

Mothers’ reports of non-resident fathers’ involvement with children in Lithuania

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INTRODUCTION

- Frequency and quality of personal contact with father is beneficial to the child’s well-being in the post-divorce families (Amato& Gilbreth, 1999)
- Economic support provided by fathers improves the overall living conditions of children (Amato, 2005)

CONTEXT

- TDR in Lithuania has been high (around 0.45) for almost four decades
- Shared custody is rather an exceptional praxis
- Transitional society: “Baltic way”– neoliberal capitalism (Bohle, Greskovits 2007)
 - ✓ Market radicalism, less advancement in industrial transformation
 - ✓ High inequality&social exclusion

AIM OF THE PAPER:

⇒to identify the factors that determine the nonresident father’s involvement with children and economic support

DATA:

⇒“Lone Mothers, Poverty&Social Exclusion”
⇒cross-sectional survey (N=800) conducted in 2014
⇒R= single mothers

RESULTS: Descriptive analysis

Figure 1. Frequency of non-resident fathers contacts with children in the past 12 months

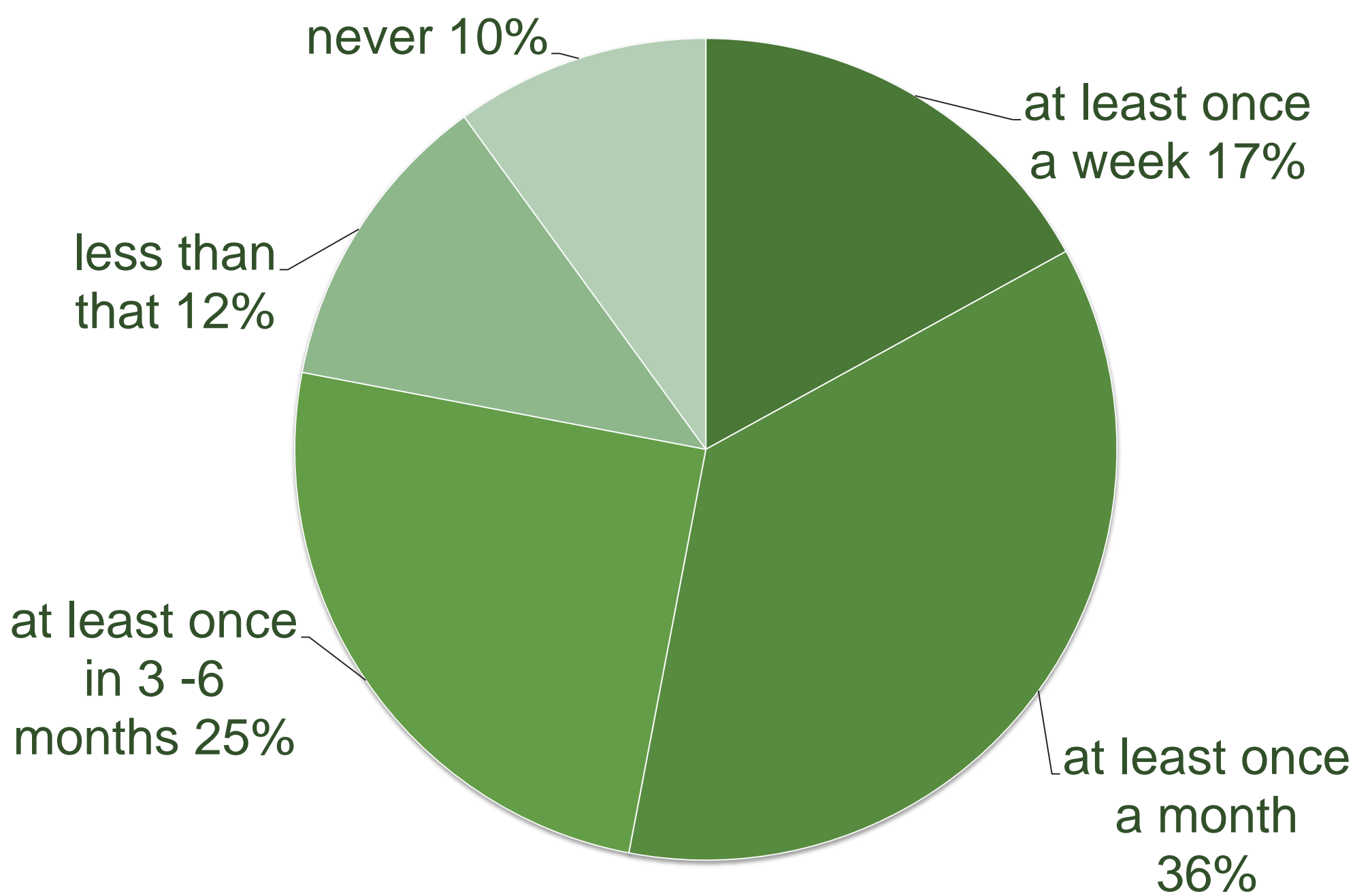


Figure 2. Economic support of the children by non-resident fathers after divorce/union dissolution

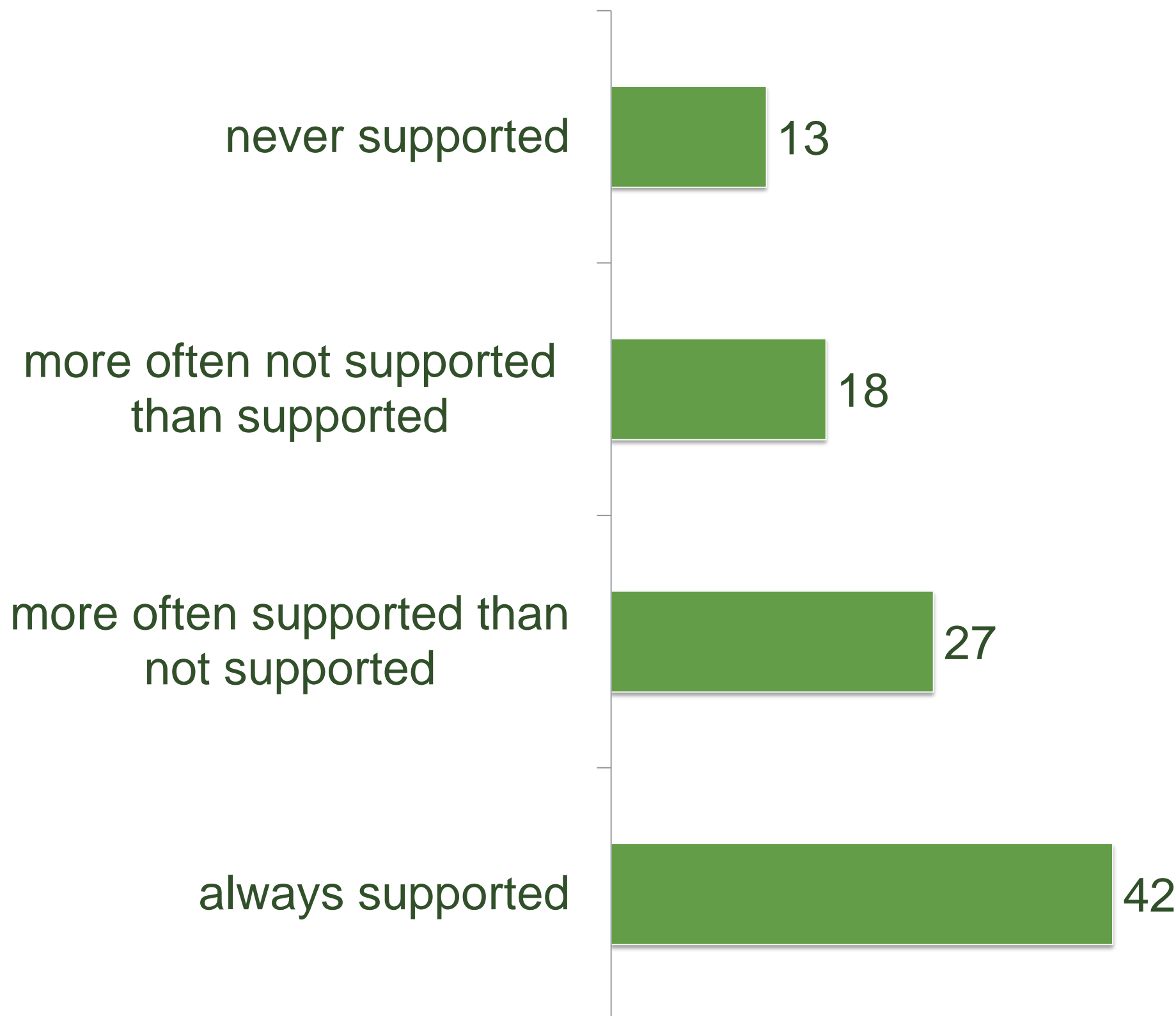
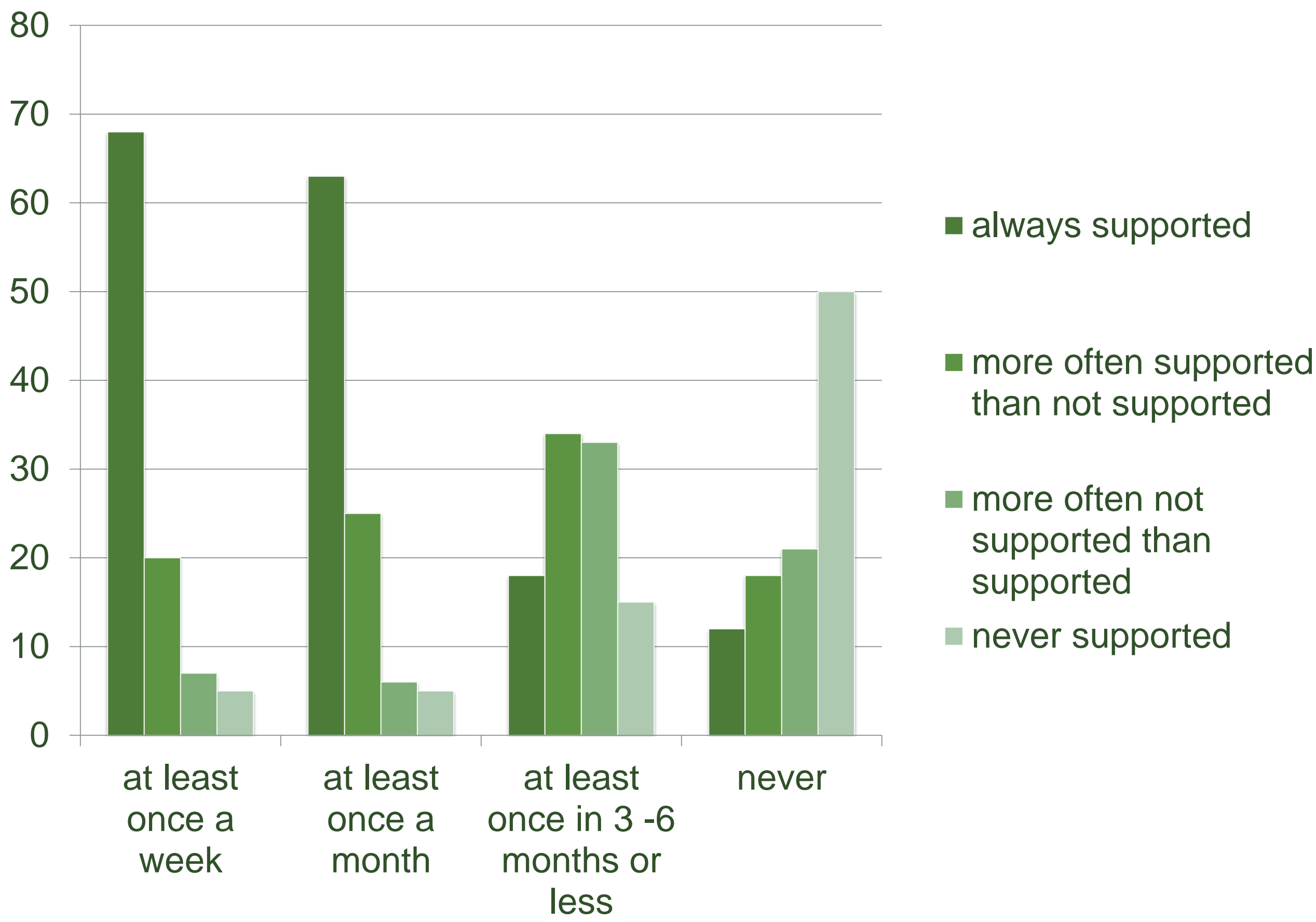


Figure 3. Frequency of contacts in the past 12 months and economic support of children



RESULTS: Multivariate analysis

Dependent variable: contact at least once a month (1) or not (0)

	Exp (B)		Exp (B)
Mothers’ education		Number of children	
Low (ref.)	1	1 (ref.)	1
Medium	1.68**	2	1.61**
High	2.6***	3+	1.22
Fathers’ education		Place of residence	
Low (ref.)	1	Rural (ref.)	1
Medium	0.66	Urban	0.91
High	0.48	Large cities	1.48**
Time after divorce		Type of partnership	
Up to 4 years	1	Cohabitation (ref.)	1
5 to 9 years	0.72	Marriage	1.16
10 and more years	0.63		

PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

- Contacts are positively associated with the economic support
- Mothers’ higher education is positively associated with the frequency of child-father contacts
- Fathers’ education does not affect frequency of child-father contacts (inconsistent with the existing findings (Carlson, McLanahan 2006))
- Type of partnership children were born in does not affect the fathers’ involvement (inconsistent with the existing findings (Aquilino 2006))

REFERENCES

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