

Do Data from Large Personal Networks Support Cultural Evolutionary Ideas about Kin and Fertility?

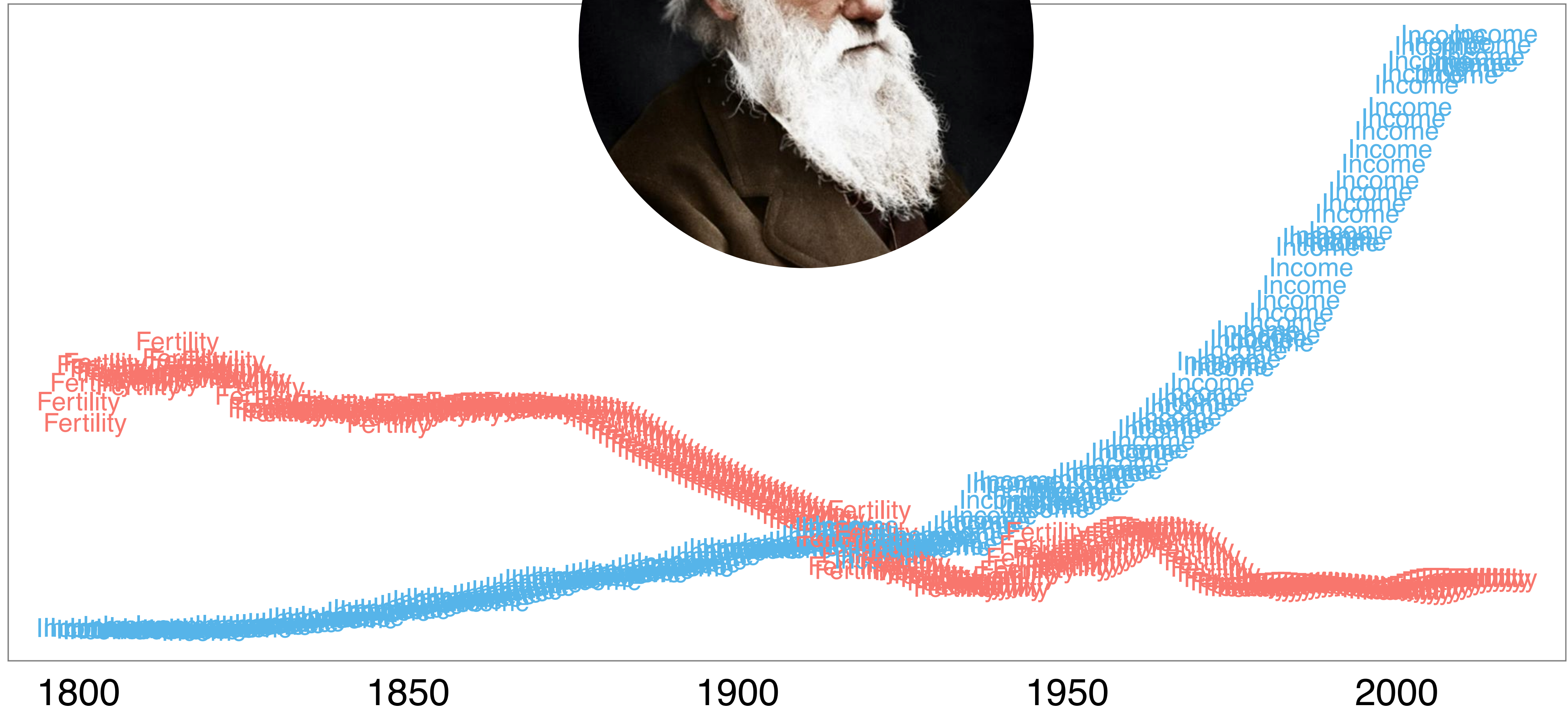
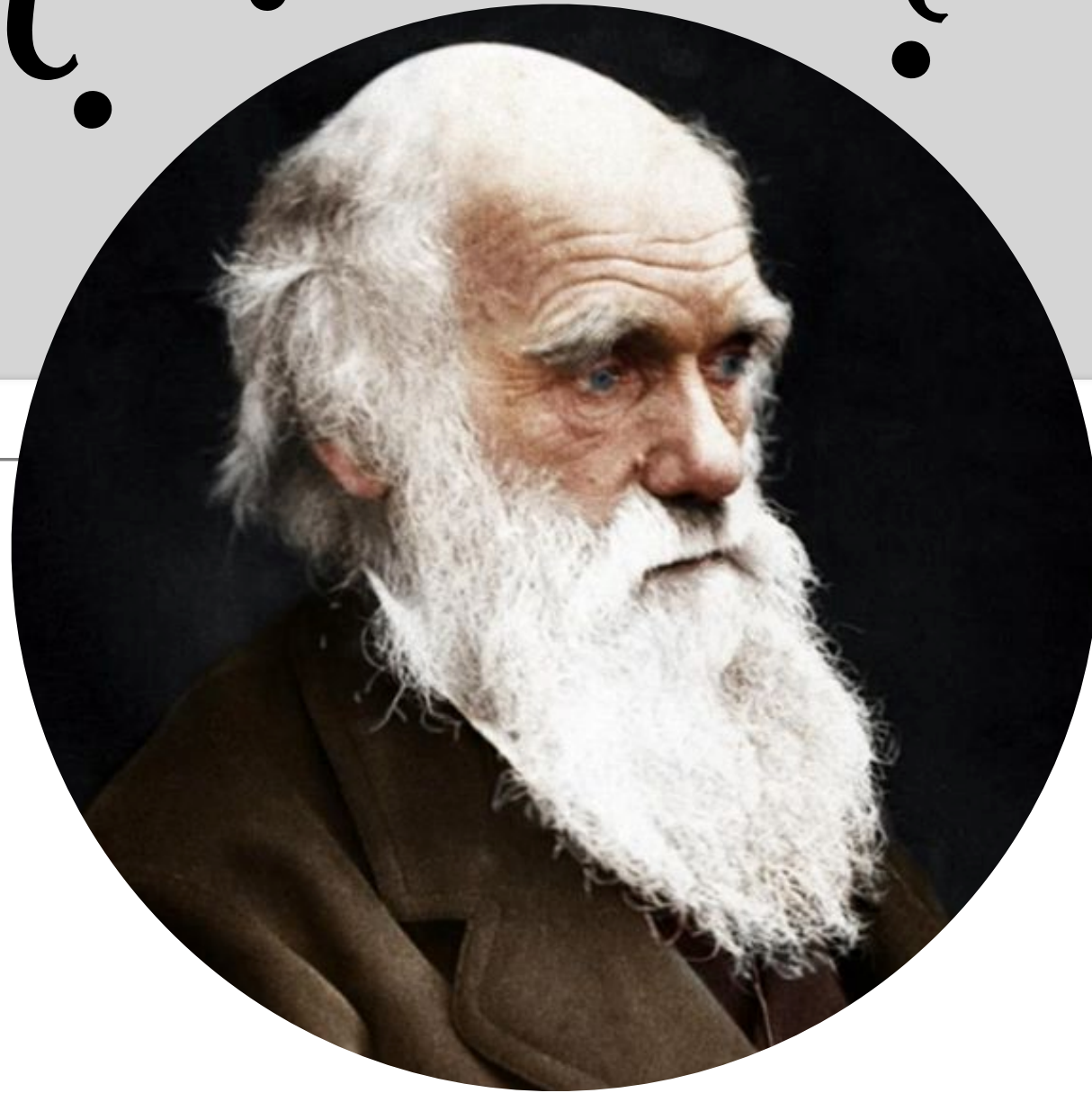


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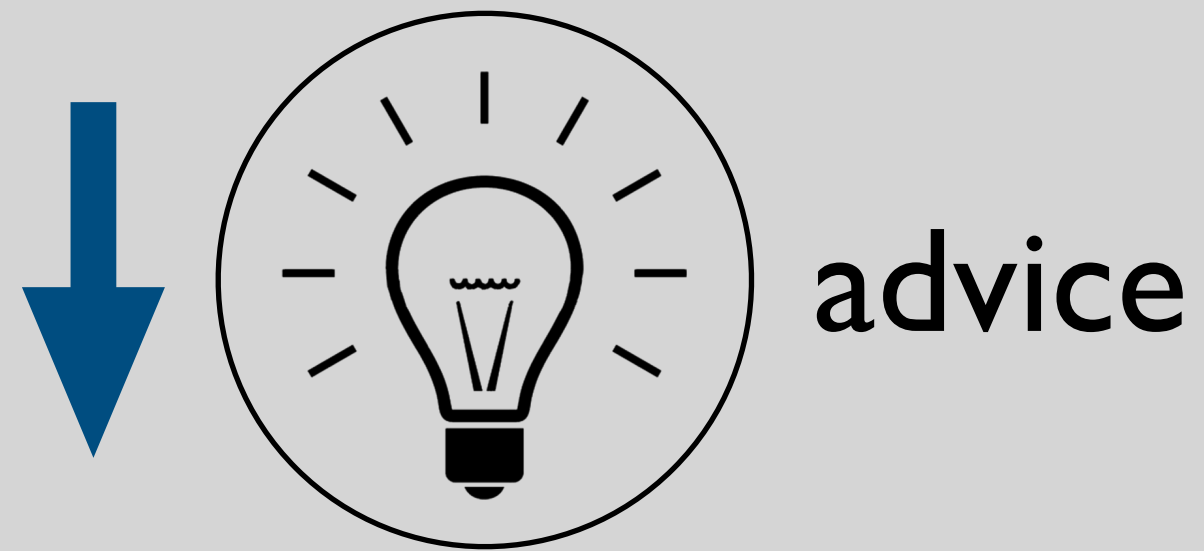
Louise Barrett

???



The Idea

increasing modernisation,
means fewer kin around,
less support available,
fewer pro-natal sentiments,
anti-natal norms more likely

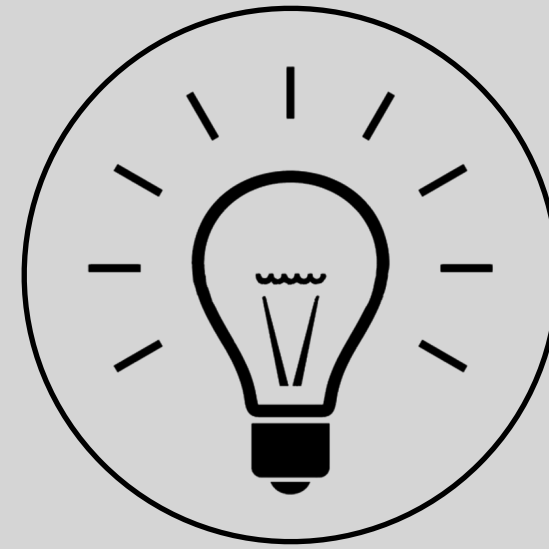


↓ fertility
kin in network

Aims



support



advice



pressure

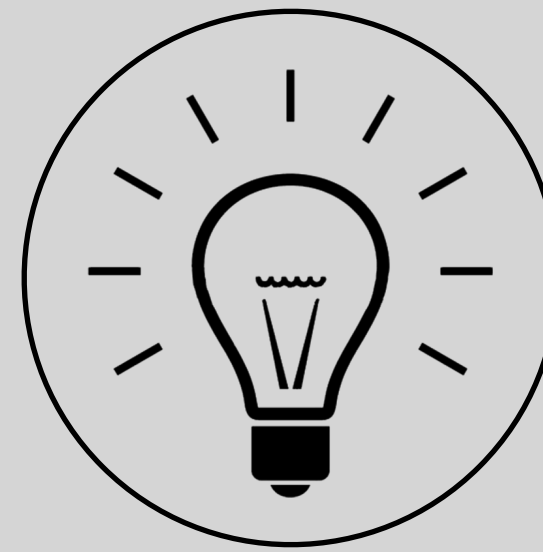
do kin[*-rich, dense networks*]
provide more ...

Methods

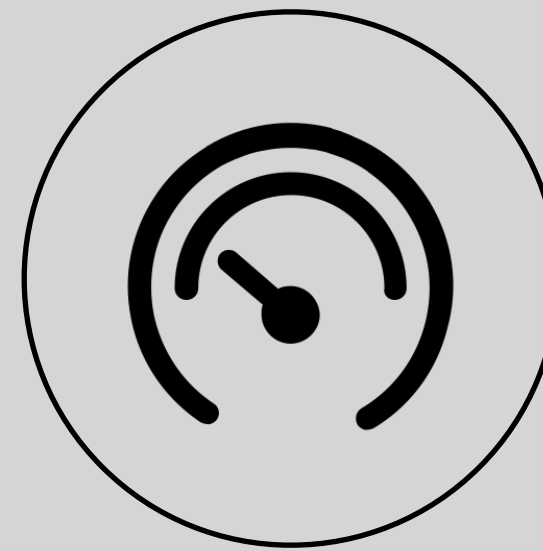
Representative sample
706 Dutch women
ages 18 - 41
25 alters
kin/non-kin



Which of these 25 individuals
could you ask for help with care
for a child?



With whom of these 25 individuals
do you discuss having children?

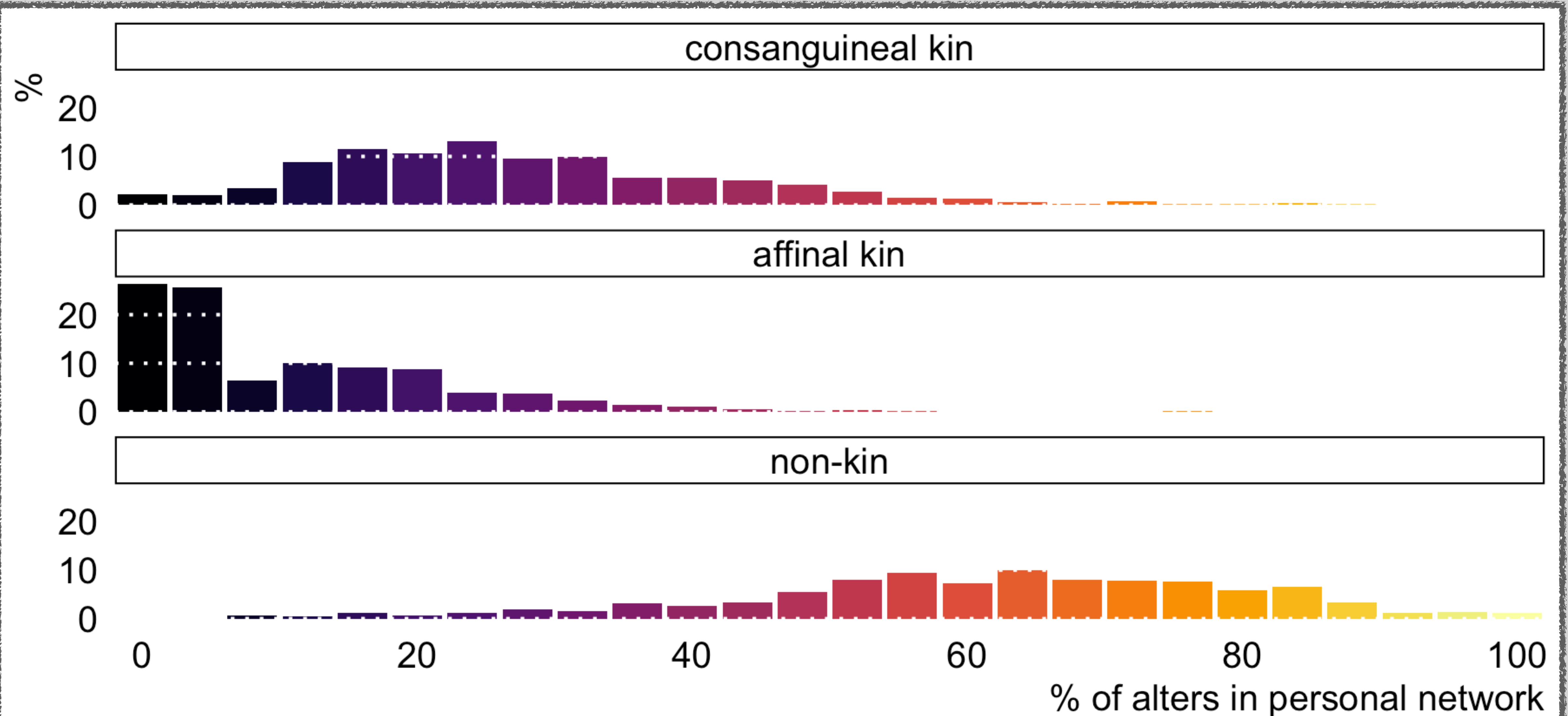


[My parents/caretakers] [Most of
my friends] think I should have
(more) children

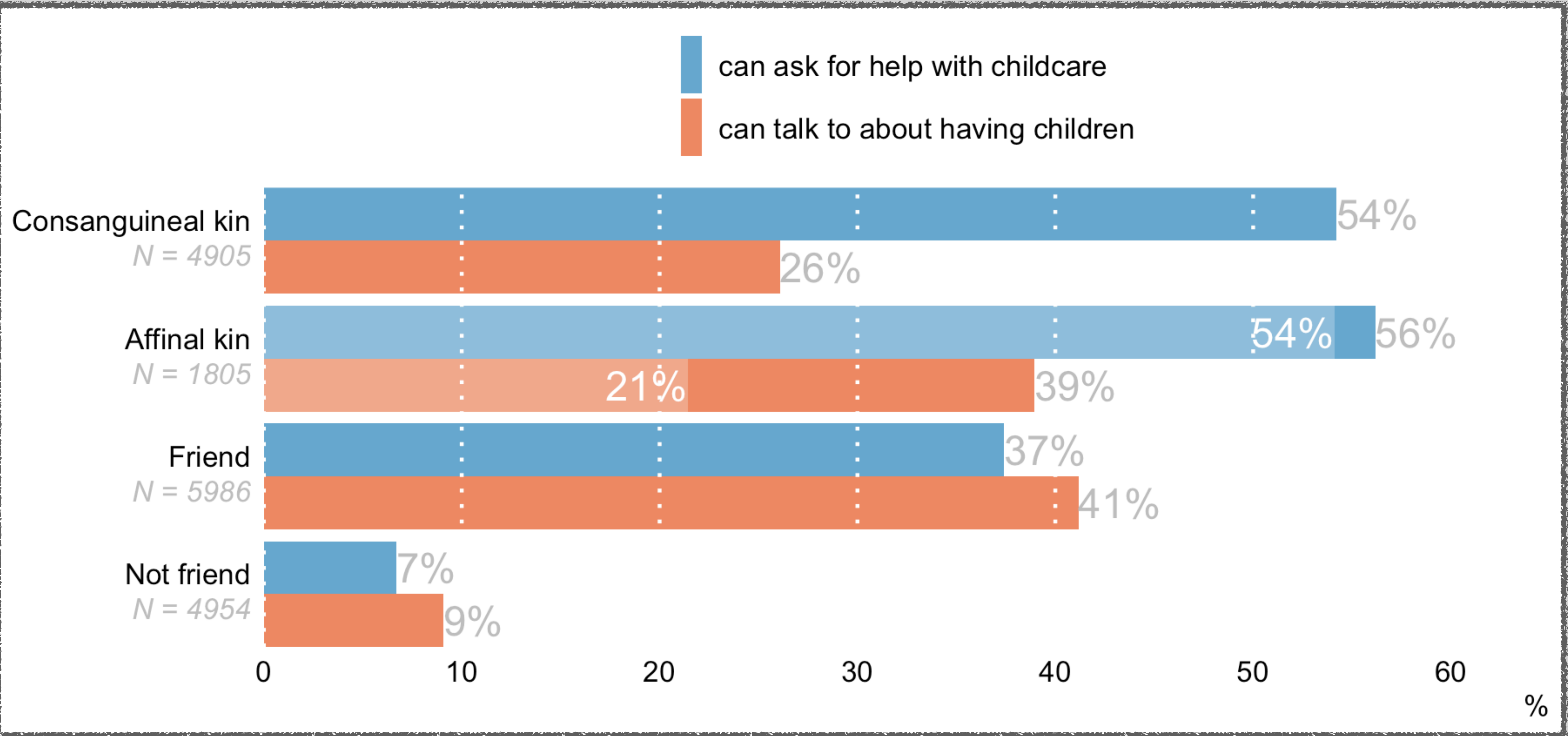
Study Design: Summary

respondents	17,650 alters	network	outcomes
706 Dutch women	consanguineal kin	composition	help with childcare
	affinal kin	density	talk about having children
	friend		pressure parents
	not a friend		pressure friends

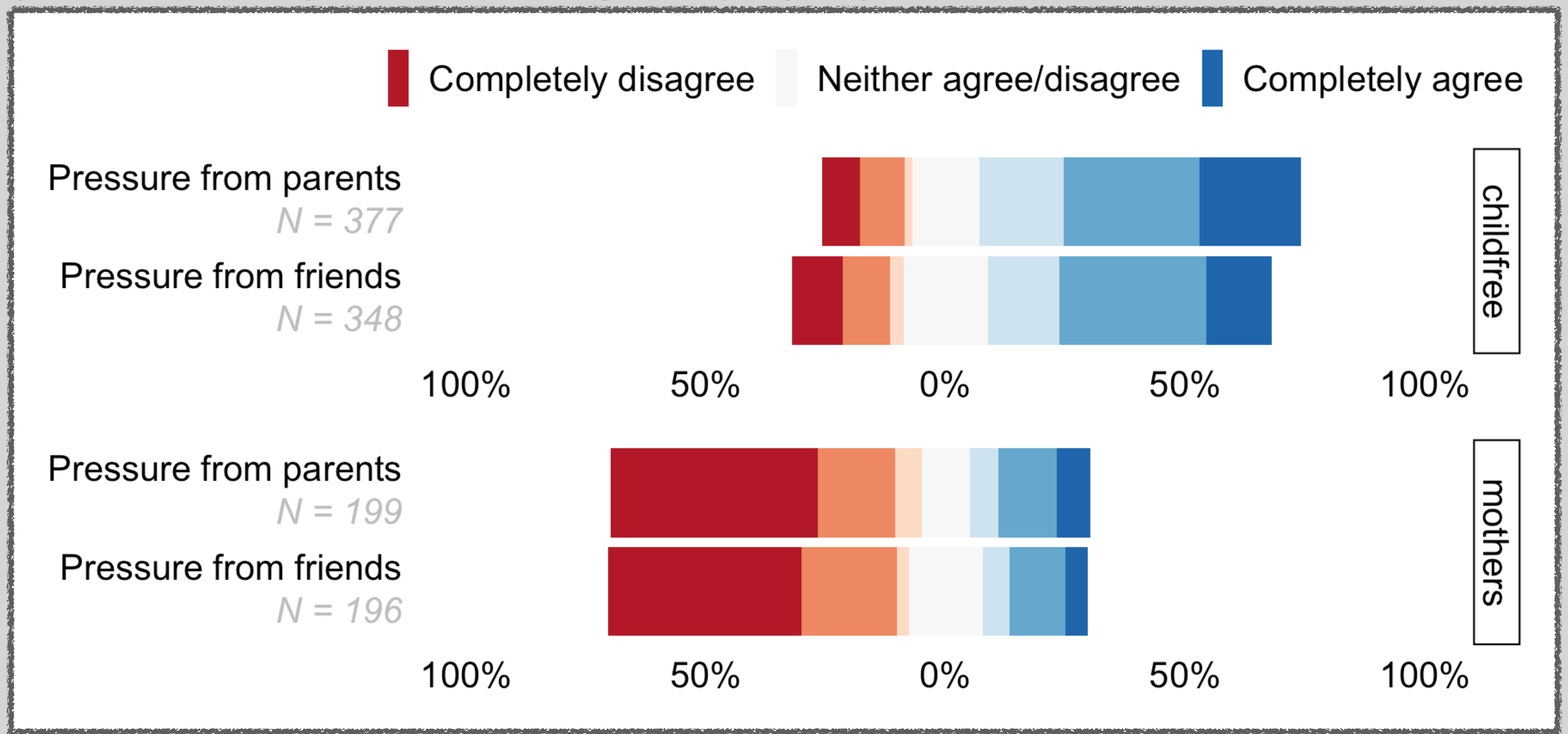
Women had on average 30% consanguineal kin, 10% affinal kin, and 60% non-kin in their personal networks



Kin can help most with childcare, although friends as well, friends are talked to most often about having children



Childfree women perceived more pressure than mothers,
pressure from parents similar yet slightly higher than from friends



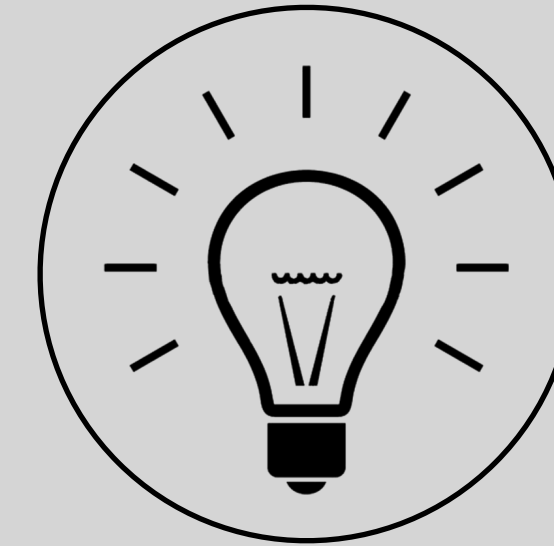
Is Kin More Pro-Natal?

- ✓✓ kin most, friends often
- ✗ more kin, less support per-capita
- ✓ denser networks, more support



support

- ✗✗ friends more likely than kin
- ✗ more kin, less advice per-capita
- ✓ denser networks, more advice



advice

- ✓ slightly more pressure from kin
- ✗ more kin, hardly more pressure
- ✗ denser networks, no extra pressure



pressure

Conclusion

kin does not seem to be overwhelmingly pro-natal

network characteristics important for fertility outcomes

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