

UNDERSTANDING THE COLLECTIVE PERSPECTIVE OF PUERTO RICO SOCIETY ON ABORTION: ATTITUDES, BELIEFS AND BEHAVIORS

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Introduction

In 2022, Puerto Rico reported approximately 4,200 abortions, reasons behind women's thoughts on this topic have not been reported. In 2017, three-quarter of Puerto Ricans living in rural areas expressed opposition to abortion. Study aims to understand Puerto Ricans' perspective concerning abortion, identifying factors that influence opinions and beliefs.

Methods

Validated questionnaire will be completed by the respondent. Descriptive and analytical study will be analyzed.

Results

- N=200 (150 women and 50 men) respondents completed the questionnaire.
- Women (62.86%) responded that the decision of abortion should be of the “women-only” and men (55.56%) responded that decision should be from the “women and partner”.
- Based on the highest educational level, respondents with doctorate and baccalaureate feel oriented the most about abortion and reported receiving appropriate education. But more than half of them does not feel oriented about abortion.
- 45% of the women and 55% of the men reported having recommended the abortion procedure for themselves or for someone else.
- Factors that influenced their opinion; 60% of women and 89% of men responded, “evidenced based medicine”, followed by “religious beliefs” with 38% of women and 11% of men and the third one “family opinion” with 28% of women and 22% of the men.

Table 1: Decision should be

	Women	Men
Women only	62.86%	41.44%
Women and Partener	30.17%	55.56%
Women cant make the desicion	6.97%	3%

Graphic 1: How oriented you feel about abortion based on highest educational level

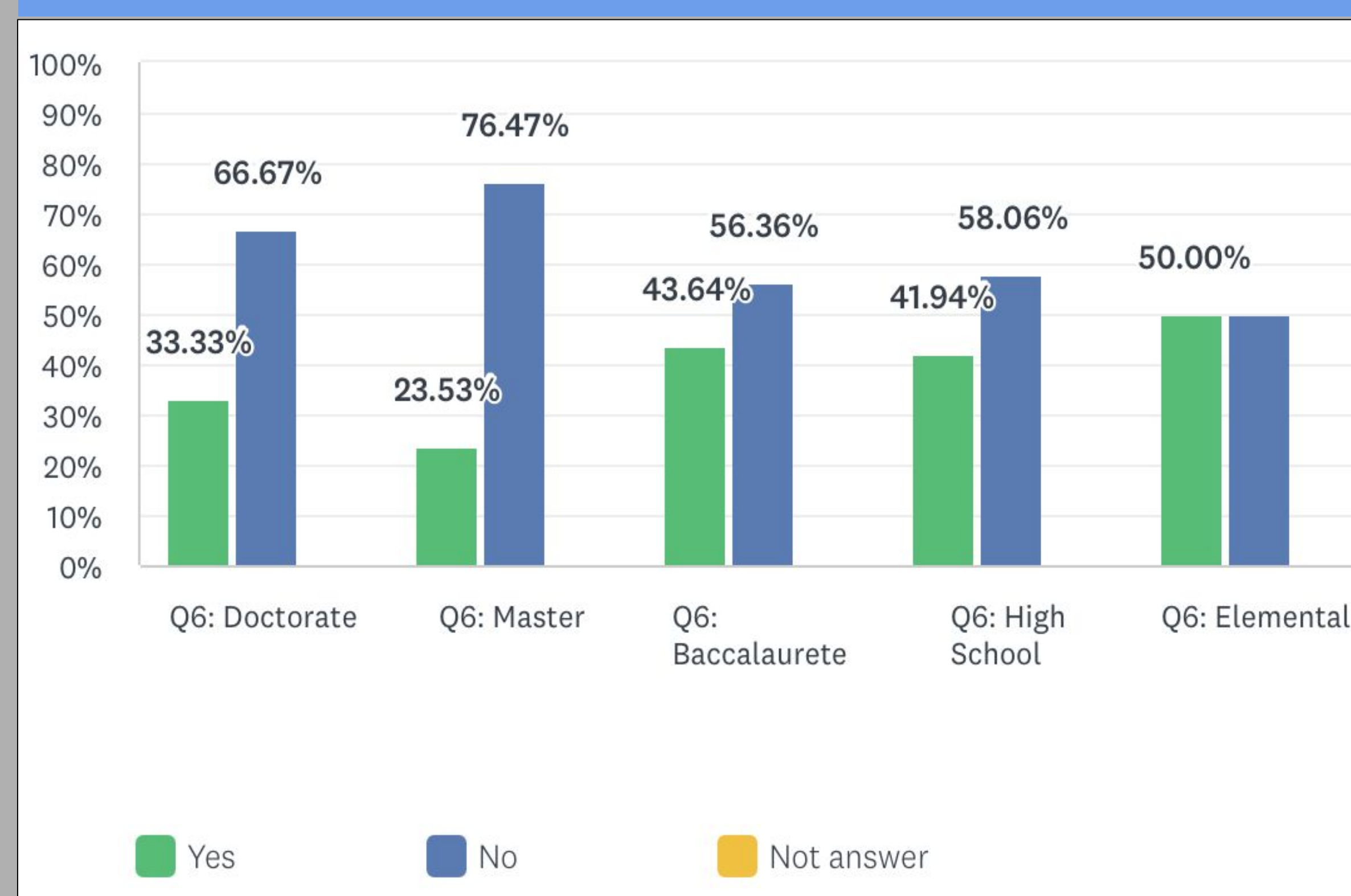


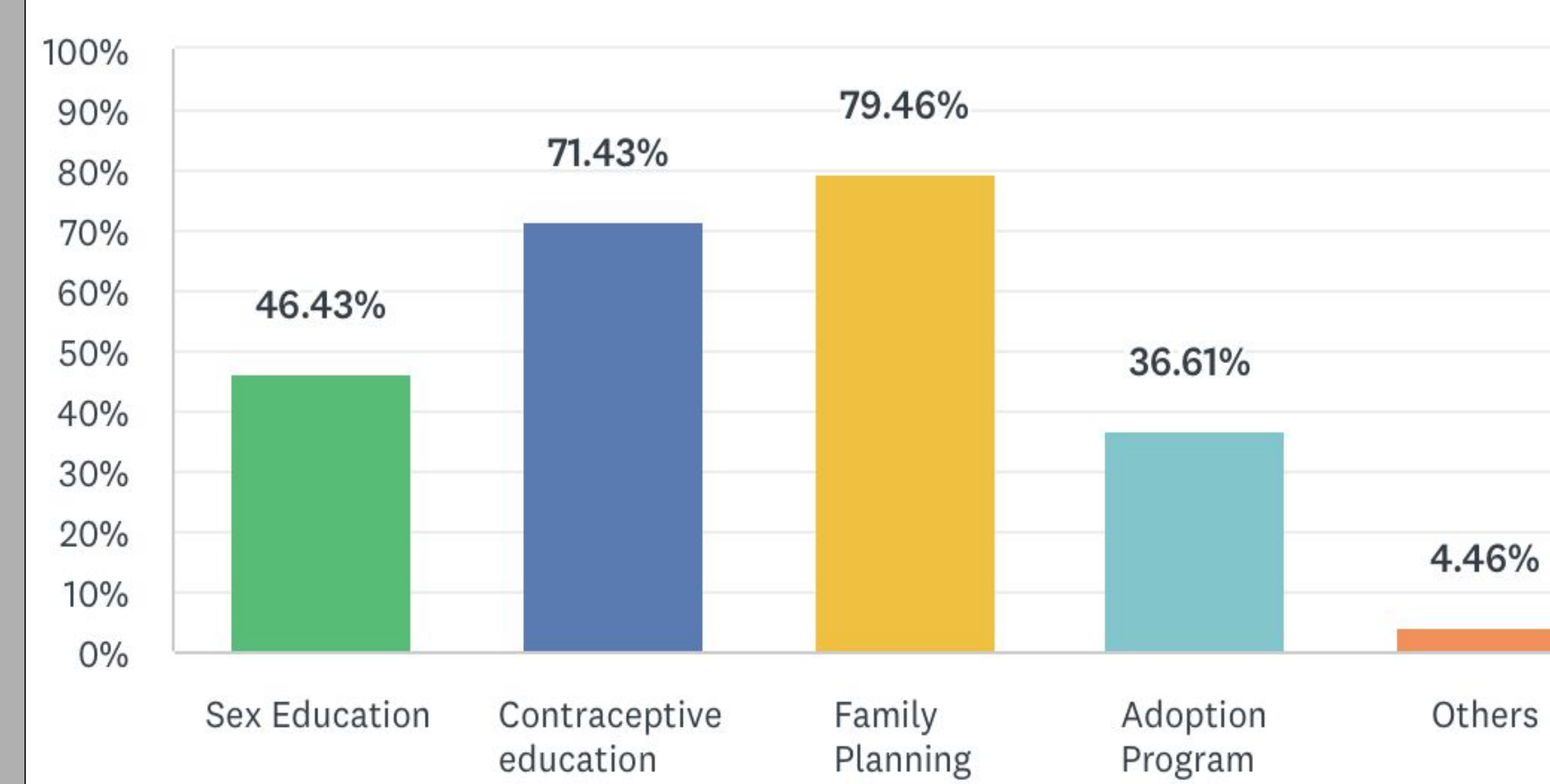
Table 2: Have you recommend abortion to someone.

	Women	Men
Yes	45.00%	55.00%
No	55.00%	45.00%
Never	0.00%	0%

Table 3: What influenced your opinion based on gender

	Women	Men
Religion	38.00%	11.00%
Family Opinion	28.00%	22.00%
Politics	1.23%	4%
Personal Experience	25%	22.00%
Evidence based Medicine	60%	89%
Society Opinion	9.88%	8%
Puerto Ricans Culture	9.88%	4.00%
Not answer	3.70%	4.00%

Graphic 2: Based on your opinion; Puerto Ricans need more education in



Conclusion

Different opinions exist concerning abortion. Socioeconomics, religion, cultures, gender, among others play a critical role in opinion. Our findings reveal that our population needs education, which is essential for promoting health, safety, autonomy and reproductive rights. Giving accurate information we can empower individuals to make informed consent decisions and ensure legal abortion services for those who need them.

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