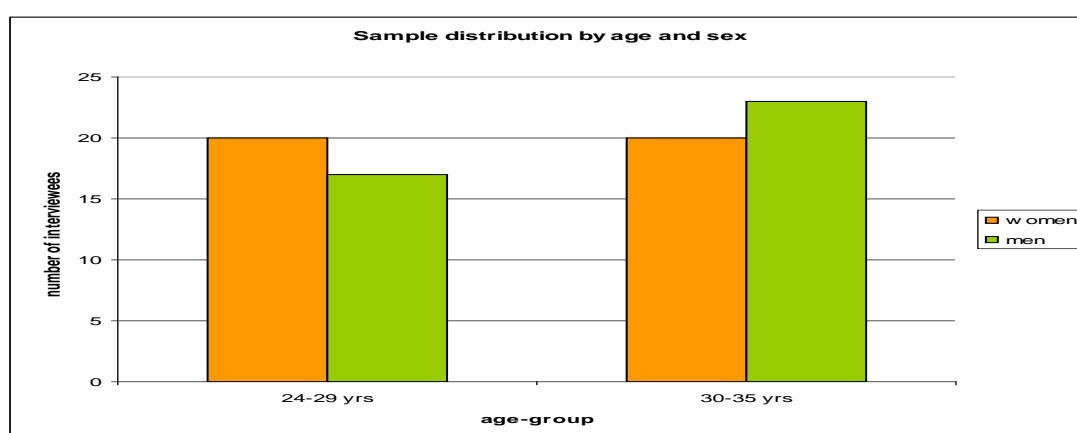
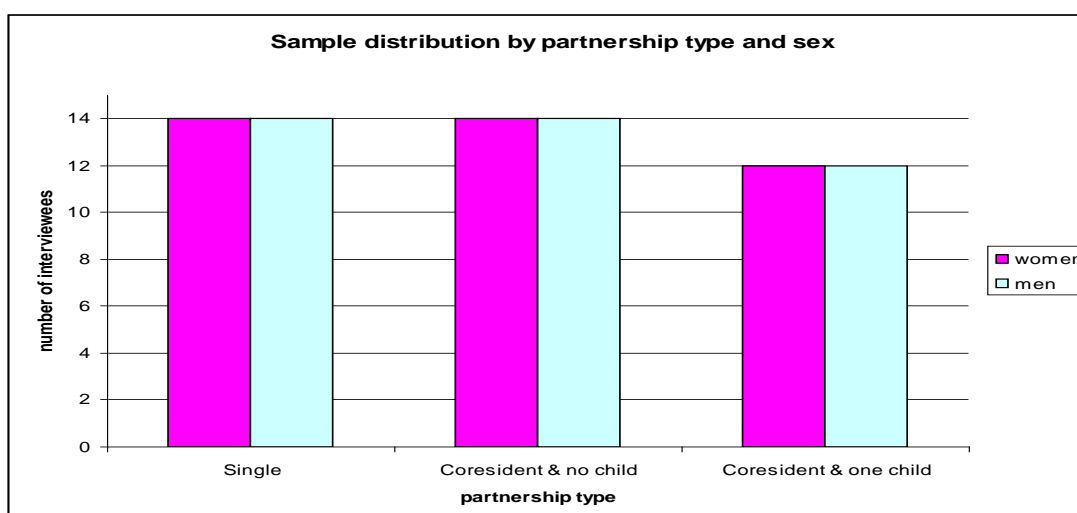


The interview material – a short overview

In Sweden (as in the other countries participating in this international collaboration), 80 interviews were conducted with highly educated women and men aged 24-35 years, born in Sweden and living in the two largest urban areas (i.e. Stockholm and Gothenburg). We relied on snowball sampling strategy to be able to achieve the target size for each subsample (by age, sex, marital/partnership status) in our stratified sample within a reasonable time period. The first interviews were conducted in May 2012 and the last one in February 2013. The lengths of interviews varied between 1 and 2.5 hours. We are grateful to all the interviewees who kindly shared with us their views on family and work. Below we provide a brief overview of some of the first findings from this material.

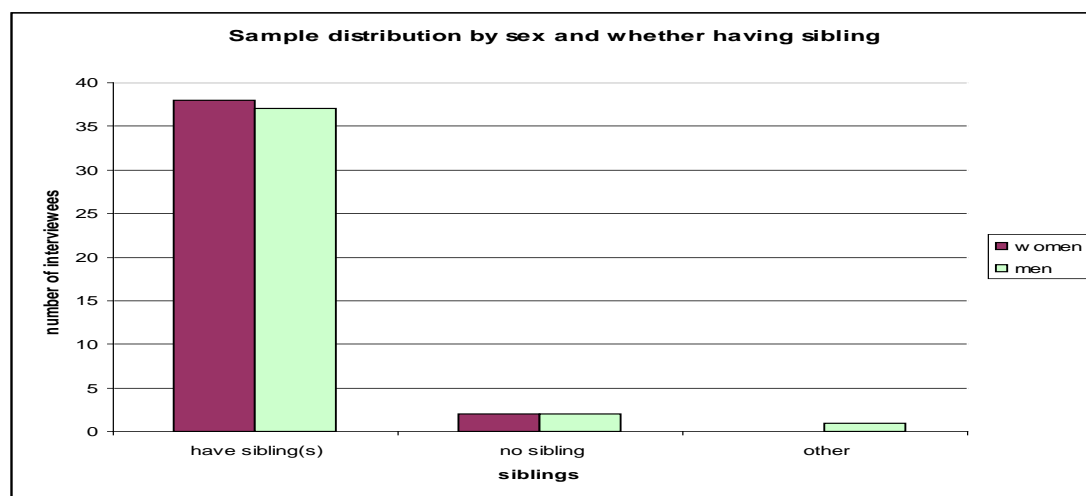


The figure above shows that although 40 women and 40 men have been interviewed in total (20 of each sex by city), there are slight differences in the age-distribution by gender. As the sample was stratified by partnership type and men in general start family formation at later ages than women, we have 17 men in the younger age-group and 23 in the older age-group, whereas the female sample is more evenly divided (20 persons in each age-group). This slightly uneven distribution of the male sample applies to both city-subsamples.

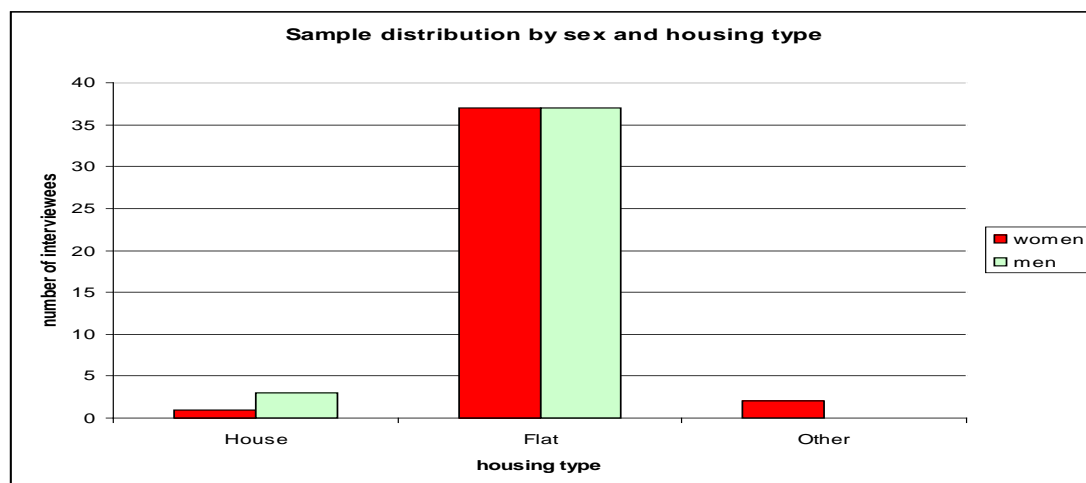


Of the total of 80 young women and men, 14 female and 14 male interviewees were single (that is not living in a coresidential relationship at the time of the interview). Also 14 women and 14 men we interviewed had a co-resident partner but no children. This category includes interviewees who did not expect a child (neither did their co-resident partner) at the time of the interview, and neither they nor their co-resident partner had a child living elsewhere (i.e. with a previous partner). Our last category, coresident with one child included 12 women and 12 men. We did not distinguish by marital status as in Sweden most couple enter marriage after the birth of their first or even second child.

Most interviewees have had siblings, and there were no differences between women and men in this respect:

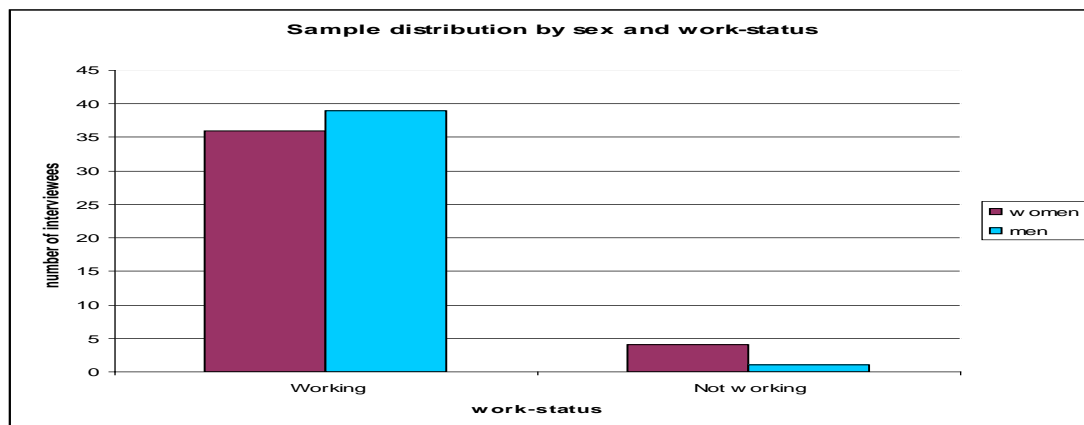


As we interviewed young people in large cities at the start of their family formation career, it was no surprise that most of them were living in apartments. Among the few interviewees who lived in a house, men outnumbered women. Gender differences appear also with respect to housing ownership. More men than women lived in a dwelling owned by themselves, by their partner or jointly, while more women than men rented the apartment or house they lived in.

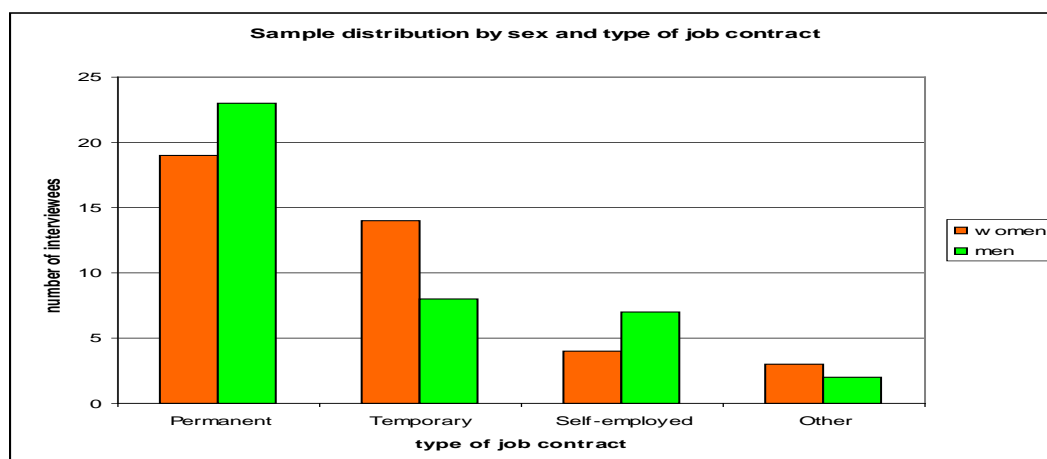




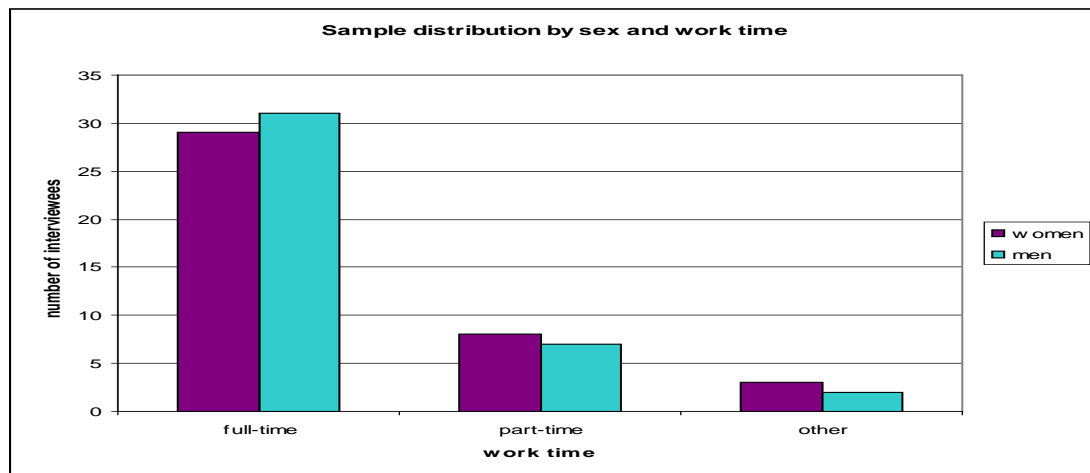
As completed education was one of the selection criteria, most interviewees had some kind of labour market attachment. Yet, slightly more men than women were working with only one male interviewee being out of work (and four females):



We find gender differences also with respect to the type of job contract the interviewees had at the time of the interview. More men than women had permanent contract and they were also more likely to be self-employed. Nearly twice as many women than men in our sample had temporary work contract.

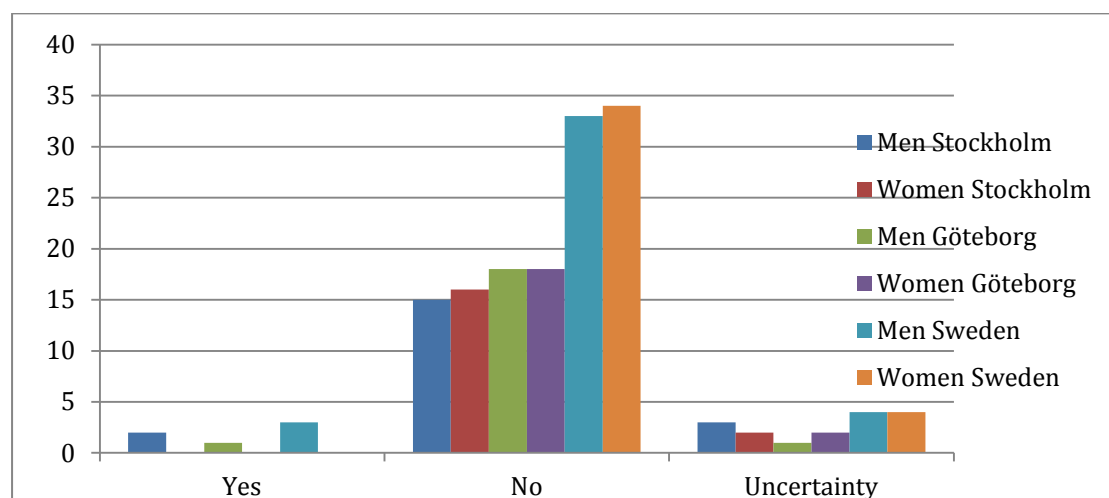


Somewhat fewer women than men worked full-time, and women were slightly more likely to be out of work or work part-time than the male interviewees:



Below we show the results for some selected questions from the interview-guide. We focus here on statements included from the World Values Survey. Interviewees were asked to express their agreement/disagreement and reason about their views. These questions will be especially interesting in the international comparison, but are informative per se with respect to the views and attitudes of Swedish women and men in the main childbearing ages living in the largest cities. Here we display the responses in quantified form. Given differences between the answers in Stockholm and Gothenburg, we present the views of women and men in the two cities as separate items, and also adding up all male and all female interviewees' views.

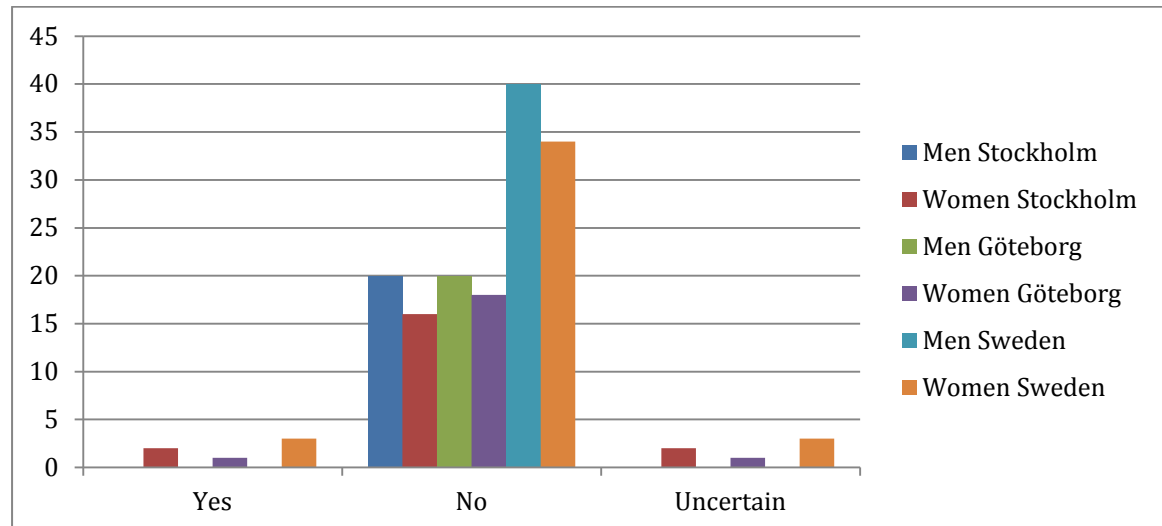
Traditional division of labor okay?



The following statement was presented to the interviewees: *“What do you think about the idea that in a couple the man should work outside the home and the woman should focus on domestic work?”* Agreement is shown by “yes”, disagreement by

“no” responses, and also the option of “don’t know/uncertain” is included. From the figure it is clear that the male breadwinner norm is no longer accepted among young women in Sweden and only a few young men find it appealing.

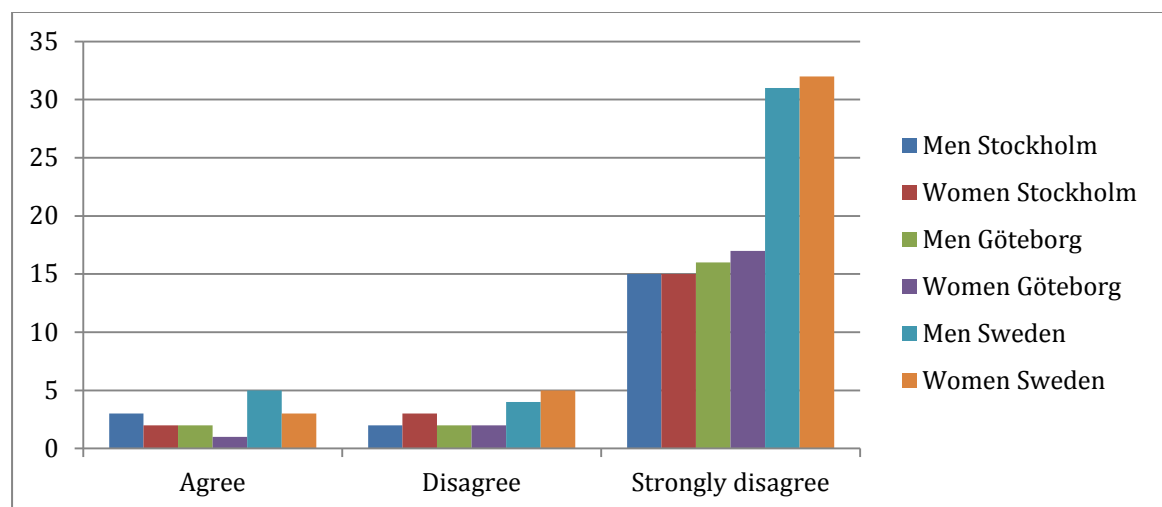
Self/partner as housewife



Most of the interviewees (34 women and all the men) rejected the idea of themselves/their partner to be a housewife. However, a few women could accept such solution and/or were uncertain about it.

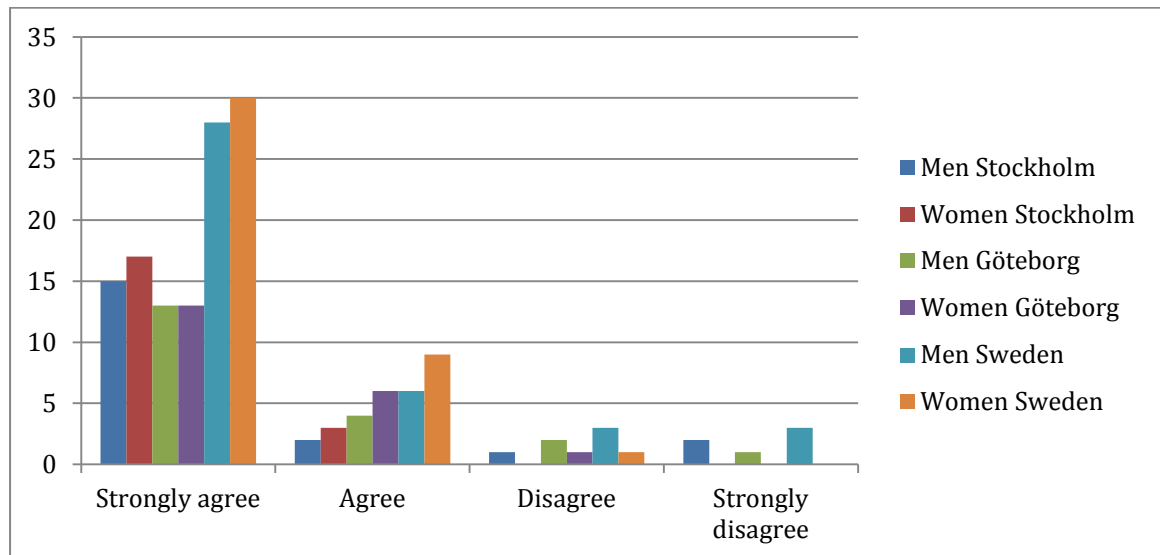
Man as breadwinner

The following statement was presented to the interviewees: “*Fathers can be fulfilled only if they are the primary breadwinner.*” As we see here, most of them strongly disagreed, and a few others disagreed. As for the overall sample, five men and three women expressed agreement with the statement. This suggests that although the role of a caring parent is increasingly seen as an important aspect of the male identity, traditional ideas of the good father being a good provider have not yet disappeared entirely.



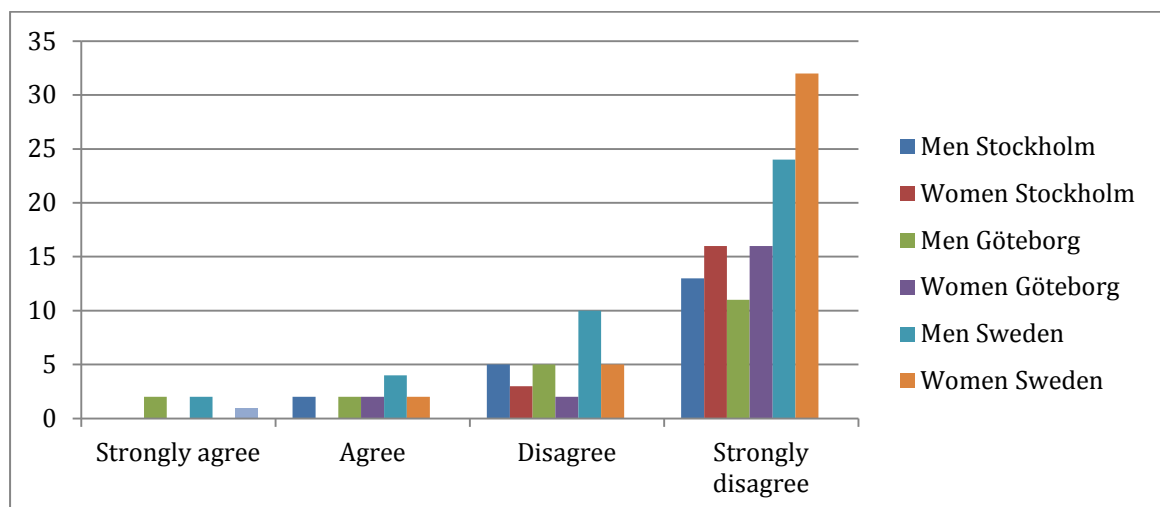
Employed mother and child relationship

Interviewees were presented with the statement: “A working mother can establish just as warm and secure a relationship with her children as a mother who does not work.” The vast majority strongly agreed, and many agreed. Yet, altogether six men and one woman disagreed or strongly disagreed. This indicates that with respect to maternal employment traditional views are still present in the Swedish society although at rather limited extent, and hardly among women.



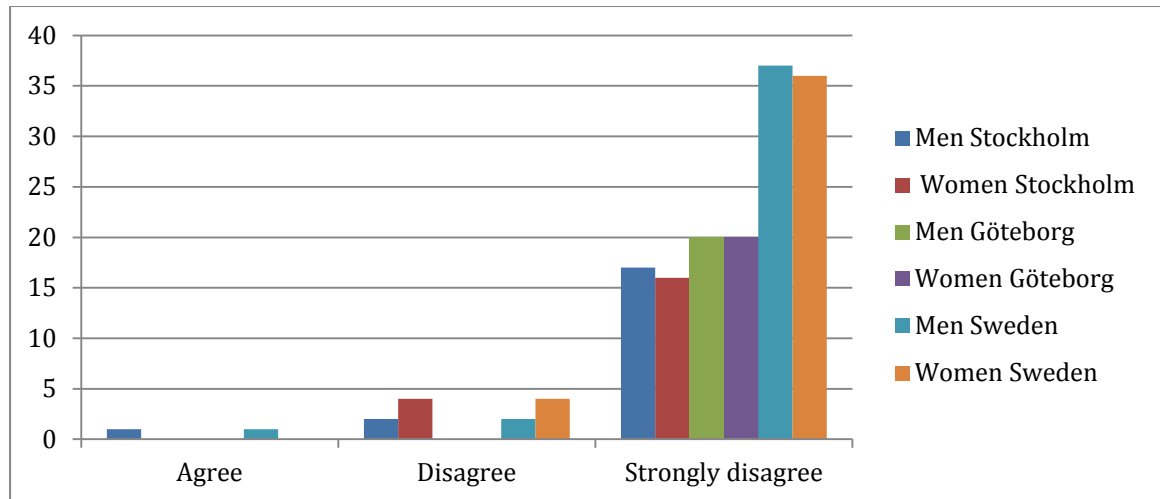
Care for very young children (0-3 years) –only by the mother?

Another statement along similar lines of reasoning than what we have just discussed addressed the question of maternal responsibilities in the first years of a child’s life: “When children are age three or under, a married / cohabiting woman should be a housewife and focus on childcare.” Most interviewees strongly disagreed or disagreed, but four men and two women agreed and another two men strongly agreed.



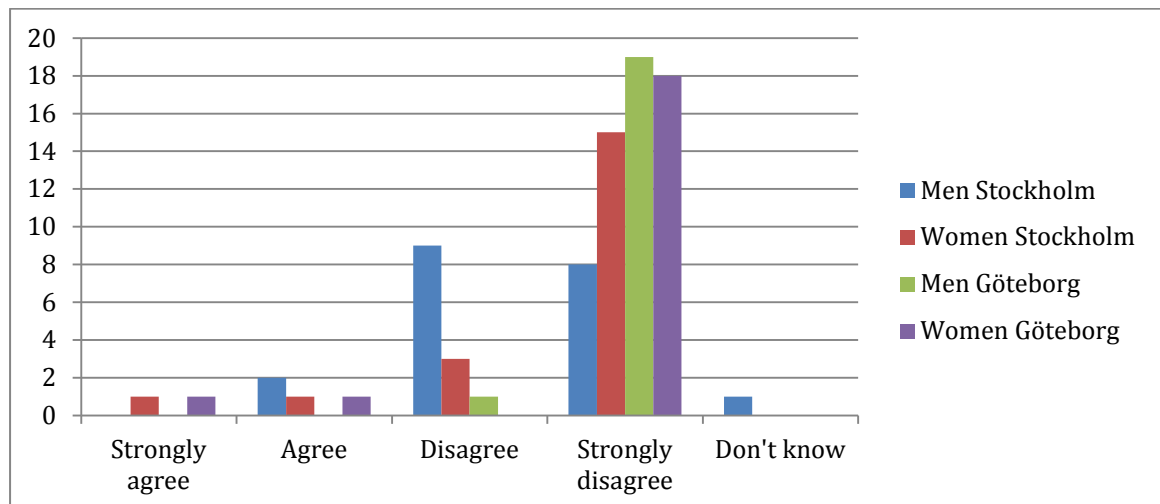
Male job priority

The statement “*When jobs are scarce, men should have more right to a job than women*” received little support among the interviewees. Hence it seems that when no reference to children is involved, women’s and men’s equal right to paid work is fully accepted in the society.



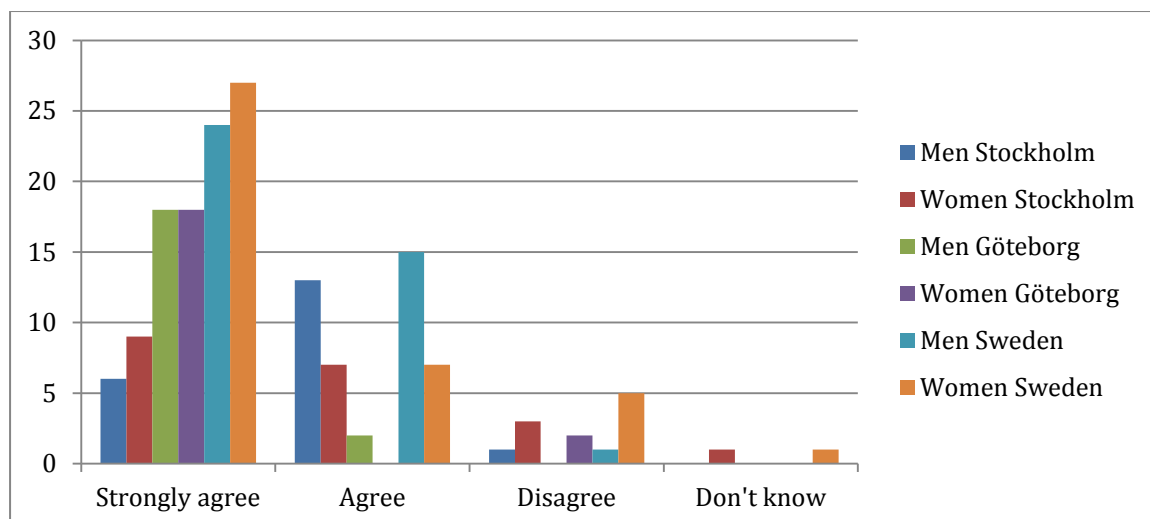
Men as executives

Also, few interviewees agreed / strongly agreed with the statement that “*On the whole, men make better business executives than women do*”.



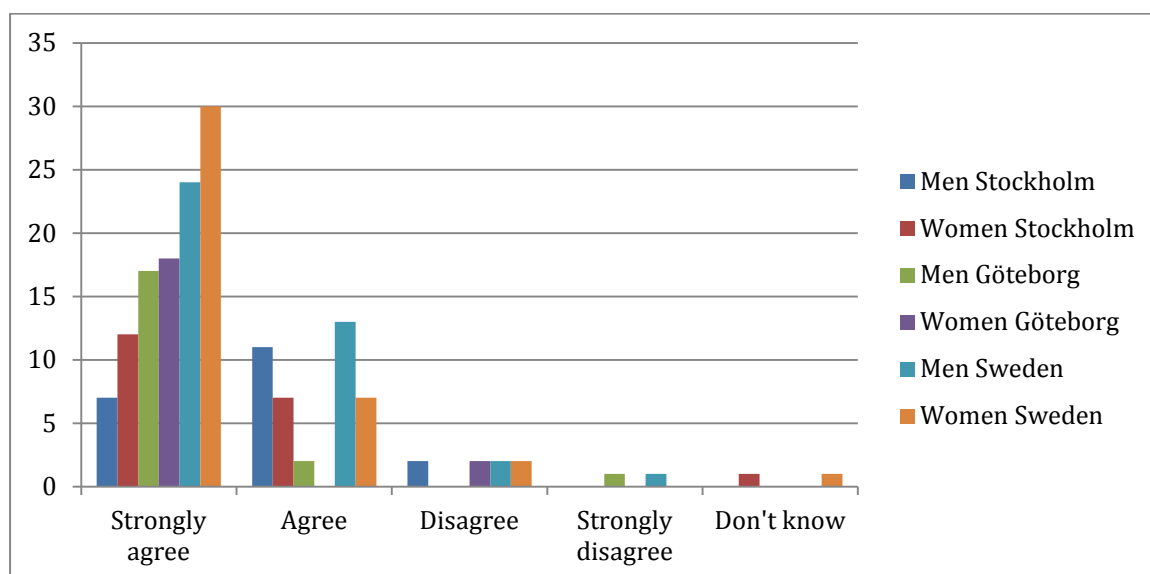
Woman fulfilled without a partner

The statement: “*If someone says ‘a woman can have a full and satisfying life without marrying/cohabiting’*” received substantial support among the interviewees. However, five women and one man disagreed, and a woman was uncertain.



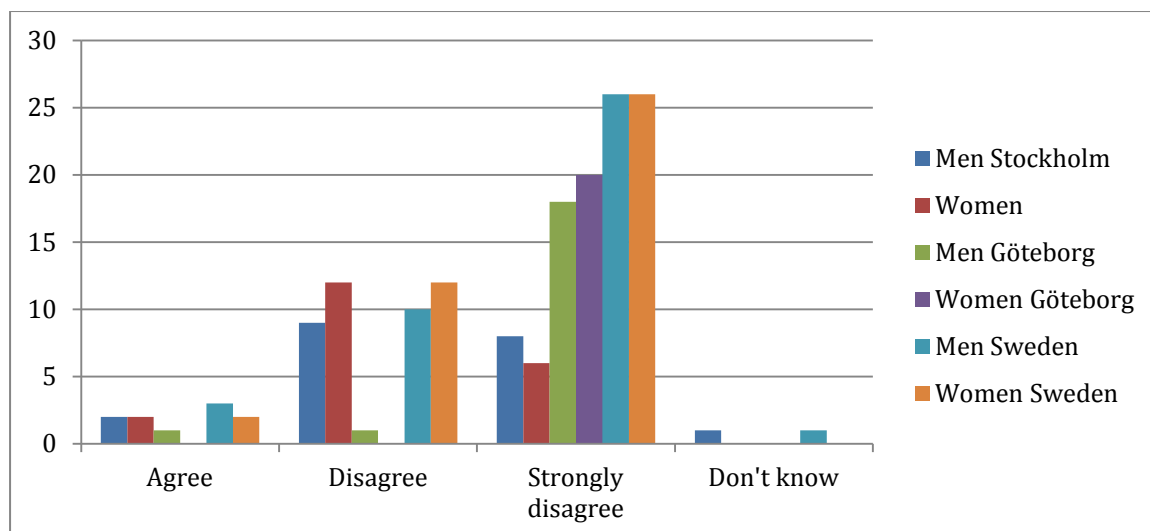
Men fulfilled without a partner

A similar statement about men (i.e. “*If someone says ‘a man can have a full and satisfying life without marrying/cohabiting’*”) brought about the same reaction.



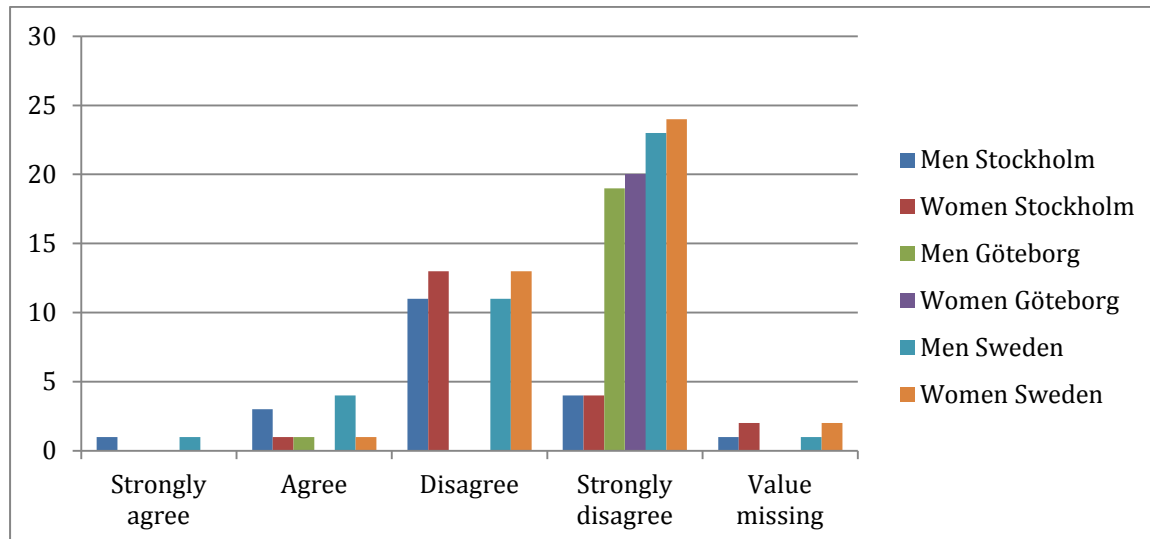
Women fulfilled without children

Interviewees were also asked: “*Do you think that a woman has to have children in order to be fulfilled or is this not necessary?*” “ 26 women and 26 men strongly disagreed, and 12 women and 10 men disagreed. Five interviewees agreed (two women and three men) and one (man) was uncertain.



Men fulfilled without children

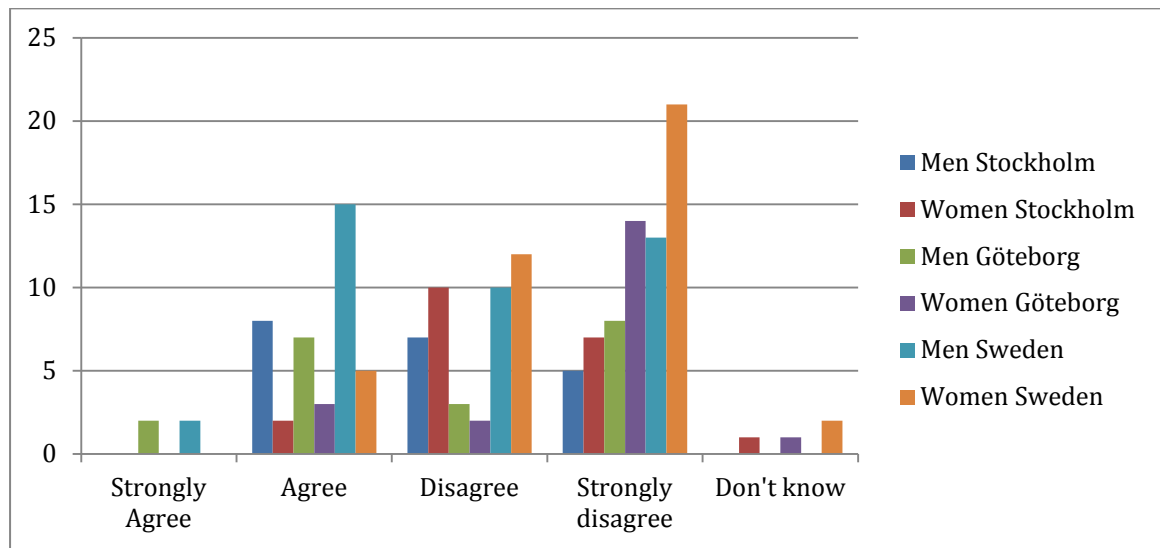
The same statement was also asked with respect to men (*“Do you think that a man has to have children in order to be fulfilled or is this not necessary?”*) Interviewees in Stockholm, both women and men, were more likely to disagree than to strongly disagree, whereas the opposite was true for interviewees in Gothenburg. Only few agreed or strongly agreed, mainly in Stockholm.



Children happy with mother and father

The statement: *“If someone says a child needs a home with both a father and a mother to grow up happily, would you tend to agree or disagree?”* was sometimes interpreted as if it would address parenting by same-sex or opposite-sex couples, although the statement focuses on intact families versus single parents. The views on

this issue varied quite substantially. All in all, more men than women agreed with the statement.



Family policy encourages fertility?

Finally, we present results for a question on the possible effect of family policies (*“Do you think the parental leave program and public childcare provision encourage people to have more children?”*). Most interviewees, both women and men, independently of partnership status seemed to believe that this is indeed the case. Single women and coresident childless men were however more likely to disagree, whereas single men were likely to be uncertain (explicitly or implicitly).

