

NILT Coercive Control module Results



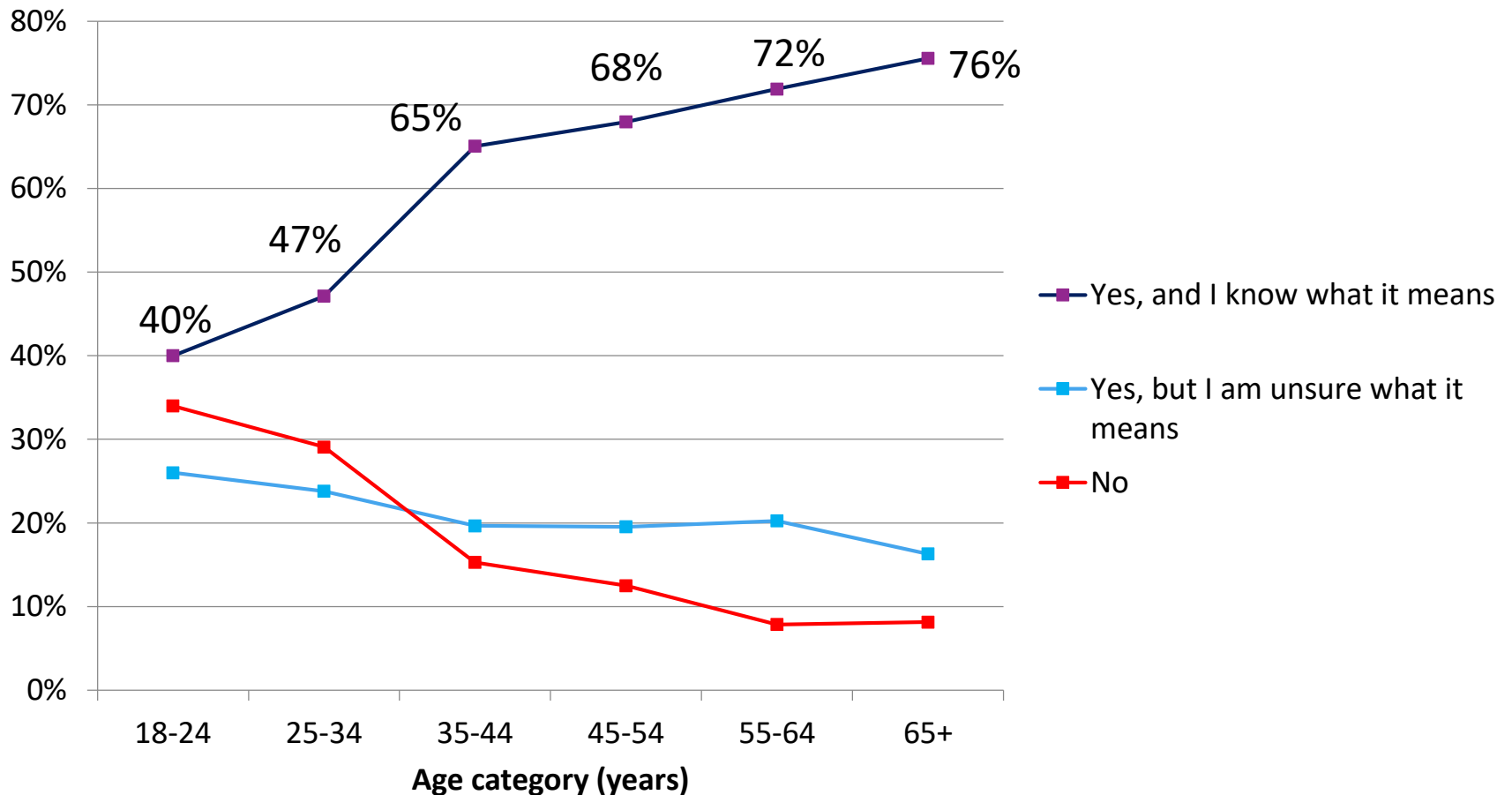
Dr Julie-Ann Jordan



*"To deliver excellent integrated services in
partnership with our community"*

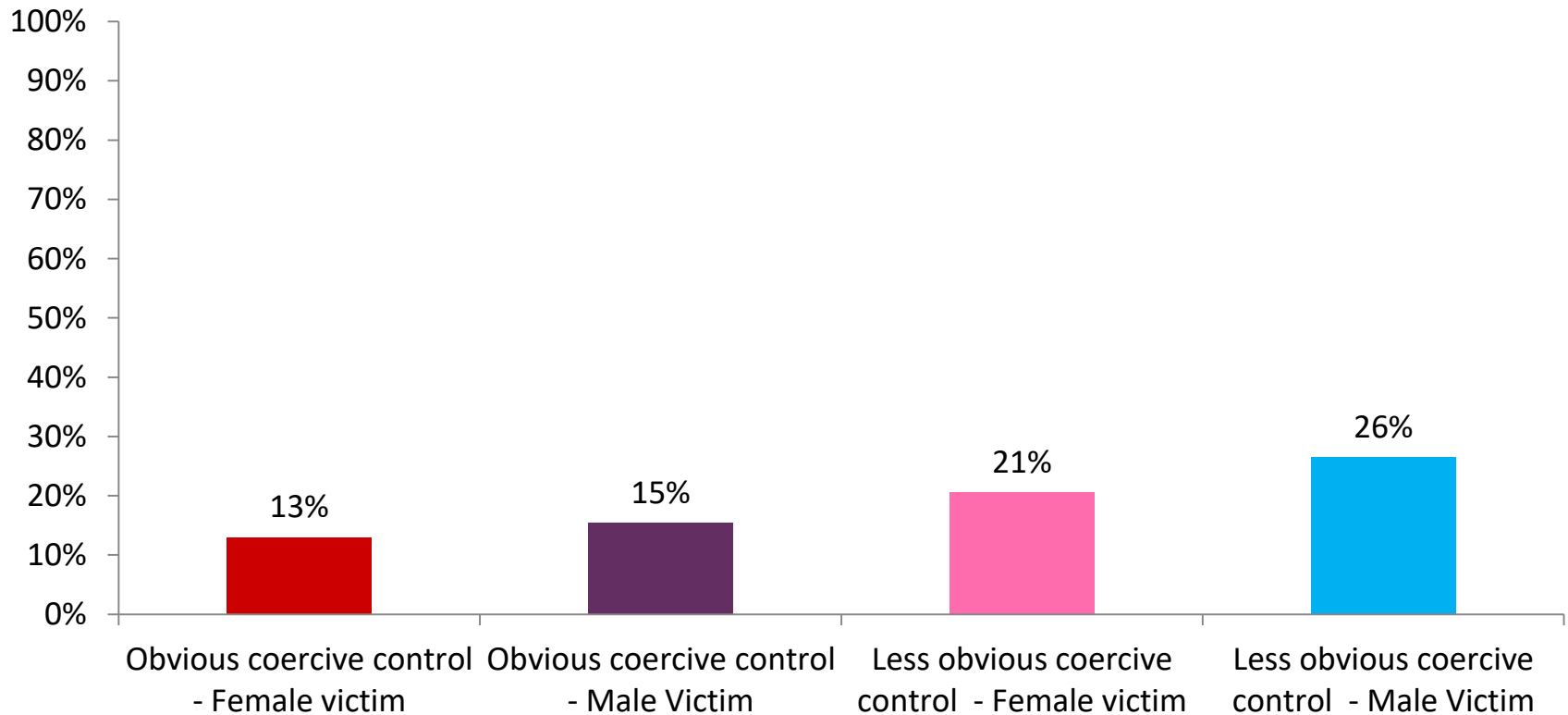
Awareness & understanding across age groups

“Have you heard of the term coercive control?”

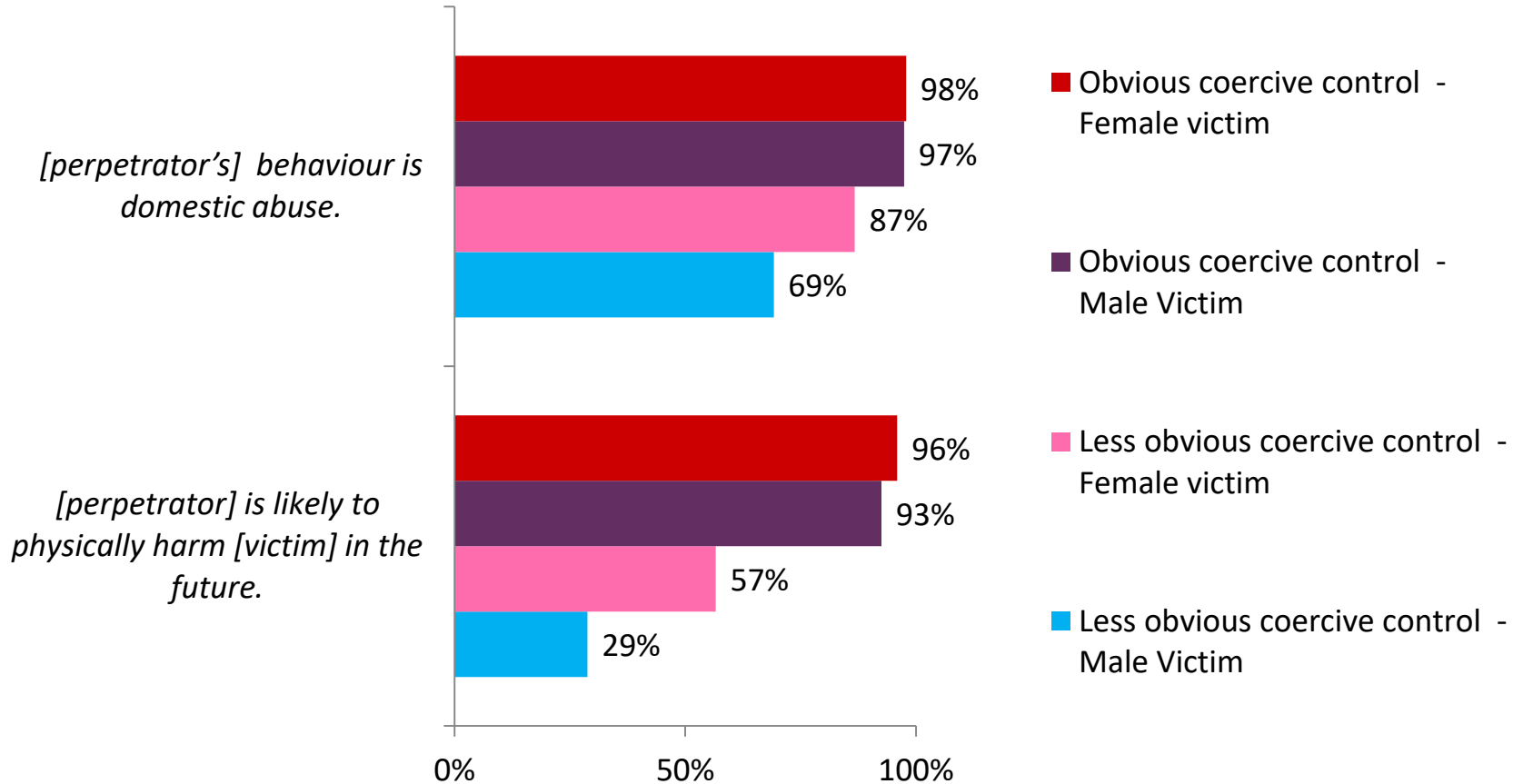


How common is coercive control?

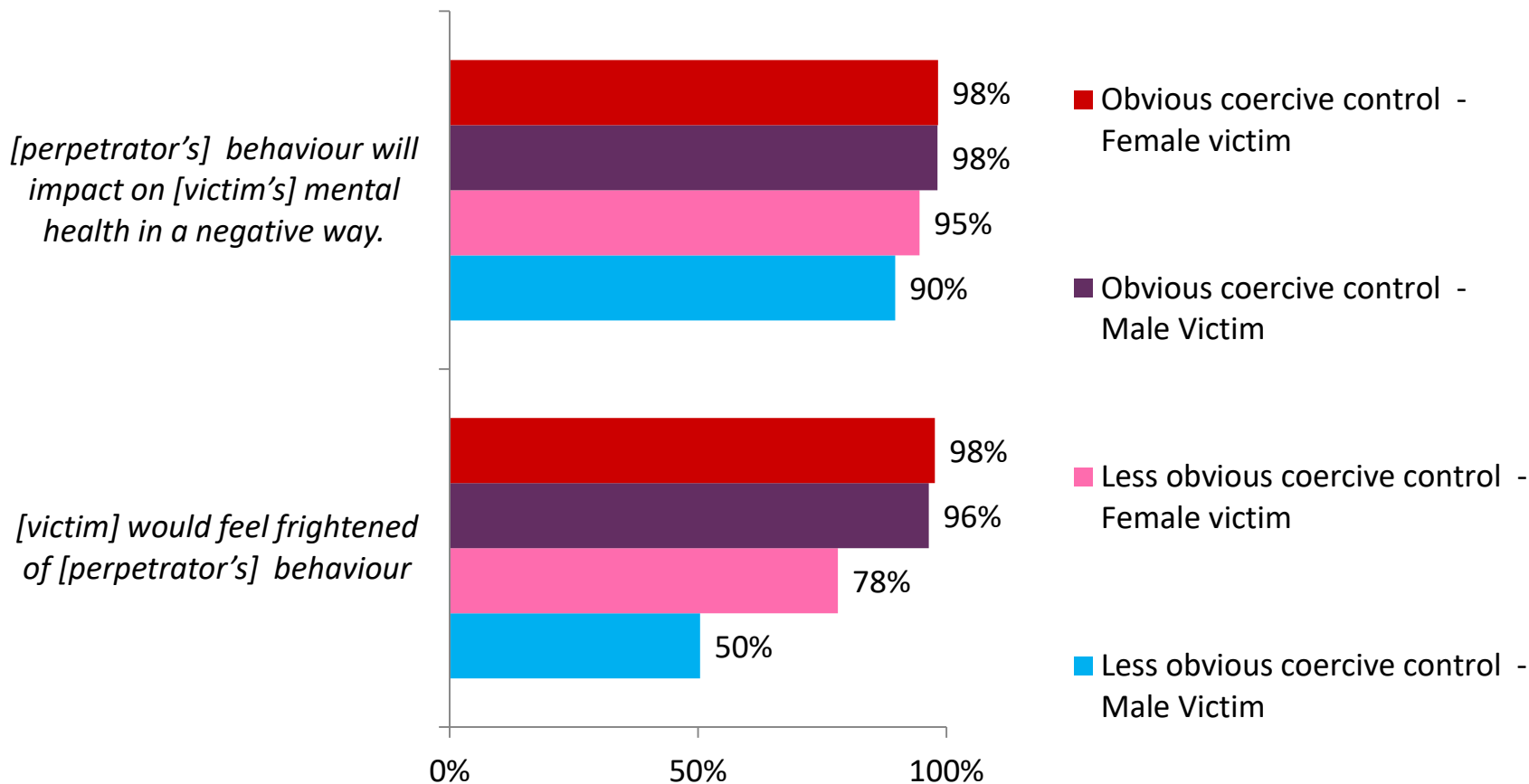
[perpetrator's] behaviour towards [victim] is commonplace within relationships



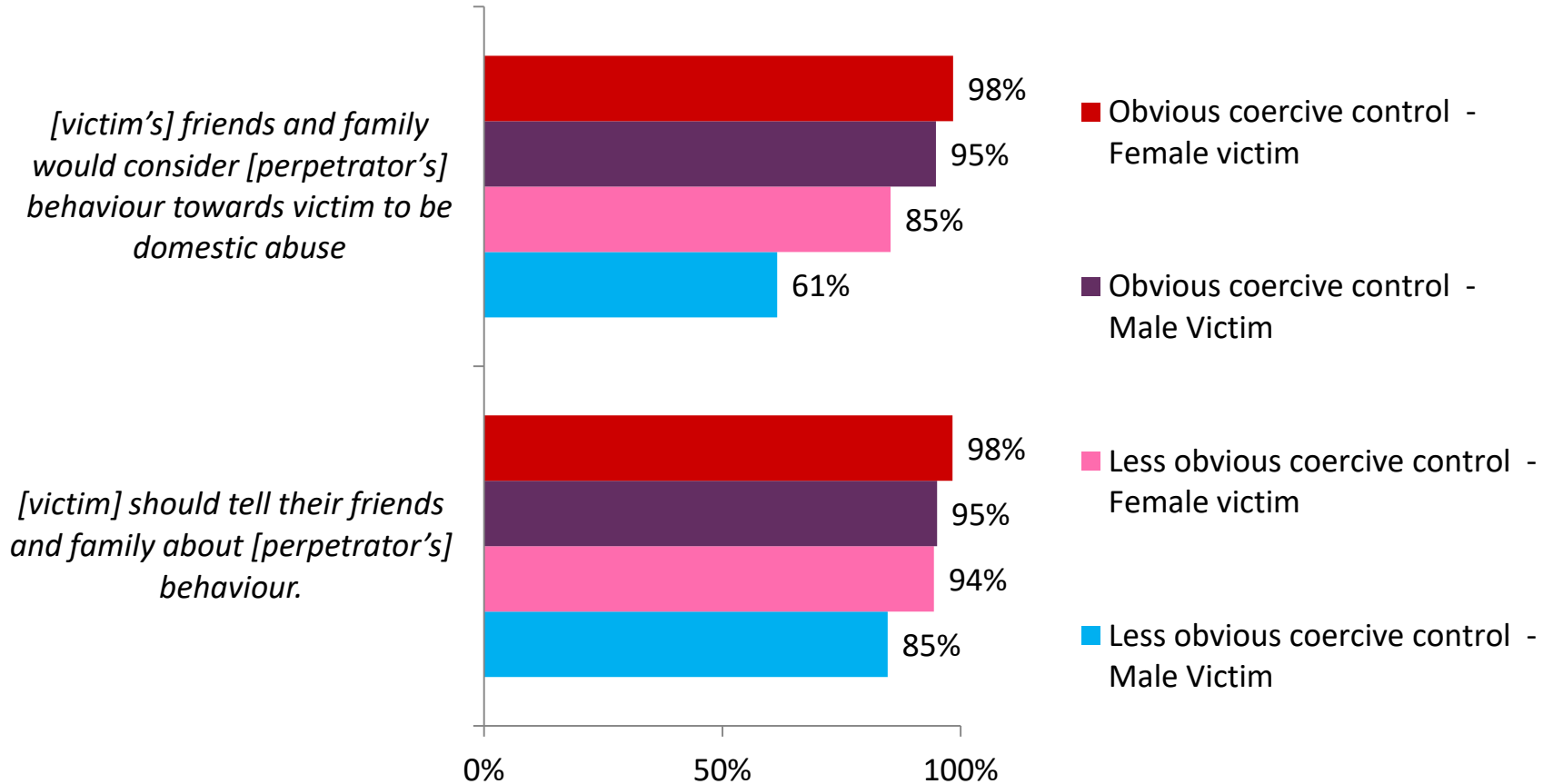
Attitudes Towards Coercive and Controlling Behaviours



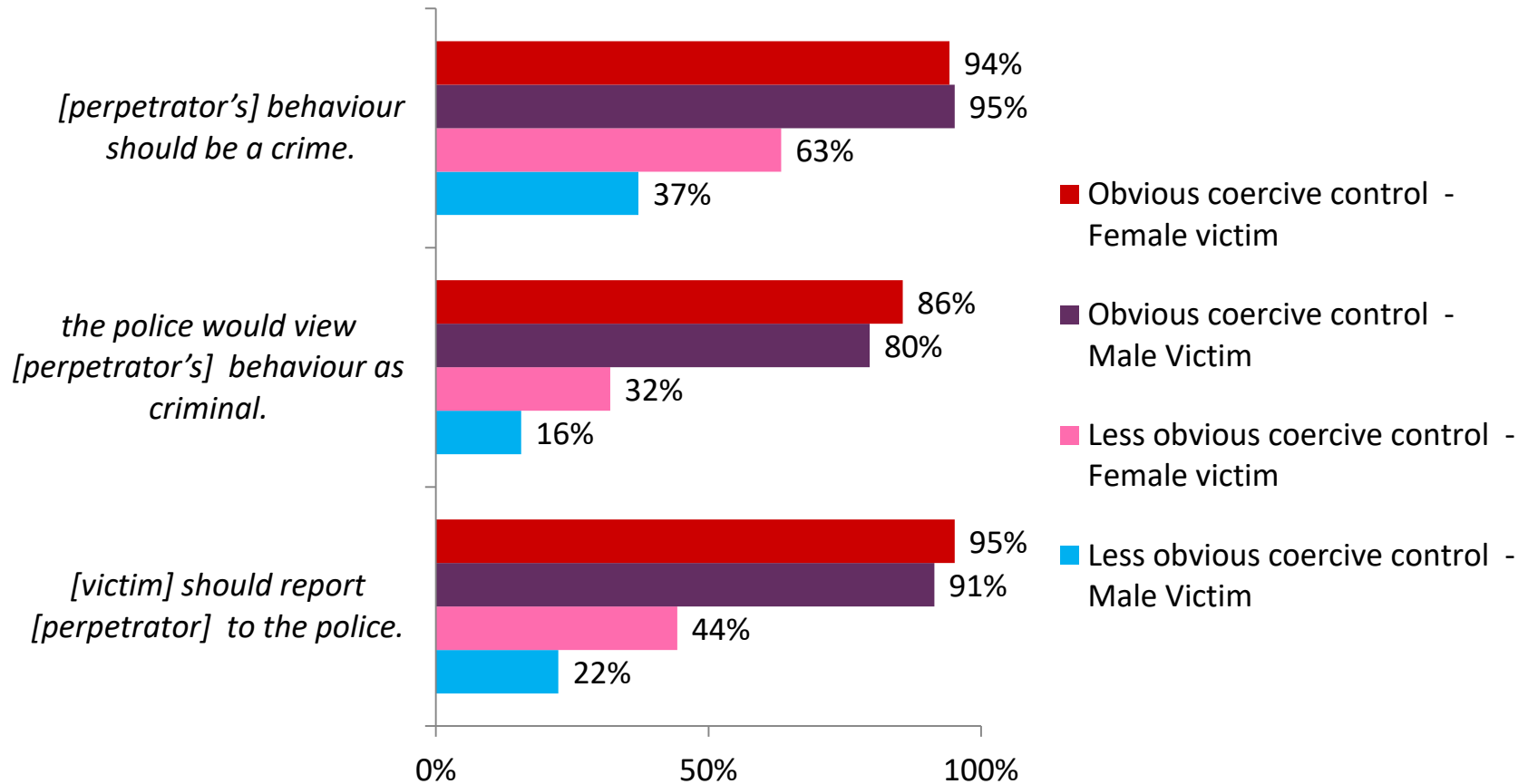
Impact on victim psychological wellbeing



Talking about Coercive Control



Coercive Control is a Crime



Key findings

- Awareness and understanding of coercive control
 - 37% of respondents showed a lack of understanding of what coercive control meant.
 - This proportion was higher for 18-24 year olds (60%).
- Recognition that coercive control behaviours are domestic abuse
 - *For less obvious scenarios* many struggled to identify that domestic abuse had occurred , particularly for male victims
 - *For obvious scenarios* recognition that abuse had occurred, including associated physical and mental health risks, was very good.
- People tend to underestimate the commonplace nature of coercive control within relationships.
- Most people agreed that the behaviours presented were criminal and should be reported to the police.

Recommendations

- Coercive control criminal offence legislation in Northern Ireland should be accompanied by:
 - *A public awareness campaign* with focus on what coercive control means and appropriate signposting to appropriate courses of action and sources of support.
 - *Early educational interventions*, embedded within the curriculum, educating young people on the development of healthy and unhealthy relationships.
 - *Monitoring* of access to, and delivery of supports to ensure successful usage of the new law.
- Research recommendations
 - A *comparable adult population survey post awareness campaign* should be implemented to allow for future comparison with the baseline data presented here.
 - Further, a *comparable survey for under 18s* is needed to determine if the low levels of awareness seen in 18-24 year olds are similar or potentially worse in under 18s.
 - Independent research *evaluation of police response, recording and investigation* of coercive control as well as the *victim/ survivor experience* within this.