

You Roared!

Smith College 1971 Reunion



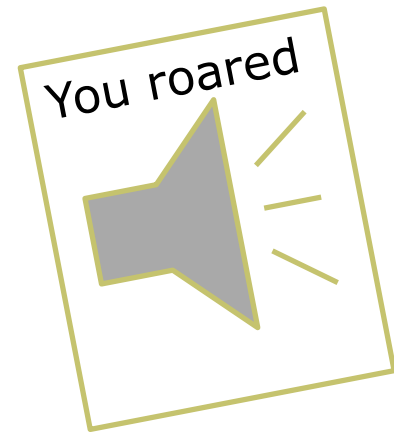
COME TOGETHER
45TH REUNION
SMITH COLLEGE | MAY 19-22, 2016



Survey stats and plans

- Total class available universe -- 538
- Classmates receiving emails -- 394
- Total # of responses -- 132

- Dinner presentation at reunion
- Posting of survey Q and reunion presentation
- Posting of fuller results (all multiples choices and "light analysis" of open-ended questions)
- In-Depth interviews summary and archiving



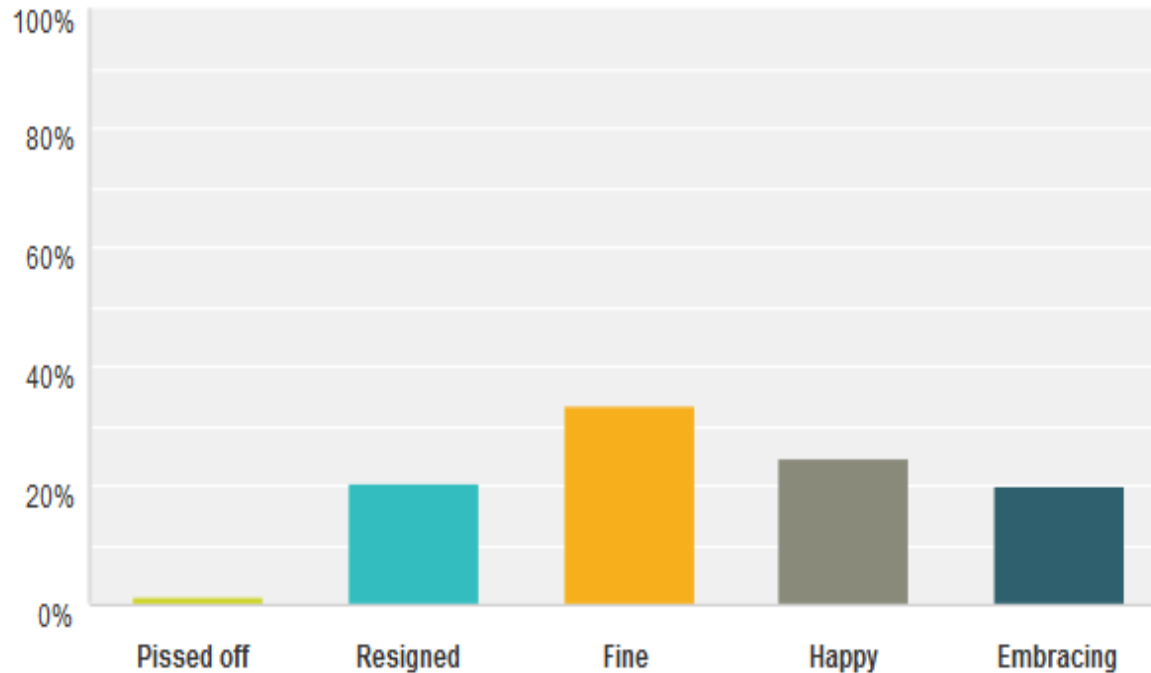
What we did

- Formed a team: Mimi Zaugg, Sandy Cate, Carla Dickstein, and Liz Webster
- Structured an approach:
 - Part I: The Basic Perspective 37Q
 - Part II: A Deeper Dive 30Q
 - Part III: In-Depth Interviews 20
- Developed a survey for Parts I & II and ran it through Survey Monkey
- Sandy Cate conducted the In-Depths



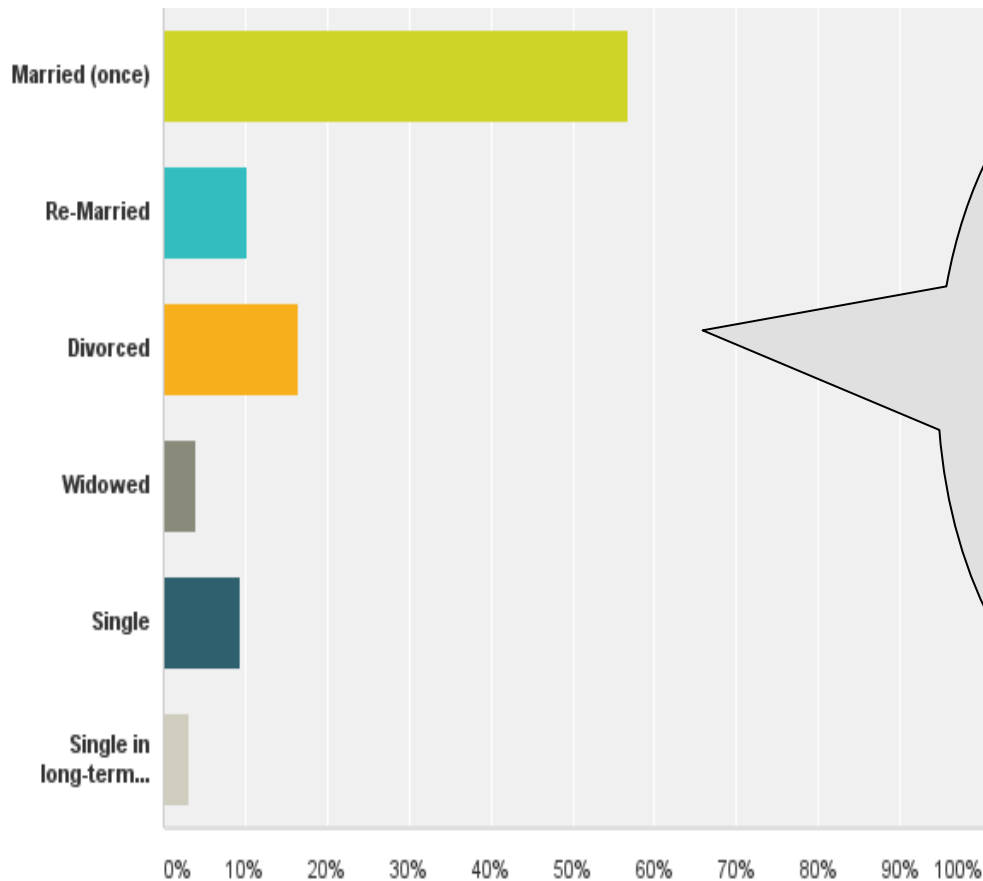
Q12: How do you mostly feel about being in your mid-60's?

➤ Answered: 126 Skipped: 6



Q1: Are you currently:

➤ Answered: 127 Skipped/Other: 5



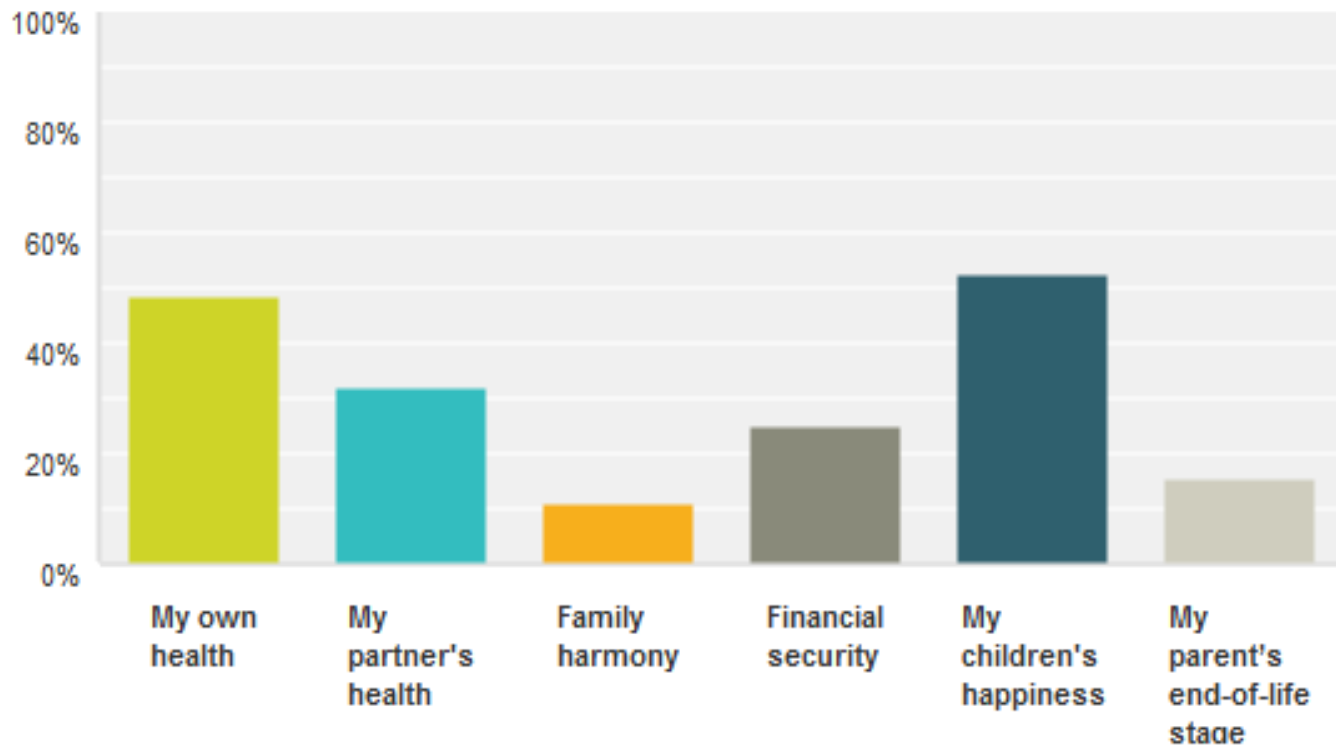
"Am skipping...it's a close call"

"Married, divorced, and re-married the same man"



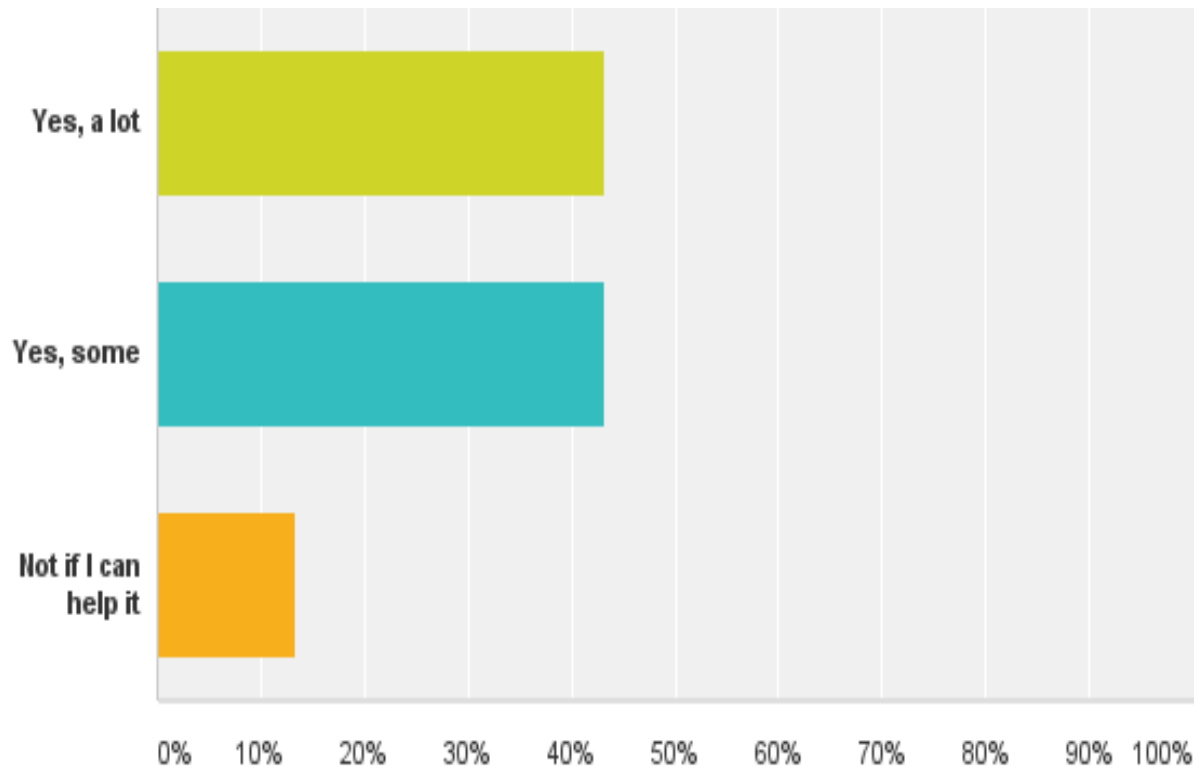
Q35: Looking at the next 5 years, what areas concern you the most?

➤ Answered: 109 Skipped/Other: 23



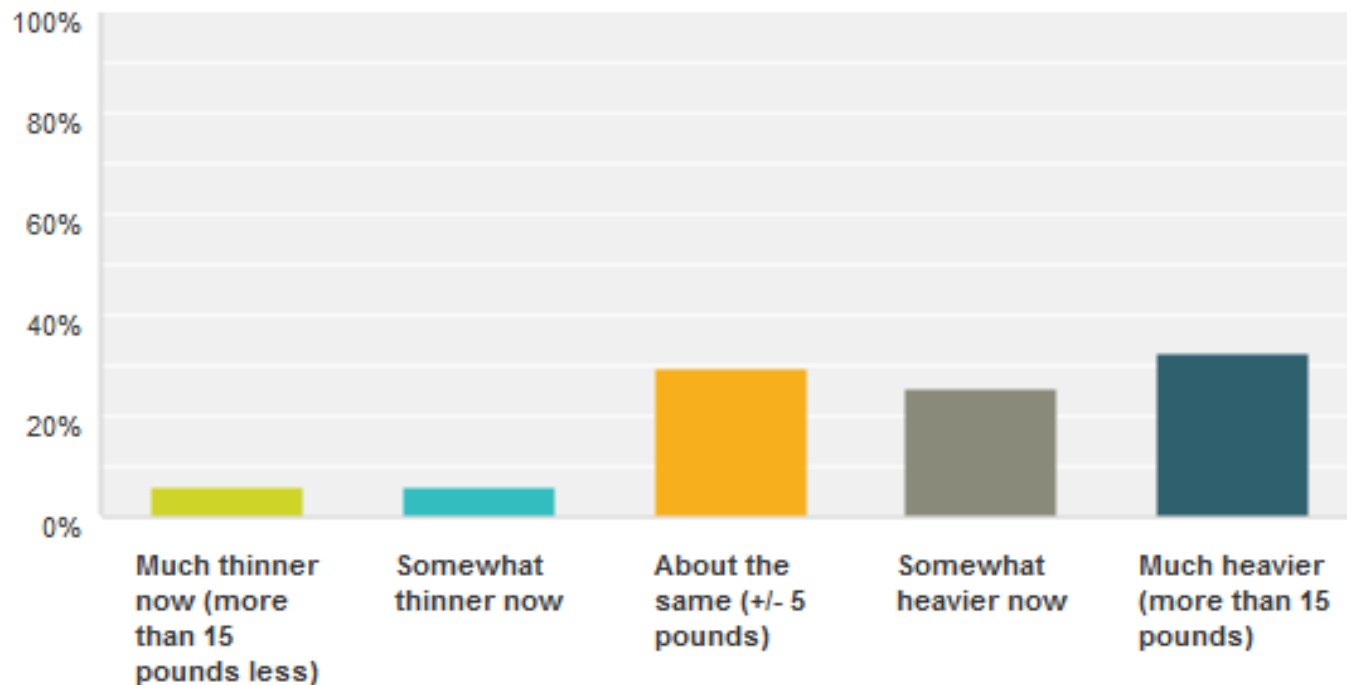
Q23: Do you exercise regularly?

➤ Answered: 127 Skipped: 5



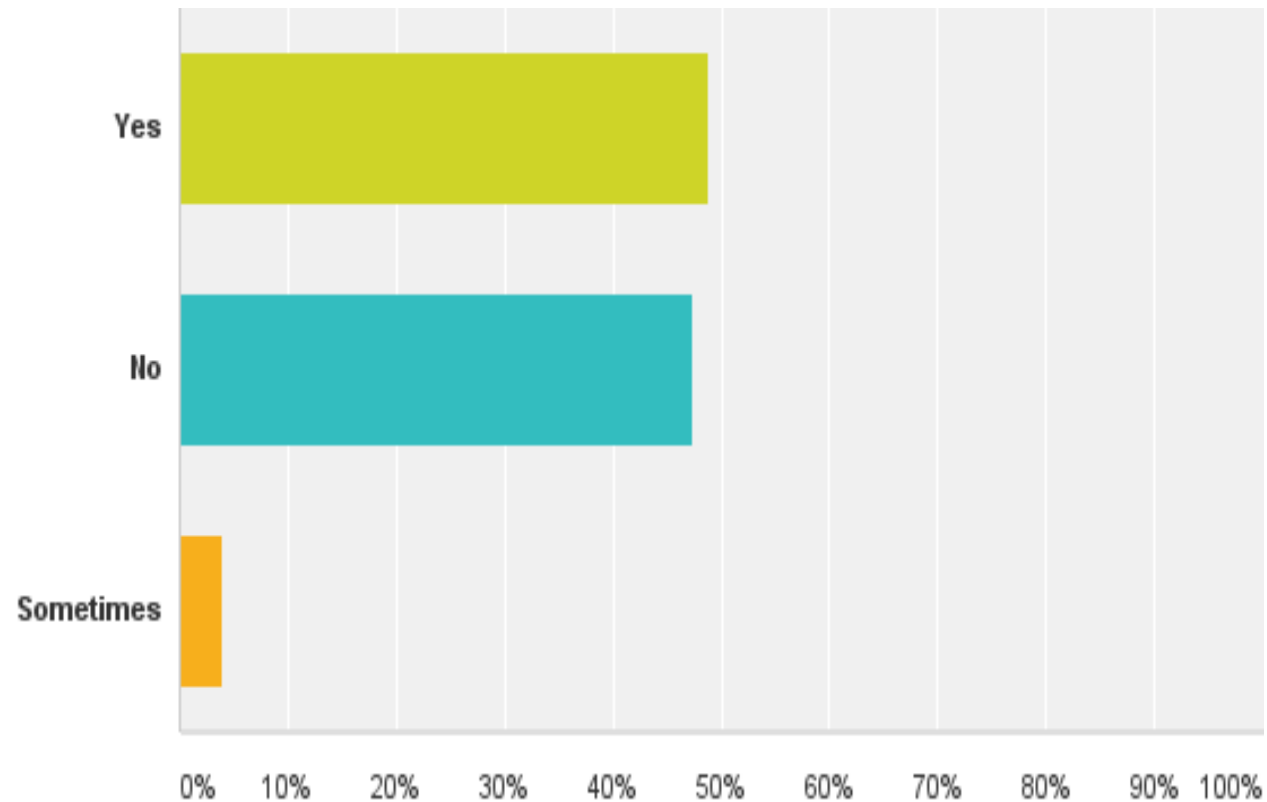
Q19: How does your present weight compare to when you left college?

➤ Answered: 129 Skipped: 3



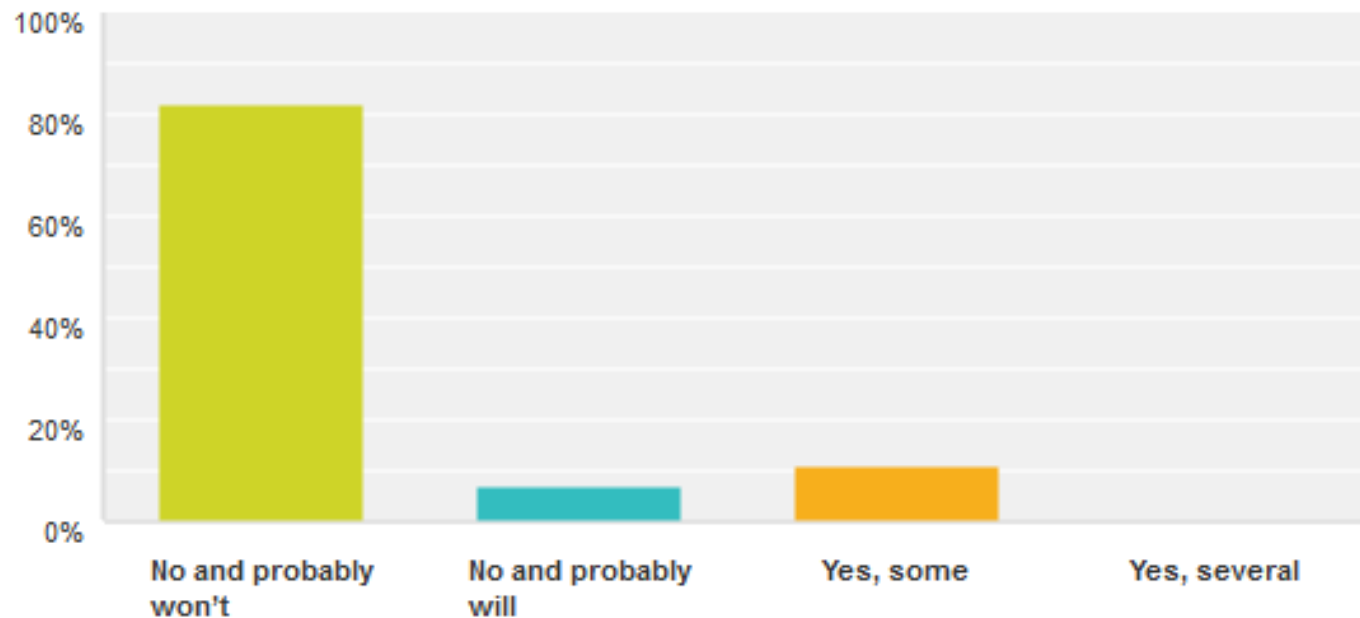
Q20: Do you color your hair?

➤ Answered: 129 Skipped: 3



Q21: Have you had any cosmetic surgery?

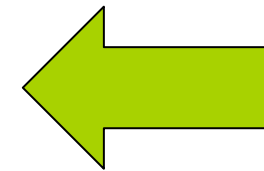
➤ Answered: 128 Skipped: 4



Q10: Have you looked up your first love on line (e.g. Google, Facebook)?

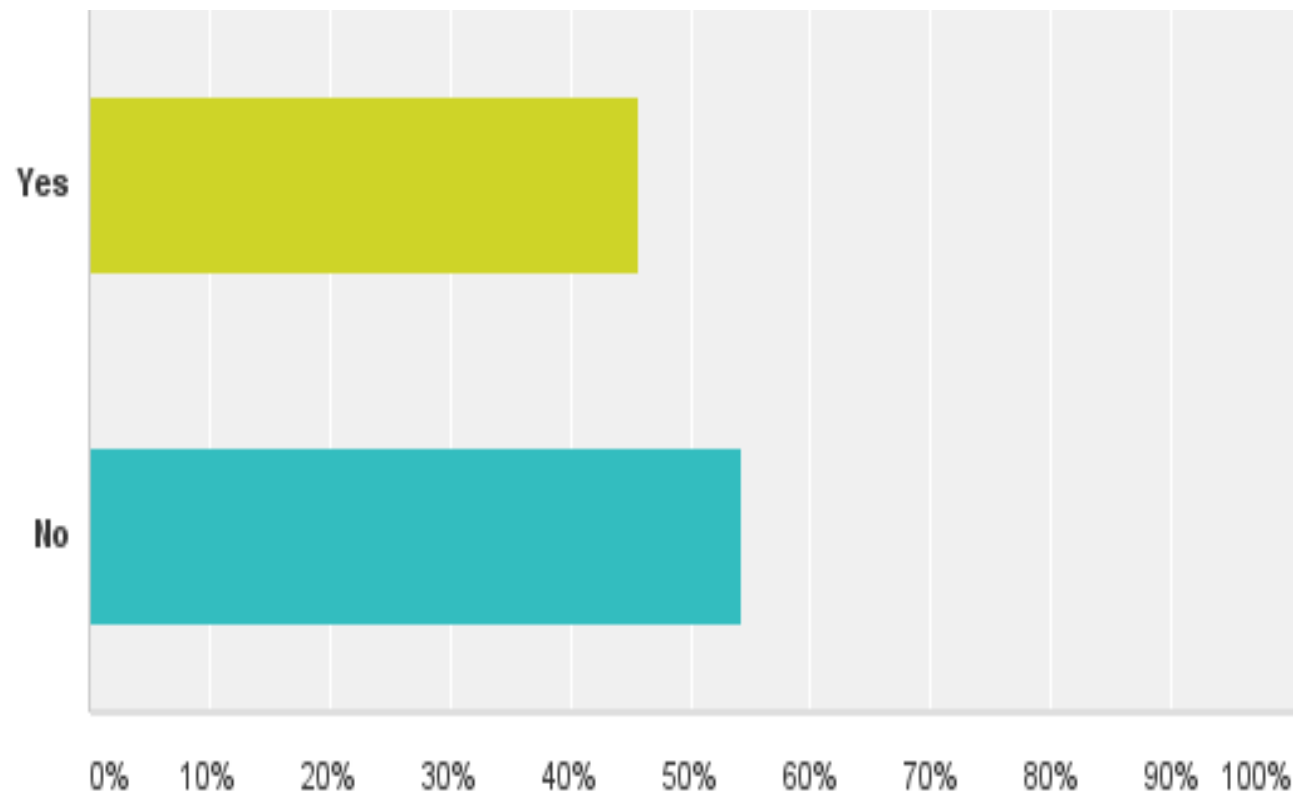


YES (%)	NO (%)
80	20
70	30
60	40
50	50
40	60
30	70
20	80



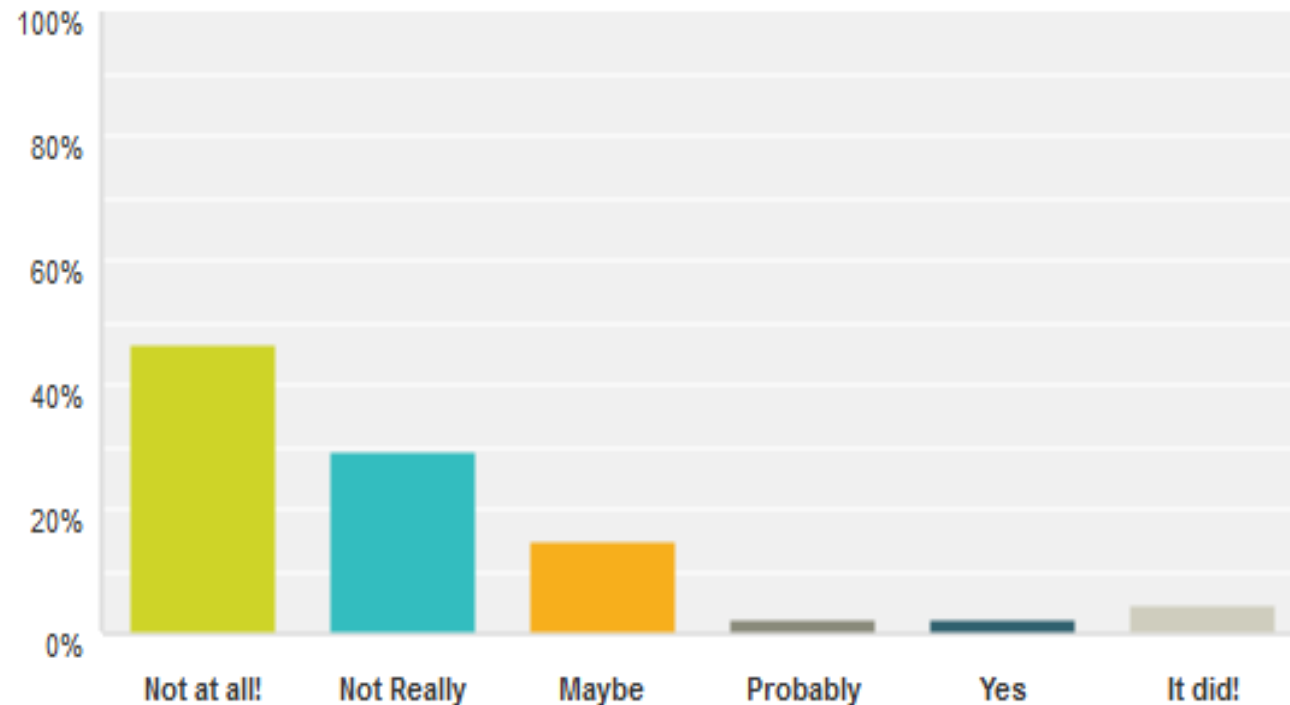
Q10: Have you looked up your first love on line (e.g. Google, Facebook)?

➤ Answered: 129 Skipped: 3



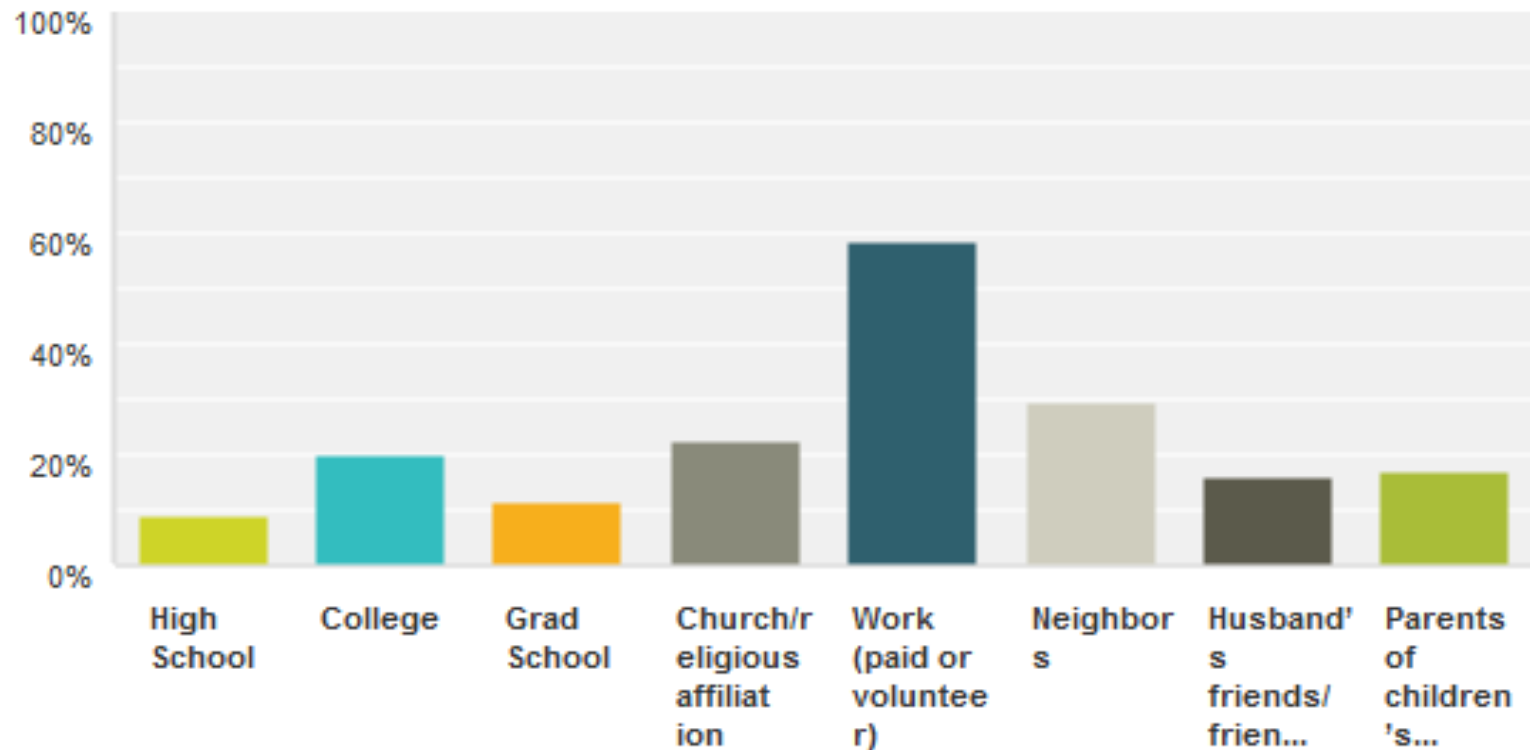
Q11: Regardless, do you think your first love would have worked out well?

➤ Answered: 127 Skipped: 5



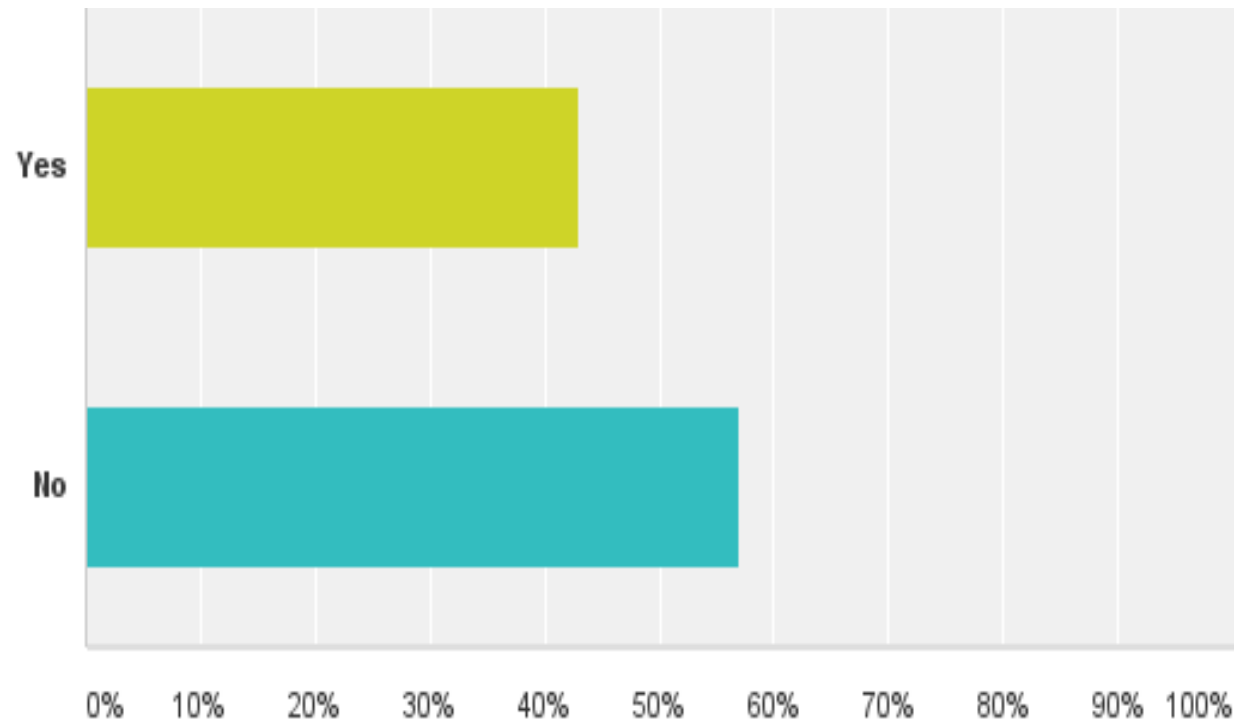
Q44: What is the source of most of your current close friends?

➤ Answered: 111 Skipped/Other: 21



Q49: Have you begun to “reconnect” or spend more time with Smith friends?

➤ Answered: 116 Skipped: 16



Q66: Diary entry your **last week?**

*"Whew! It's over
and **I made it!**"*

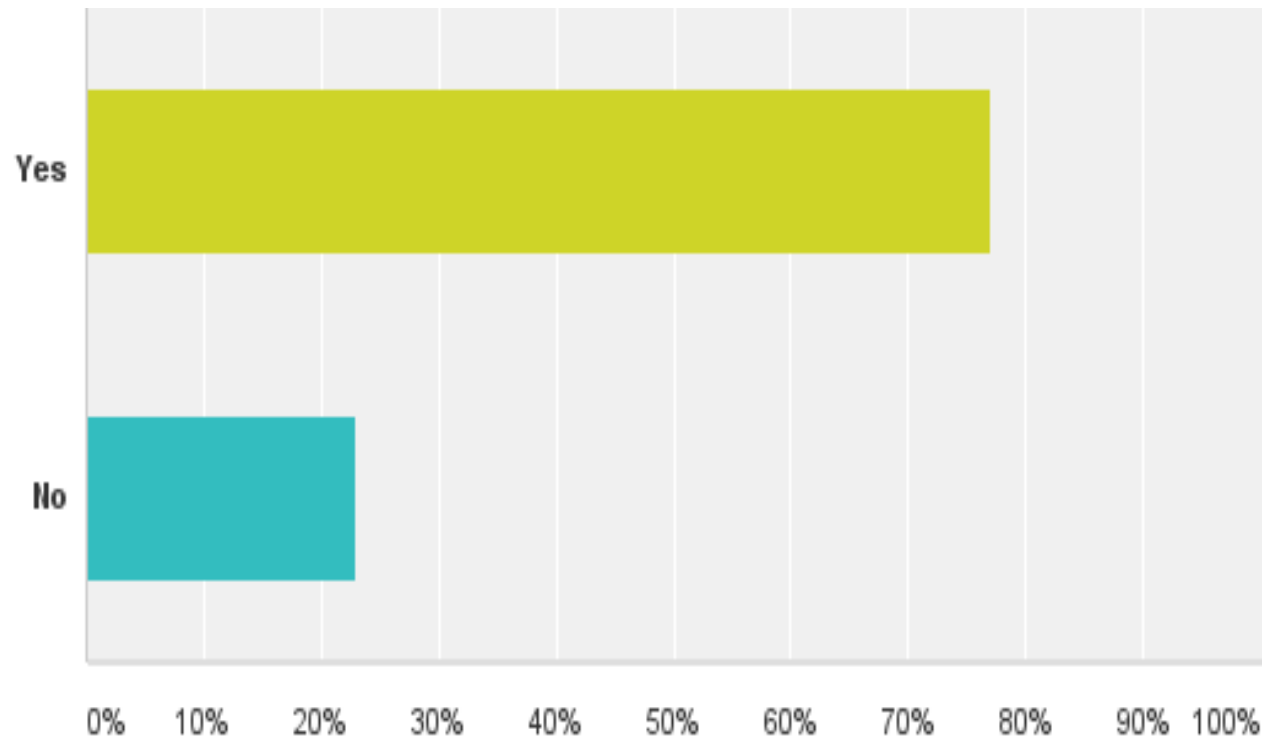


*"It's not about who I marry
but **what I am going to
make of myself.**"*



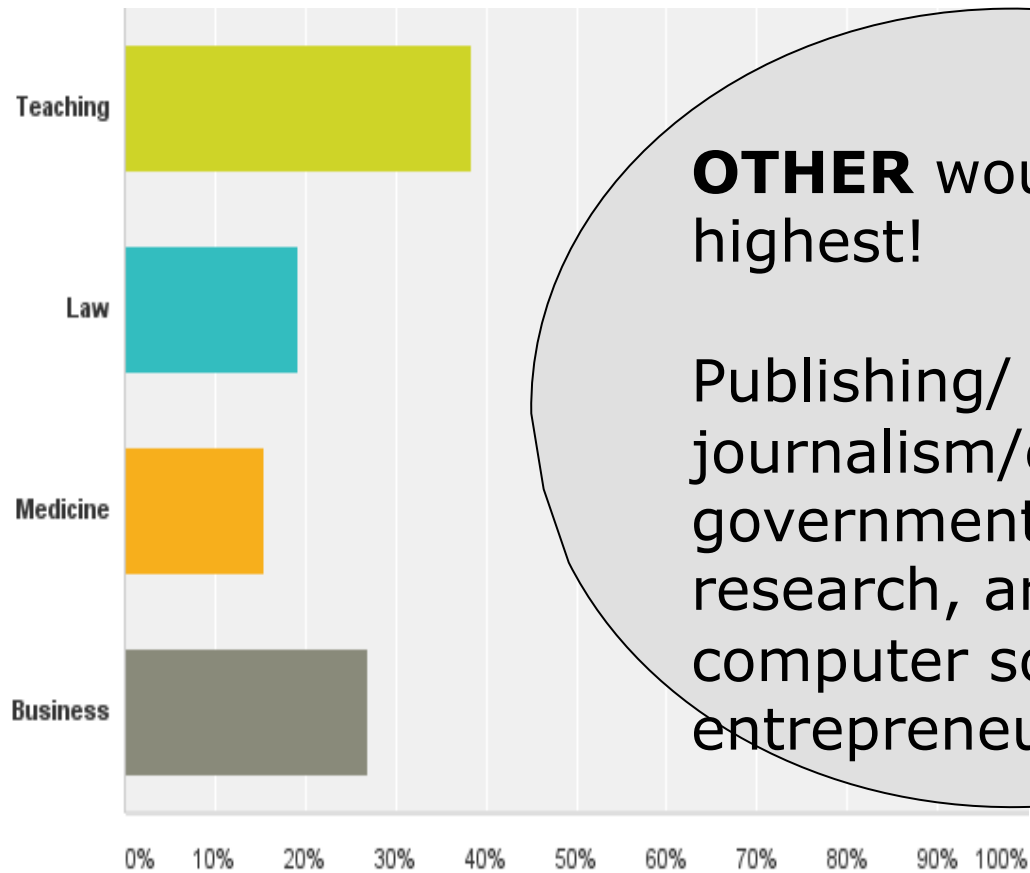
Q5: Did you get an advanced degree after Smith?

➤ Answered: 131 Skipped: 1



Q6: If you are/were in the workforce, what field?

➤ Answered: 78 Skipped/Other: 54



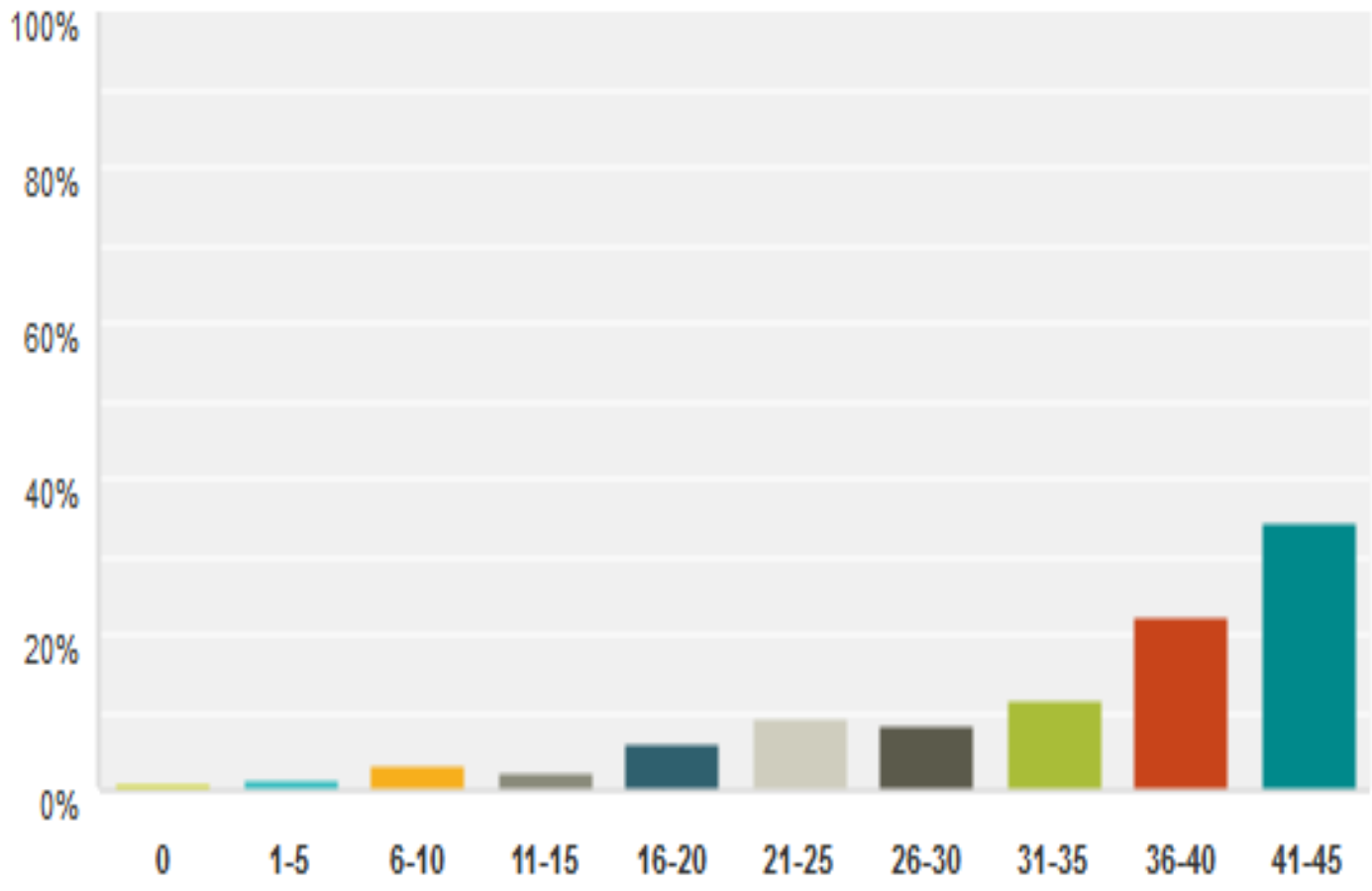
OTHER would be highest!

Publishing/
journalism/editing,
government,
research, arts,
computer software,
entrepreneurship



Q7: Since graduation, how many years spent employed outside the home?

➤ Answered: 130 Skipped: 2



Q65: What would your diary say after your **first week** at Smith?

- I'm homesick
- I'm happy to have left home, be on my own
- Everyone is smarter than me
- I'm enjoying meeting so many different people
- Exciting..high-calibre academic challenges, and opportunities
- "Where are the boys?"



Q65:Diary entry after first week?

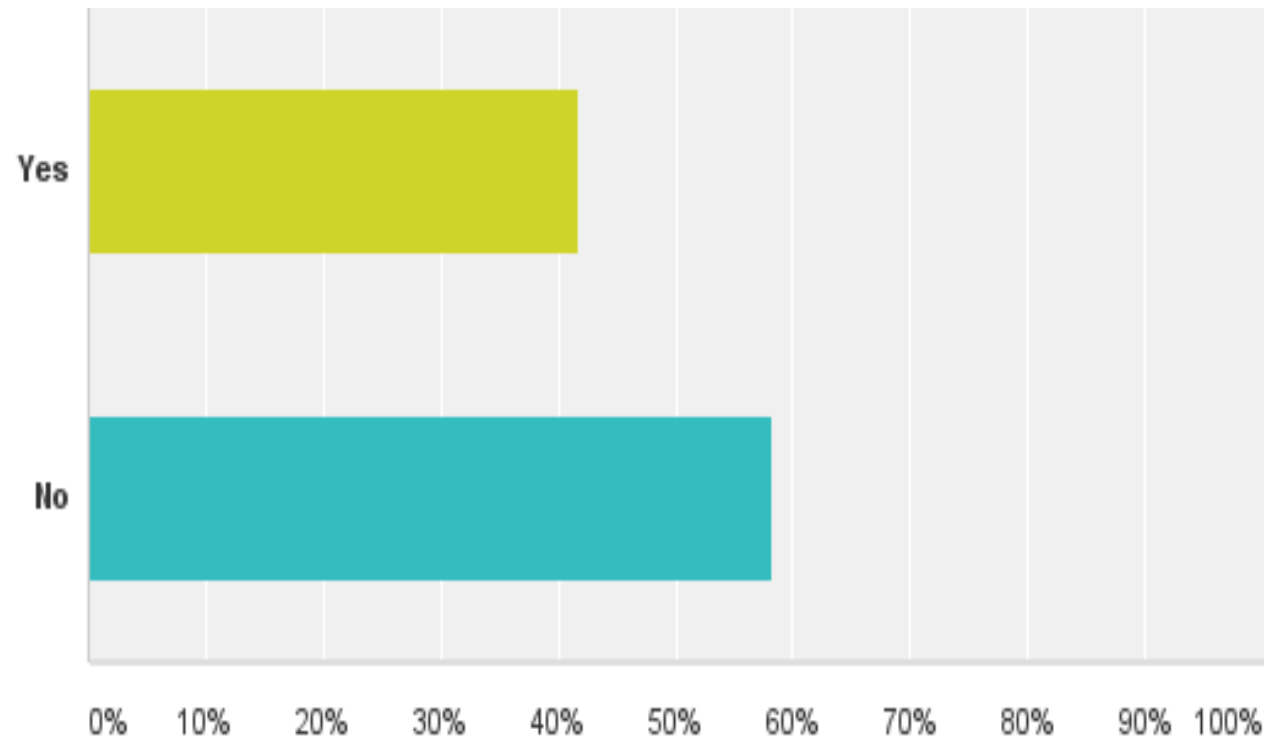


*"I have stepped **through the looking glass** into a whole new, very different world from the one I grew up in."*



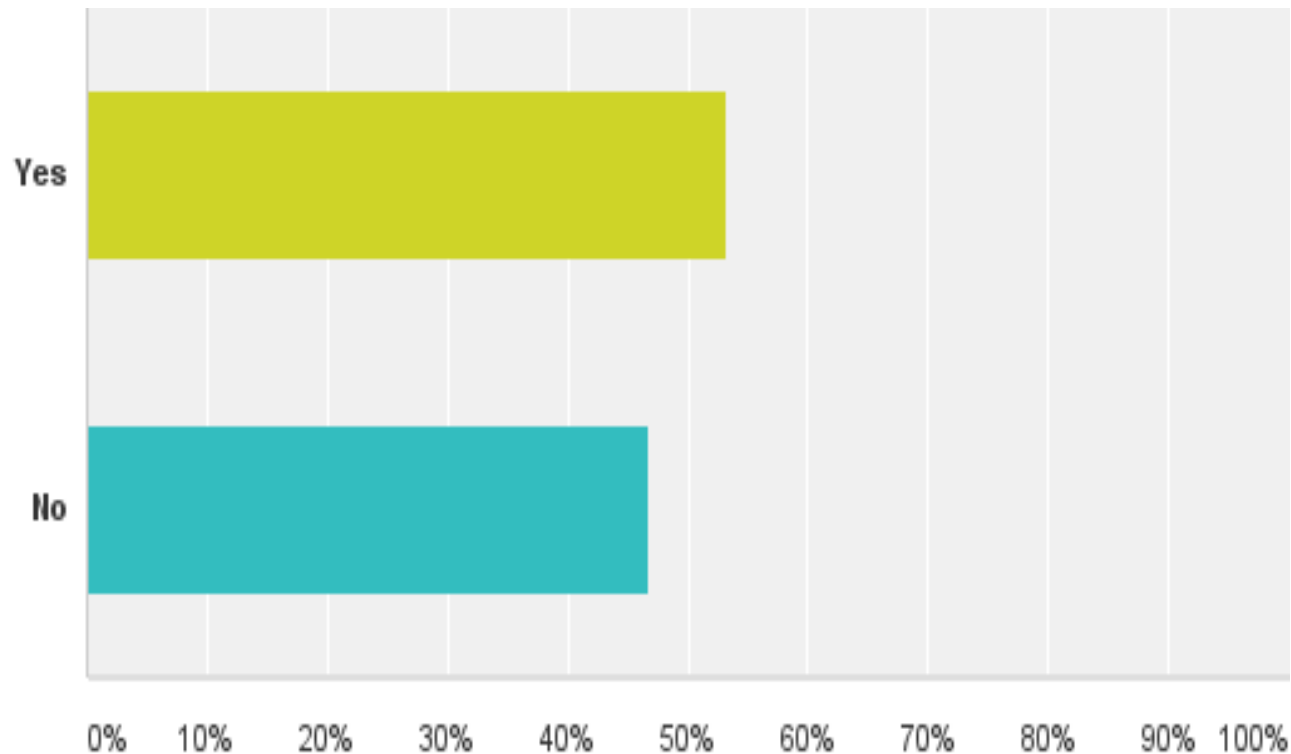
Q25: First yr, did your parent have to give permission to weekend off campus?

➤ Answered: 120 Skipped: 12



Q26: When we went to 24-hr parietals, did any of your dates sleep over?

➤ Answered: 122 Skipped: 10



Q52: How old were you when you lost your virginity?

Recollections certainly vary!

From the Vague.....To the Crystalline

"19...I think"

"20-something"

"At Smith"

"Eighteen – the night of the Yale Prom, by golly!"



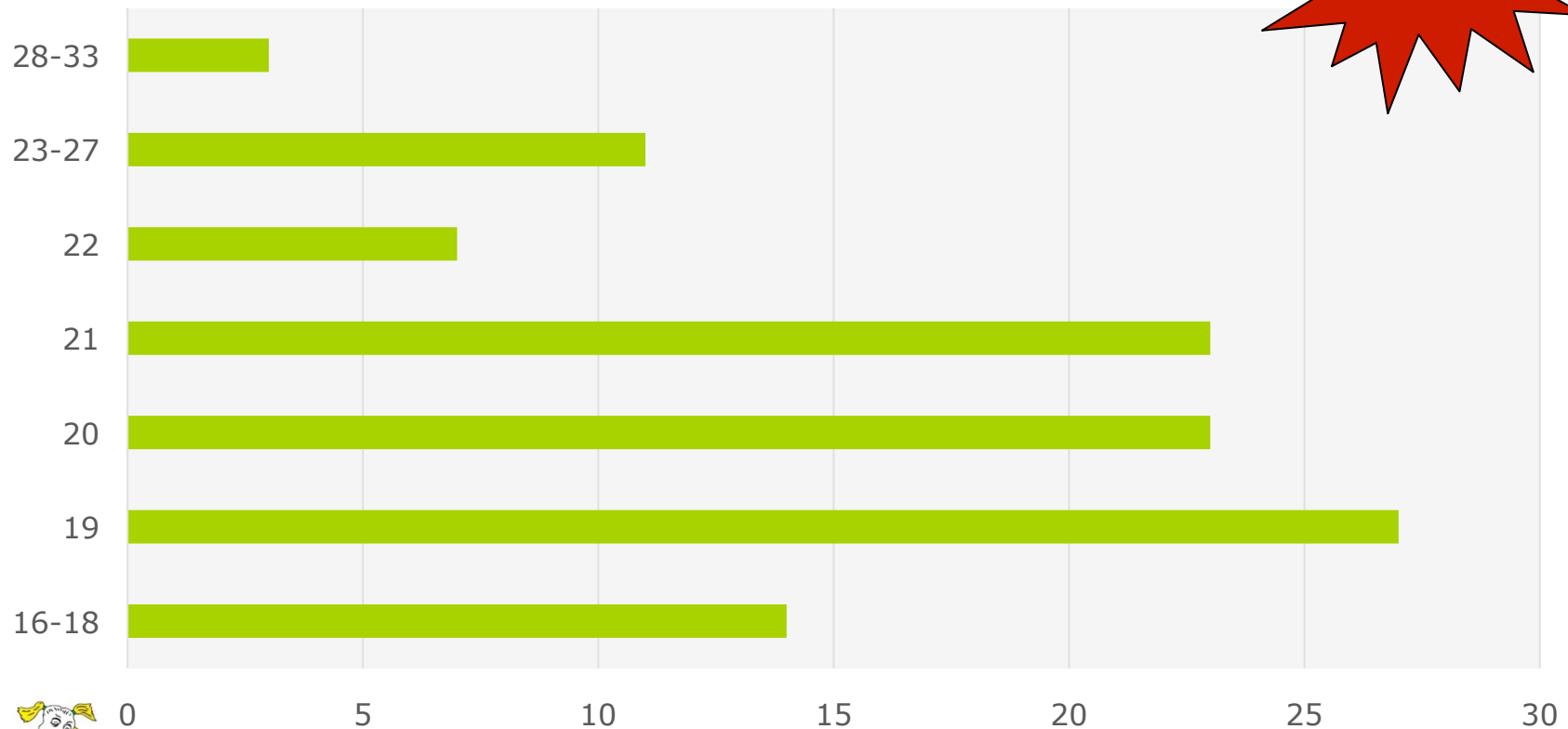
Q52: How old were you when you lost your virginity?

- What was the typical age for the class of 1971?
- Hint: Between 16 --- and 33
- All Stand to Begin



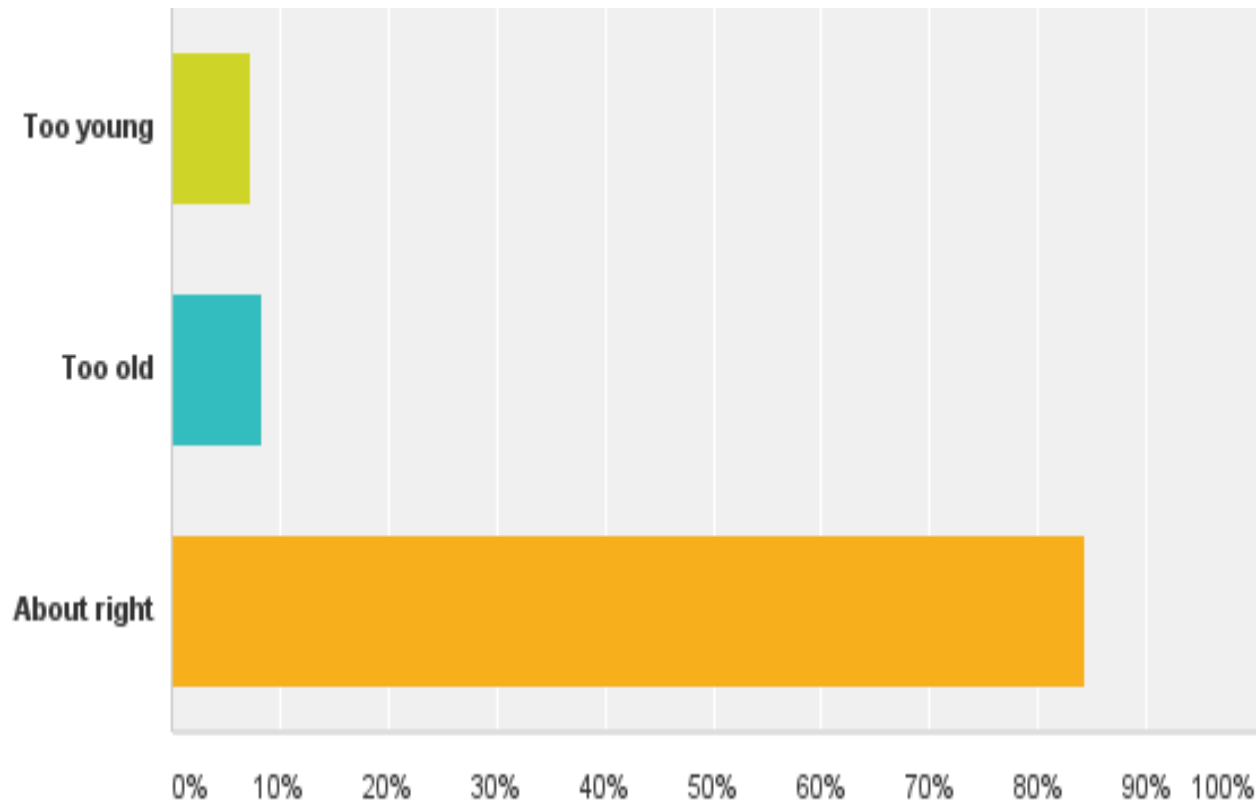
Q52: How old were you when you lost your virginity?

➤ Answered: 108 Skipped: 24



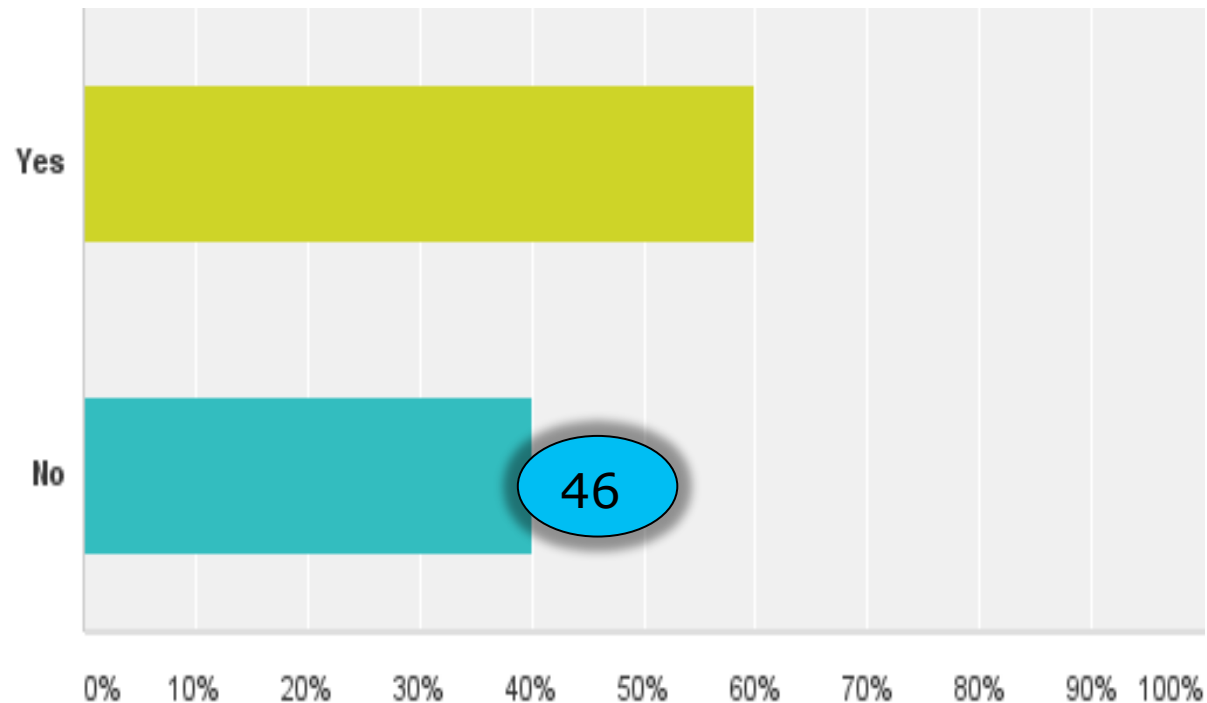
Q53: Looking back, for you would you say that age was: **No Regrets**

➤ Answered: 108 Skipped: 24



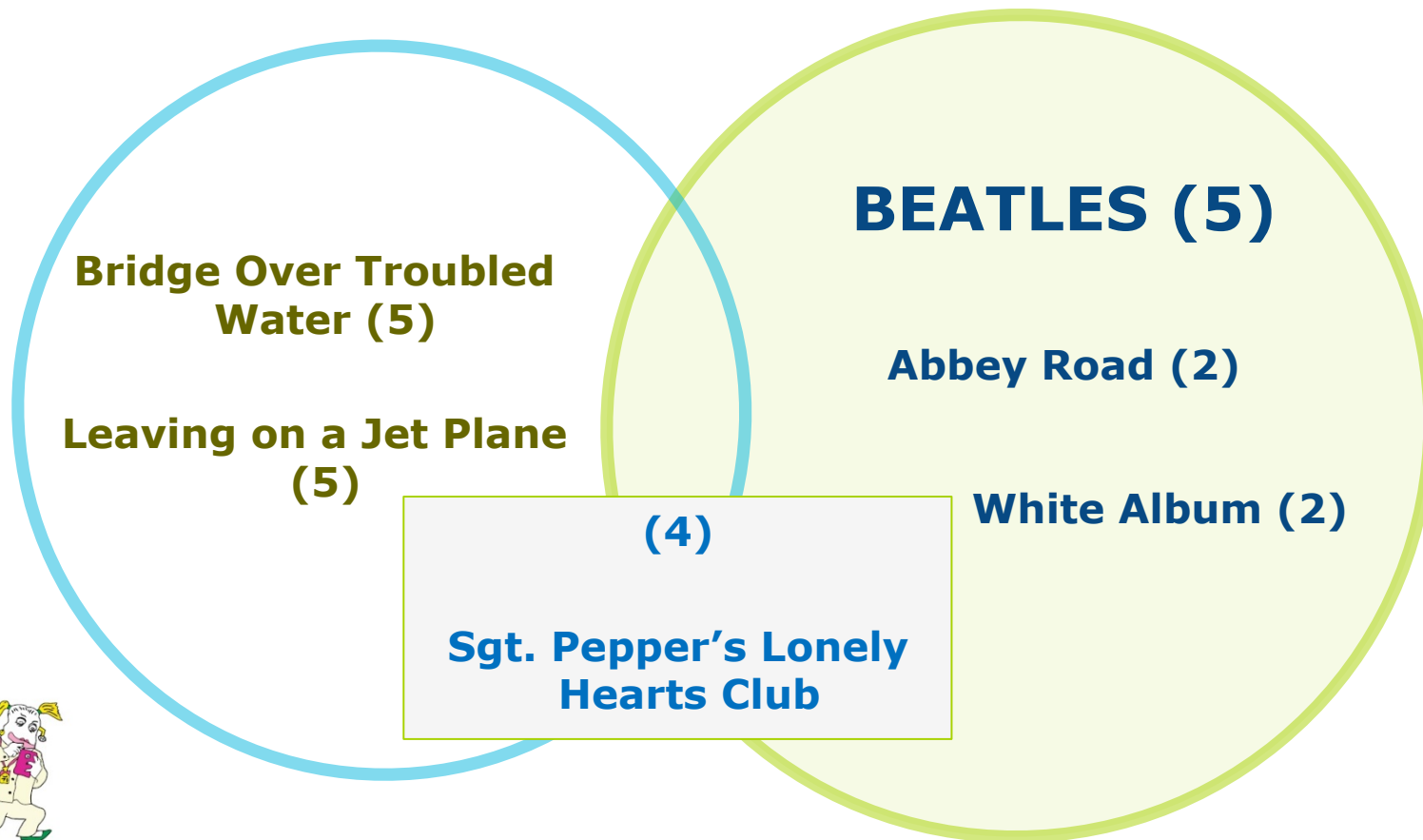
Q54: While at Smith, did you partake of any illegal substances (ex. alcohol)?

➤ Answered: 115 Skipped: 17



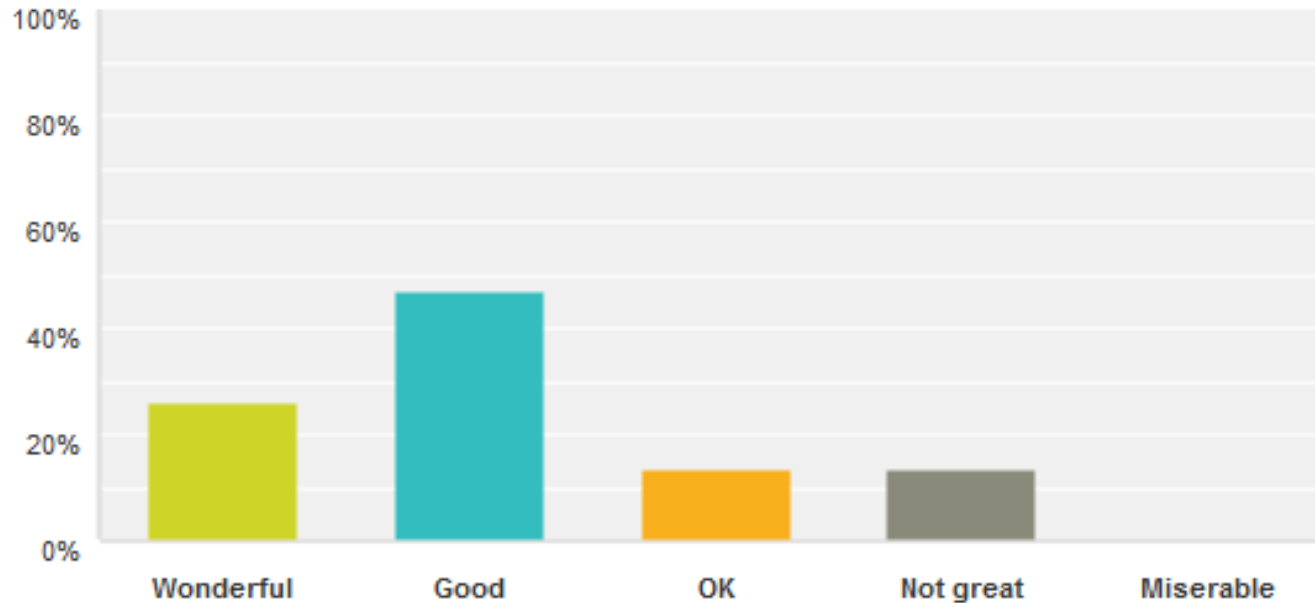
Q30: What song snaps to mind as most evocative of time at Smith?

➤ Answered: 91 Skipped: 41



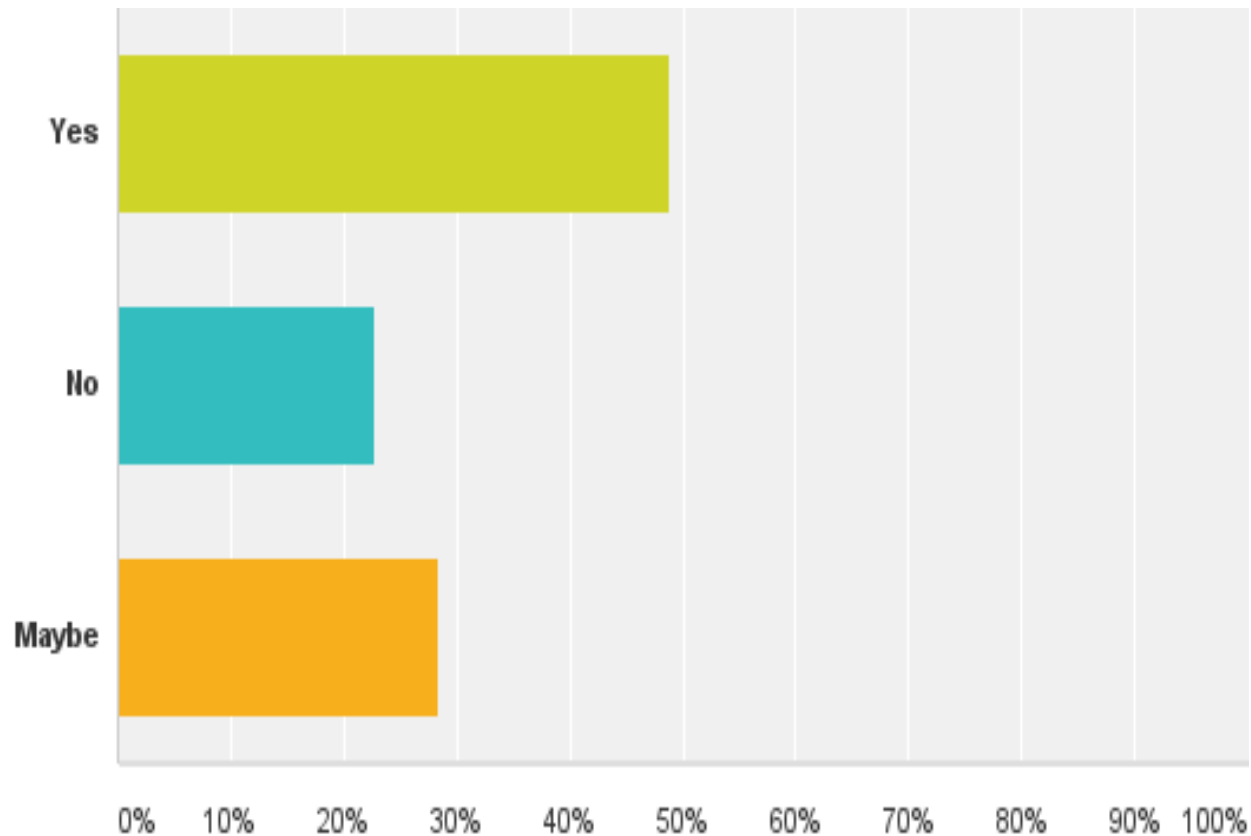
Q32: How would you describe your Smith experience overall?

➤ Answered: 126 Skipped: 6



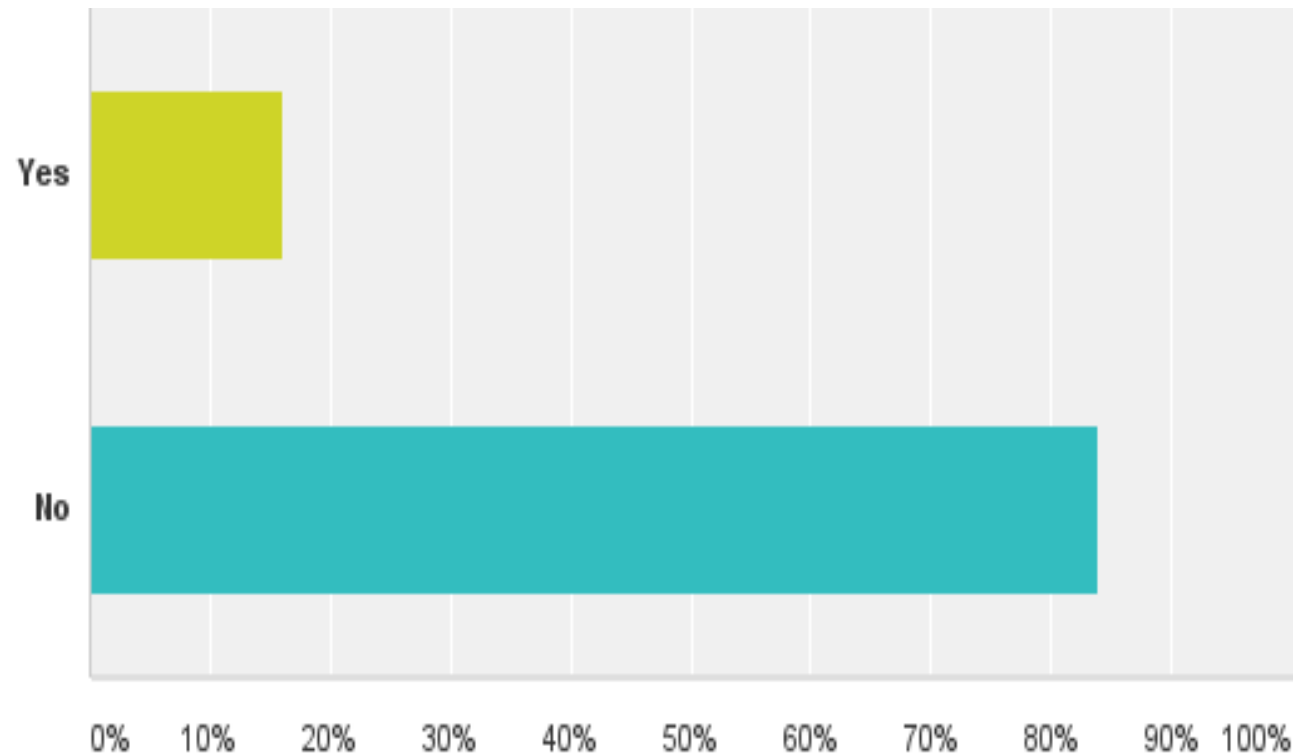
Q33: Would you choose Smith again?

➤ Answered: 127 Skipped: 5



Q34: Should Smith go co-ed?

➤ Answered: 118 Skipped: 14



Q65:Diary entry after first week?



*"I have stepped **through the looking glass** into a whole new, very different world from the one I grew up in."*



Q32: How would you describe your Smith experience overall?

1967-1971...

"No, I wouldn't describe it (my college experience) as classic or fun...it was all too fraught"



Q32: How would you describe your Smith experience overall?

"A Perfect Storm"

"Something in the combination of place and time...our own stage of development, what was going on in the world, how we responded...."



Q31: Most significant event



1968 Fast for Peace





Peace Rally, October 15, 1969





People's Lobby



Student Strike, May 1970





Student Strike, May 1970

Q45: Encountering
“Otherness” (differences from our pre-
Smith lives)

Religion

Sexual Orientation

Ethnicity

Socioeconomic Status

Foreign Nationality

Race

Q45: Encountering “Otherness”...

THEN...

“My first boyfriend from Amherst was African-American. I thought he was amazingly cool. My parents tried to pull me out of Smith...”



Q45: Encountering “Otherness”...

THEN...

“My freshman roommate was gay (I am straight) but I didn’t realize it until long after we graduated. So oblivious!”



Q45: Encountering “Otherness”...

THEN...

“...I didn’t pay attention to how vastly different other people’s experience of Smith might be.

I missed out on an opportunity!”



Q45: Encountering "Otherness"...

THEN...

"I thought it was just part of going to a new place with people from many different places"



Q45: Encountering "Otherness"...

NOW...

*"I am more aware
that I have
'blind spots'"*



Q56: "Issues or causes" involved with at college, that have persisted?

Women's rights



Q56: "Issues or causes" involved with at college, that have persisted?

"I felt driven to pursue work that would make a contribution and could help others...."



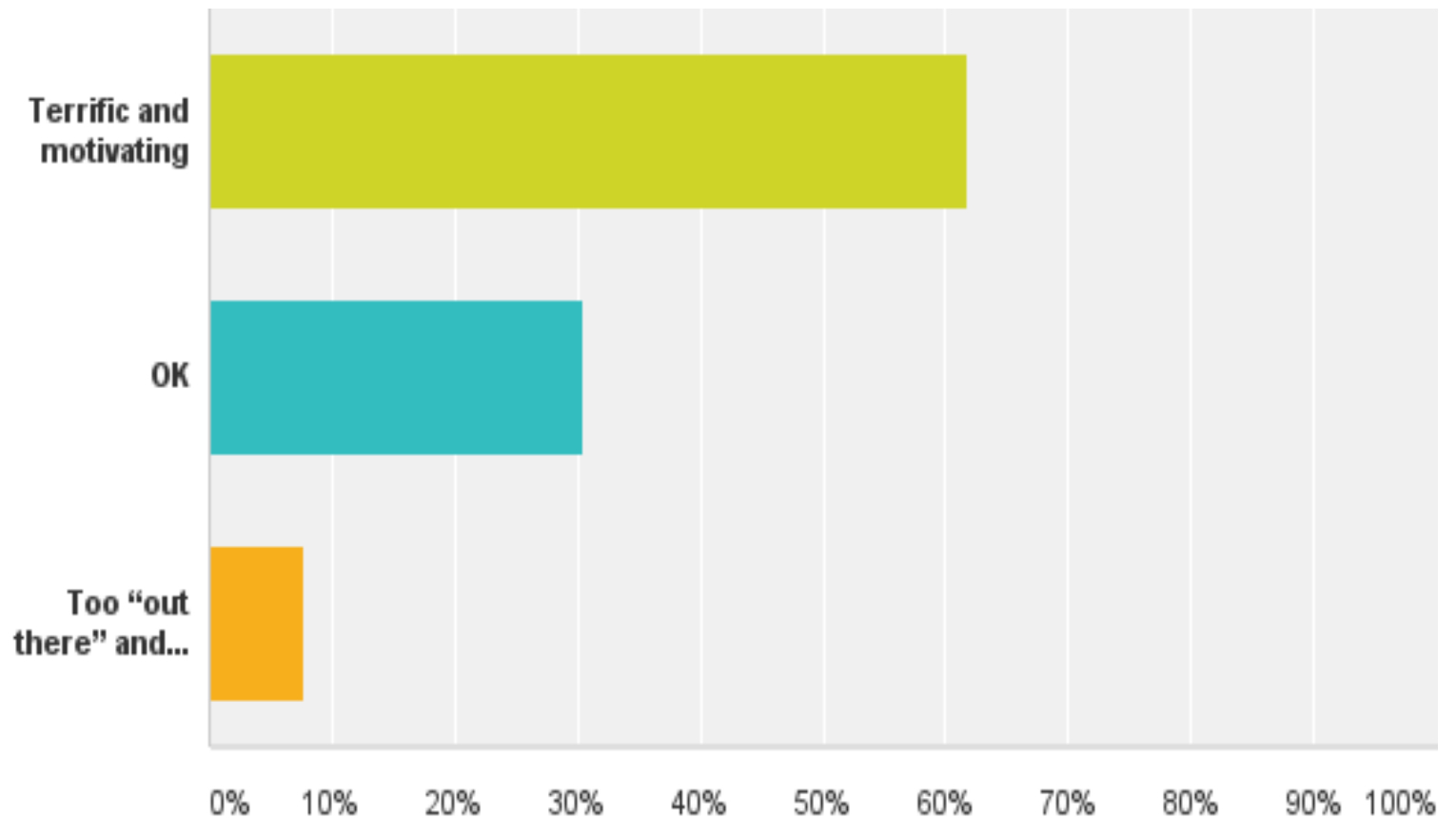
Q56: "Issues or causes" involved with
at college, that have persisted?

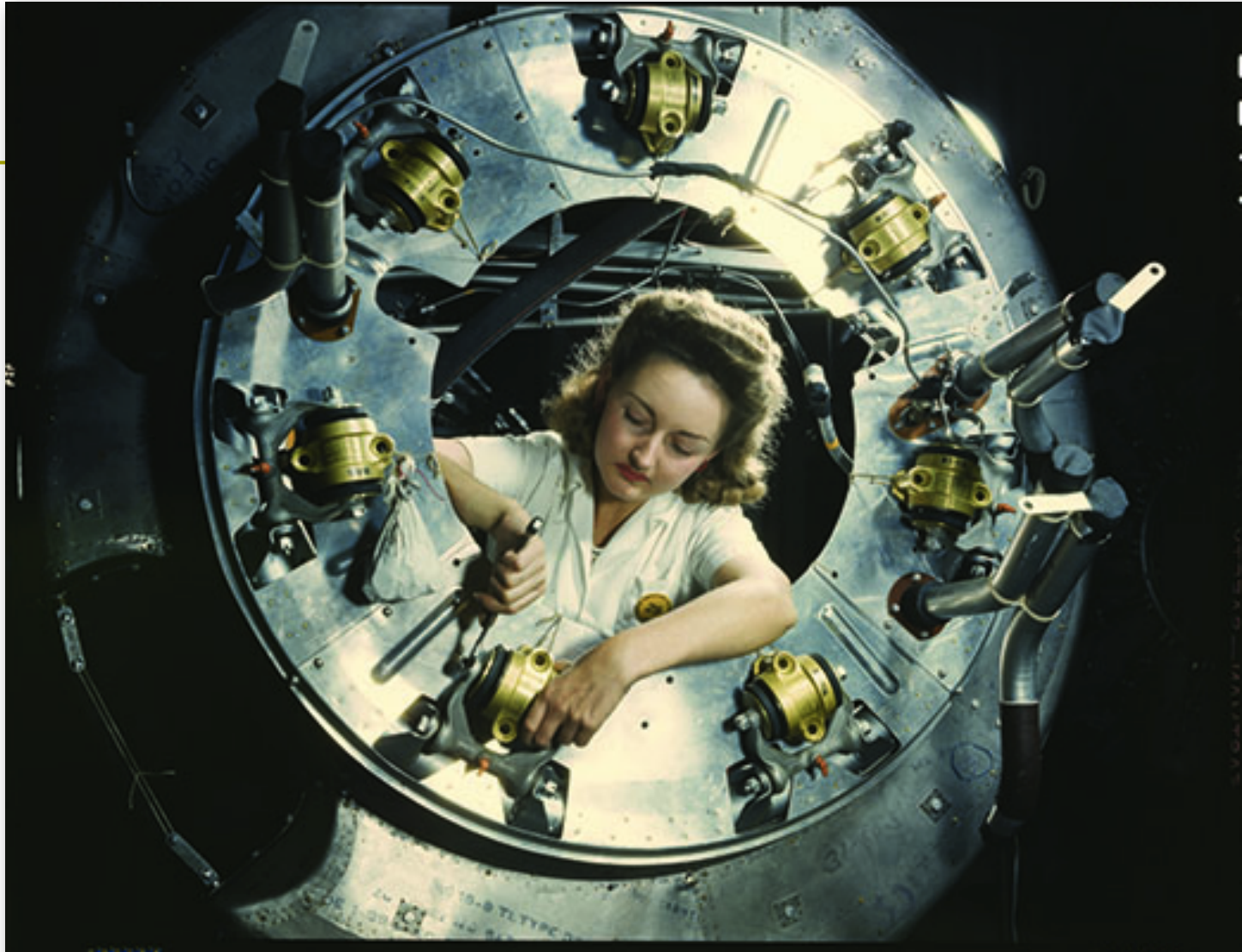
*"Skepticism about
U.S.-led wars may
have come mostly
from Smith years..."*



Q57: Did you consider Gloria Steinem's commencement speech:

➤ Answered: 118 Skipped: 14











Q37: Your diary **a year from now...**

*"What diary?
What blog?
Maybe you mean
my Facebook
wall?"*



Q37: Your diary **a year from now...**

"How the @%%#\$ would I know??"

*"If there's anything I've learned over these years, it's that **life can bring BIG surprises.**"*



Q36: If you won the lottery?...many answers were creative and specific

- Take jazz piano lessons with Helen Sung
- Buy a very impractical Miata
- Buy a home at sea level and have horses
- Build a greenhouse for my orchid
- Buy an apartment building that all my friends and I could age in together – with staff!
- Perform random acts of kindness



Q36: If you won the lottery and spent it on yourself...

- Overall winners **by a mile** were TRAVEL and SECOND HOMES
- Patches on remodeling, personal support, private jets, cosmetic surgery, erase debt
- Interesting run on Foundations



Q37: Your diary **a year from now...**

*"What's next?
I'm ready!"*

*"I feel like
I'm ready for
**one more big
adventure..."***



Q37: Your diary **a year from now...**

*"My Smith
education and
experience is the
gift that keeps on
giving!"*



THANK YOU!!!

- Lois Fulton, Survey and template designer
- Nanci Young, Smith College Archivist
- Annie Croteau, IT Wizard, Alumnae House
- Molly Bouffard, Music Wizard, Alumnae House

IMAGES

- Smith College Archives
- "Real Rosie the Riveters: Rare Color Photos From WWII," *Readers Digest*

