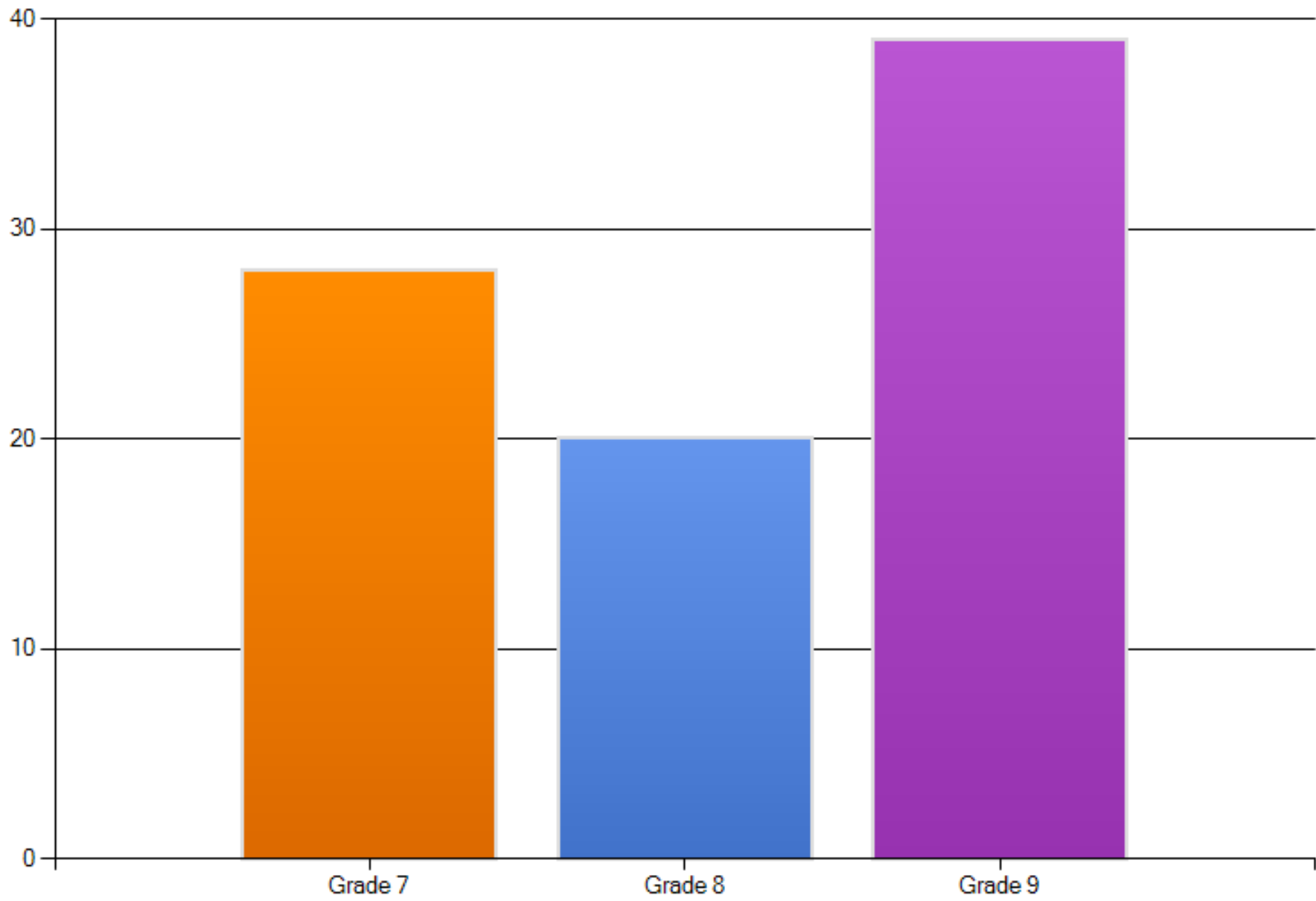
PARENT BULLYING SURVEY RESULTS

Parent Night: February 2, 2012

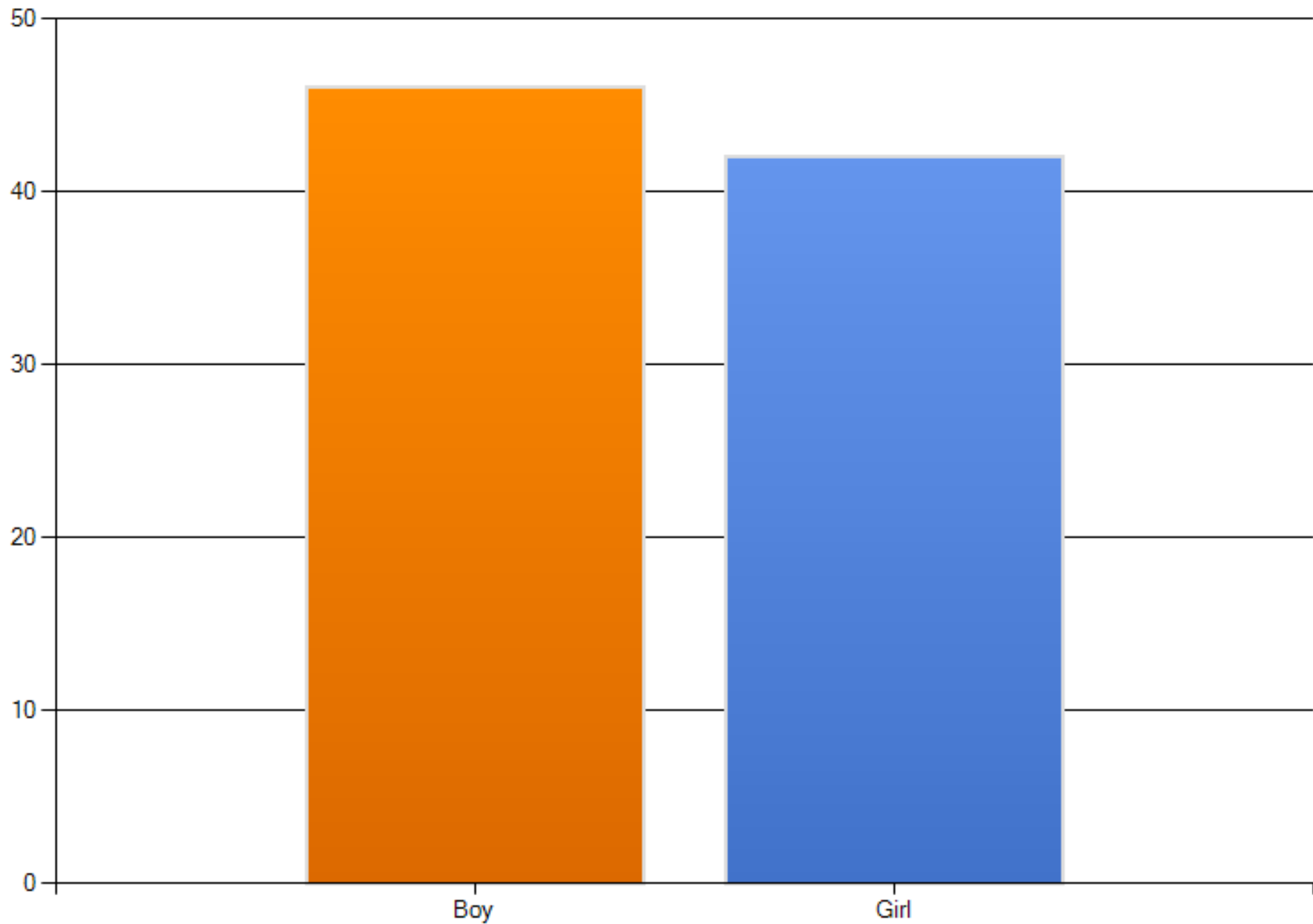
Presented by:

Betsy Knox, Librarian; Jeanne Schnupp, Computer and Career
Essentials Teacher; and Debbi Rakowsky, Social Worker

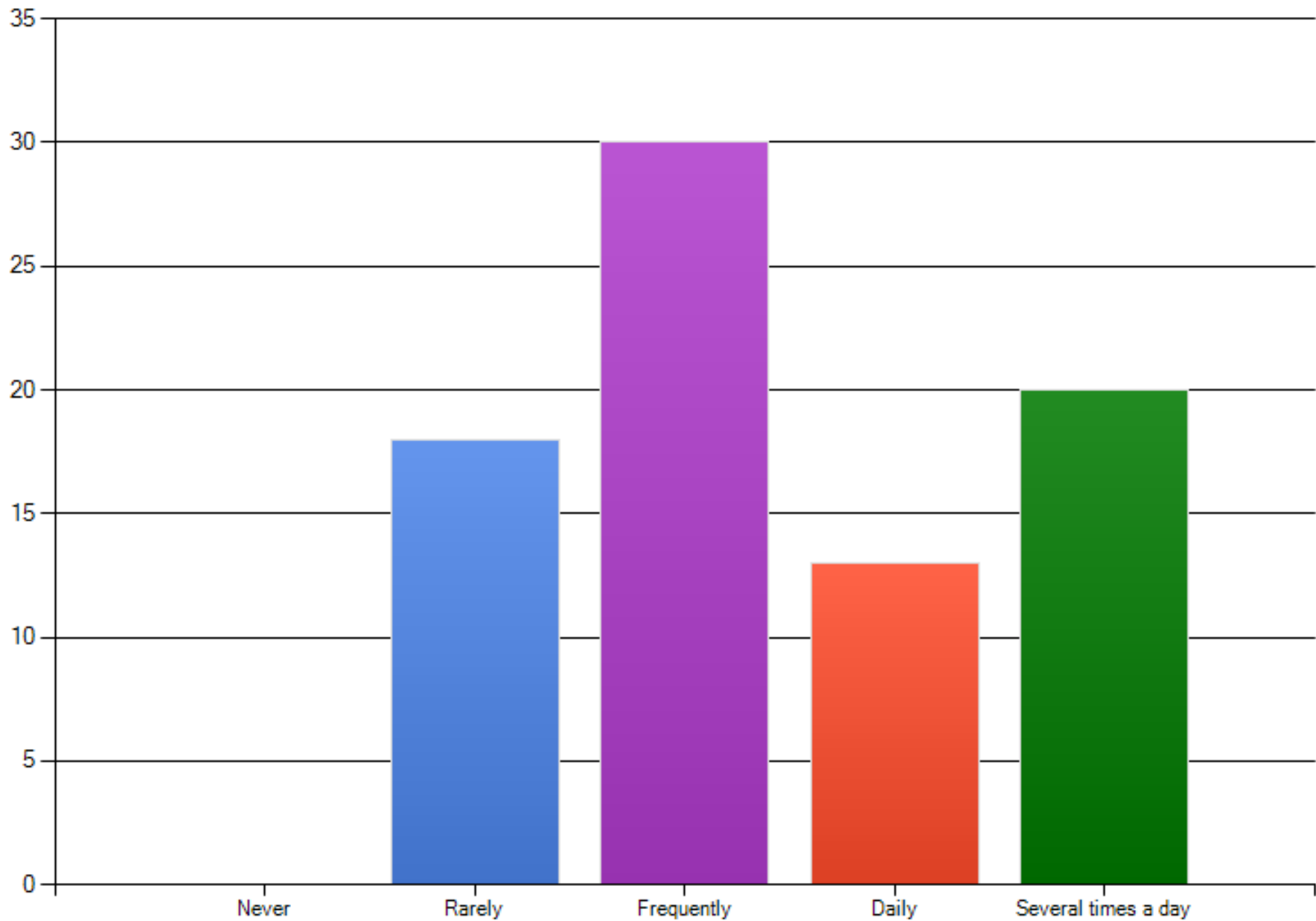
Current grade your child is attending (if more than one child in school, check all that apply)



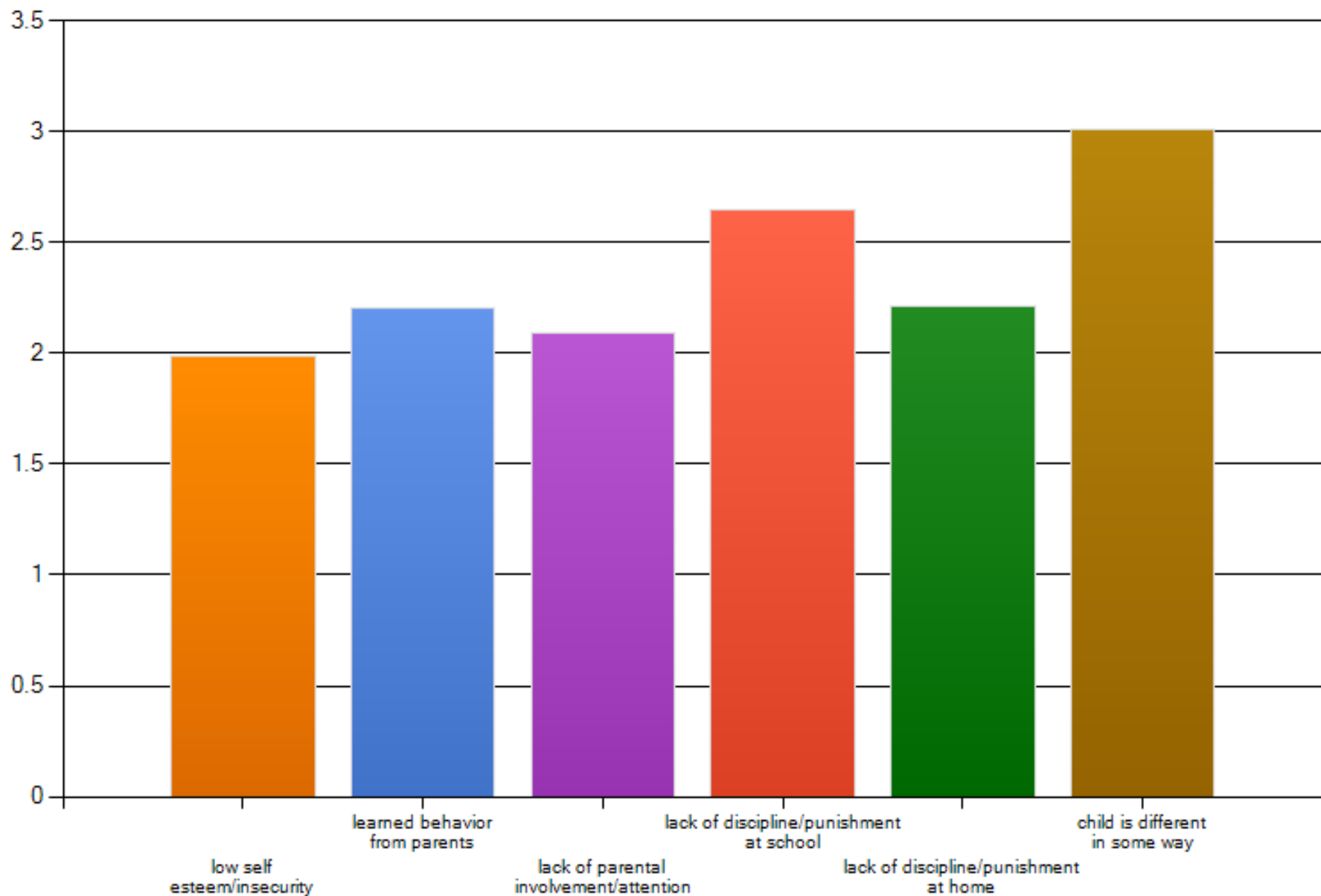
Gender of your child (if more than one child, check both if necessary)



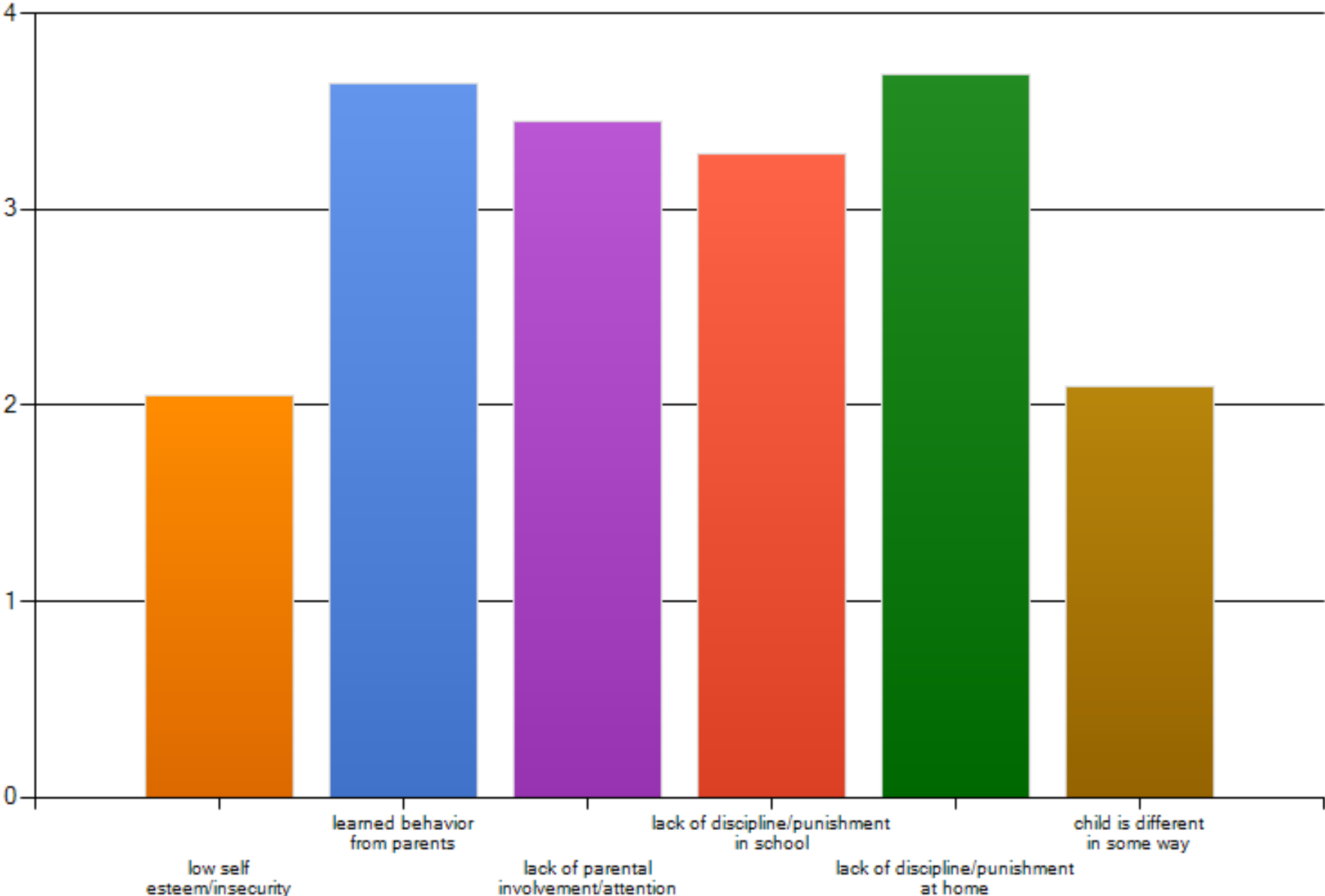
How often do you believe bullying occurs at Murphy JHS?



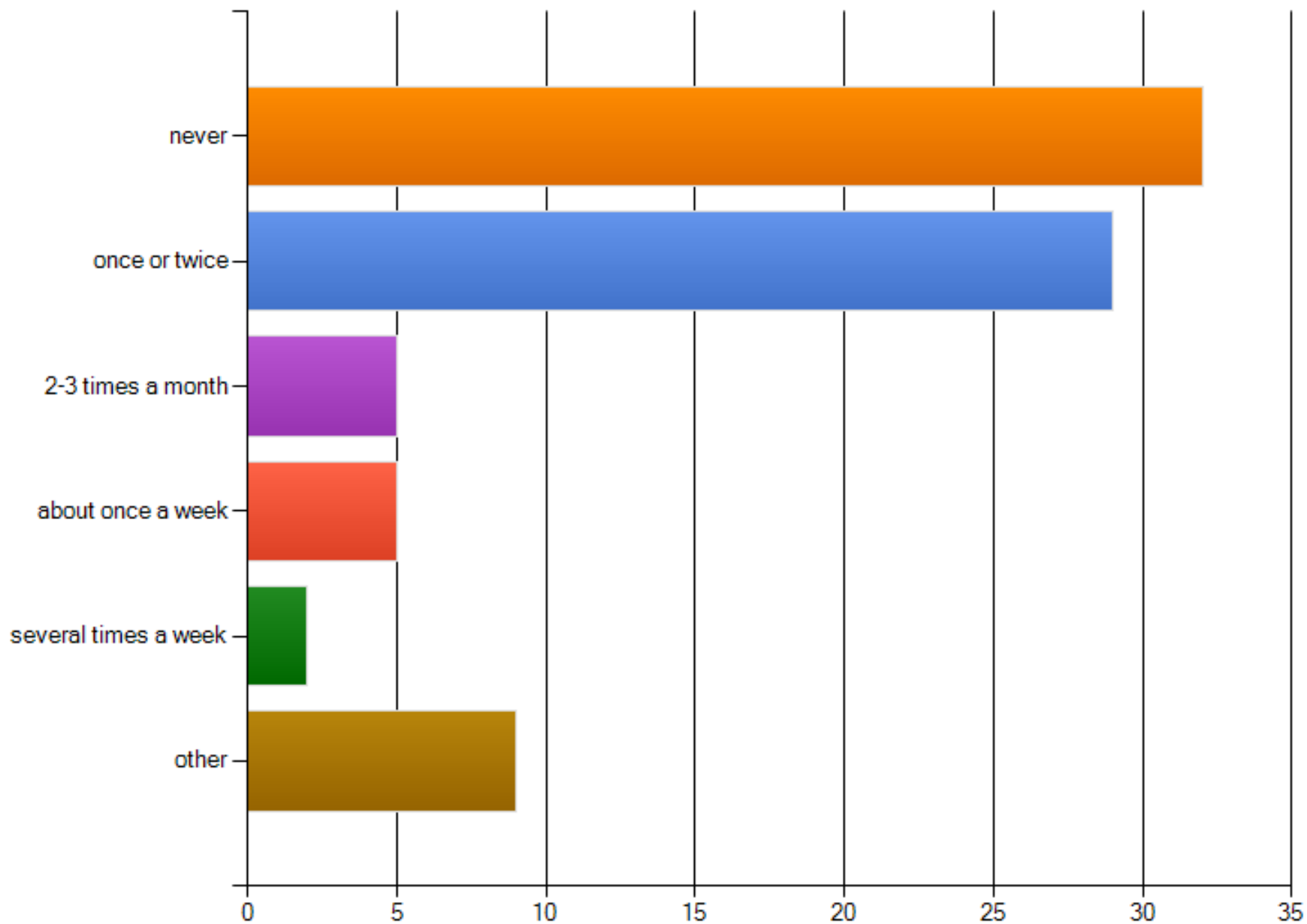
Regarding the bully, what would you say are the most important causes of bullying in school?



Regarding the student who is bullied, what would you say are the most important causes of bullying in the school?



To your knowledge, how often has your child been bullied at Murphy JHS?



Written Responses – How often has your child been bullied?

Physically threatened & cyberbullied

It was ongoing – until I spoke with a counselor. I hope that it has since stopped.

It stopped when approached by an adult

Varies – some in 7th, rarely in 8th, almost never in 9th

Both of my children have been bullied > often to the point that I am concerned for their well-being & self-esteem – they go and speak to someone because the school is unable to fix the issue at school.

Few times (2)

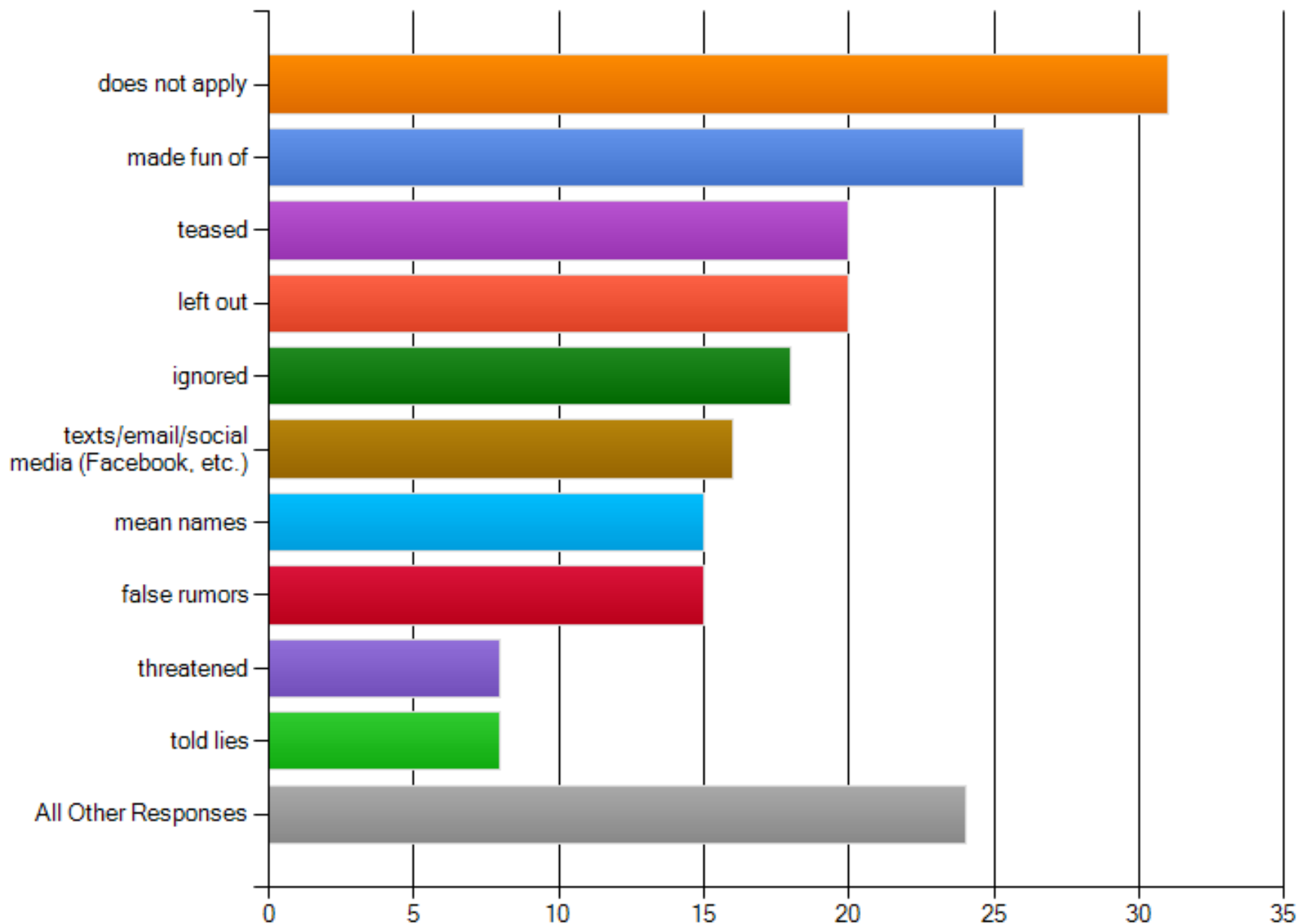
It's really more subtle. It's more being excluded from certain activities, sports, clubs, or even lunch tables.

When I asked my daughter, she answered “never”...I hope that's true

Teachers can be bullies

Several times > about every other day

How has your child been bullied at school so far this year? Choose all that apply.



Written Responses – How has your child been bullied?

My child was intimidated

Because she has been out of school due to an injury, she feels that other kids are treating her differently. She's always been an honors level kid and she's been left out of clubs, etc. and told by other kids "it's probably because you're not a New Yorker". I've actually been told that as well, that TVCSD has a tendency to sweep things under the carpet that might tarnish their reputation as one of the top school districts on LI.

My younger son in 5th grade > bullied on school bus

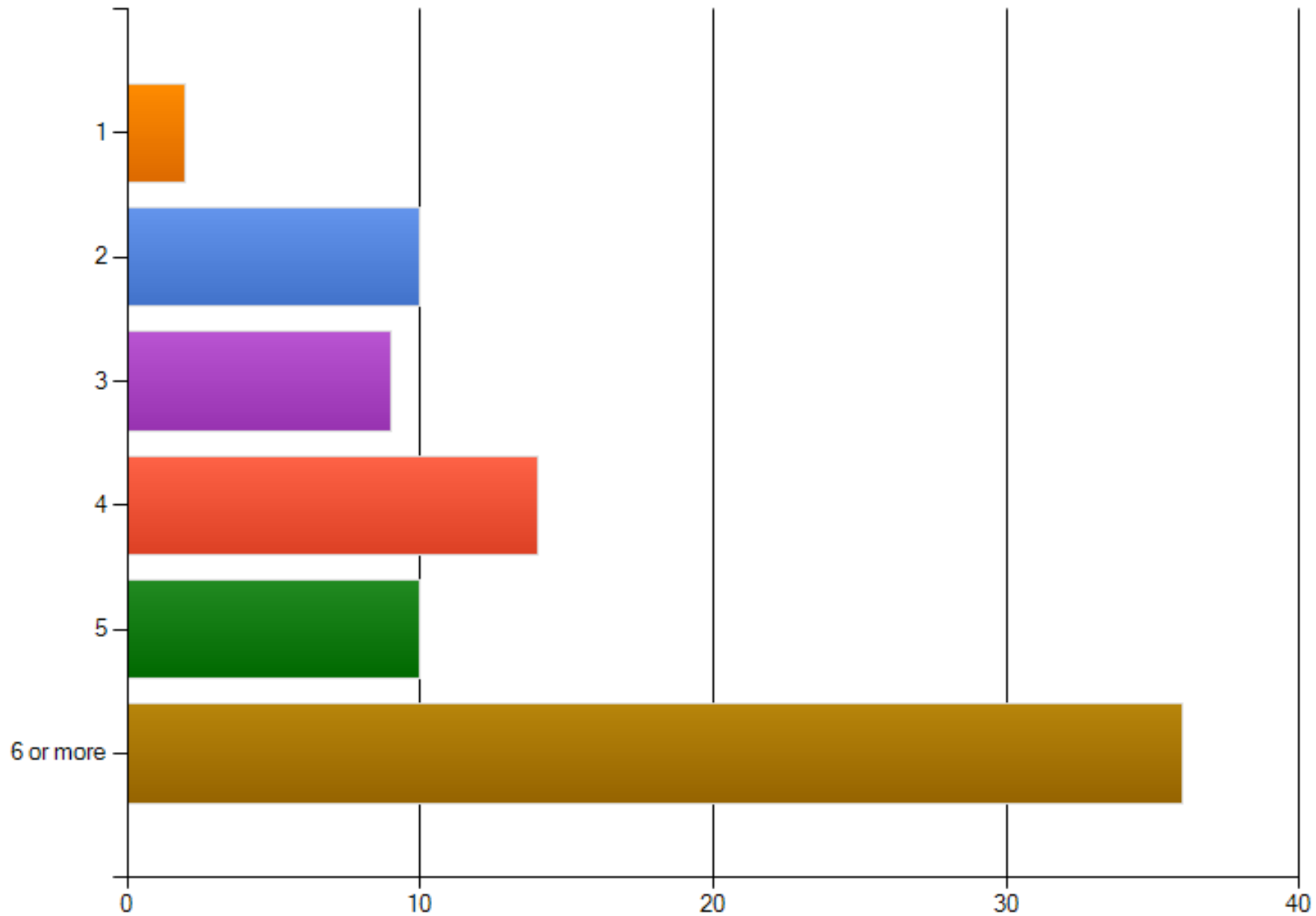
Was called "gay"

My daughter had a friend who was bullied relentlessly and she felt the need to protect her.

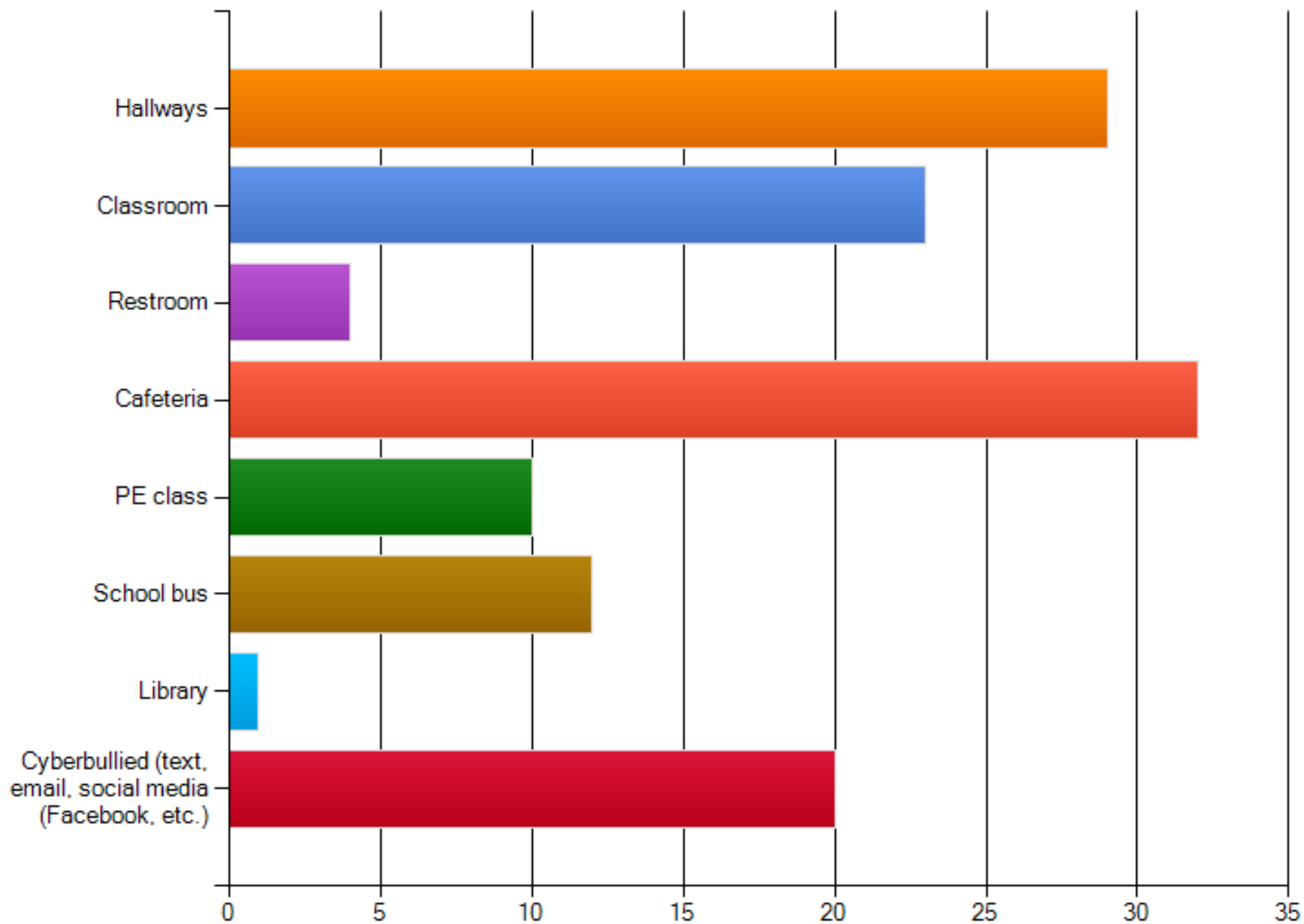
Facebook and Twitter are big avenues for bullies at JHS and WMHS.

Not so much physical "abuse" but there was physical contact in which hair was pulled.

How many close friends does your child/children have in school?



Where has bullying occurred? Choose all that apply.



Written Responses – Where has bullying occurred?

Walking to school

Gym locker rooms

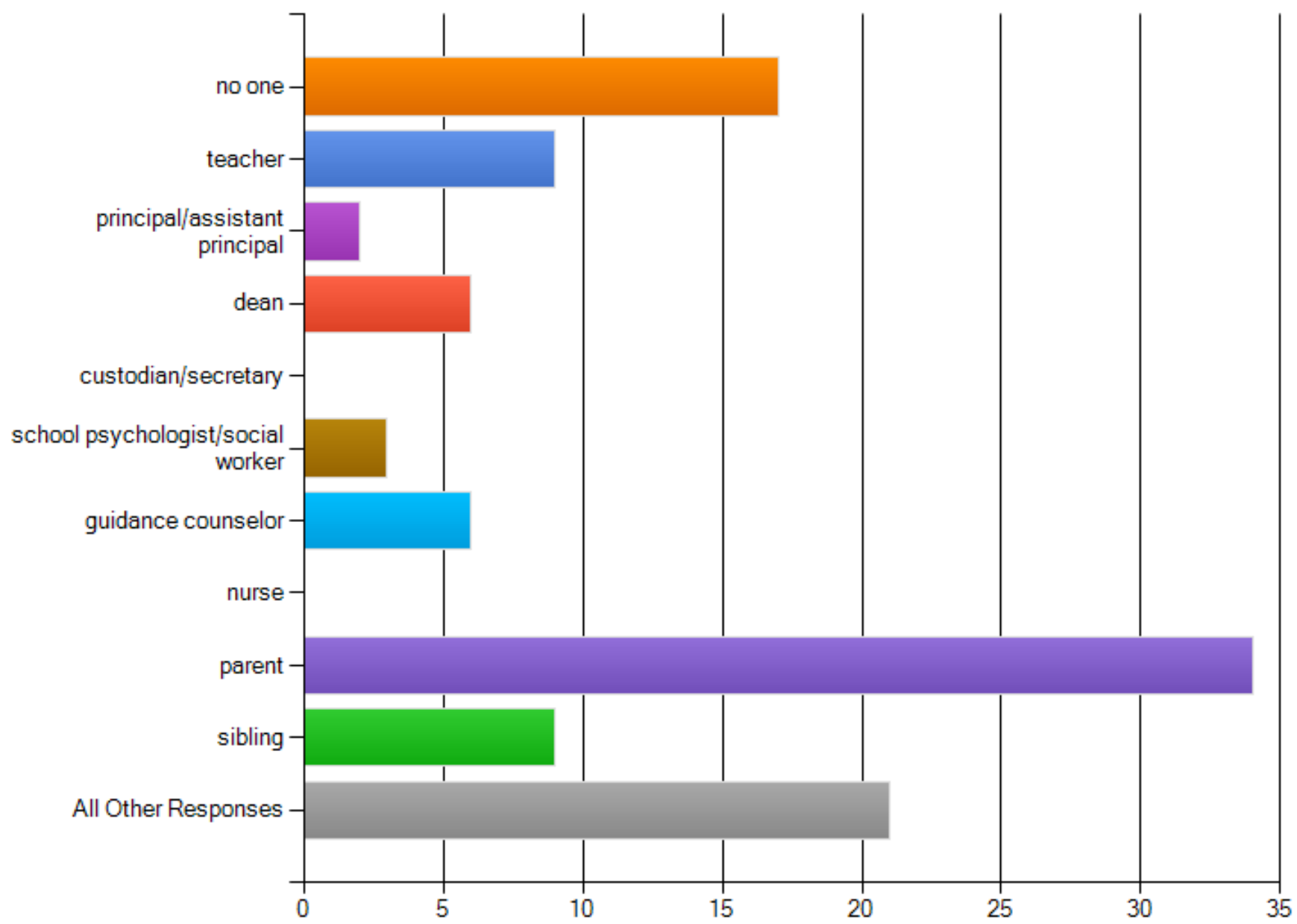
School dance (Day of the Dead Dance) – son refuses to go to school dances anymore

The friend she stood up for was bullied in school

Other “friends” houses

REC (after school)

To whom has your child/children reported the bullying incidents? Choose all that apply.



Written Responses > To whom has your child reported the bullying?

Occurred on the bus > he was so unhappy when he got off the bus. I can't talk to the parents (they are neighbors). I told him to tell his teacher the next day.

My daughter didn't agree with me...she did not see it as bullying

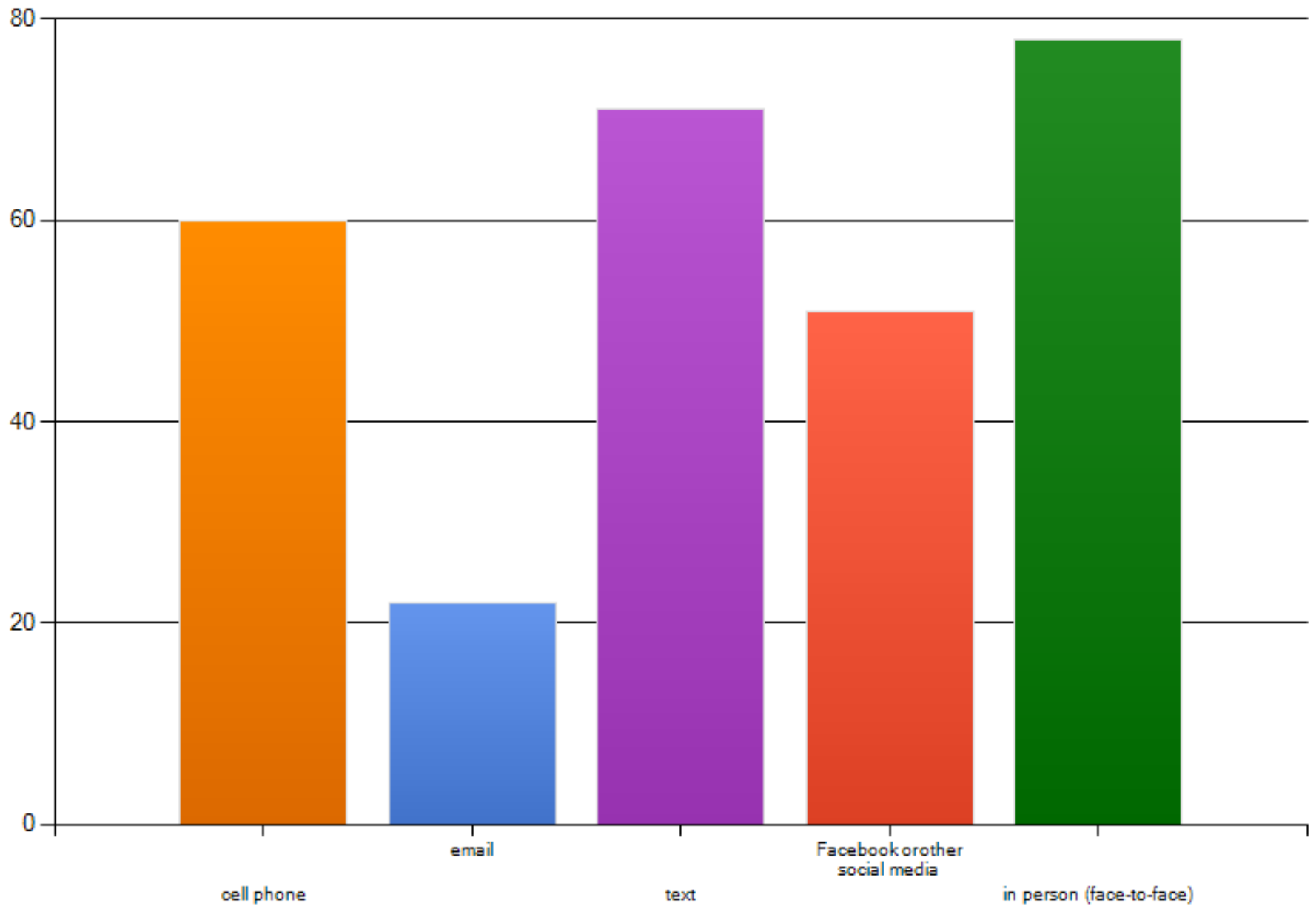
She believes reporting at school would only make it worse.

Only occasionally can I get it out of her because she is afraid of repercussions.

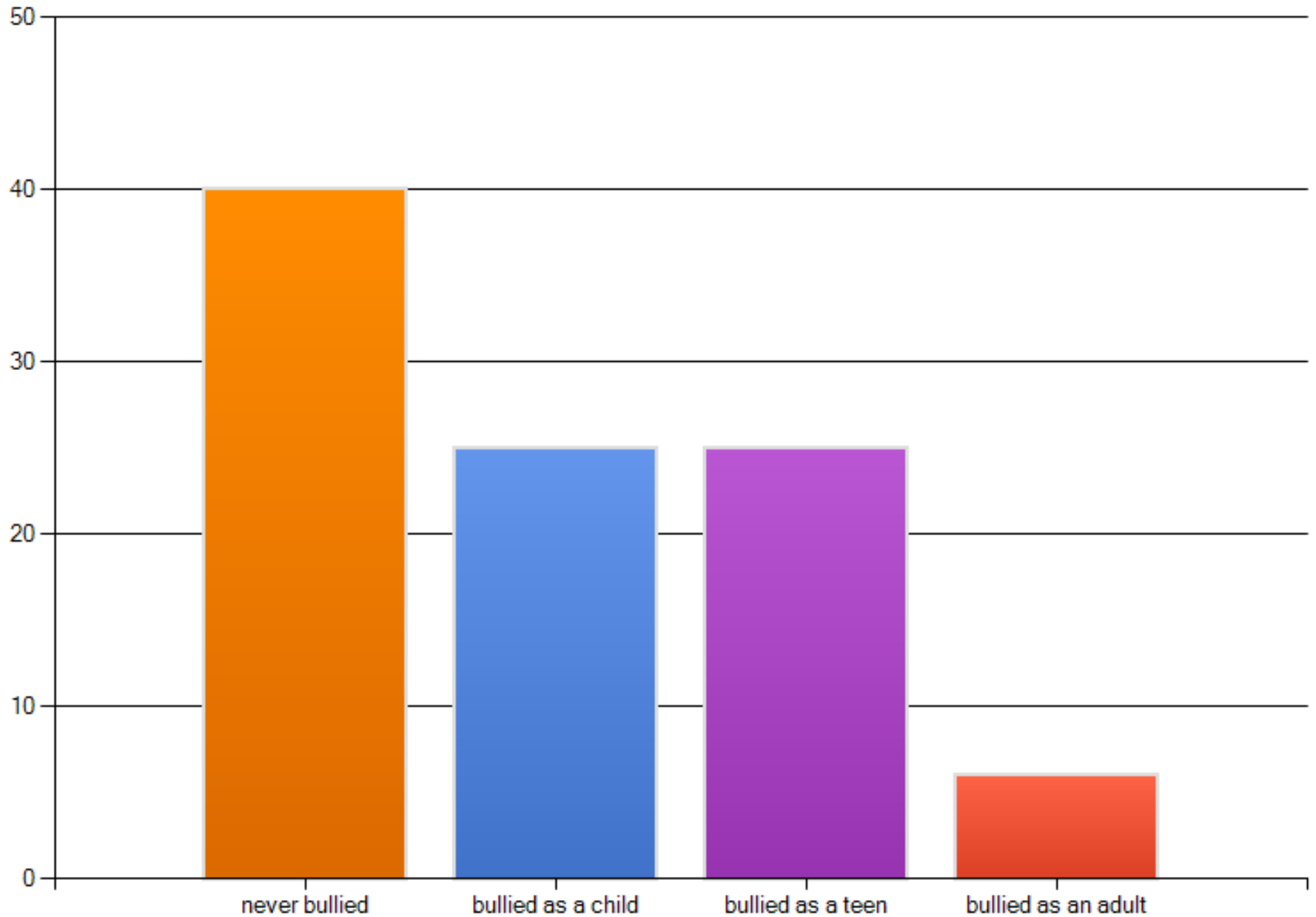
I spoke to Guidance briefly (without my daughter's knowledge)

My children have informed me if they say anything the bullying gets even worse because the bully is aware that he has been told on.

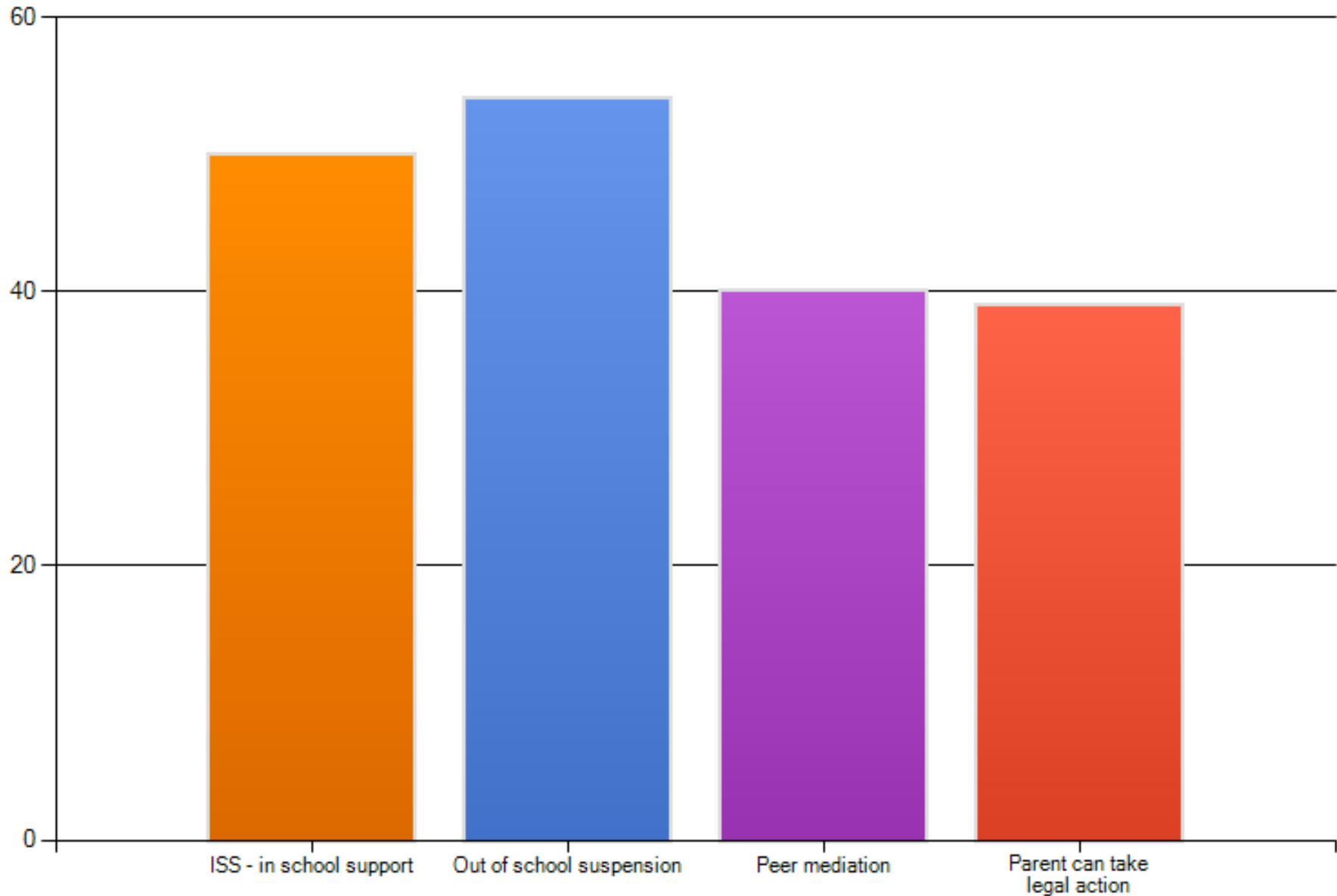
How does your child communicate with friends? Choose all that apply.



Regarding yourself, please check all that apply



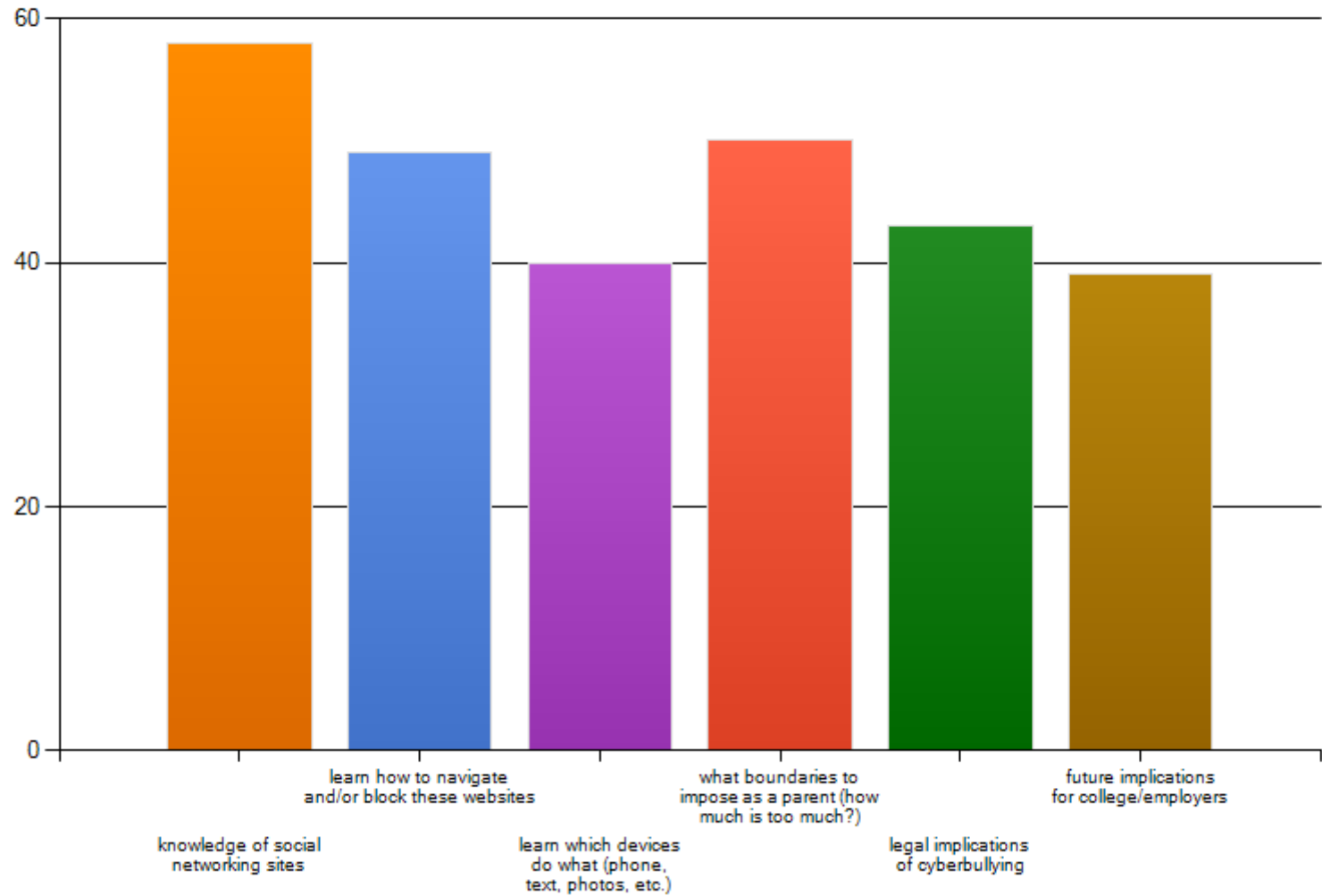
What do you feel would be an appropriate consequence for bullying? Check all that apply.



Written Responses – Appropriate Consequences

Depends on situation (7)	Mandatory community service with no “service credit”
Removal from sports teams	Zero tolerance
Parent conference>both sides (2)	No peer mediation
Required daily counseling	Expelled ½ year w/counseling for parent & child
Skills training for victims	Administration meeting w/parents and bully
More parent awareness/intervention and monitor Facebook	Increased school awareness & intervention
If extreme, jail	

What do you need in order to feel that your child is safe using modern technology? Check all that apply.



Name	Active Users
Facebook	800+ million
Twitter	380+ million
Windows Live	330+ million
Skype	200 million
LinkedIn	100+ million
MySpace	33.1+ million in U.S.

Some Other Social Networking Sites

<http://pinterest.com/about/>

Pinterest is a visual board-style social photo sharing website and app where users can create and manage theme-based collections (recipes, crafts, hairstyles, clothing, etc.) with other users commenting on them. Their mission statement is to connect everyone in the world through shared tastes and the “things” they find interesting. 3.3 million users

Some Other Social Networking Sites

- <http://tumblr.com> Tumblr allow users to post text, images, videos, links, quotes & audio to their “tumblelog”. Users can follow other users, reblog their posts or choose to make their tumblelog private. 39.5 million users
- <http://omegle.com> Omegle includes a “Spy Mode” which connects three strangers. One stranger asks a thought-provoking question for the other two to answer or discuss with each other. The stranger who asks the question cannot participate in the discussion, but plays the part of a 3rd-party observer. No restriction on the topics.
- <http://pinger.com> Pinger is a free text service for iPhones, iPads, Android phone and even your computer. It’s a way for anyone to text anyone else if you have their phone number.

Social Networking Sites Continued

<http://formspring.me> Formspring is a social Q&A site that allows its users to set up a profile page, follow other users and ask questions from other users. The questions and their given responses are then published on the user's profile page. Several incidences of users committing suicide have been associated with this network, involving anonymous personal abuse. They say they are working with MIT Media Lab to develop new approaches to detect online bullying and design interfaces which help prevent it or mitigate it when it does occur.

Sexting Statistics

- 71% of teen girls and 67% of guys who have sent or posted sexually suggestive content say that they have sent this content to a boyfriend or girlfriend.
- 44% of both girls and boys say it is common for sexually suggestive text messages to get shared with people other than the intended recipient.
- 36% of teen girls and 39% of teen guys say it is common for nude or semi-nude photos to get shared with people other than the intended recipient.
- 51% of teen girls say pressure from a guy is a reason girls send sexy messages or images; only 18% of teen boys cited pressure from female counterparts as a reason.
- 52% of teenage girls used sexting as a “sexy present” for their boyfriend.
- 12% of teen girls felt “pressured” to send sexually suggestive messages or images.

How to block

- <http://www.facebook.com/help/privacy/blocking>
- Phone calls: **Contact Your Carrier** Most carriers have a means of blocking calls even if you don't realize it. It usually costs money and it usually falls under the header of *Parental Controls* but it works just the same.
 - **AT&T uses a feature called Smart Limits and charges \$5/month for the service**
 - **Verizon's service is free but can only block 5 callers at a time for a total of 3 > months.. Find a tutorial on <http://ehow.com>**
 - **T-Mobile> call 611 and customer service will help you block any particular number.**
 - **Sprint > You need to involve law enforcement to block phone calls.**

Text messages – can be blocked at no extra charge by contacting customer support.

Future Implications for College/Employers

- College Applications: In a 2011 survey of 359 admissions officers from top colleges, the education experts at Kaplan Test Prep learned that roughly 24% visit social networking sites such as Facebook and MySpace to learn more about applicants. 20% Googled applicants. The bottom line: an applicant's online image matters and it hurts applicants' chances of admission in about 12% of cases.
- UMass Amherst study in 2011 showed that 100% of colleges use social media in one form or another.

Employers: Many companies--including Cisco, IBM, GM, Wal-Mart, Intel, etc. have formal social-networking policies. Of U.S. companies with at least 1,000 employees, 10% have disciplined their employees for breaking those policies, and 8% have fired at least one employee for egregious violations.

http://www.forbes.com/2010/04/13/how-facebook-ruined-my-career-entrepreneurs-human-resources-facebook_slide.html

Parenting Suggestions Regarding Technology

- Become involved in your child' cyberspace. Sit at the computer and let them teach you how to use the Internet:
 - **Ask them to take you places they frequently visit and show you what they do. Three types of sites teens commonly use are:**
 - **Instant Messaging Services (e.g. Yahoo, AOL, IM and Messenger)**
 - **Social networking sites (e.g. Face Book and MySpace)**
 - **Video posting (e.g. You Tube, AOL video)**
- Open up your own account where they have accounts. Have your child guide you through the process.
- If your child is under 13, you do have the option to have these accounts deleted since most of these services have an age and/or parental consent requirement.

- Have them share with you all their user account names and passwords. If this is creating a trust issue, perhaps a good compromise is to have your child write down all the user account names & passwords on a sheet of paper and place this in a sealed envelope to only be opened by the parent in case of emergency.
- Have them show you what they have in their profiles/pages. How do they describe themselves? Is it all accurate and appropriate? Does it show too much detail? Are they protecting and sustaining a positive reputation?
- Scrutinize their friend lists on these accounts. It is very important to recognize the identity of each person. If they don't know the real name of an online friend, then consider that person a stranger. Request they delete and block that person.
- Encourage them to come to you for support if they are being bullied. Both of you should learn how to use the print screen option to save evidence of cyber bullying.
- Ask whether they have bullied anyone. It's important for them to appreciate how much emotional pain can be inflicted by unkind words or images, and that the span of the Internet makes it far more destructive.
- Have a very pointed conversation about "sexting" which can be easily forwarded on to others and damage their reputation.

- **Establish clear and enforceable guidelines:**
 - Establish your own family policy for acceptable computer use. List what may or may not be allowed including clear rules about time limits.
 - Be upfront with your child, that your policy will be enforced and monitored. Try to set a policy that respects your child’s privacy while also considering their age, maturity level and inclination towards risky behavior.
 - Purchase monitoring or time control software to help enforce the family’s policy. Search “parental control software reviews” to find the latest products, features and reviews.
 - <http://www.3villagecsd.org>

Does a middle school child or younger possess the maturity, judgment, and social skills to use instant/text messaging and social websites responsibly? And if you judge your child does, have a clear and trustworthy discussion with your child about their peers having the same maturity, judgment and social skills. While you may trust your child, can your child trust all their peers? That may be the reason you need to monitor their activity online.

BE P.E.S.T.S.



PROTECT YOUR KIDS. Children often don't recognize the risks that go along with Internet use. Talk with your child about these risks. Let her know it's OK to come to you if something happens online that makes her uncomfortable.

ESTABLISH GUIDELINES FOR COMPUTER USE AND ONLINE TIME. Limit computer time as you would time spent in front of the TV. Discuss which sites are acceptable and which ones are not. Have the computer setup in a public place—NOT your child's bedroom.

SECURE ALL PERSONAL OR PRIVATE INFORMATION. Make sure children understand they should NEVER give out ANY personal information online; NEVER to use their real name as part of an email address; and NEVER answer questions from someone they (and ideally, you) have not met *in person*.

TOLERATE NO EXCUSES OR RATIONALIZATIONS. Being online feels safe and comfortable to your child. Let him know that computer rules are not up for ongoing negotiation. You've established these rules to keep your child safe— "giving in" when it comes to the Internet could place him at risk.

SNOOP EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE. Let your child know that you will be checking her online activities (including *myspace* pages and email) from time to time. Explain that you are not doing this to invade her privacy, but because you need to be sure that she is safe.

Try these websites for more information on Internet safety:

▶ Netsmarz.com
▶ Isafe.org

▶ theantidrug.com
▶ noslang.com

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Works Cited

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