

# FAMILY OR CAREER? FAMILY PLANNING OF STUDENTS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

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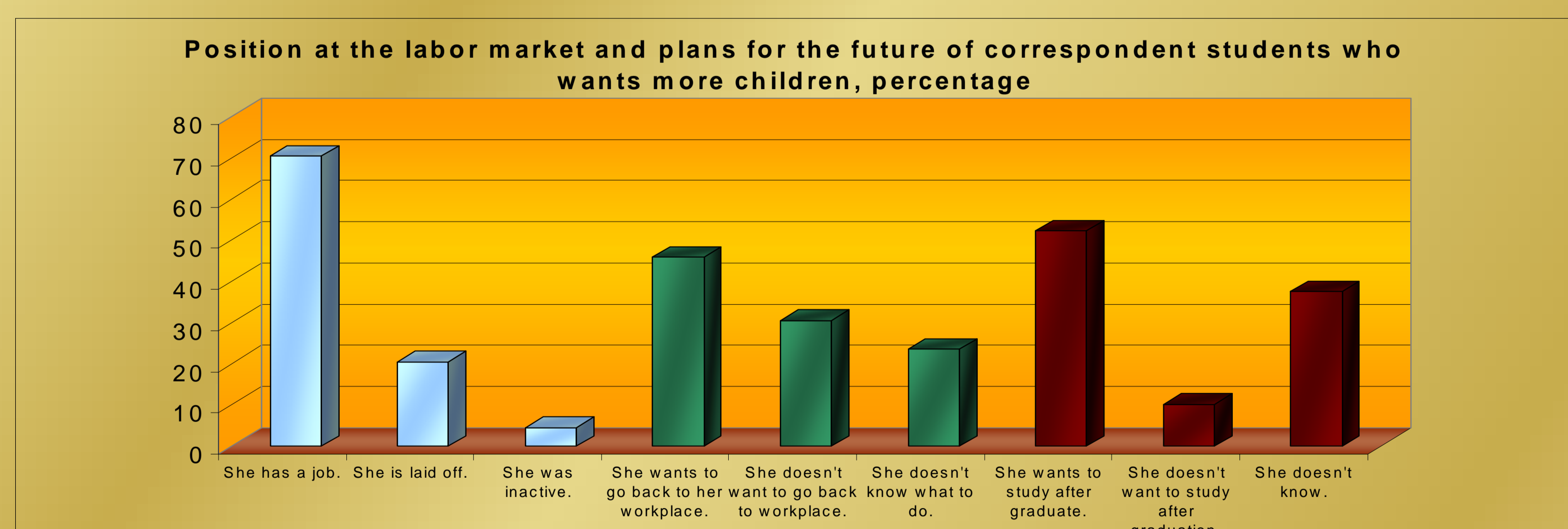
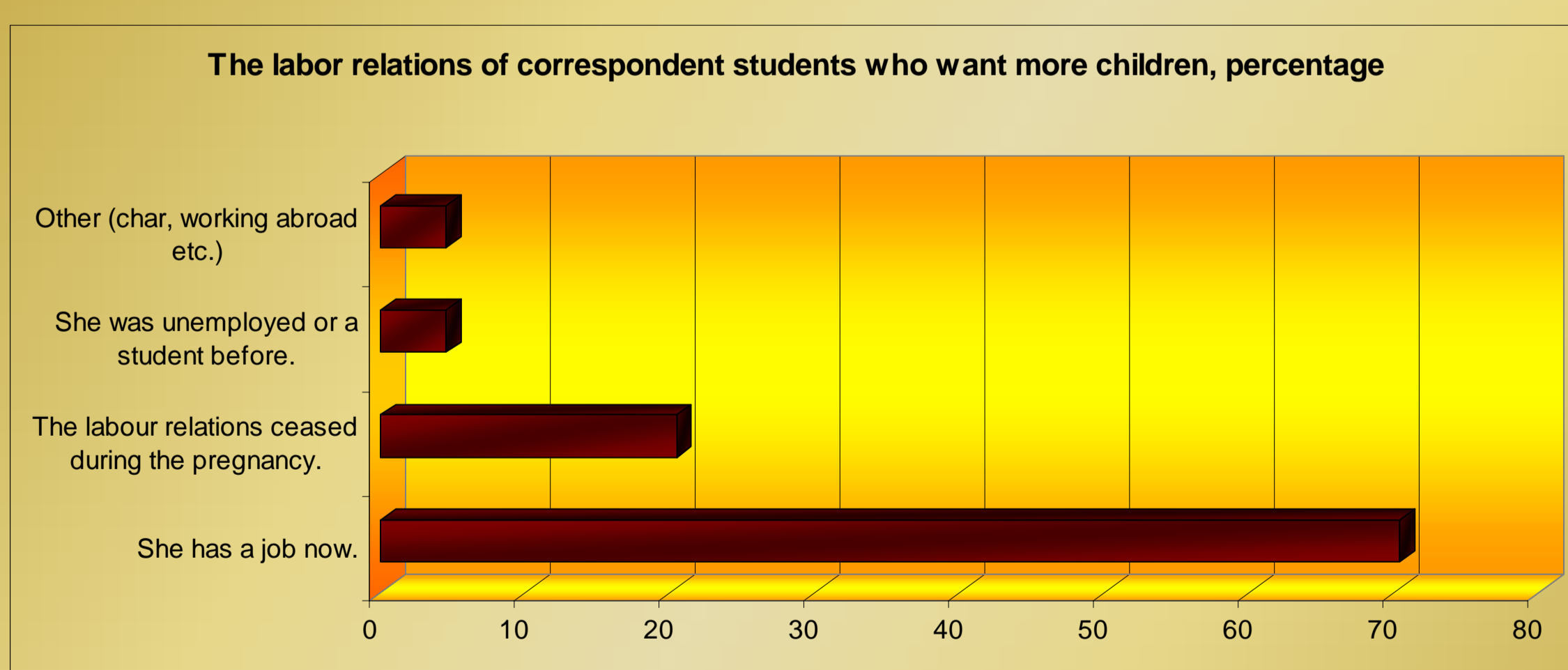
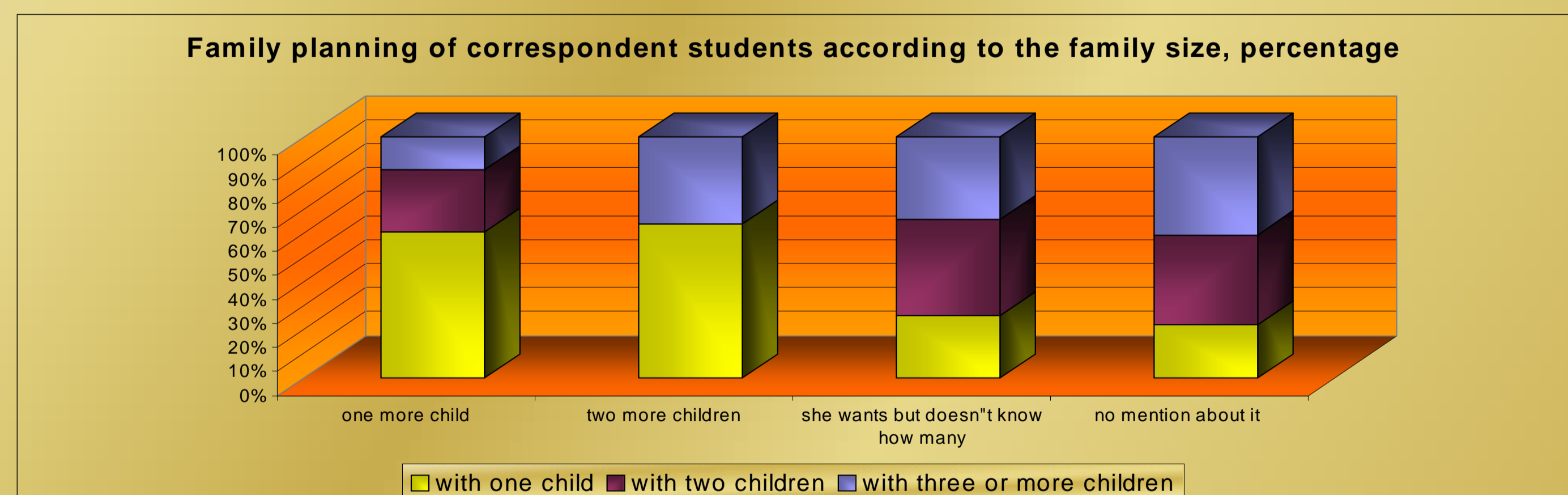
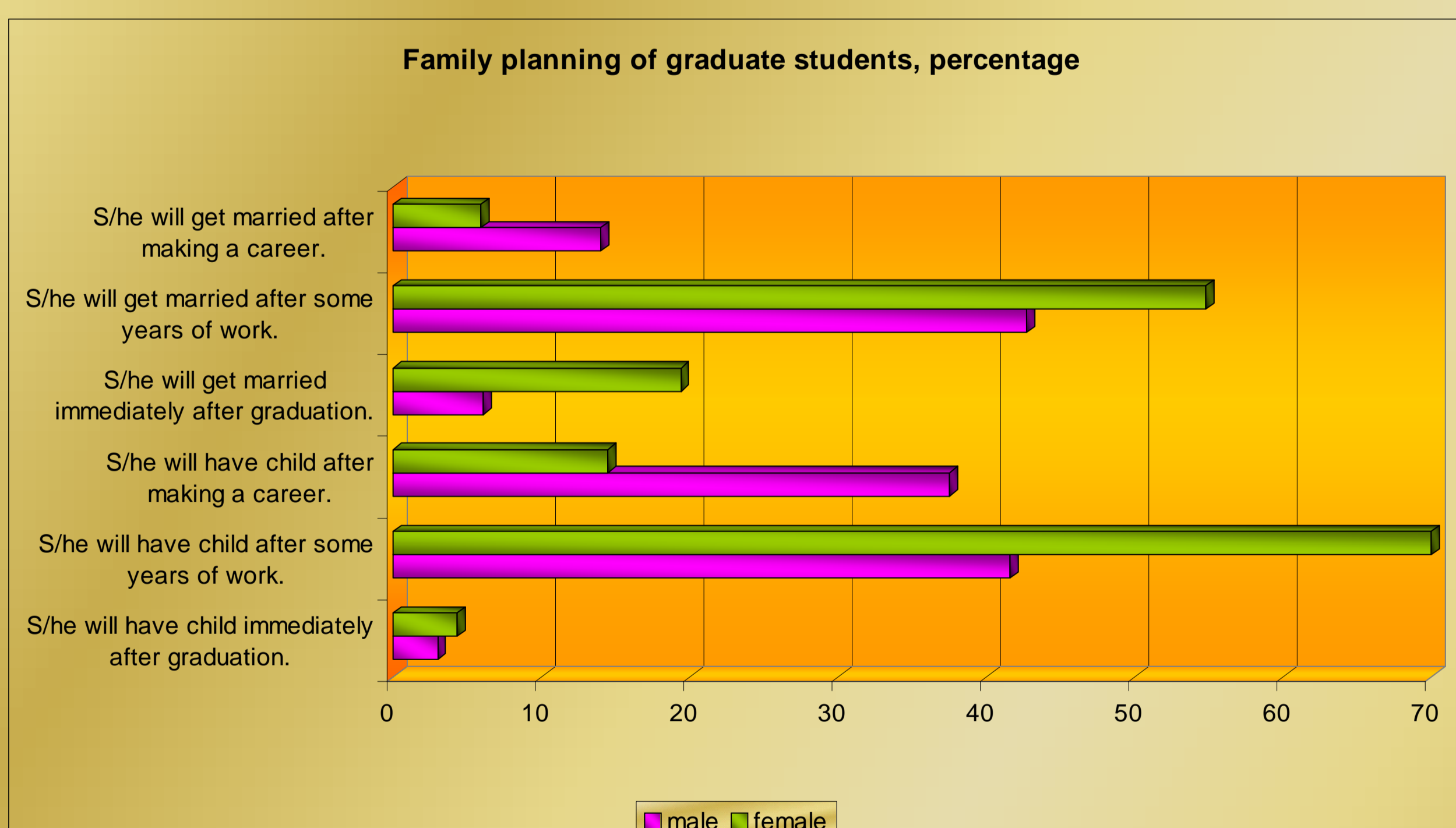
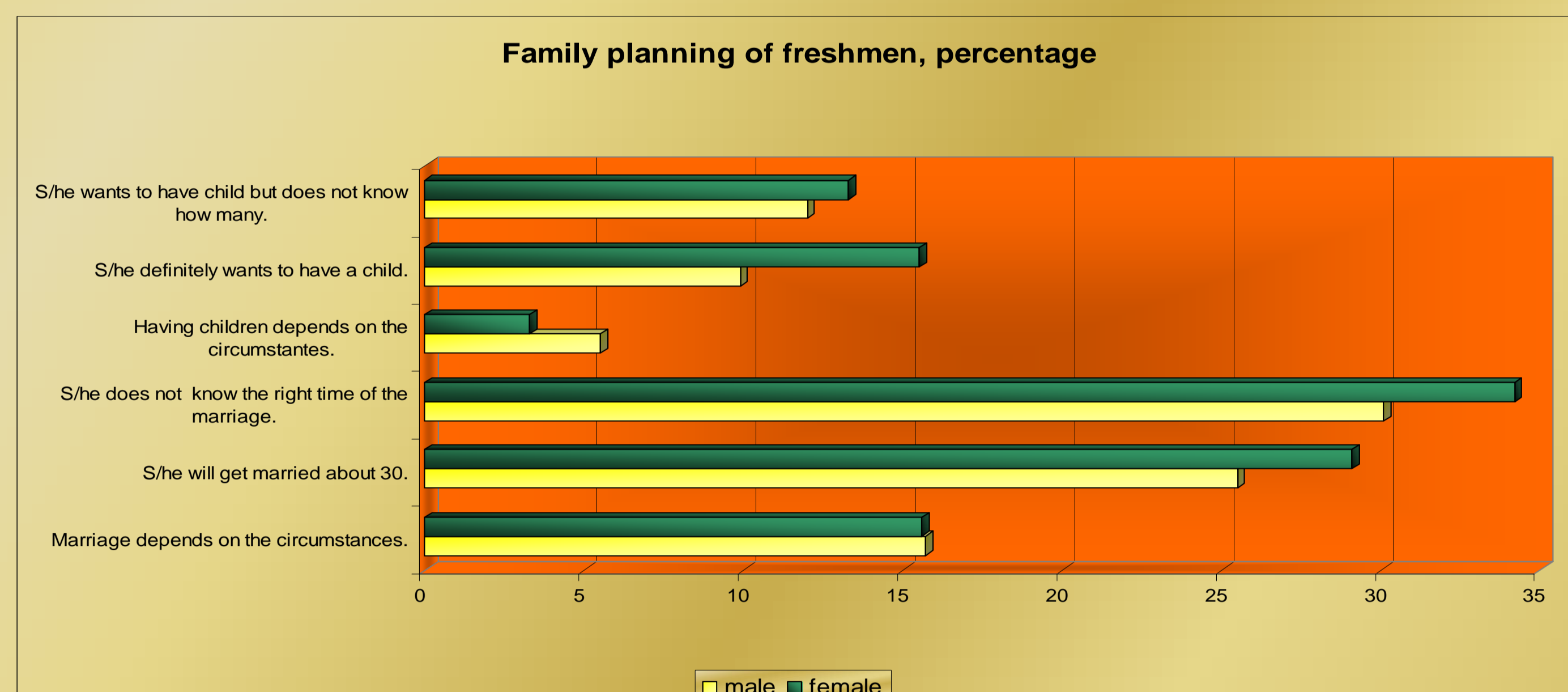
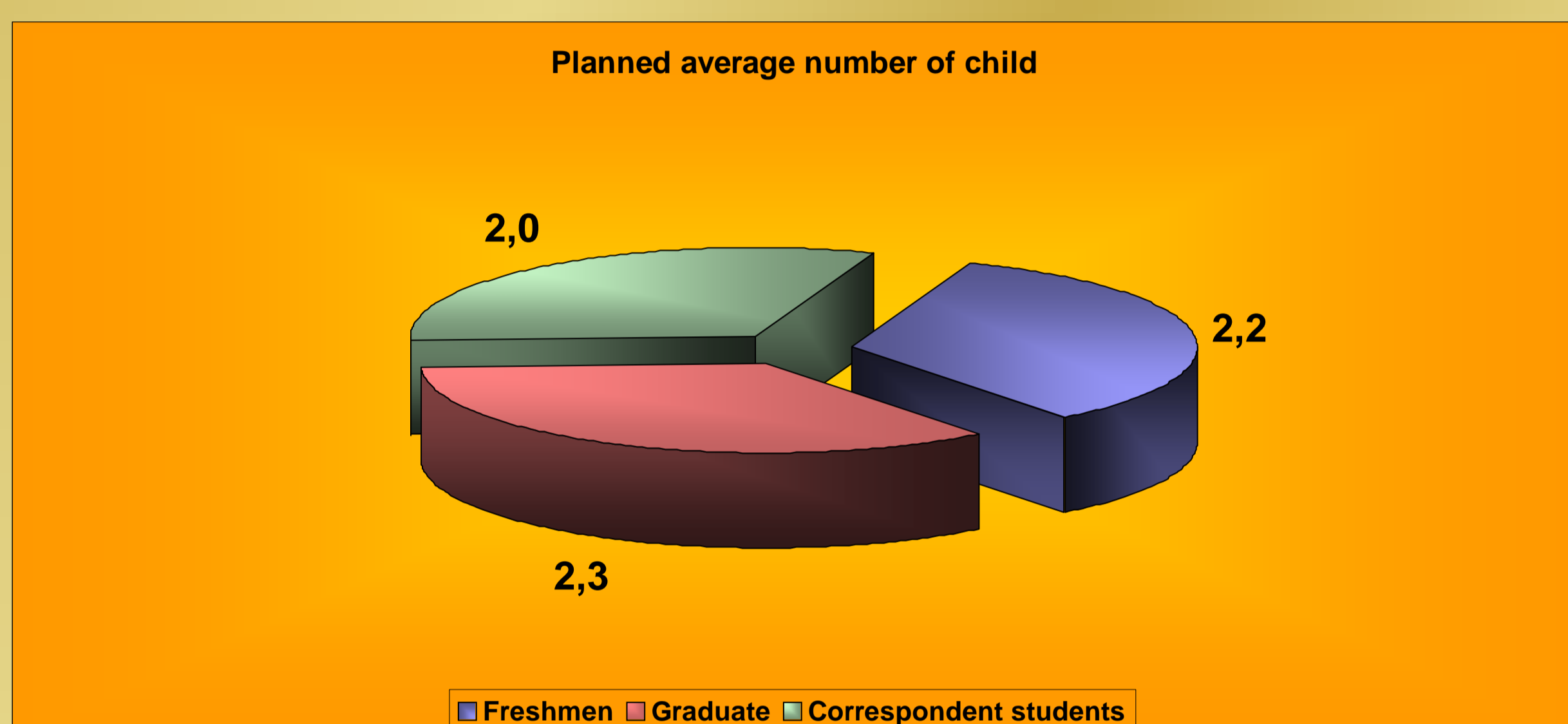
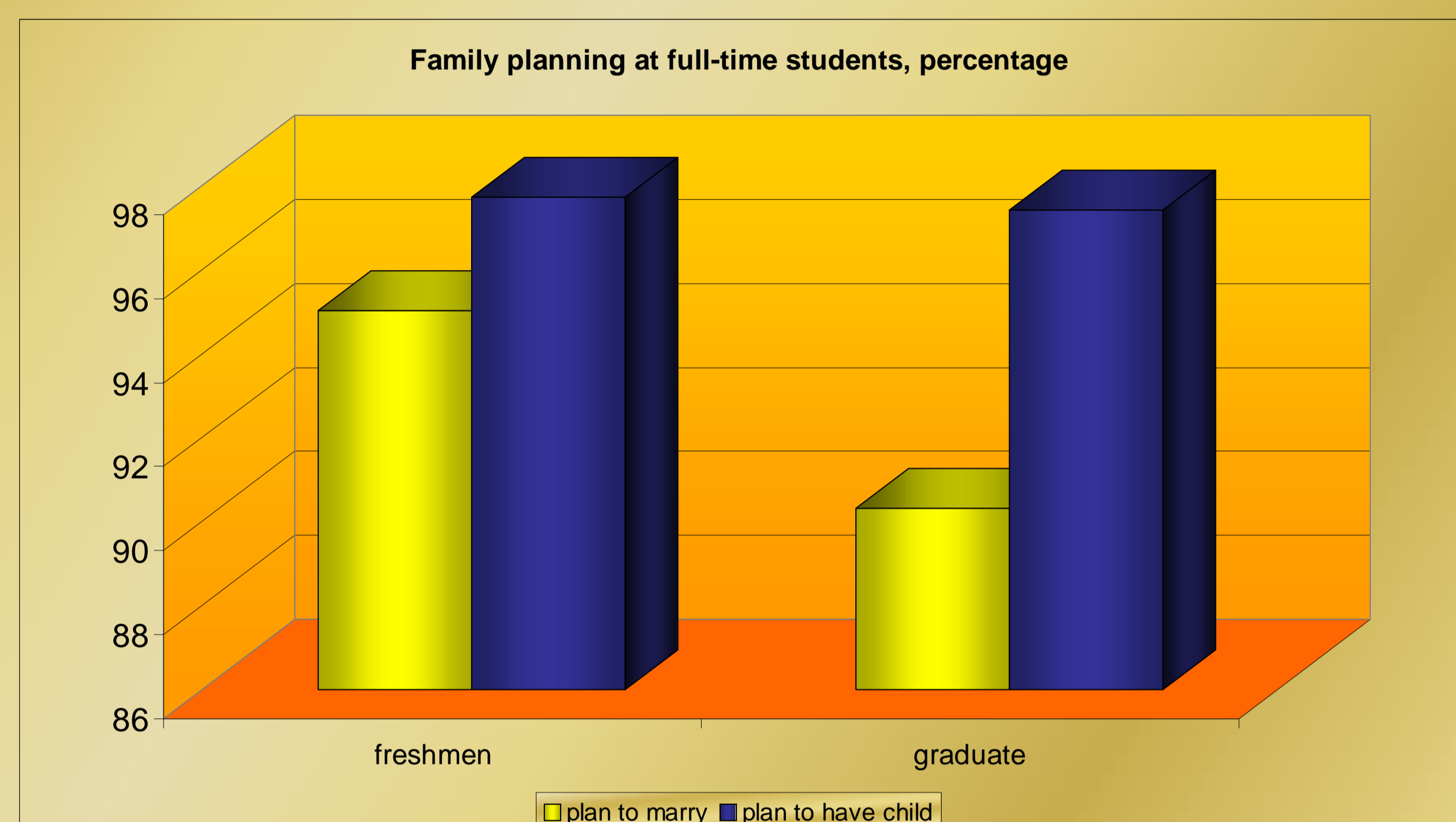
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The „Regional University” research team, which functions at the University of Debrecen, carried out a survey among freshmen. The sampling (N=1500) happened in four institutes: at the University of Debrecen, at the Partium Christian University, at the College of II. Rákóczi Ferenc Kárpátalja and at the College of Nyíregyháza. In an other „Regional University” research (N=1100) students before graduation were asked in the same institutes. The third research (N=226) was interested in the attitudes of students who, partly or completely, have already started a family, namely who enrolled education besides bringing up a child (or children). All the three surveys contain questions regarding the students’s future what were applied researching the plans of the students for future.

- ◆ We presume that in cases of the full time students starting a family will shift.
- ◆ We expect that these young adults do not follow the traditional family planning, namely, after graduation, they do not want to married.
- ◆ The bringing up of one, or at the most two children is expected only after getting a degree, and after some years of professional practice at the labor market.
- ◆ Probably the future-plans of the population with children will differ, since they cannot chose between family and career, they study besides family life and work (or maybe they worked before). This means that the planning of a next child is not influenced by the establishment of financial security or work-experience, but the preparation or support of the next life period.

Marital status among the students, percentage

	rate of married	rate of parents
<b>Freshmen</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>1,3</b>
<b>Graduate</b>	<b>2,1</b>	<b>0,6</b>
<b>Correspondent students</b>	<b>83,9</b>	<b>100</b>



## Conclusions:

- ◆ Almost all the full time students want to get married and have children, thus they follow the traditional family planning in this regard. The average number of children they plan is about 2,2-2,3, which would be sufficient for the population’s reproduction if it was realized. The average number of children of correspondent students is less than the childless full-time students’ (2), up to the present it is 1,7.
- ◆ Starting a family lingers for the majority of full-time students, after the graduation they do not want to married and rear children. The group of freshmen is uncertain in the date of having a family, and think it depends on the circumstances, the students before graduation are more resolved since they first want professional practice at the labor market. Women plan to start family after some years of work (it is needed to get child care allowance), men want to make career first of all. The students would like to substantiate their existence before starting a family . It seems that they do not choose career before family but chronologically they bring work forward.
- ◆ Correspondent students want to have more children if they have a job , and will return to their workplace. The element of uncertainty like unemployment, ceased labor relations, ceased workplace decreases the chance of the next child.