

**Fear and punitivity study  
in the prison population  
of Thuringia as an indicator -  
partial order of fear?**

Neuchatel, 26.October 2018  
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# Overview

- Introduction
- Descriptive Statistics
- Groups of prisoners
- Factors of punitivity and fear
- Explanation of fear of victimization
- Explanation of victimization
- Explanation of approval of death penalty
- Comparison between prison population and German students
- Conclusion and outlook

# Introduction

For what we need a Criminological department?

- Evaluation of the prison system
- Evaluation of the treatment
- Counselling of the ministry of justice
- Electronic documentation and data management
- Own research in order to prevent crime, violent behaviour in prison, suicide, drug abuse ...
- Permission of research projects
- Education of the prison staff

(Education of prison guards takes two years)

- Evaluation of the prison system: Security and Re-Socialisation
- Evaluation of the treatment (Recidivism)
- In order to prevent crime, violent behaviour in prison, suicide, drug abuse ...

- How dangerous a person is?
- Risk of suicide
- Mental disorder
- .....

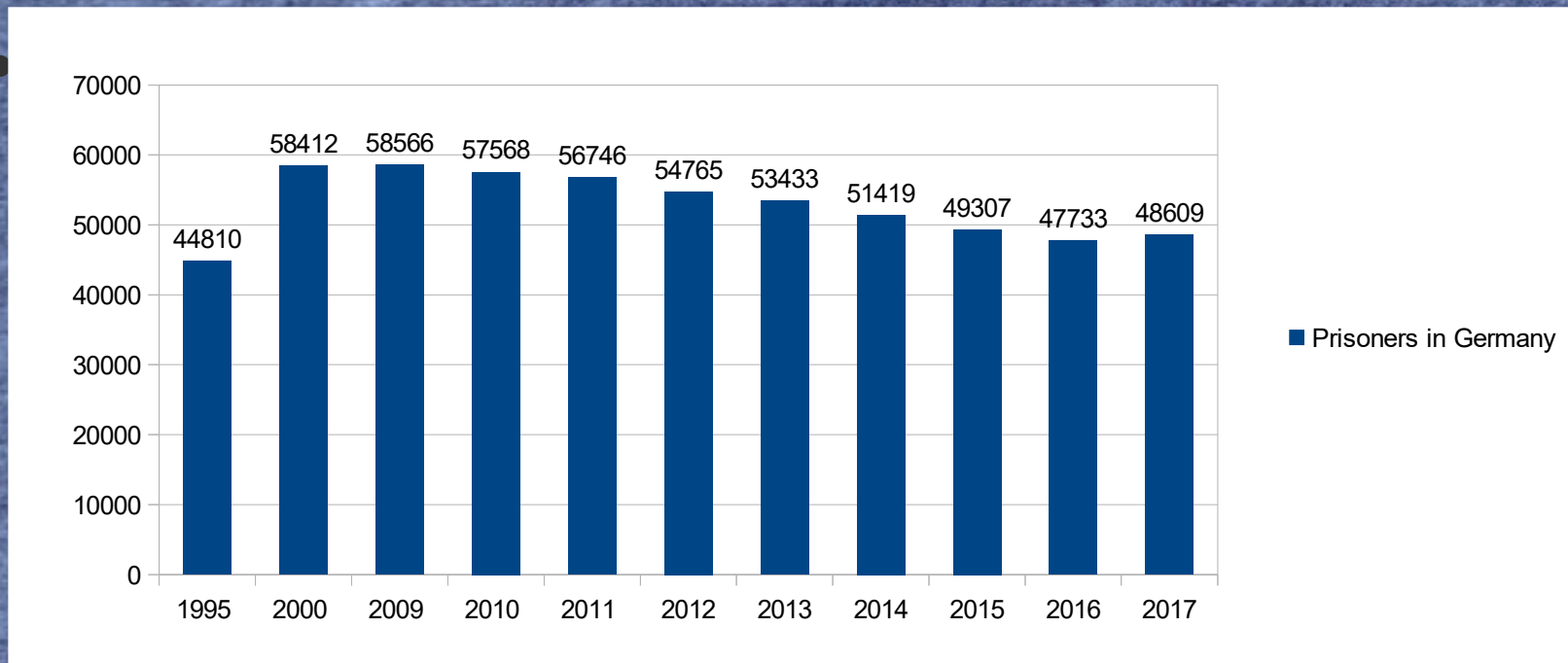
# Introduction

## Indicators? Introduction

### Indicators?

- Prison rate in Germany: 77 per 100.000 persons (2017)

in Belarus: 306, in Russia 445, in Georgia 274 (2015/2016)



- Lowest numbers of offences since 1992
- Number of cases (wilful homicide, homicide, mercy killing)
  - 2126 cases (2012), 2418 cases (2016)
  - 281 victims (2012), 373 victims (2016)
- Rate of homicide: 1.8 (2009)
  - 2.6 (Belarus 2009), 4.2 (Russian Federation 2009)
- Possibility of penalty

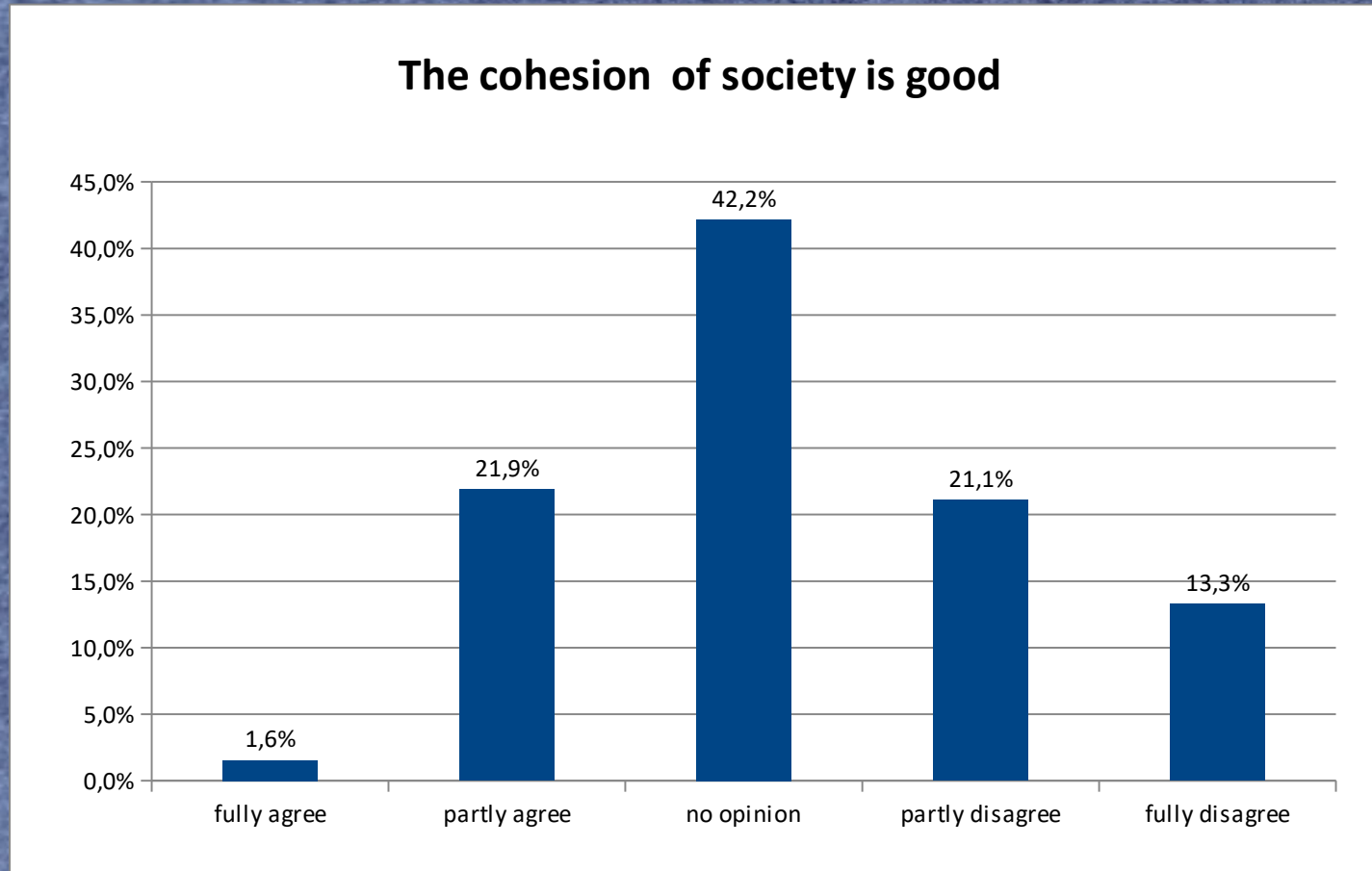
- 1593 prisoners (2012) in comparison to 1345 prisoners (2017)
  - Reduction of nearly a sixth or 15.6%
- Juvenile prison: 177 (2012) in comparison to 91 (2017)
  - Demographic change and low unemployment rate
- Prison sentence until one year: 642 (2012) 640 (2017)
- Life long sentence: 38 (2012) in comparison to 33 (2017)



- Survey (voluntary)
- 128 prisoners have taken part in the study
- All kind of prisons (juvenile prison, prison for adult, life long, short time)
- Reason for the study: attitude of prisoners to victimization, fear of crime and punitivity
- Empathy is important for Re-Socialisation
- The last study of the Criminological Department has shown a high tendency to approve extremistic opinions (only as a possible for reason for recidivism)

# Descriptive statistic

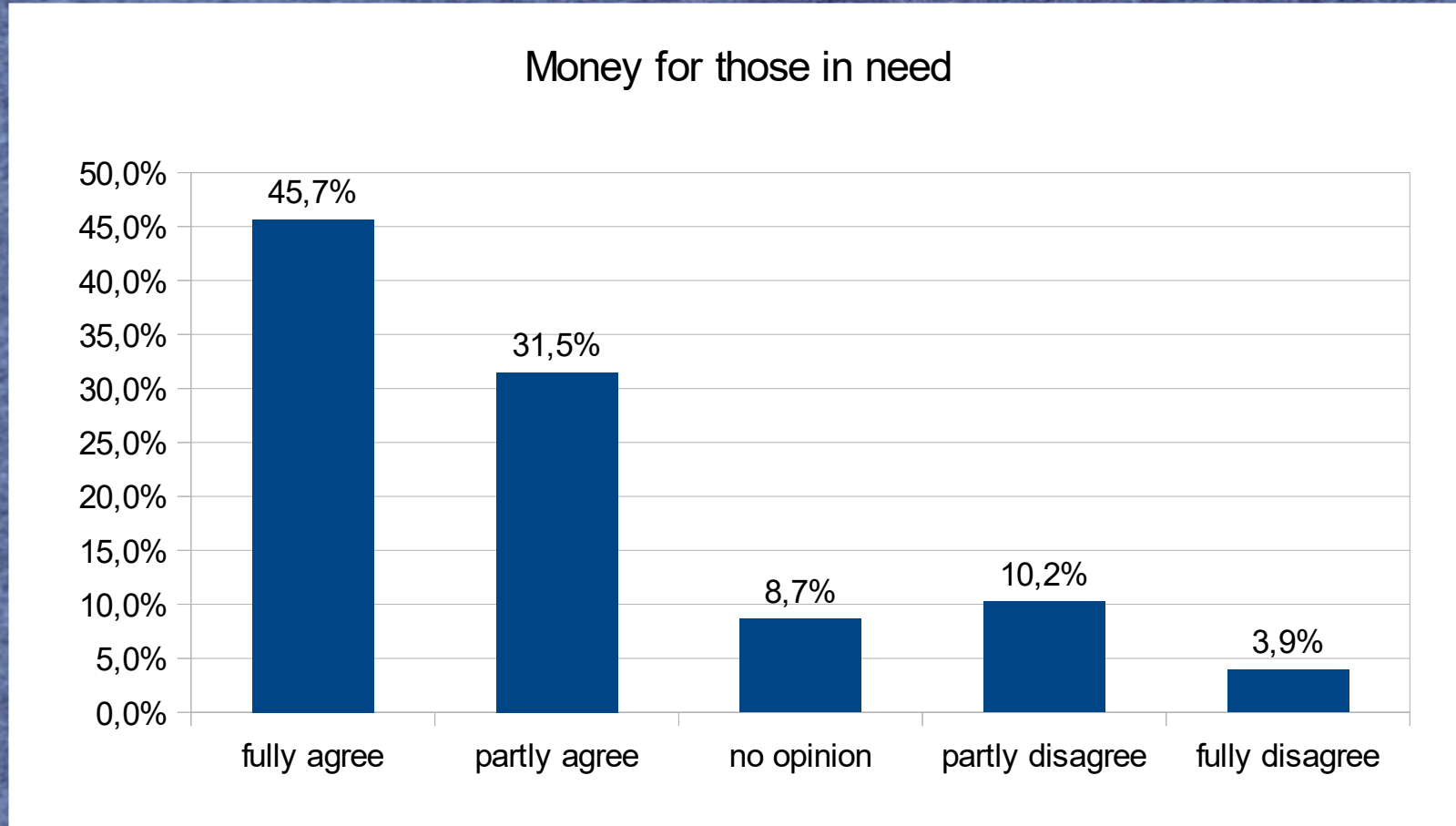
## Question 1: Cohesion of society



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- Living „outside of society“

# Descriptive statistic

## Question 2: Money for those in need

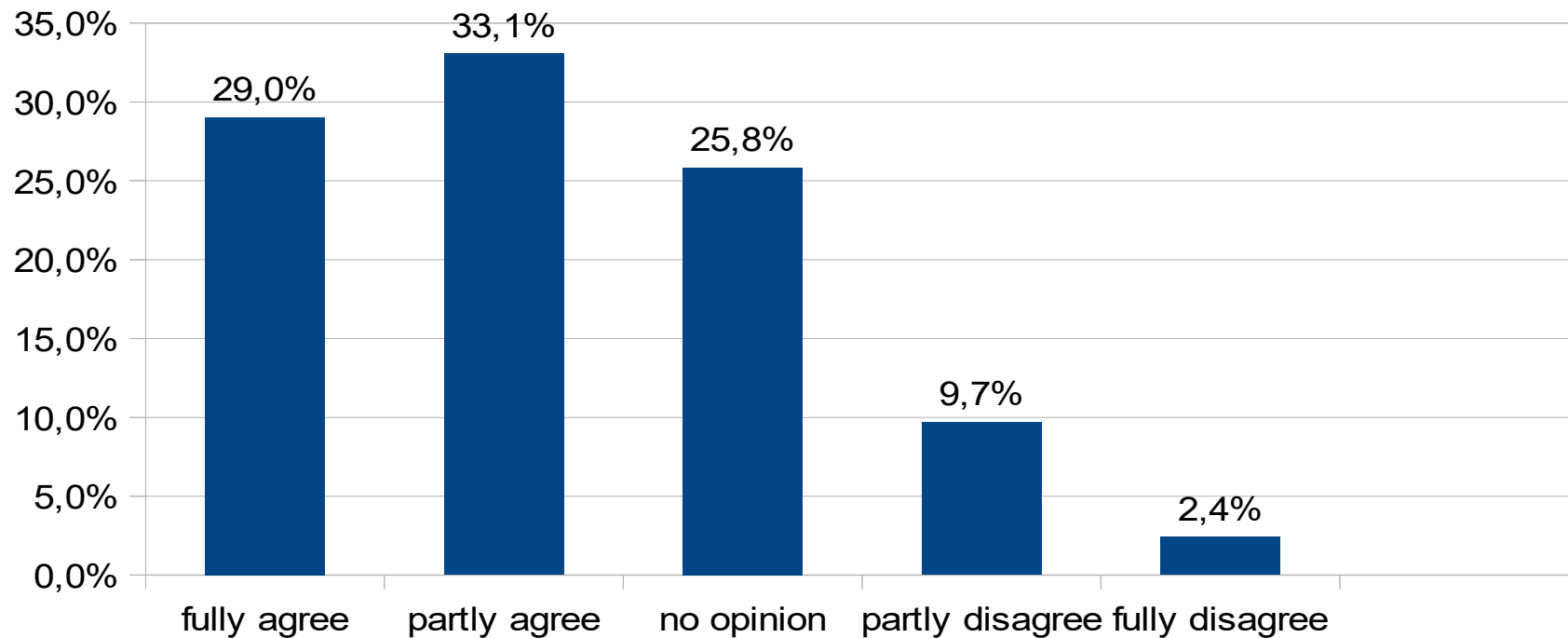


- „Fully agree“ has the highest value
- Self understanding as „those in need“?

# Descriptive statistic

## Question 3: Offenders less punishment more support

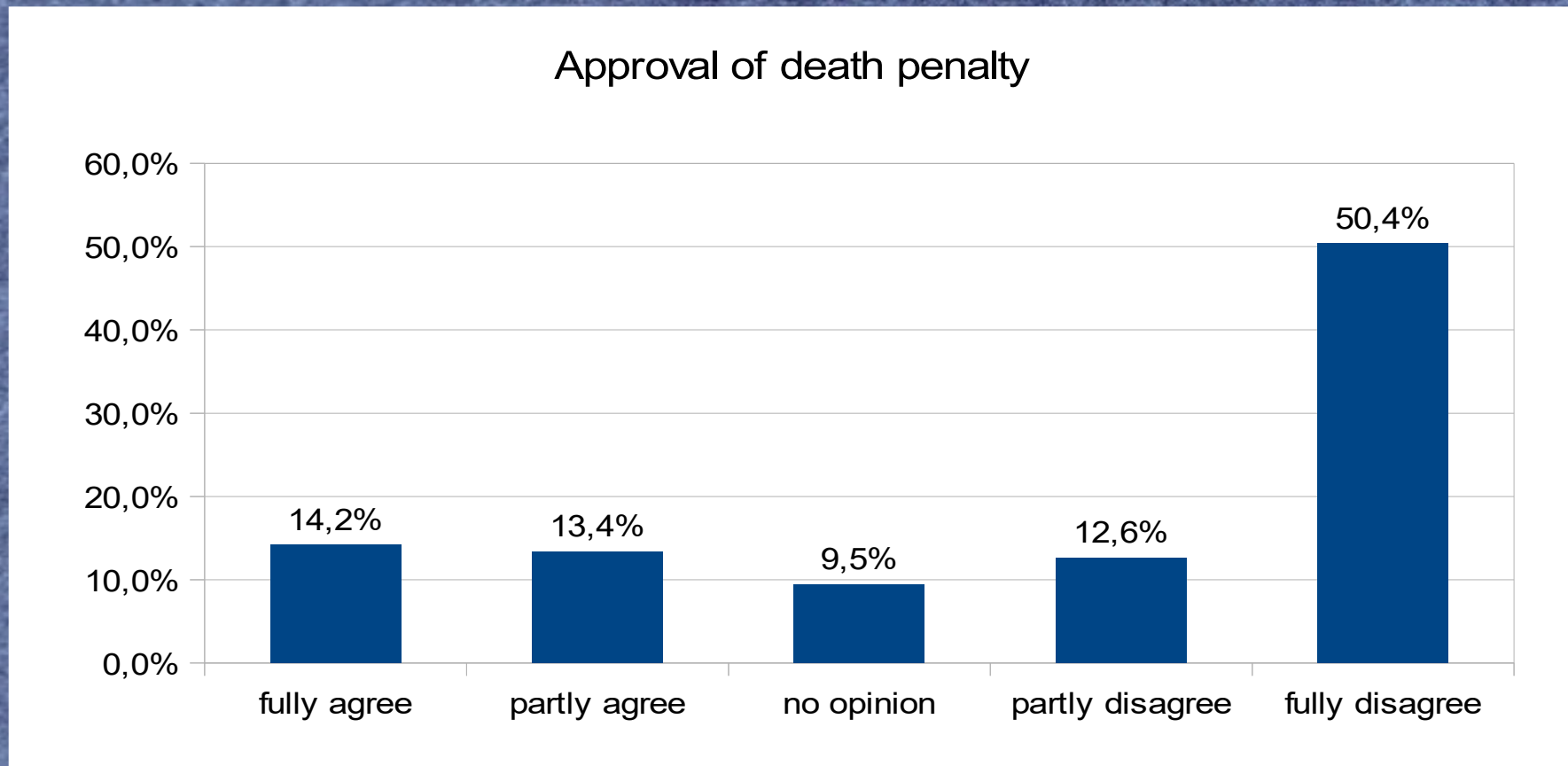
Offenders less punishment, more support and treatment



- „Partly agree“ has the highest value
- Prisoners want support and treatment!

# Descriptive statistic

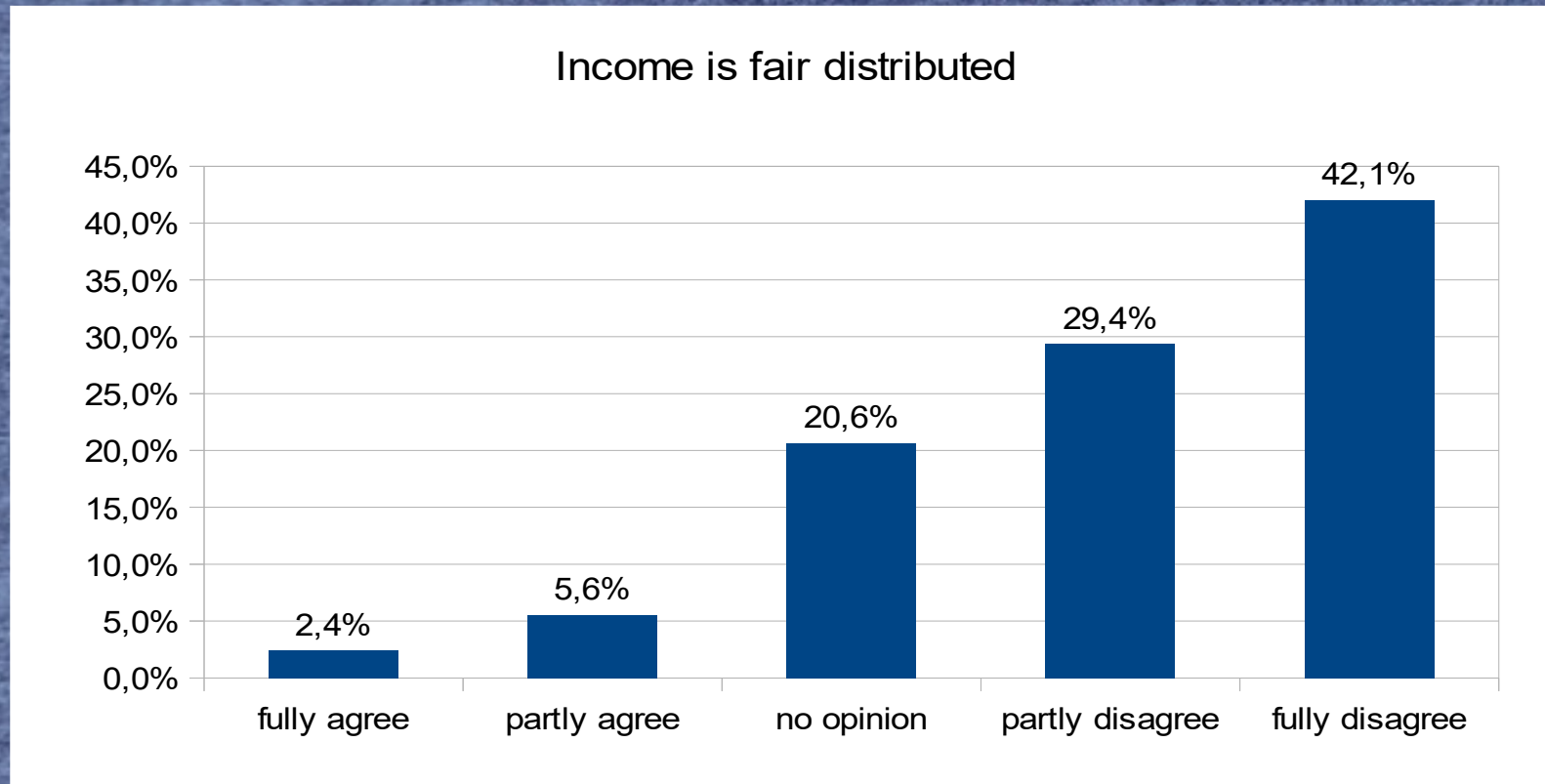
## Question 4: Approval for death penalty



- „Fully agree“ has the highest value
- After all around a quarter „agree“

# Descriptive statistic

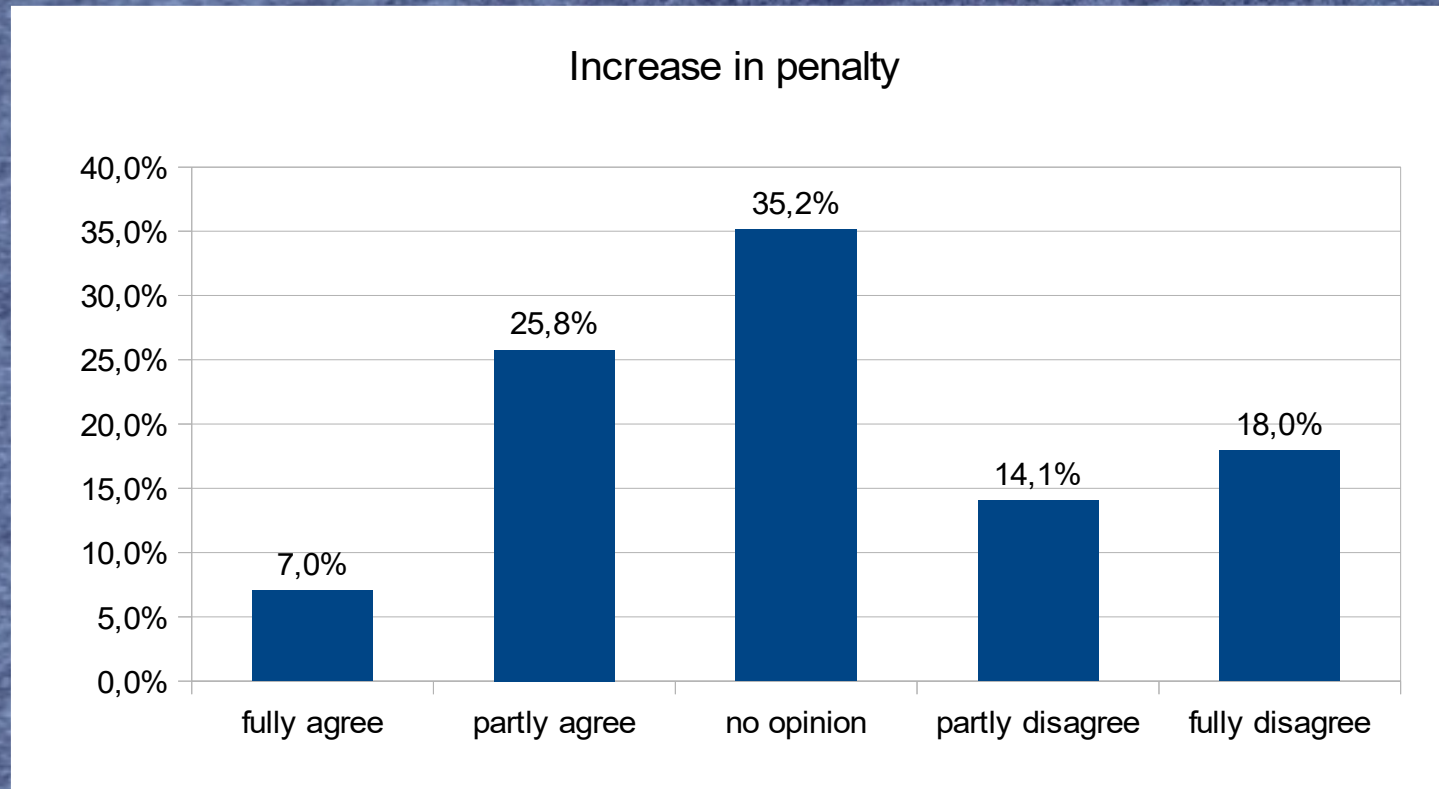
## Question 5: Income is fair distributed



- „Fully disagree“ has the highest value
- Self understanding as „underprivileged“

# Descriptive statistic

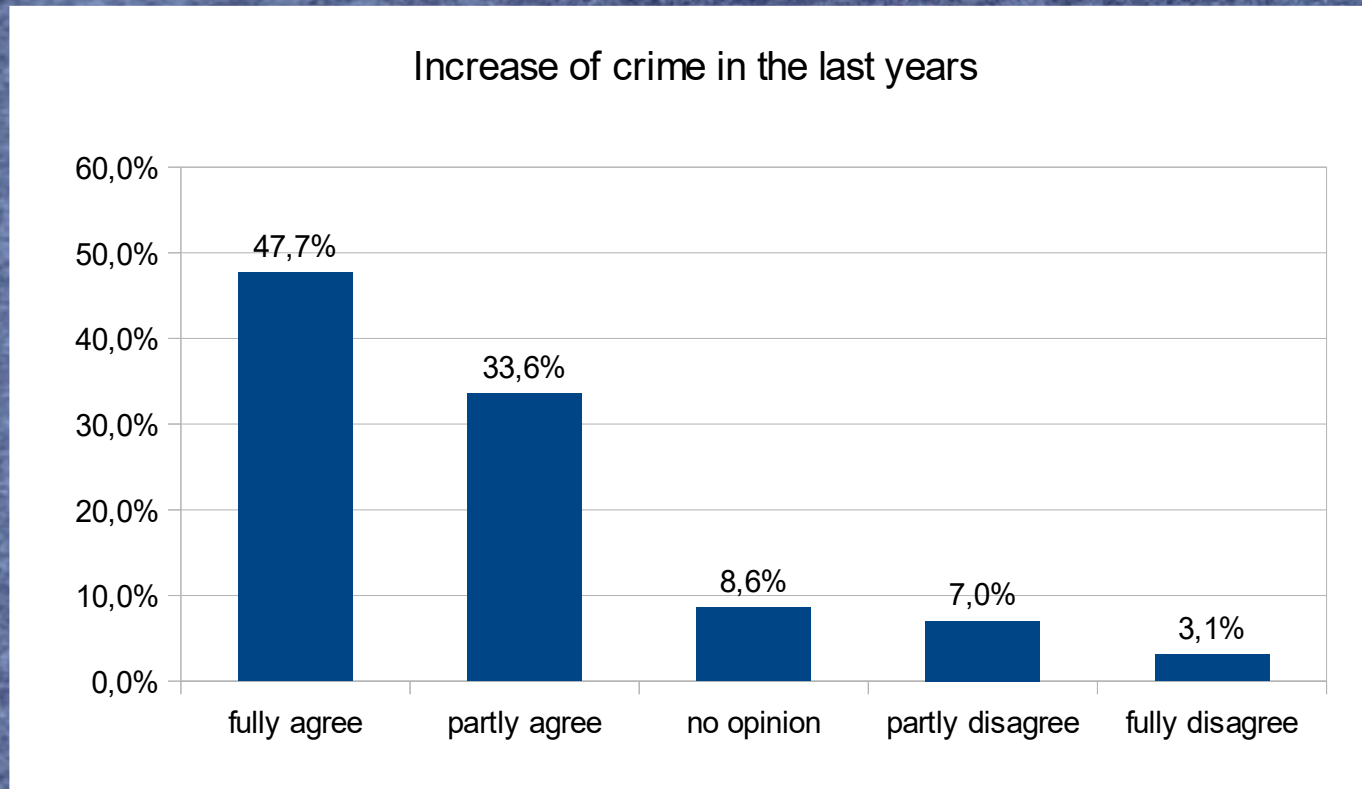
## Question 6: Increase in penalty



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- Undecided! Interesting for prisoners!

# Descriptive statistic

## Question 7: Increase of crime

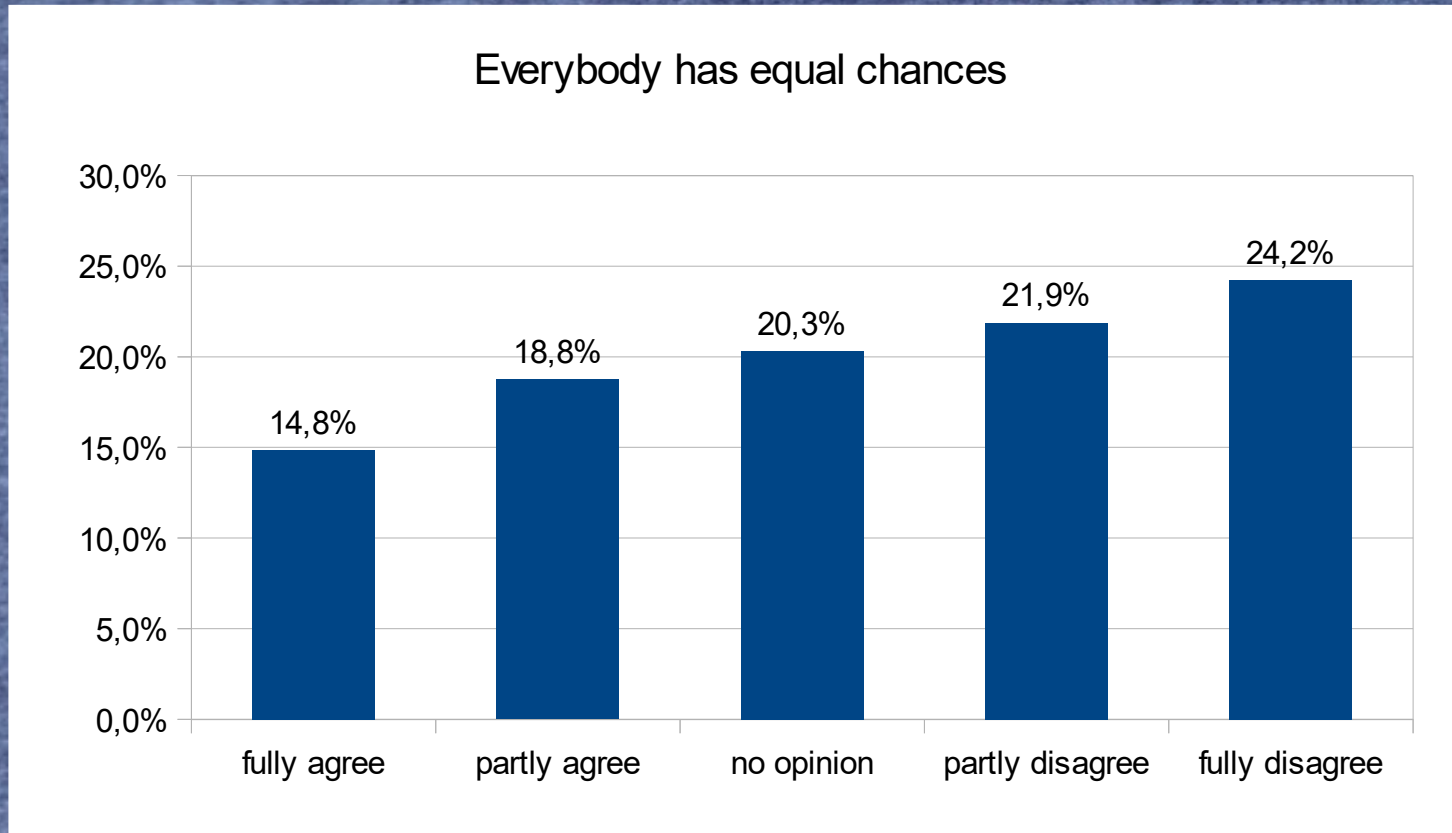


- „Fully agree“ has the highest value
- General perception in the society! Criminal behaviour as an outside threat!



# Descriptive statistic

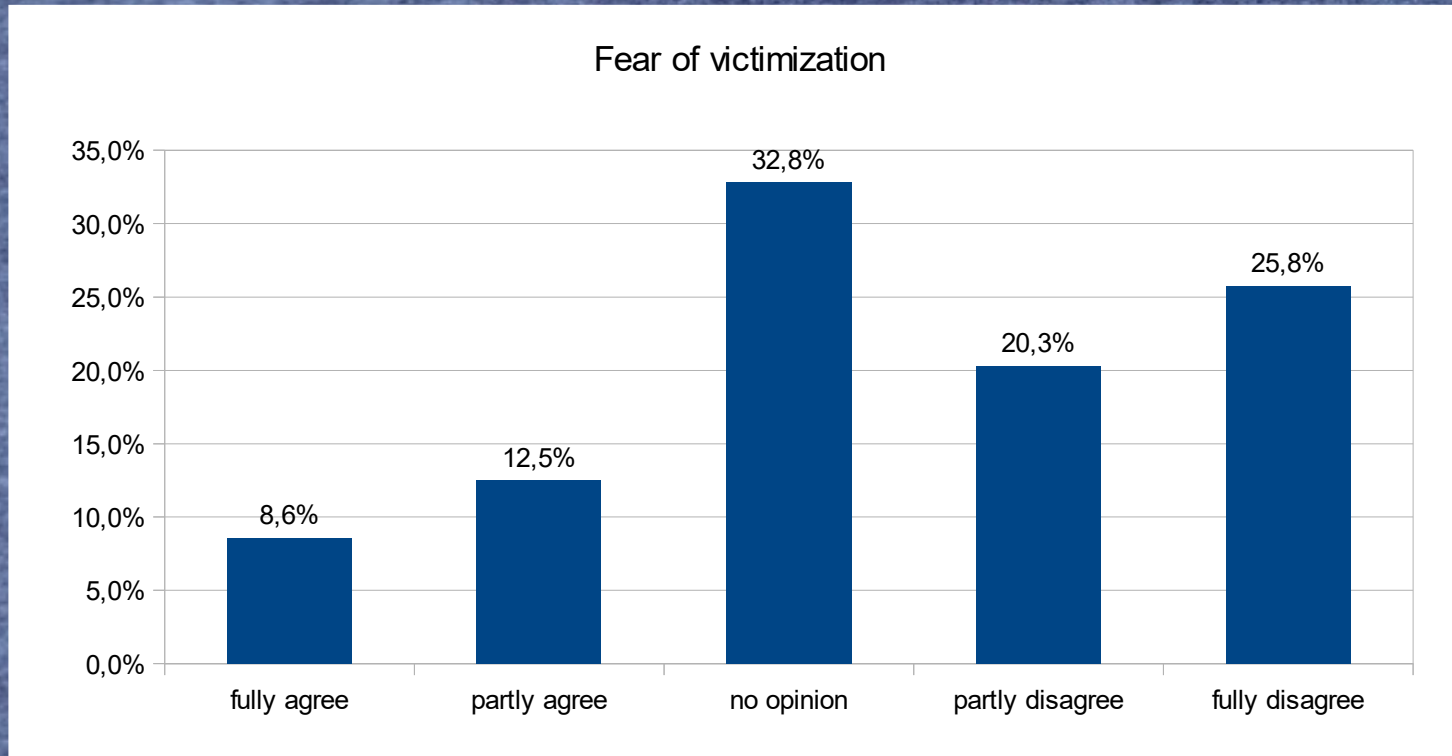
## Question 8: Everybody has equal chances



- „Fully disagree“ has the highest value
- Believe in equality

# Descriptive statistic

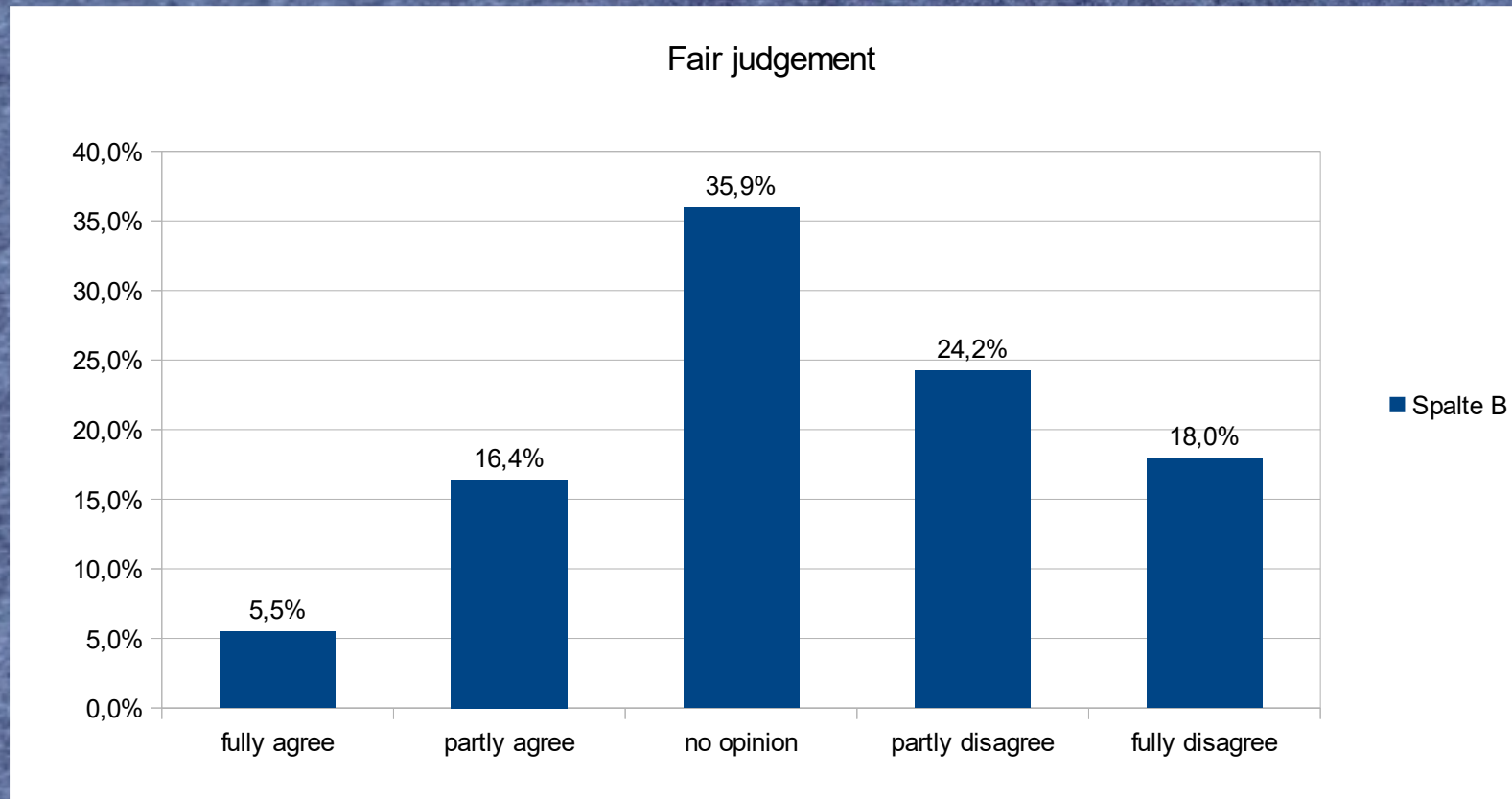
## Question 9: Fear of victimization



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- Even prisoners can become victims! Self understanding of „male prisoners“!

# Descriptive statistic

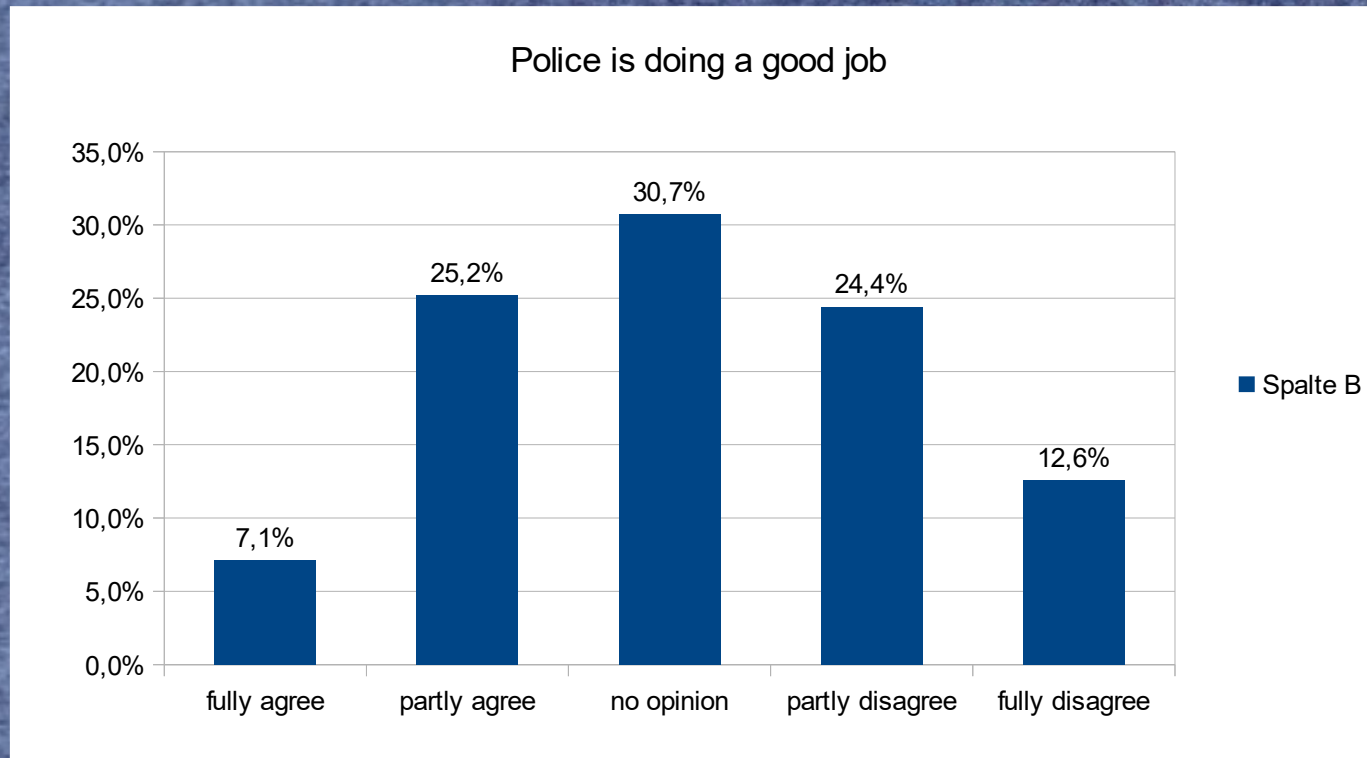
## Question 10: Fair judgement



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- More than two fifth does not believe in fair judgement!

# Descriptive statistic

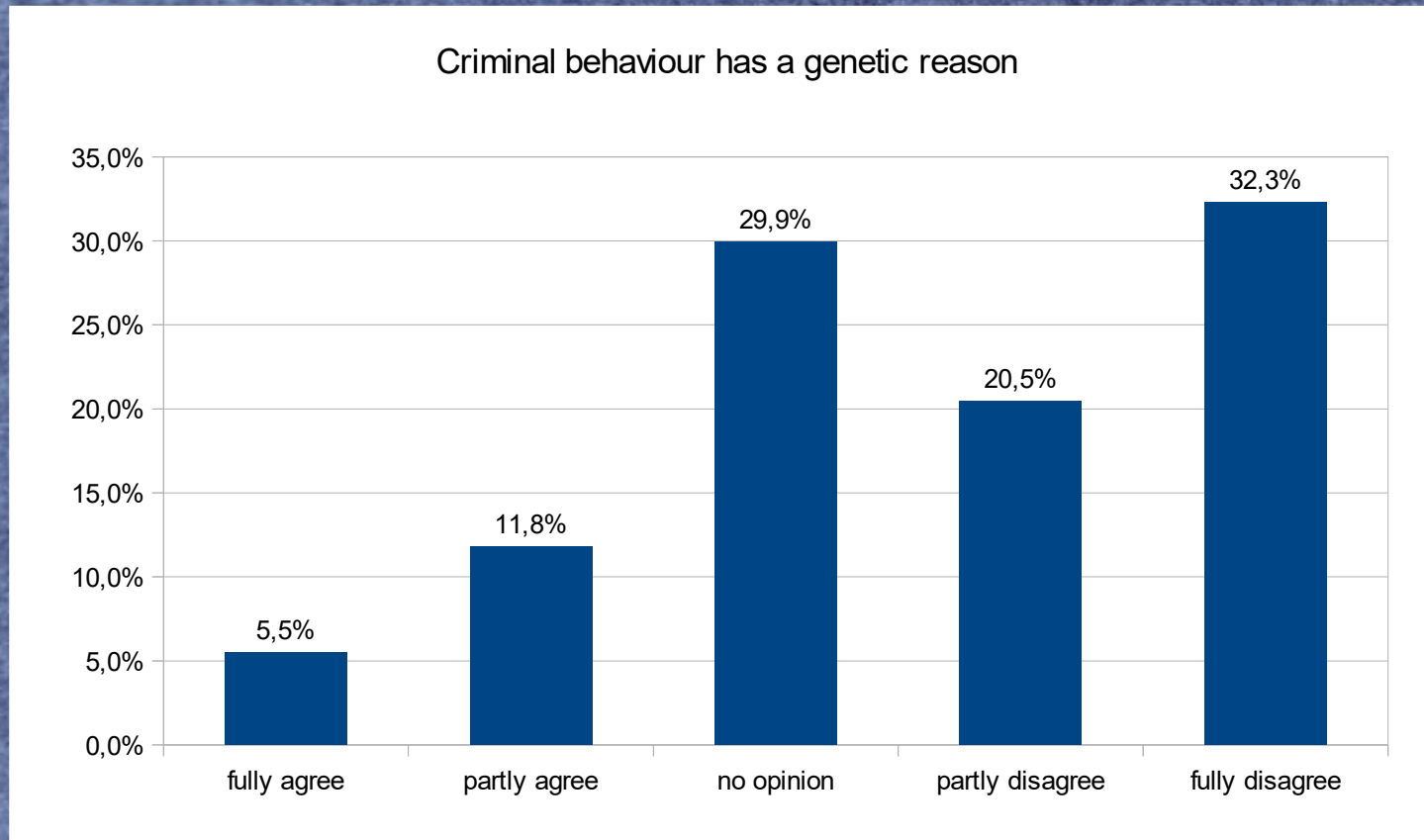
## Question 11: Police is doing a good job



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- More than a third is not convinced!

# Descriptive statistic

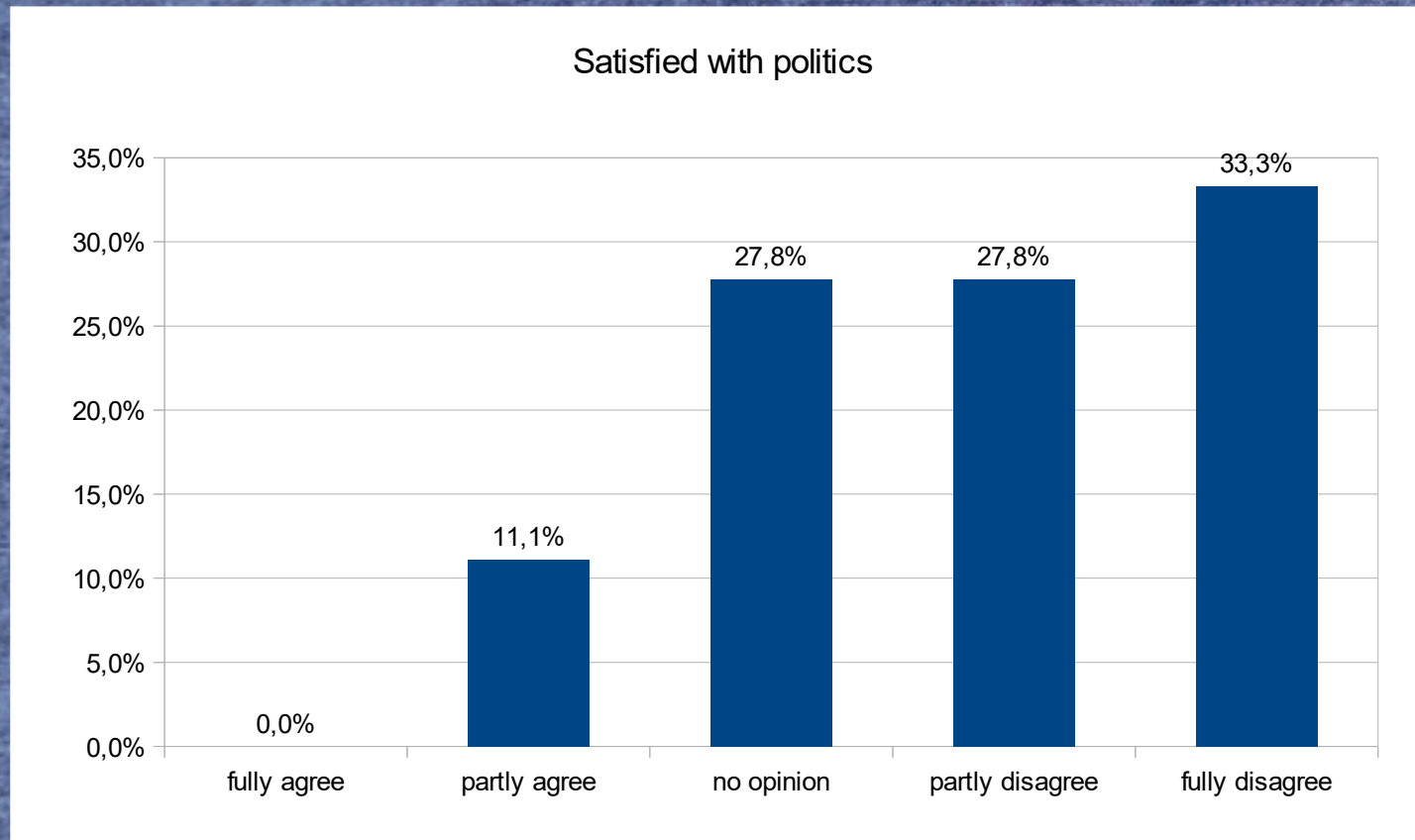
## Question 13: Criminal behaviour has a genetic reason



- „Fully disagree“ has the highest value
- In order to become a criminal as an individual choice!

# Descriptive statistic

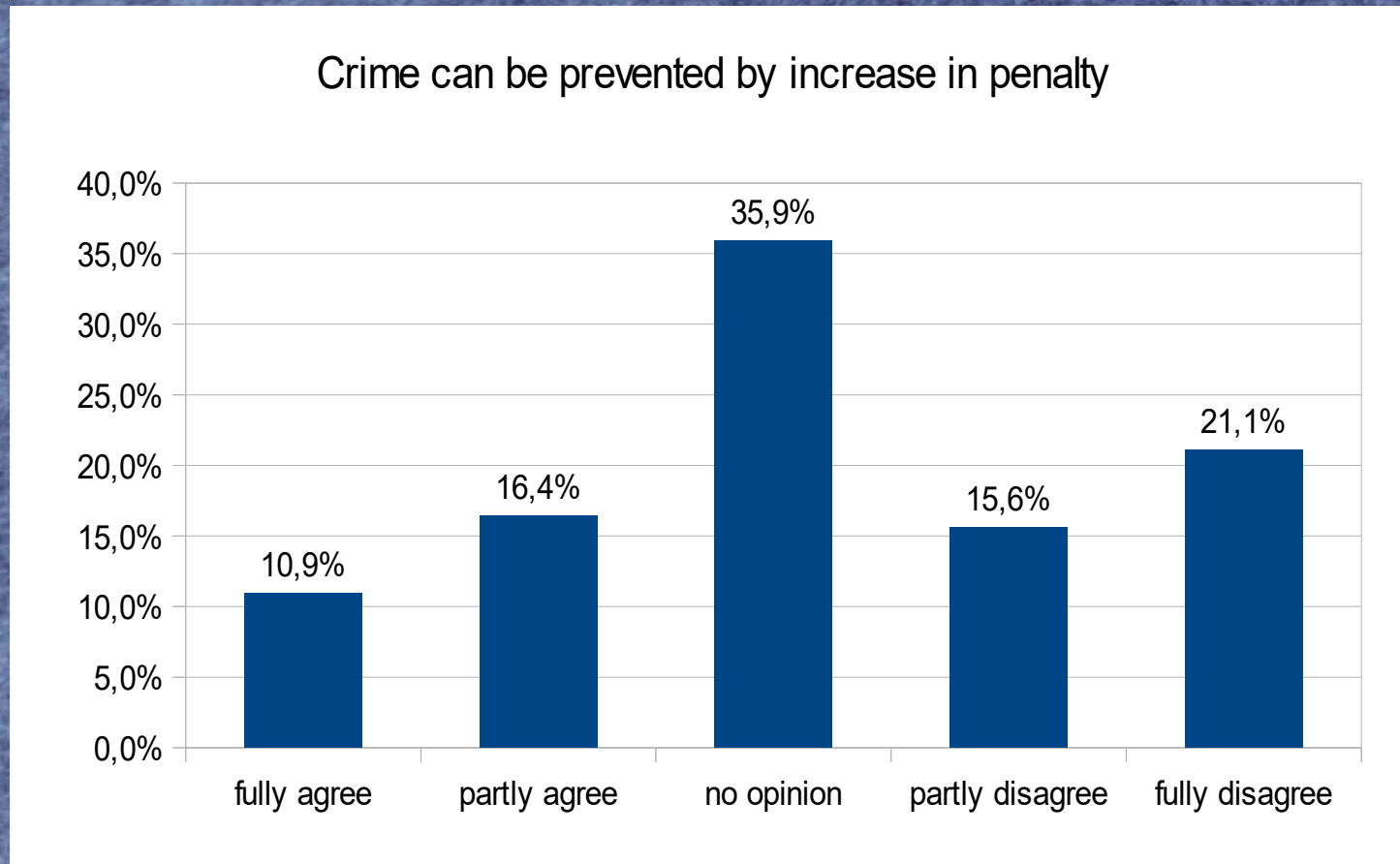
## Question 14: Satisfied with politics



- „Fully disagree“ has the highest value
- High rate of dissatisfaction! More than three fifth are not satisfied!

# Descriptive statistic

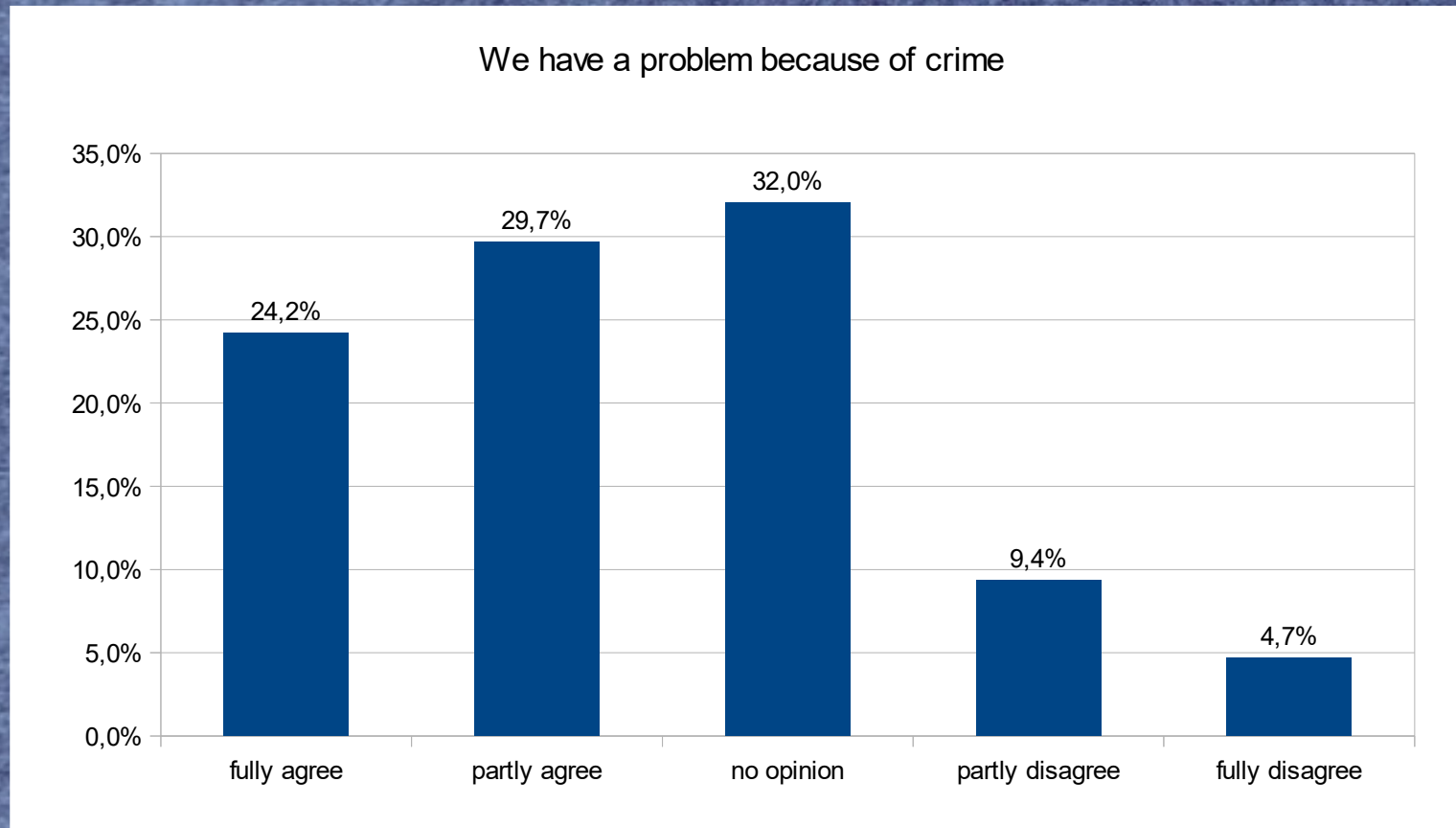
## Question 15: Crime can be prevented by increase in penalty



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- Undecided!

# Descriptive statistic

Question 16: We have a problem because of crime

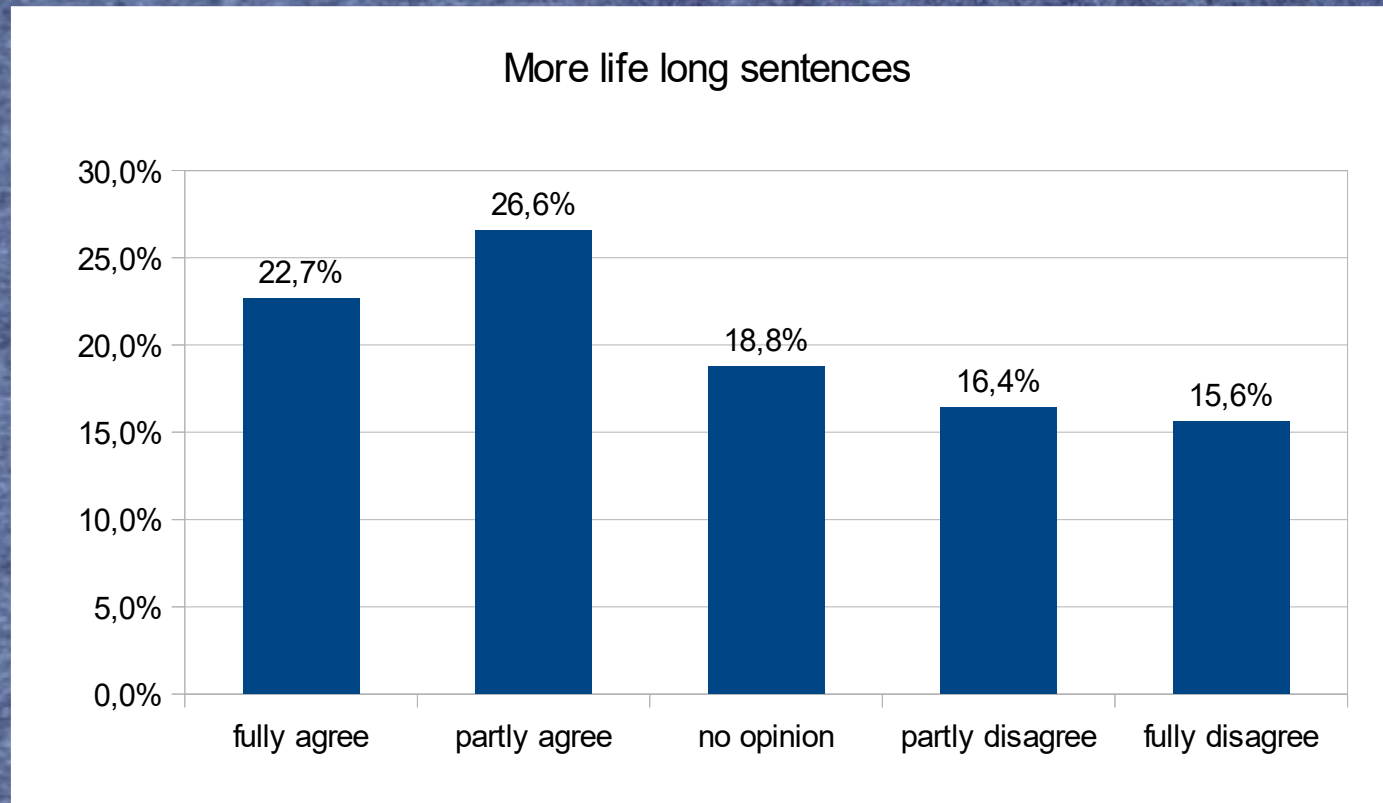


- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- Biased perception of crime! More than a half sees a problem!



# Descriptive statistic

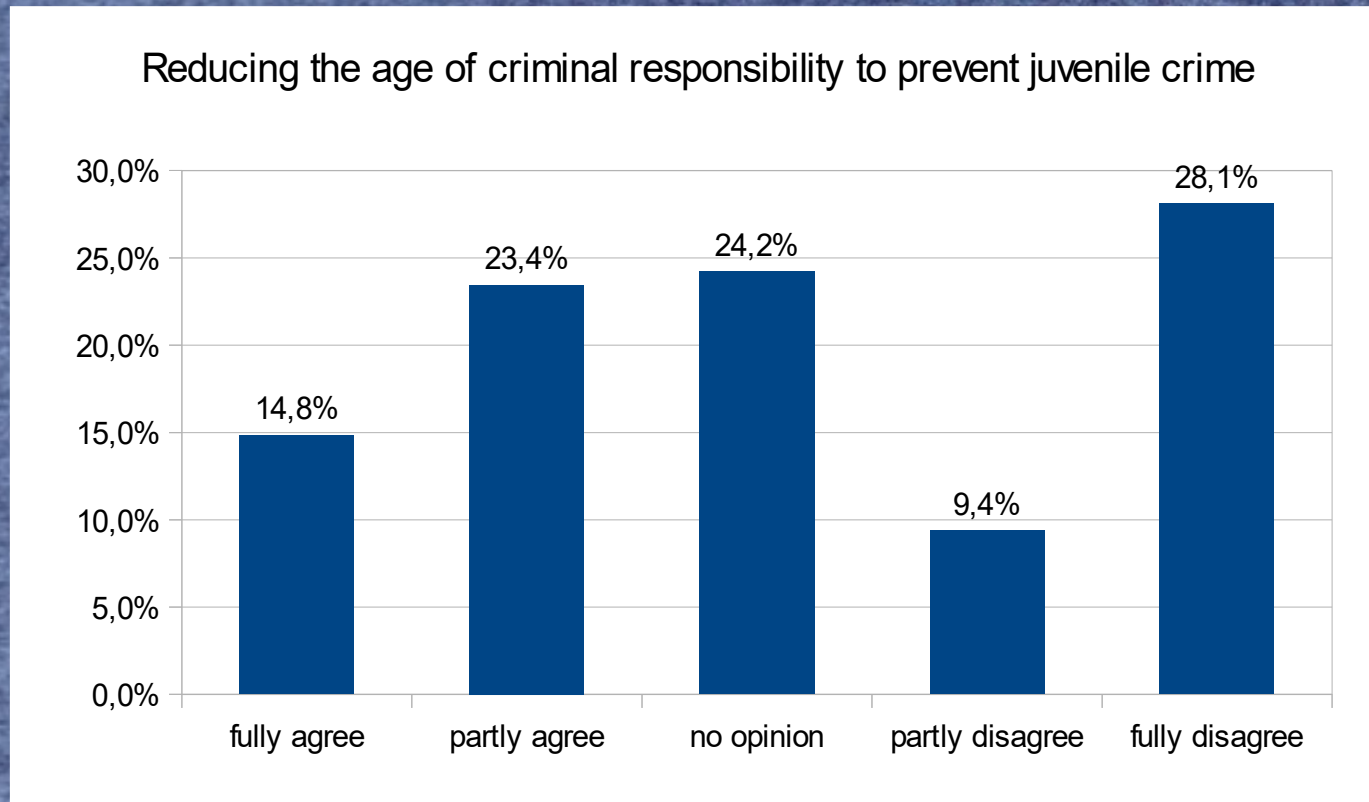
## Question 17: More life long sentences



- „Partly agree“ has the highest value
- Nearly a half wants more life long sentences

# Descriptive statistic

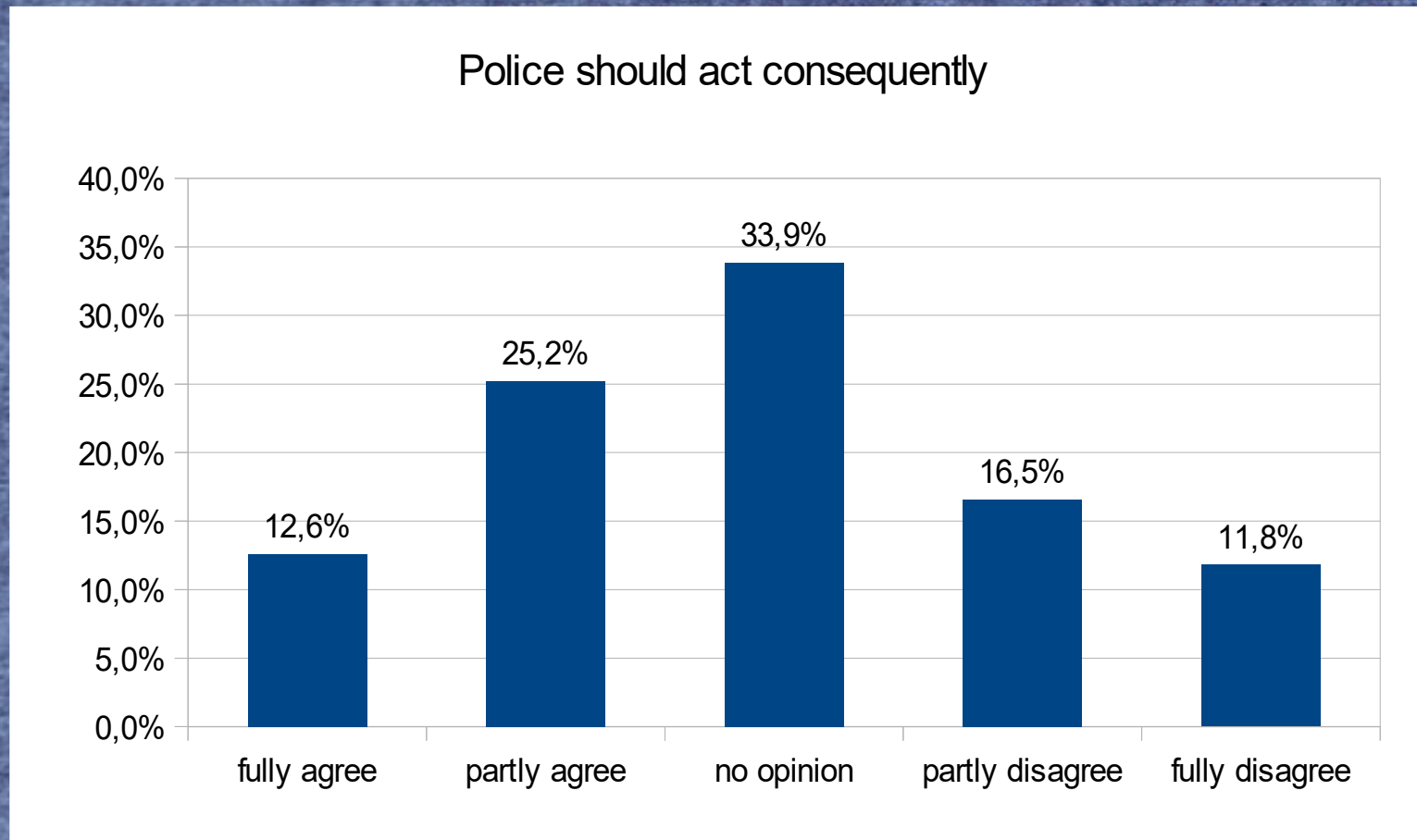
## Question 18: Reducing the age of criminal responsibility



- „Fully disagree“ has the highest value
- More than a third does not believe in a deterrent effect to prevent juvenile crime!

# Descriptive statistic

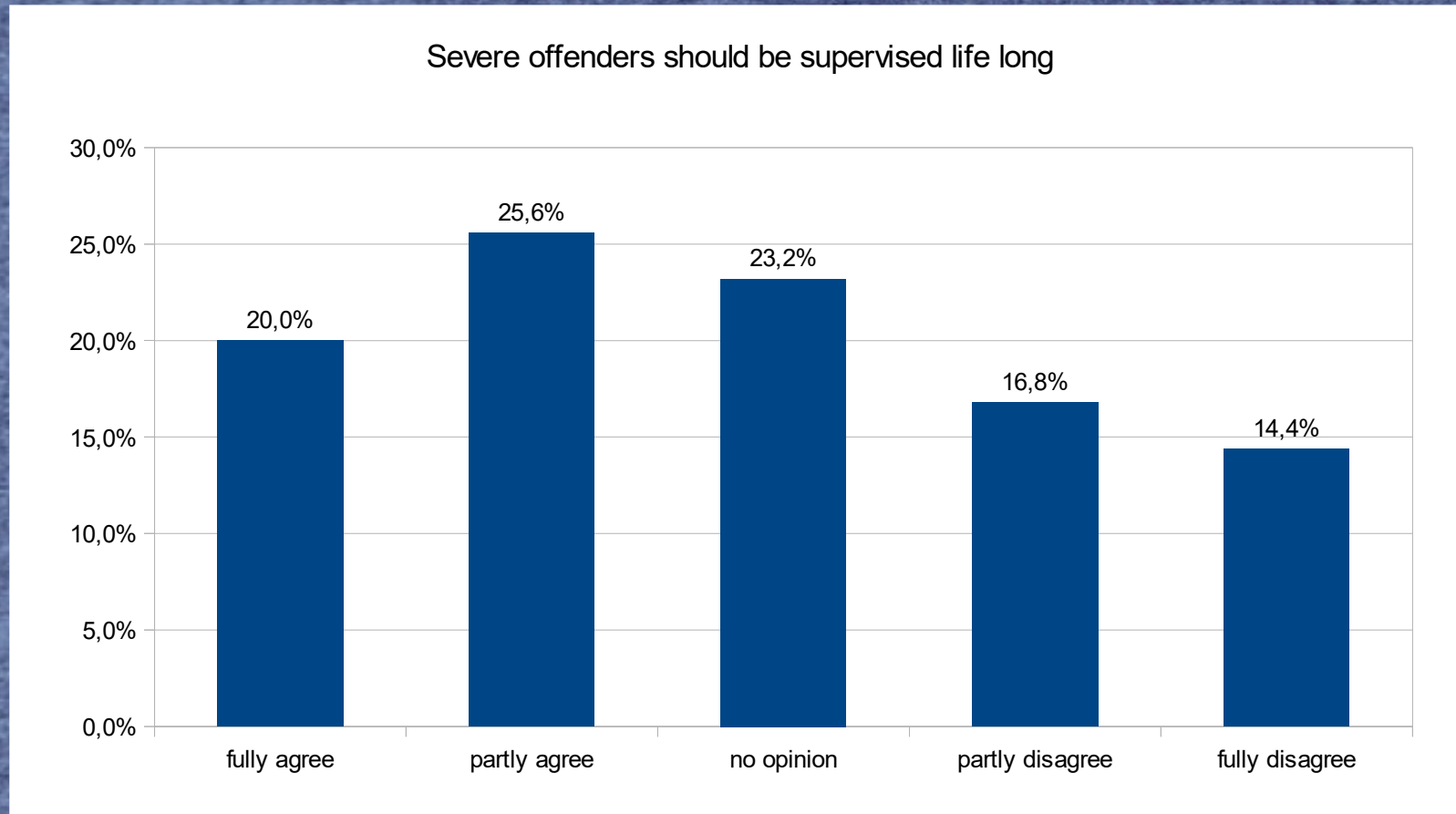
## Question 19: Police should act consequentially



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- More than a third believes in a „strong police“!

# Descriptive statistic

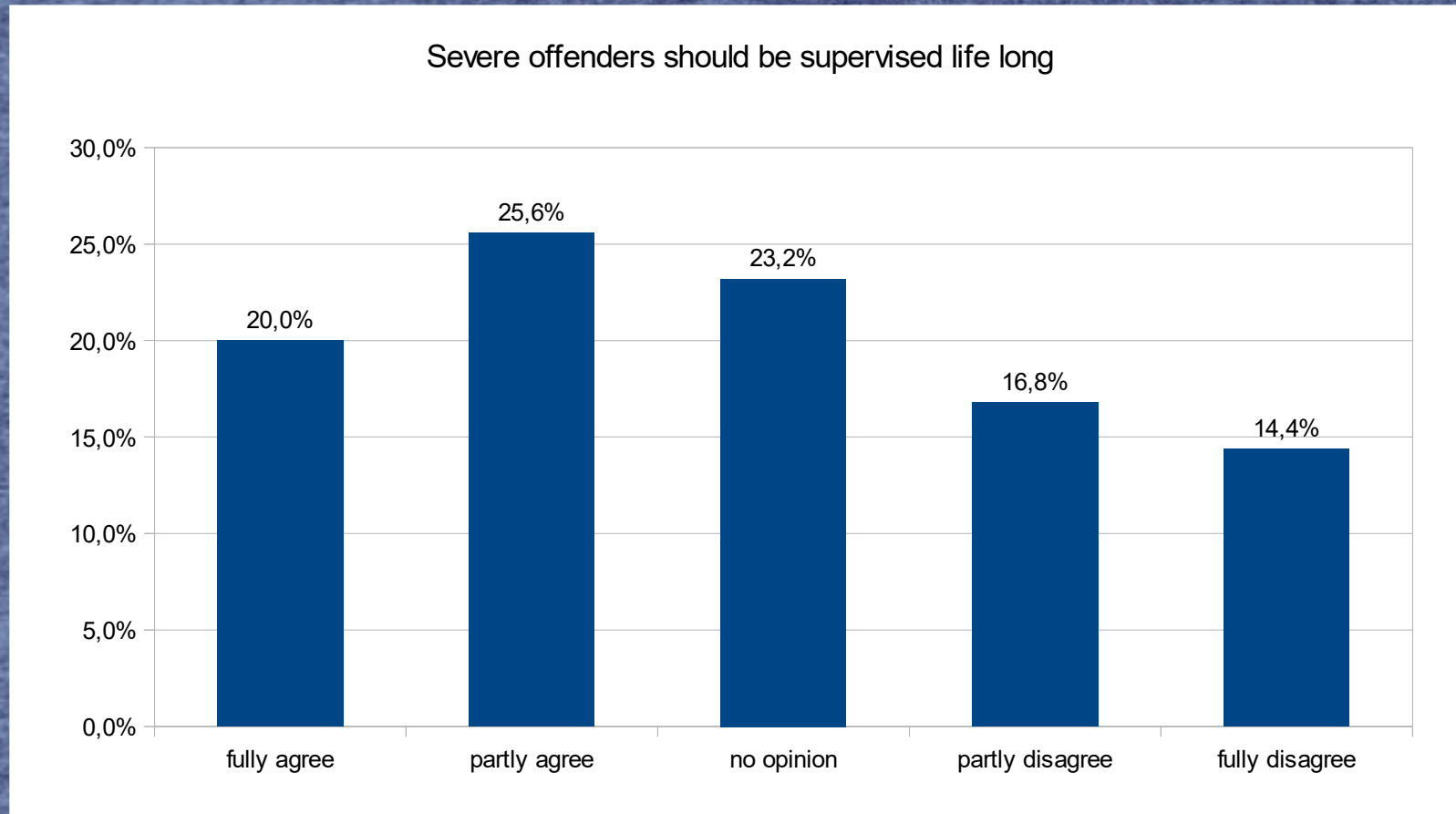
Question 20: Severe offenders should be supervised life long



- „Partly agree“ has the highest value
- Nearly a half believes in a „supervision“!

# Descriptive statistic

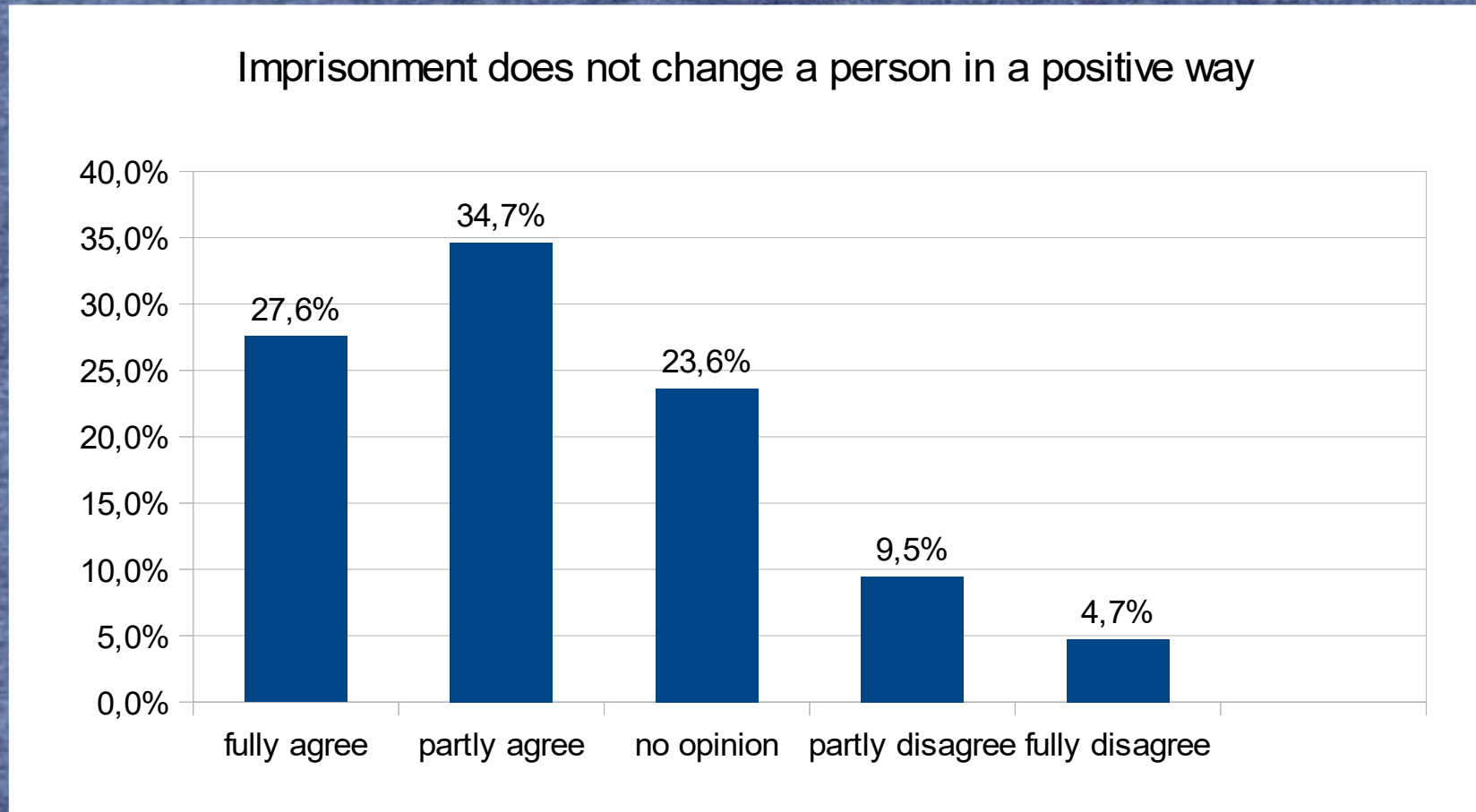
Question 20: Severe offenders should be supervised life long



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# Descriptive statistic

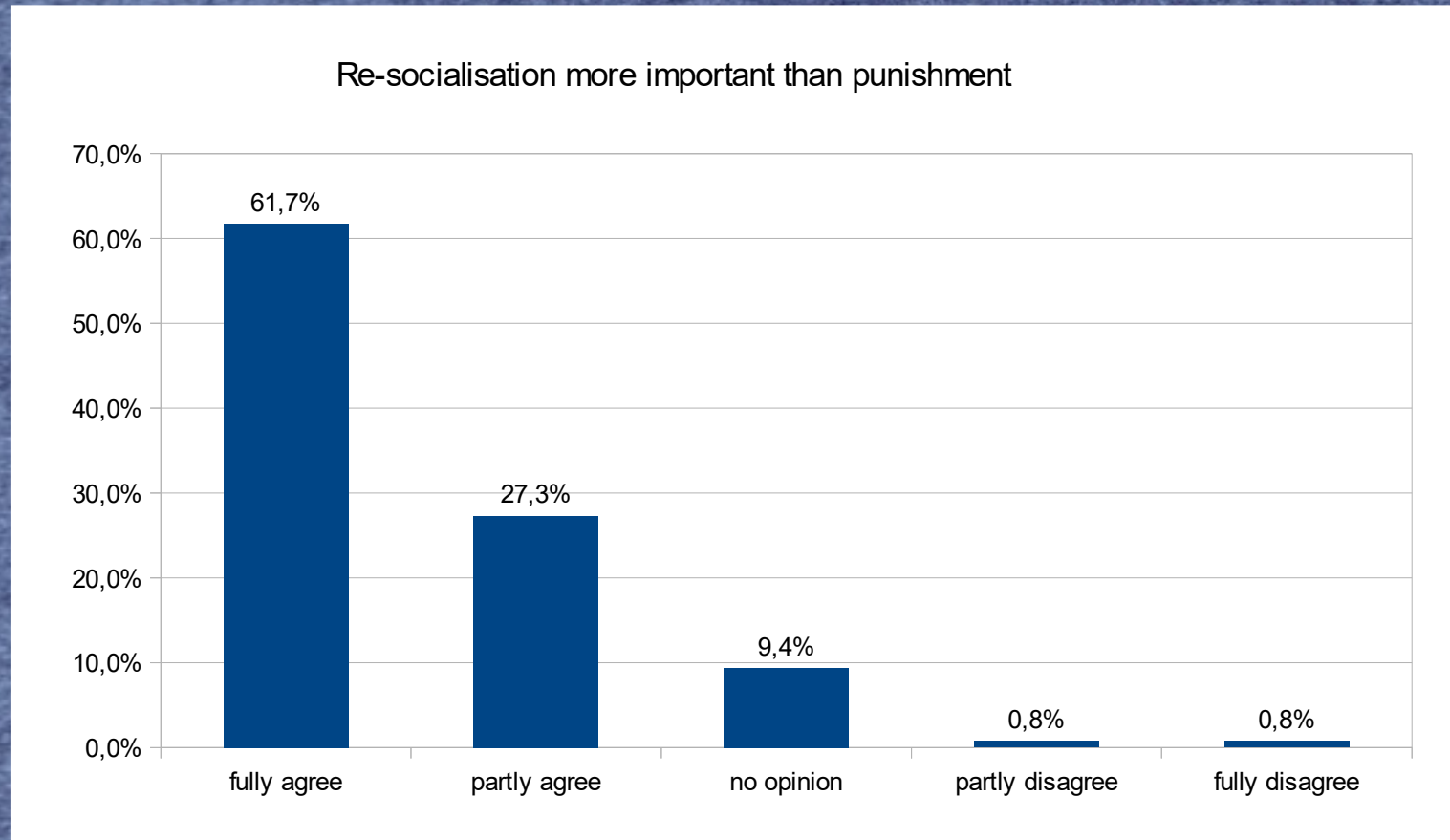
Question 21: Imprisonment does not change a person in a positive way



- „Partly agree“ has the highest value
- More than a half does not believe in „imprisonment“!

# Descriptive statistic

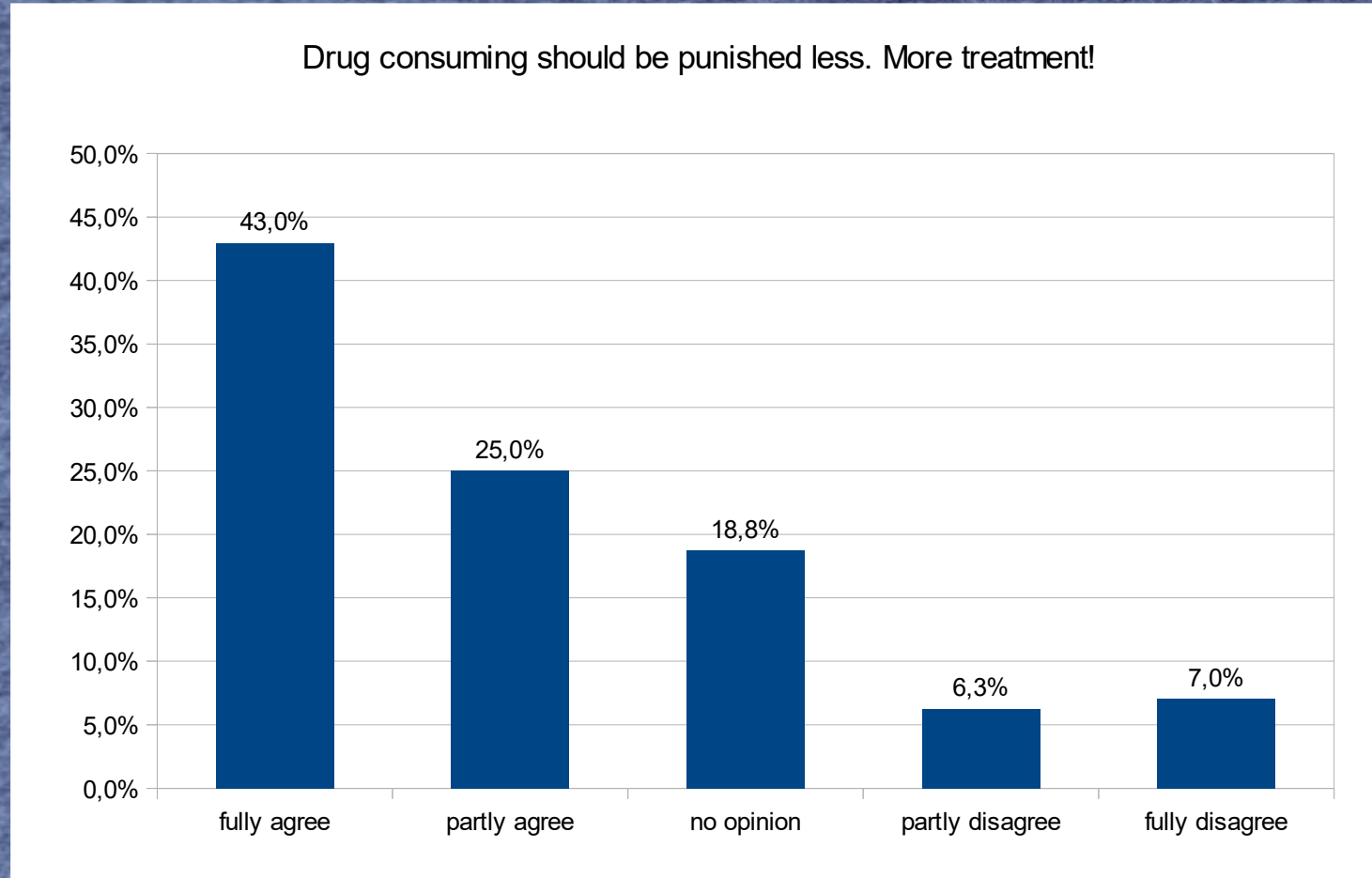
## Question 29: Re-socialisation more important than punishment



- „Fully agree“ has the highest value
- Prisoner believes in „re-socialisation“!

# Descriptive statistic

Question 40: Consuming of drugs should be punished less

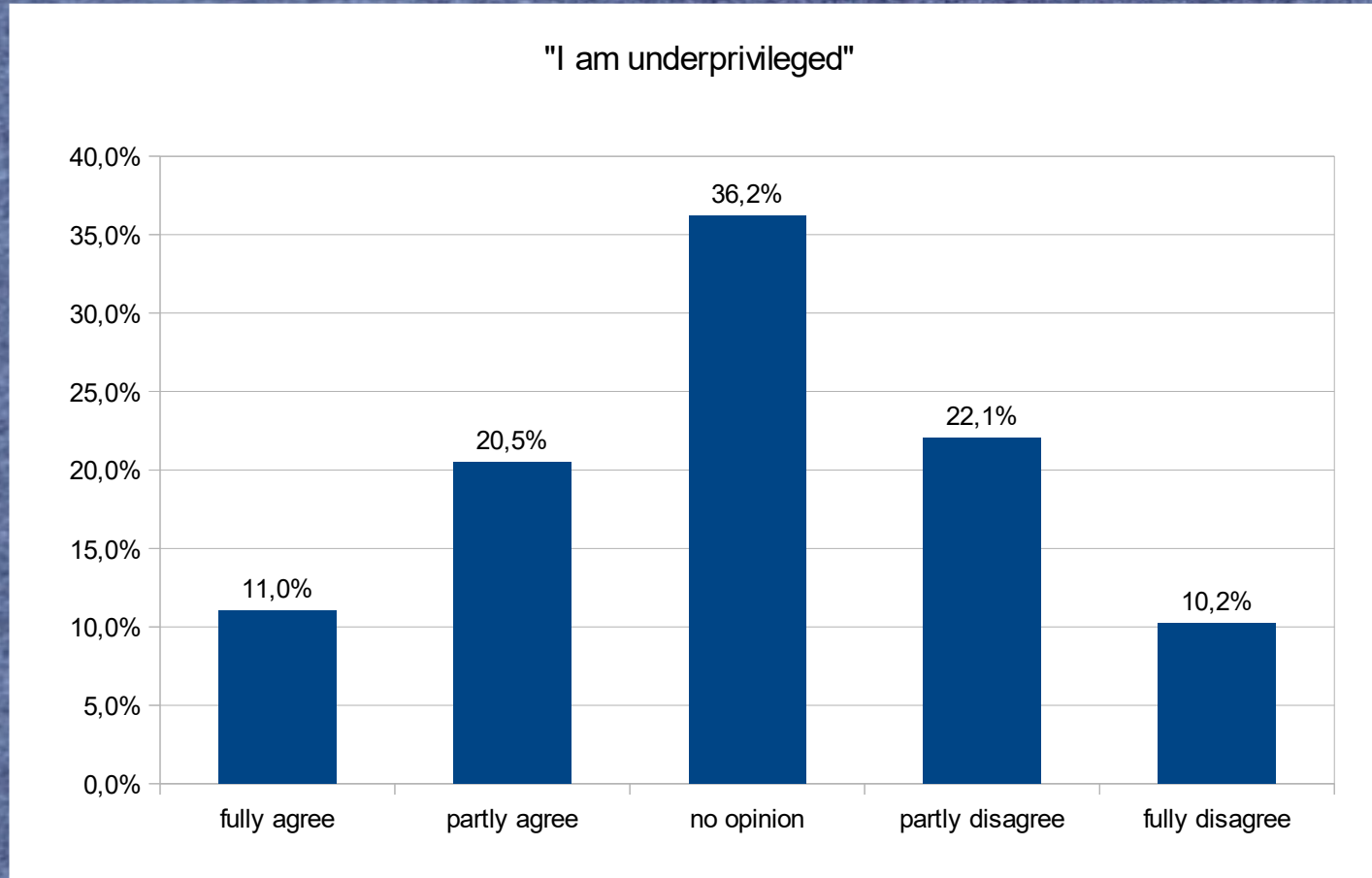


- „Fully agree“ has the highest value
- „Drug consuming as an illness“



# Descriptive statistic

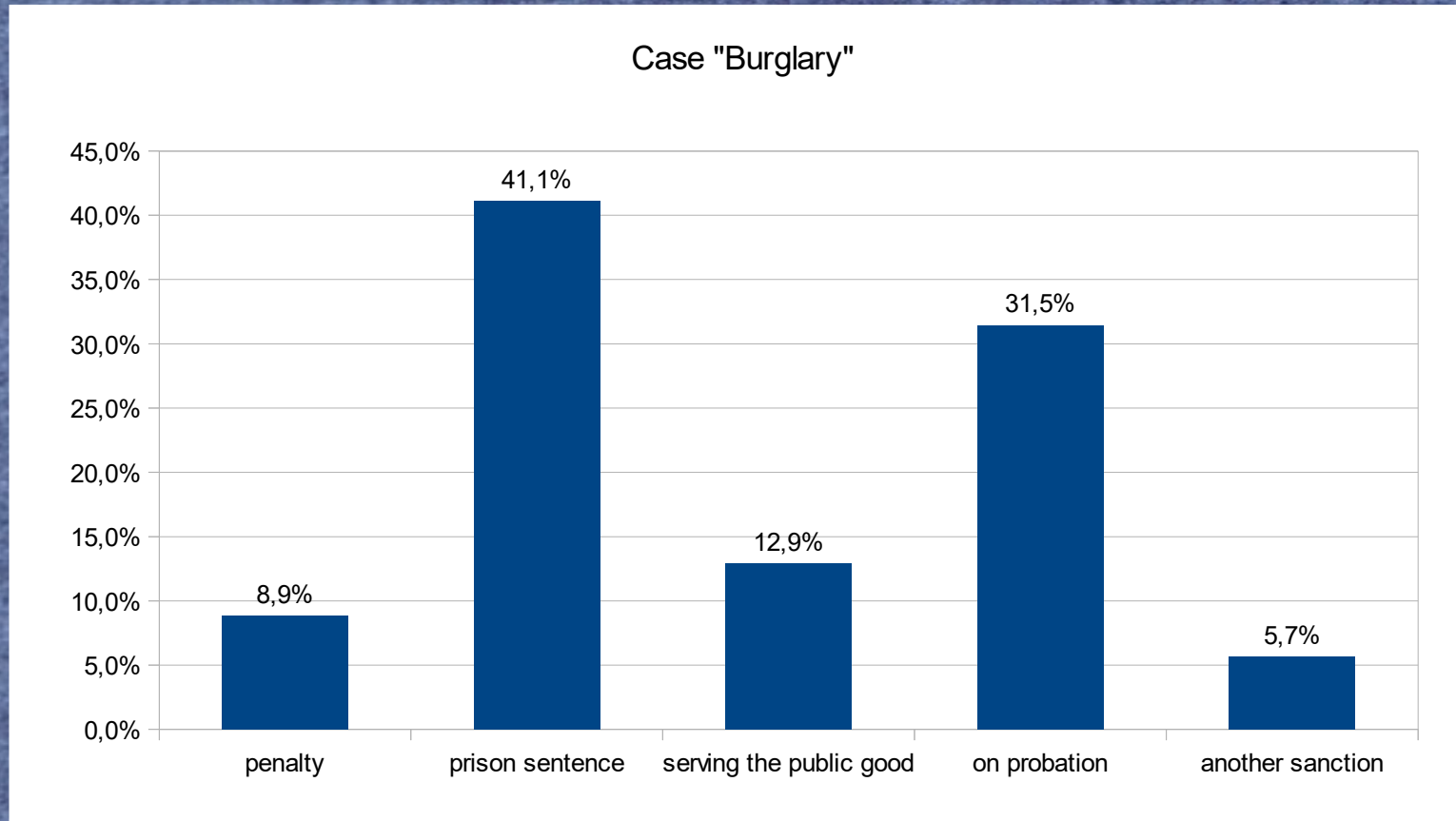
Question 42: „I am underprivileged“



- „No opinion“ has the highest value
- They dont want to see themselves as underprivileged!

# Descriptive statistic „Cases“

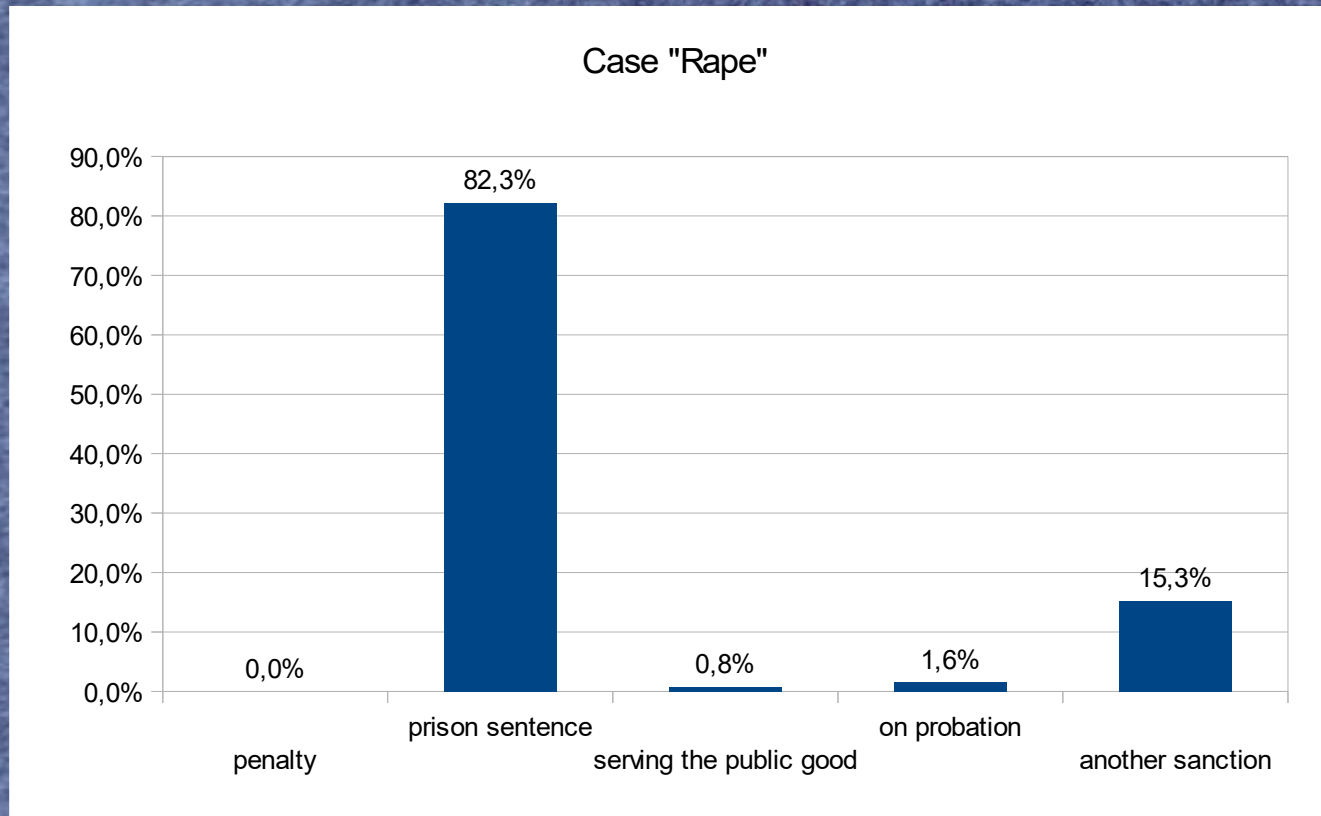
Question 57: Case „Burglary, 2<sup>nd</sup> time, TV“



- „Prison sentence“ has the highest value!

# Descriptive statistic „Cases“

## Question 58: Case „Rape“

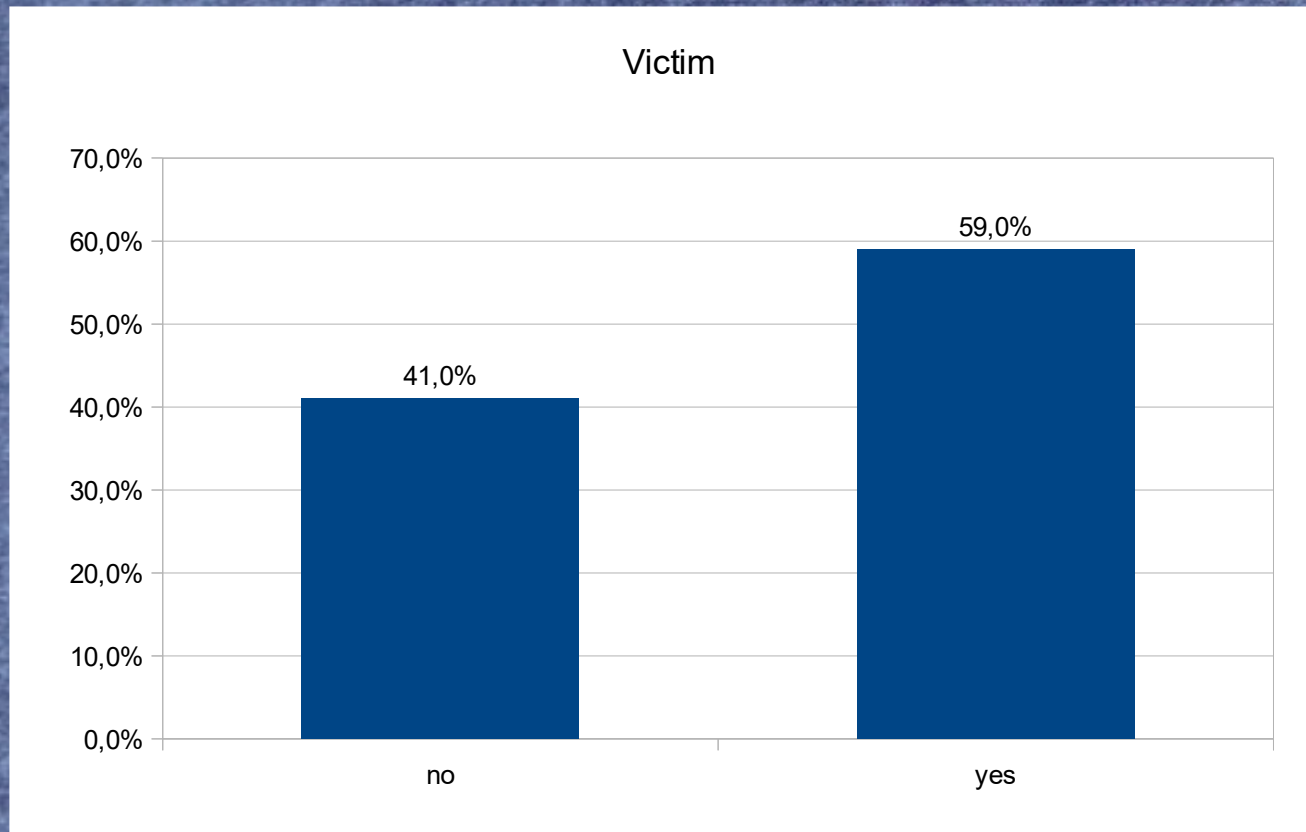


- „Prison sentence“ has the highest value!

Sexual deviance is punished in the subculture of prison severely!

# Descriptive statistic „Victim“

## Question 53: „Victim“

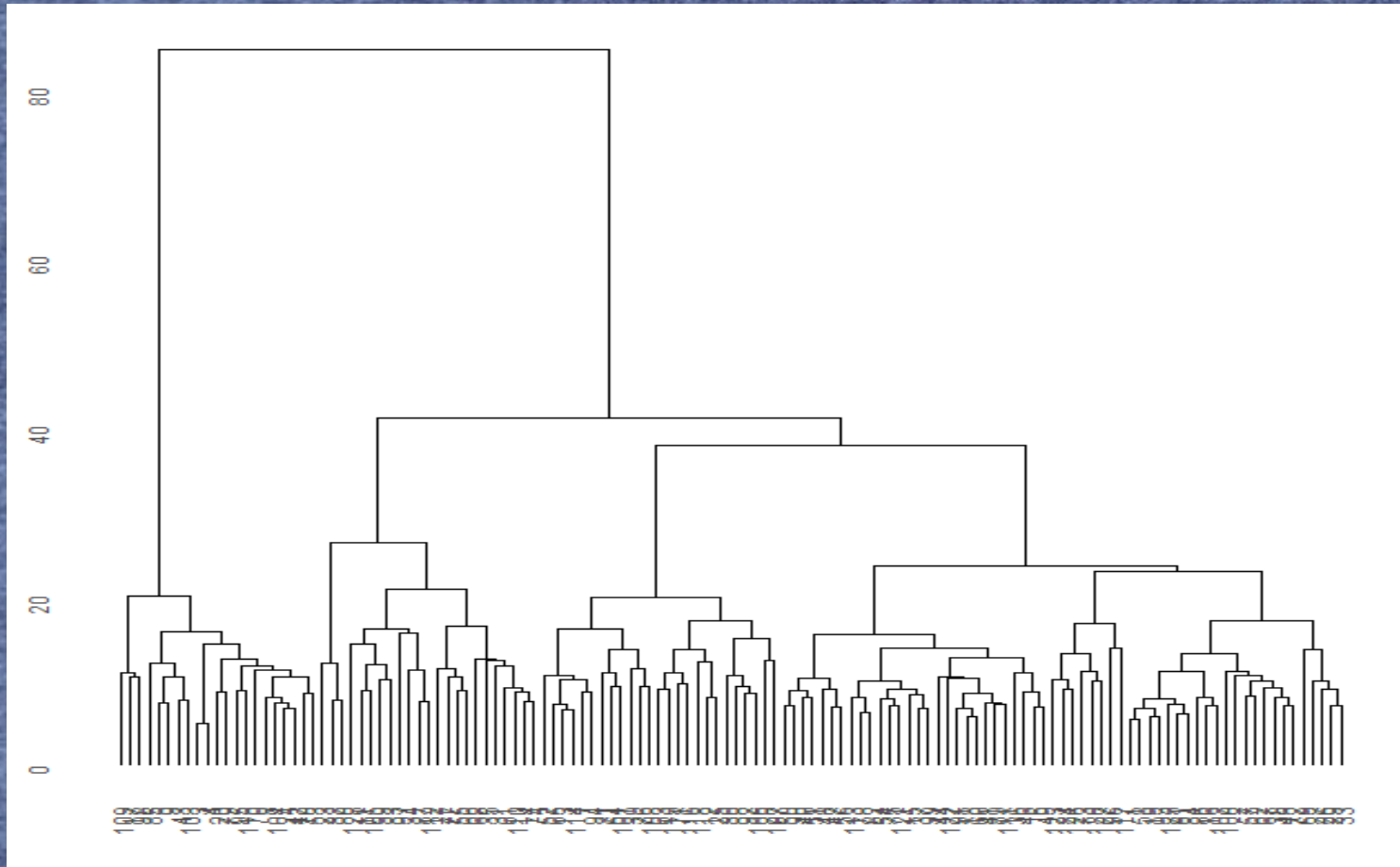


- More than half is „victim“

Victimization can also happen in prison. The inmates belong to a social group with high risk of crime and victimization.

# Groups of prisoners

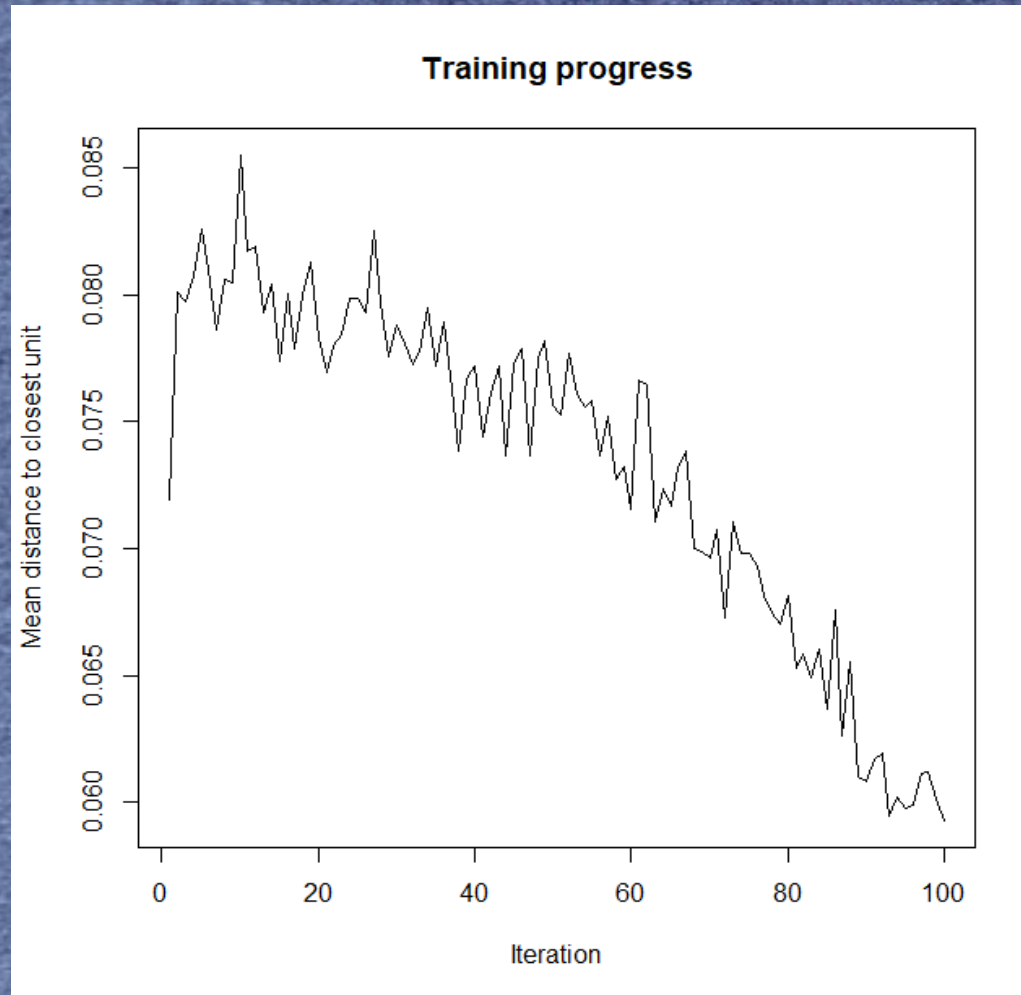
## Cluster analysis



Cluster Analysis shows us, which and how many groups we can get by the distance of the cases (Euclidean distance).

# Groups of prisoners

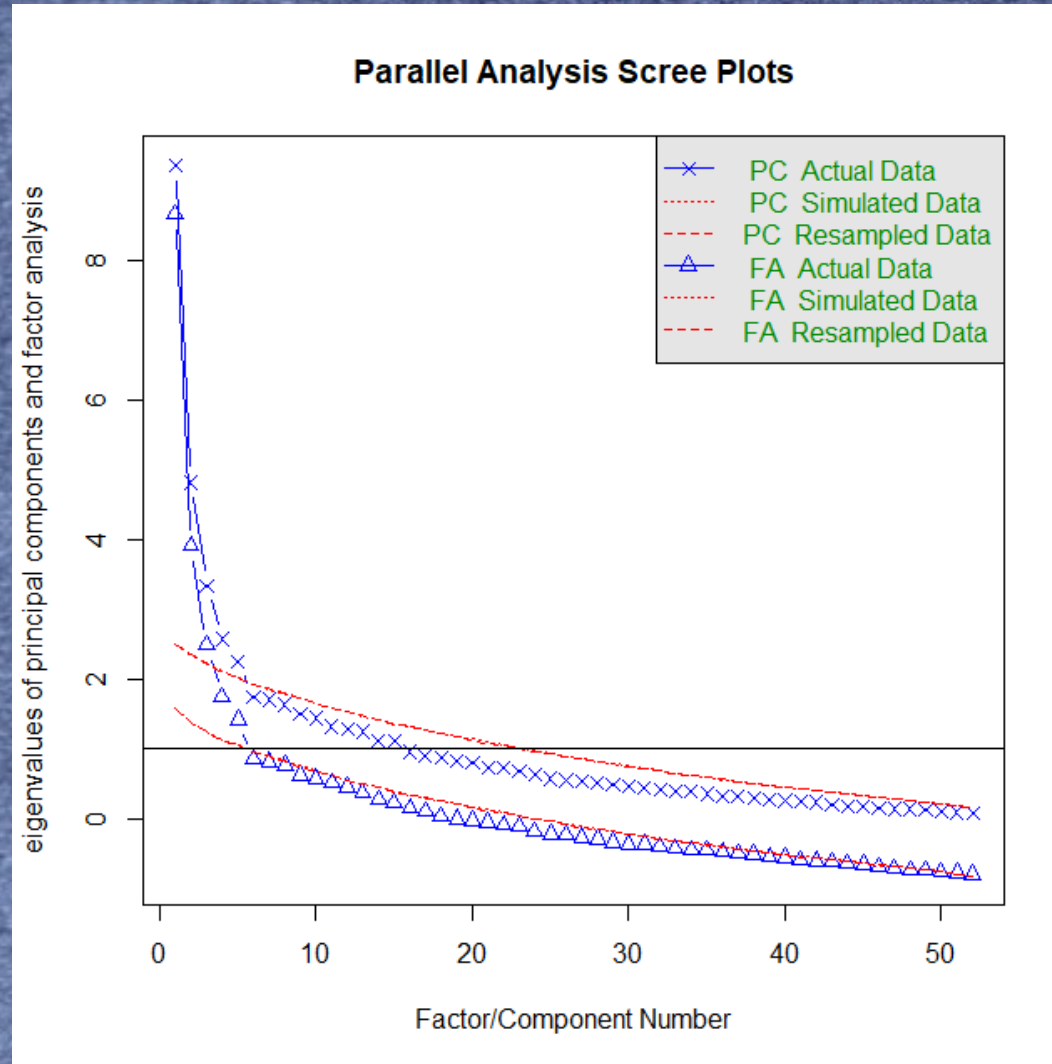
## Kohonen Card



Self learning unsupervised neural network

# Factors of fear and crime

## Factor analysis Question 1 to 52



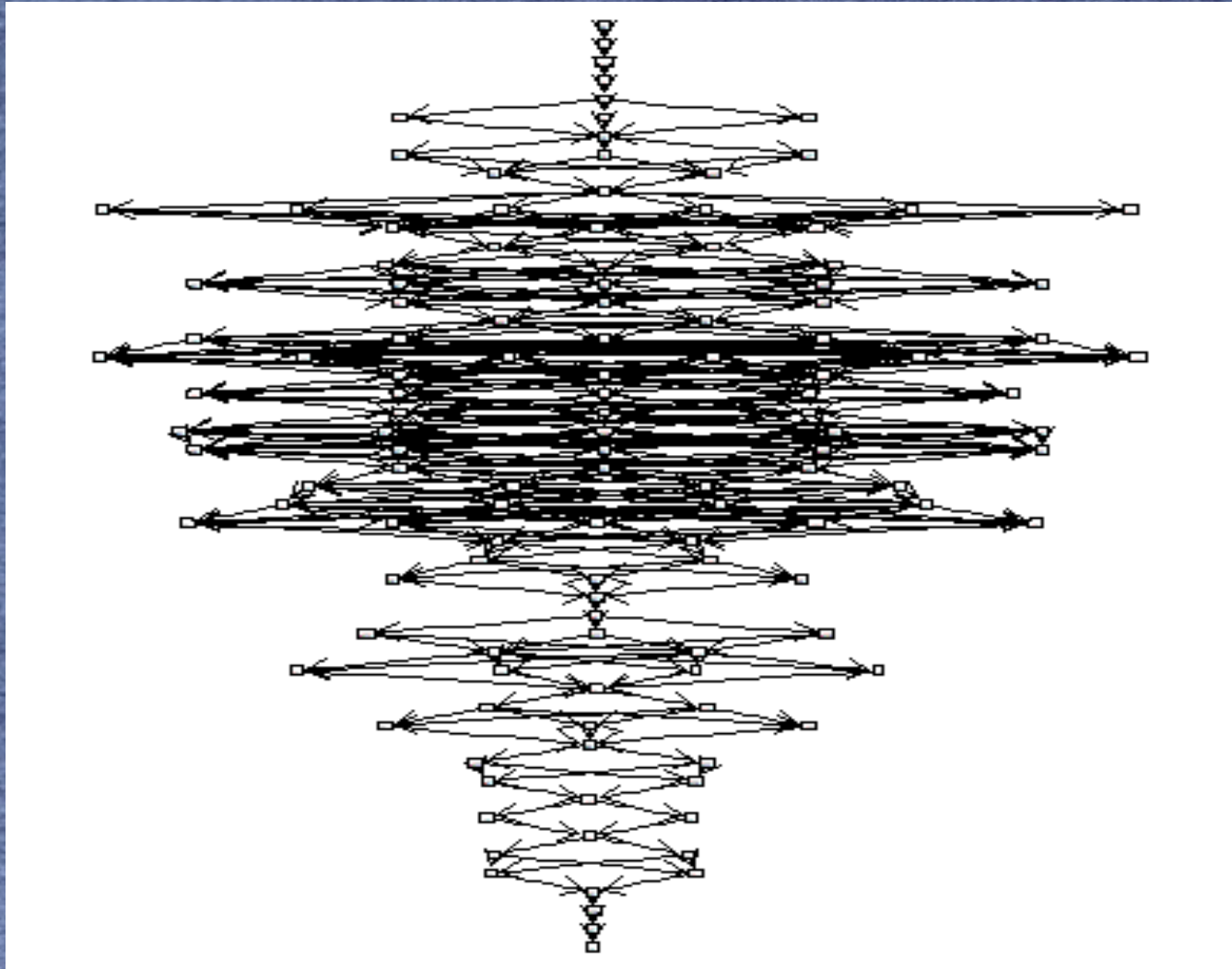
According to Factor Analysis we can reduce our items to five components. 37% can be explained.

# Partial order

- Variable 1 to 24 for punitivity
- Sum of all variables for every person
- Ranking everybody to each other



# Partial order of punitivity



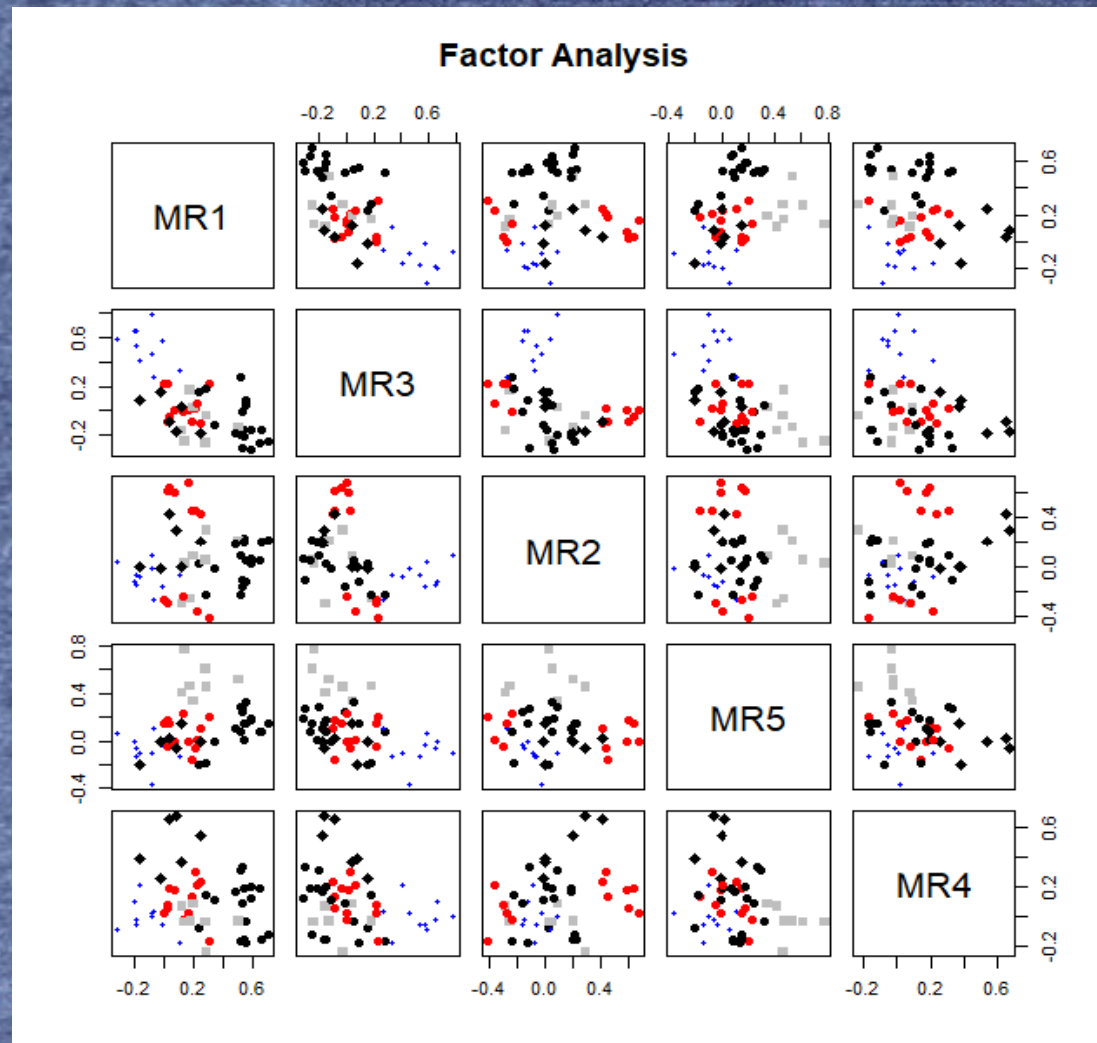
# Factors of fear and crime

## Factor analysis Question 1 to 52

- Factor 1: High positive loads for more and severe punishment. „Punishment“
- Factor 2: High positive loads for therapy and support for prisoners. „Treatment“
- Factor 3: High positive loads with control, equal chances and fair justice. „Control and Chances for everybody“
- Factor 4: High positive loads with „satisfied with life“, „own responsible“, trust in politics and media. „Trust and satisfaction“
- Factor 5: High positive loads with „no believe in therapy“ and a tendency to believe „criminal behaviour is genetic“. „Criminal behaviour can not be changed“

# Factors of fear and crime

## Factor analysis Question 1 to 52



## Comparison between prison population and German students

- 50.4% prisoners vs. 69-85% students (Heidelberg)  
„disagree death penalty“
- 25.9% prisoners vs. 28-35% students (Heidelberg)  
„disagree with fear of victimization
- Prisoners belong mostly to a group with less chances and low economic status.

## Conclusions and Outlook

- Attitudes to law, penal system, police ... can be a reason for a relapse after dismissal.
- Trust in law, police, ... is important for re-socialisation
- Law is always in change, so we have to investigate changes. Most of the changes starts in attitudes.

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Merci !