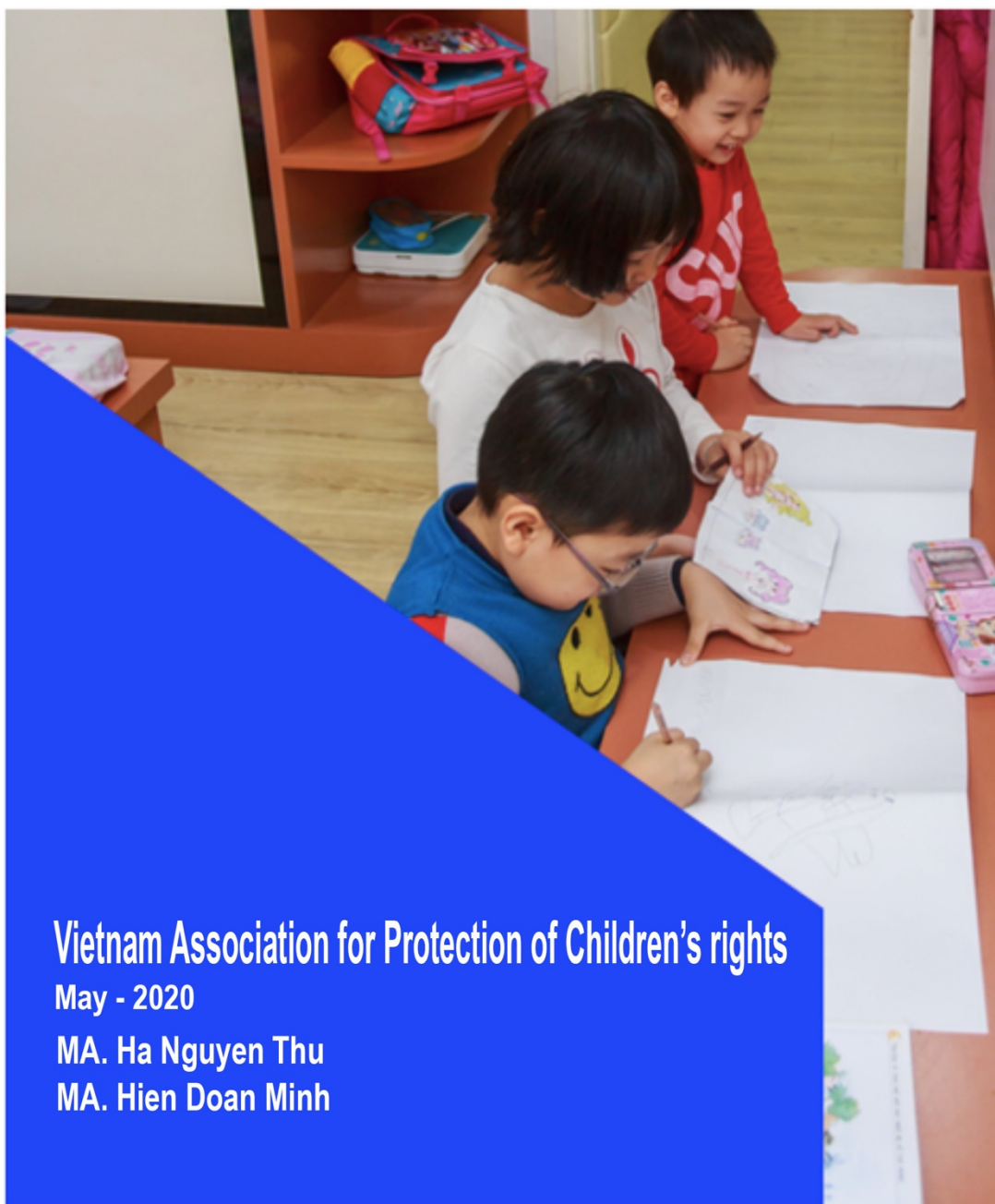




# **A RAPID ASSESSMENT ON COVID-19 IMPACTS ON CHILDREN**



**Vietnam Association for Protection of Children's rights**

May - 2020

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## REPORT: A RAPID ASSESSMENT ON COVID-19 IMPACTS ON CHILDREN

### *Preface*

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Covid-19 pandemic has left a huge significant impact on socio-economic aspect in Vietnam, especially on vulnerable group including children

“VACR, apart from implementation of the provisions in this Article, is responsible to network, collect information and proposal from other social organizations and children which are sent to the State agencies as their feedback and consultancy on development and implementation of child rights policies and laws; to participate in supervision of child rights implementation; to voice out and give its opinions and send their proposals to the relevant agencies on child issues and violation of Child Law” is issued Article 4, paragraph 92, Children’s Law in 2006, along with an expectation of multi-angle observation regarding Covid-19 influence on the lives of children in Vietnam, Vietnam Association of Protection Children’s Rights (VACR) has conducted a rapid assessment within 15 days to assemble viewpoint of children and caregivers (parents, grandparents, siblings, relatives,...). As a result, VACR will provide appropriate recommendations to guarantee actively Children’s Rights under new circumstances

VACR is sincerely thanks to Local Associations, CRWG's members, organizations, individuals and especially children from provinces and cities who have participated in responding to the survey and shared VACR’s project/information to other target-survey involvers. VACR expects that the outcomes will be a referencing documental resource assisting children’s organizations in accordance with constructing recommendations to related agencies. Therefore, it contributes to speak up, drives operational procedure and ensure children’s rights which is deserved to pay more attention of Government and bodies during and after the pandemic

Thank you



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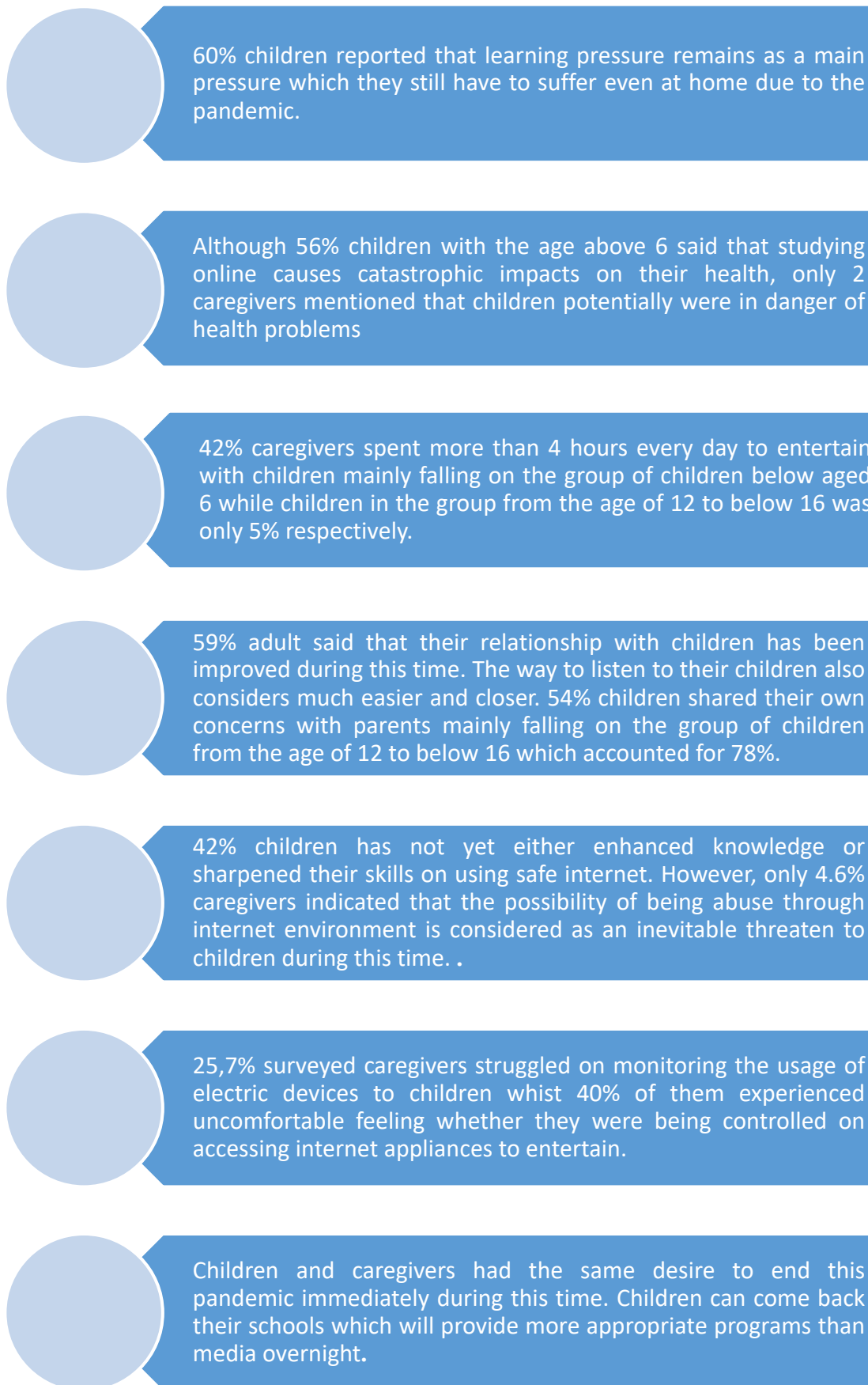
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### THE MAIN FINDINGS



### THE ASSESSMENT'S MAIN FINDINGS

#### 1 Situation

First detected in Wuhan, China in December 2019, a novel type of Coronavirus was the grave cause of the global Covid-19 pandemic. Up to 30th April 2020, the world has recorded more than 3.2 million Covid-19 infected people and 227.700 deaths in 212 countries and territories. In Vietnam, the first confirmed positive case was detected in January 2020. As of April 30<sup>th</sup> 2020, 270 people have been infected, but no death case is confirmed.

Facing a complicating unknown movement of the outbreak, the Vietnamese Government has precisely promulgated detailed regulations to contain the spread of Covid-19 infection under each stage, which first and foremost protect the health and lives of citizens. Currently the nation has transformed into a new long-term wave of prevention together with socio-economic progress and ensuring that people actively adjust in a context of effectively controlling the Covid-19 pandemic. During the prevention period, it is necessary to respectively ensure social distancing to mitigate the spread of contagious Covid-19 that the Prime Minister ordered such as Directive 15, 16 and 17. Since last January 2020, all children have been suffering from the period of “do not go to school” and “social distancing” in account of the infection. Besides the impacts of Covid-19 on Children’s life in general, the guarantee of protection on Children’s Rights is also undergone a huge influence specifically.. Particularly, solutions are major concerns, which require the Government, children’s family and child herself taking decisive actions to adjust the new scenario. These solutions are taken into account to harmonize both the children’s safe health protection and the maintenance of children’ studying during school closure. At the mid of April 2020, depending on the practical situation, each local authority has made assertive decisions as the most priority regarding time for reopening schools in a condition of ensuring children’s safety.

#### 2. Overview

Recognizing the effects of Covid-19 not only generates the change of children’s daily life activities but also has influence on relationships between children and caregivers in family during schools shut that forces them to stay at home. Vietnam



## Rapid Assessment Report on Covid-19 Impacts on Children

Association for Protection of Children's Rights has carried out a rapid survey assembling main contents below:

### Objectives

Assessing the impacts of Covid-19 on Children's daily life (every-day and learning life during school closure)

Obstacles and challenges that children and caregivers has been encountered during "social distancing" and "do not go to school" period

General problems/ concerns of children and caregivers during this time

### Time

The rapid survey has been conducted in 15 days (15-30 April 2020), combine collectively the results within 7 days and tentatively plan to design and public around May 15 2020.

### Assessment Methods

VACR has established 2 tool sets of online based Microsoft form survey including:

- A survey set of 14 questions for children and under 18 participants composing 12 choice questions and 2 writing questions to allow children to fill in the information and desiring sharing/viewpoint/opinion
- A survey set of 17 questions for caregivers (parents, grandparents, siblings, relatives,...) above 18 participants including 15 choice questions and 2 writing questions to encourage adults to share difficulties/challenges/impression during the period of caring their children at home

After completing 2 survey tool sets, VACR has promoted wisely in social media such as VACR website, VACR Facebook and delivered to VACR's local branches, shared in CSOs group, Associations, Child Rights Working Group (CRWG) and schools.



Collected statistics will be analyzed and charted to show the percentage rate. The writing answers will be more intensively analyzed. To illustrate proper statistics several participants' viewpoints will be cited.

### Target participants

- Children and people from the age of 16 to under 18: 707 answer sheet are collected
- People above 18: 2027 answer sheets are recorded

### Limitations

The rapid report is completed within 2 weeks on 2 different target groups. A number of survey takers are limited due to the volunteering participation essence. On the other hand, the main purpose of designing questionnaires is performed by quantitative method. There is a limited number of qualitative questions which are recorded as less participants in the survey had taken. Therefore, the assessment has handled the certain limitations on deeper working on statistics regarding the exact problems that place a huge impact on children and caregivers' life during this time. The participation of adults and children in various provinces and cities are not homogeneous among localities.

## 3. The Survey's Outcomes

### 3.1 General assessment on survey participants

#### 3.1.1 The age – gender

**The age:** The assessment has been designed to 3 main range of age including children under 12, from the age of 12 to 16 and from fully 16 to under 18. In the group of 12 to 16 years old is divided into specific age because they are target participants. The selection of children belongs to group from the age 12 to 16 is based some categories following:

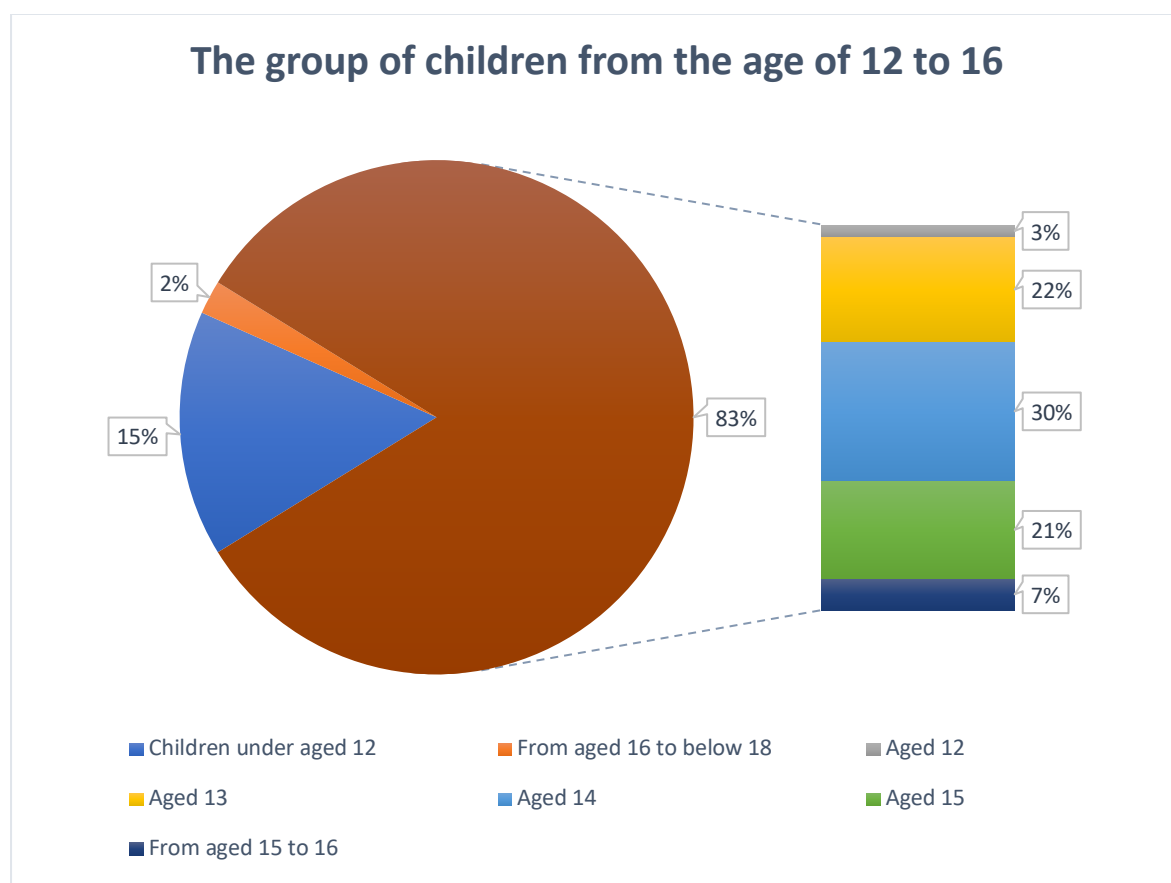
*In terms of legality:* In the children's Law 2016 defines a child as a human being below the age of 16. However, in the fact that a human being under the age of 18 also suffers from certain impacts and respectively similar as a group of children under the age of 16 in terms of educational activities and daily life due to they are still school attendants. Therefore, even though this group is still applicable to the assessment, they are not considered as target participants.



- *In terms of biology:* This is the group with significant change both mentally and physically. Therefore suddenly changes in daily life activities and living environment lead uncountable impacts (both positive and negative effects) to this group

- *In terms of acknowledgement:* Children from the age of 12 to 16 were able to be aware and reflect by themselves on their surroundings and the influence on both their material and spiritual life. This group of children also has a clear desire to speak up and share their own opinions as well as being listened to by adults. This is an advantage when the assessment is targeted to these participants, thus various information and children's viewpoints have been recorded regarding the survey topic

Due to reasons above, the majority of surveyed children group from the age of 12 to below 16 accounted for 83%. The group of children from the age of 16 to 18 is taken for 17%.



*Figure 1 Percentage of the surveyed children group*

## Gender

The survey is contributed by 273 boys and 429 girls, excepting 5 “other” sexuality choice which they are not willing to share or belong to the 3rd gender.

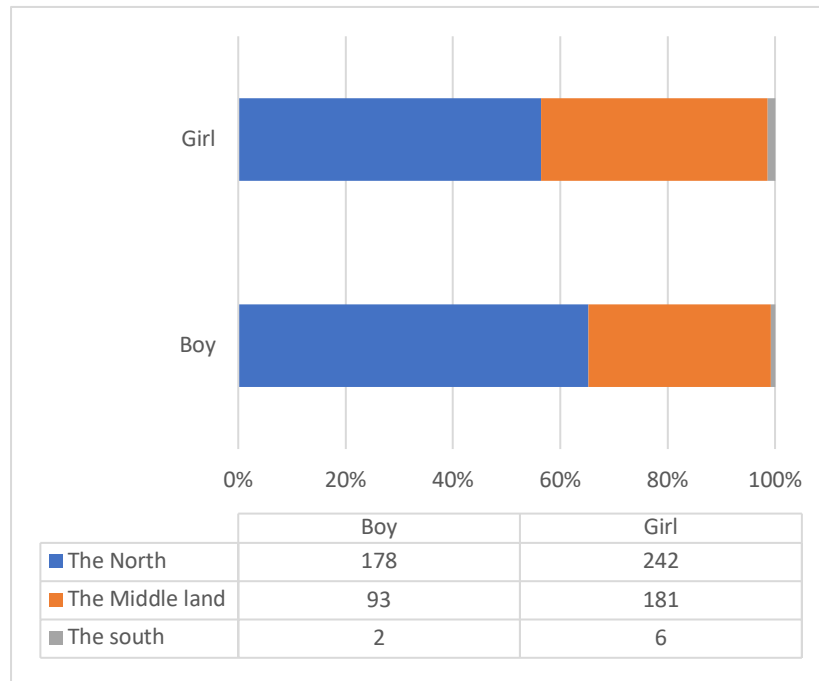


Figure 1. The Gender of Children's surveyed

Among 273 boys, there are 65,2% from the northern provinces, 34% from the middle land and the rest of 0,8% from the Southern part of Vietnam. .

Among 429 girls, there are 56,4% from the northern provinces, 42,2% from the middle land and the rest of 1,4% from the South of Vietnam

## 3.1.2 Living area

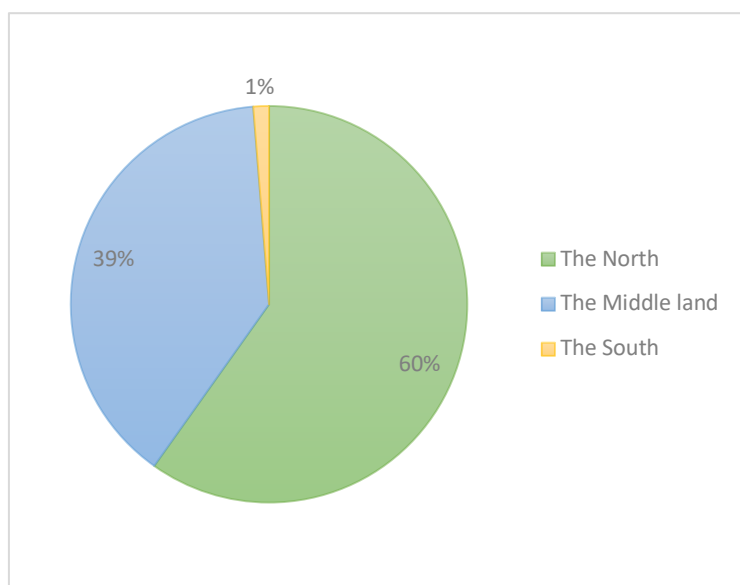


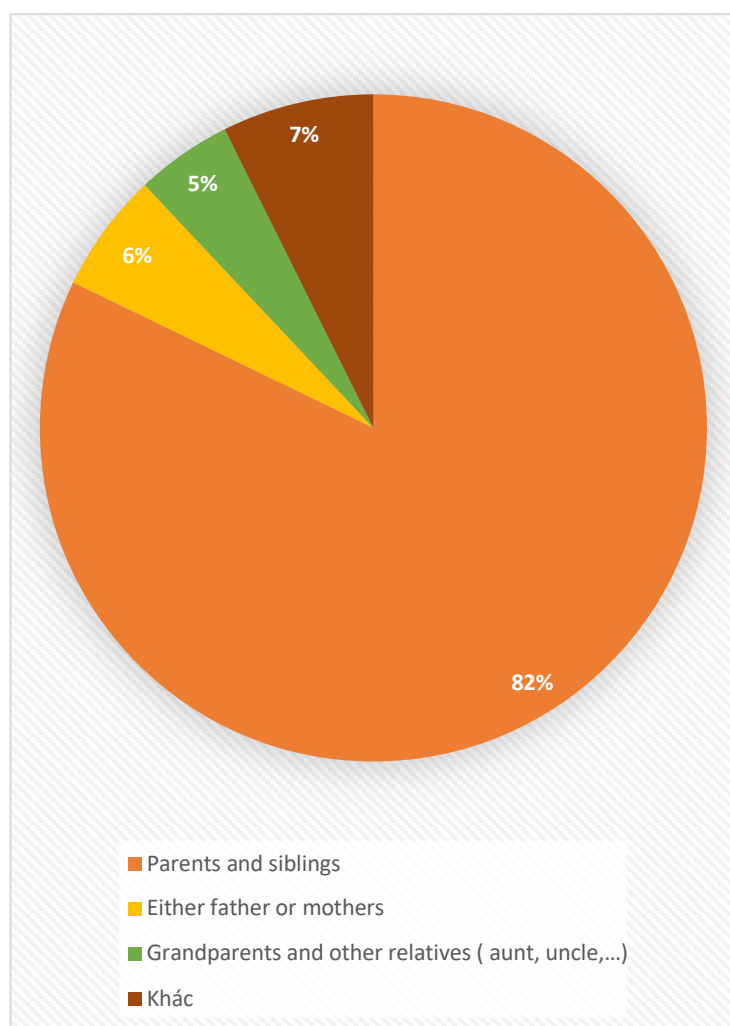
Figure 2. Living area of children's surveyed

The survey is carried out on three main groups of children from the North, the middle land and the South including: 432, 275 and 9 participants respectively 60%, 39% and 1% from the North, the Middle Land and the South.

Due to the reliance of traditional and human factors as well as facing challenges during the pandemic, the majority of surveyed children were able to reach the assessment from the North and the middle Land of Vietnam, especially from Lao Cai and Thua Thien Hue. For the rest of the survey is from uneven localities.

### 3.1.3. Family living environment of Children during Covid-19 lockdown

82% of children are currently staying in a family with father, mother and siblings. The number of children just staying with either father or mother is 6% (41 children) located in several provinces such as Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Ha Noi, Lang Son, Quang Nam, Quang Ninh, Hue and Vinh Phuc. The number of children mainly at the age of 13 to 15 in a family with grandparents or other relatives is roughly 5% (33 children)

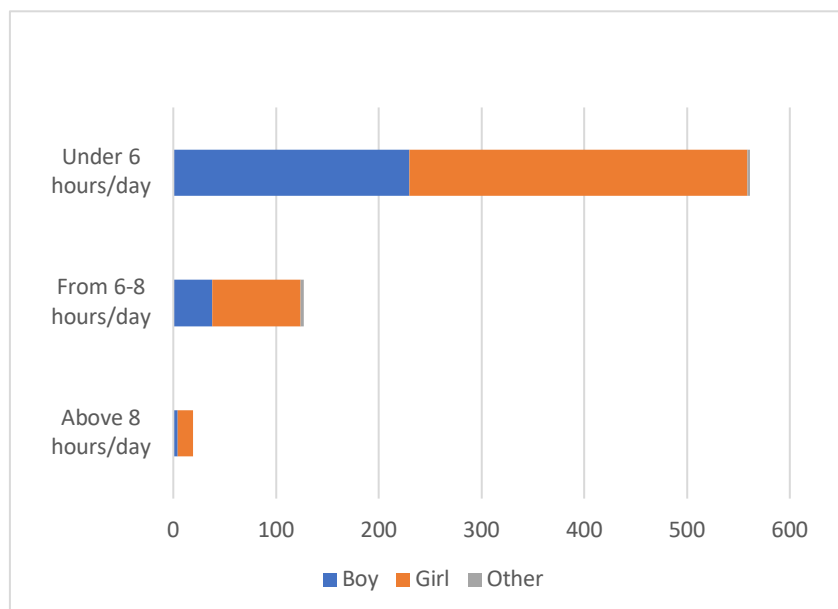


*Figure 4: Caregivers who stay with the surveyed child*

## 3.2 Effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on children's daily life

### 3.2.1 Learning activities

#### 3.2.1.1. Amount of time children spend on learning activities



During the school closure due to Covid-19 infection, the survey of studying time on children has shown that there are 562 children spending less than

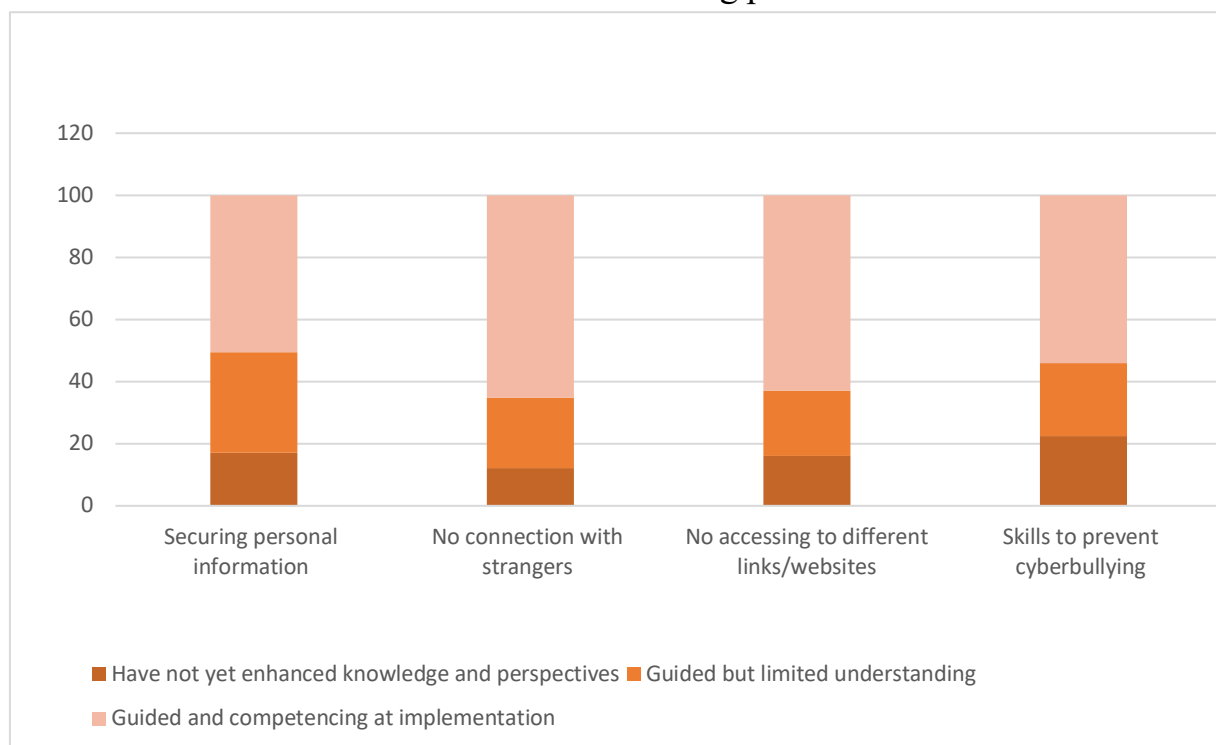
6 hours per day as 77% respectively. There are 127 children studying from 6 to 8

hours per day for studying which is recorded for 18% including 86 girls (23% is representative for the children at the age of 15) and 38 boys and 3 children who have registered as other gender. Only 3% equivalently 19 children containing 15

girls and 4 boys of the total surveyed children said that they spend more than 8 hours each day studying.

Regarding the knowledge enhancement for children's self- protection in the internet environment, the results of assessment has shown that 58,2% of children acquire considerable knowledge about self -protection when accessing the Internet and applying competent ways of using the Internet properly.

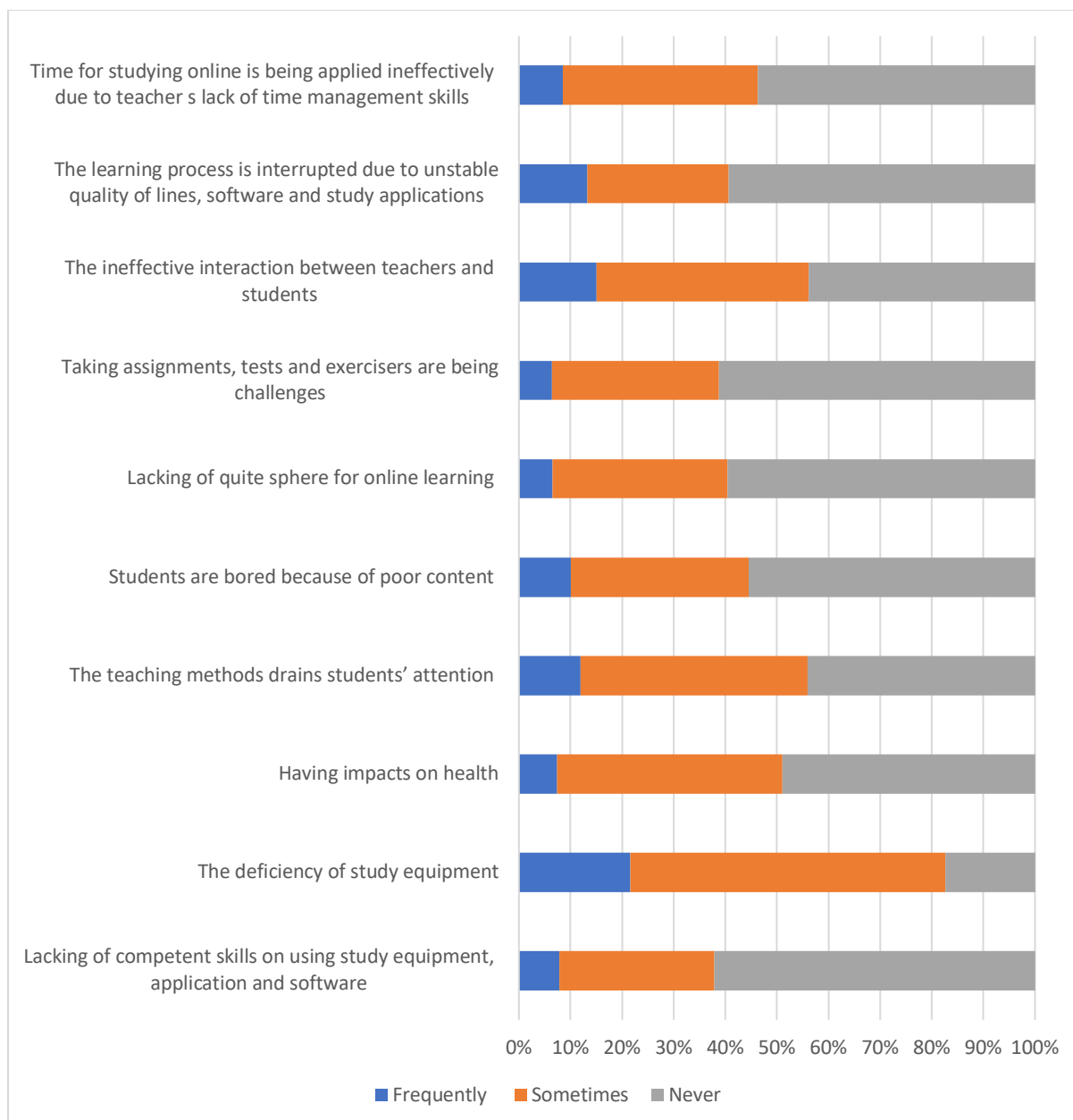
46% of children said that it is vital to improve the survival skills to prevent them from cyberbullying online. And a number of 49,6% of them shared that they would like to be trained in their skills on securing personal information due to the



*Figure6. The number of children knowledge of accessing Internet safely*

deficiency of comprehension or yet misunderstanding of operating procedure.

### ***3.2.1.2. Facing difficulties while the alternative studying solutions have been applied***



*Figure 7: Difficulties are faced when the alternative studying solutions have been applied*

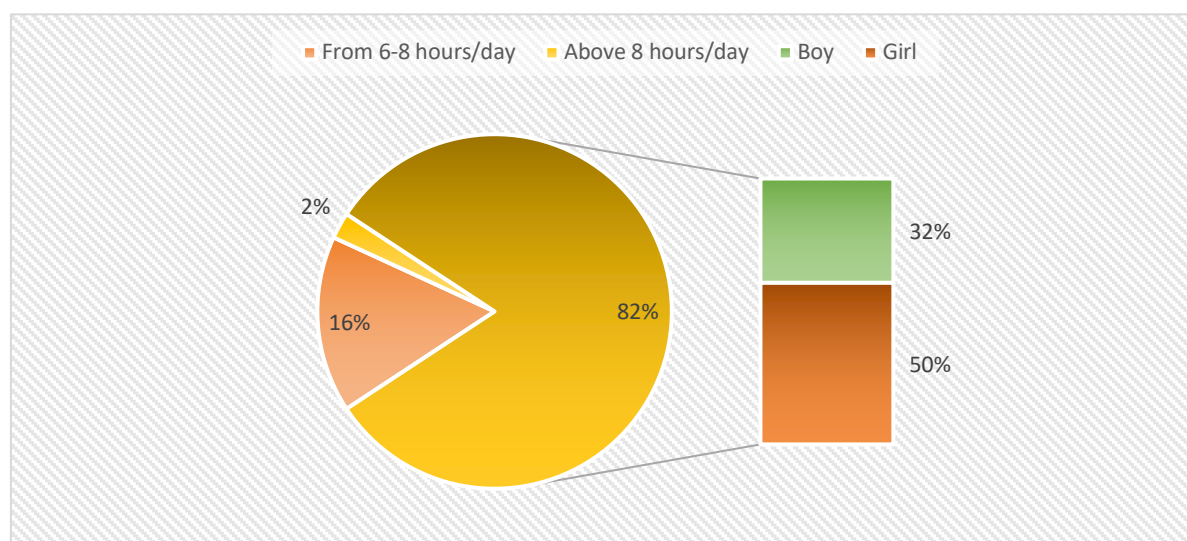
Due to complicated movement of the outbreak, children is forced to stay at home and apply other alternative learning methods such as studying through TV or internet Apps and online classes,...

About 82,7% children said that the most problematic obstacles they have faced is the interruption because of quality of transmission lines, software and learning applications. And roughly 52,1% children's opinions is being surveyed revealing that there is existed an interaction between teachers and students.

These difficulties are suffered by both children living in big cities and others from country side areas such as Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Cao Bang, Dong Thap, Ha Nam, Ha Noi, Hai Phong, Lang Son, Lao cai, Quang Nam, Quang Ninh, Quang Ngai, Ho Chi Minh, Thai Binh, Thai Nguyen, Hue and Vinh Phuc

### 3.2.2. Recreations and other activities

#### 3.2.2.1 Time's children spend for recreation and other activities



*Figure 8: Time consuming for other activities of children*

About 82% of surveyed children spend less than 6 hours each day for entertainment activities including both girls and boys respectively accounts for 50% and 32

#### 3.2.2.2 Other children's activities in a day



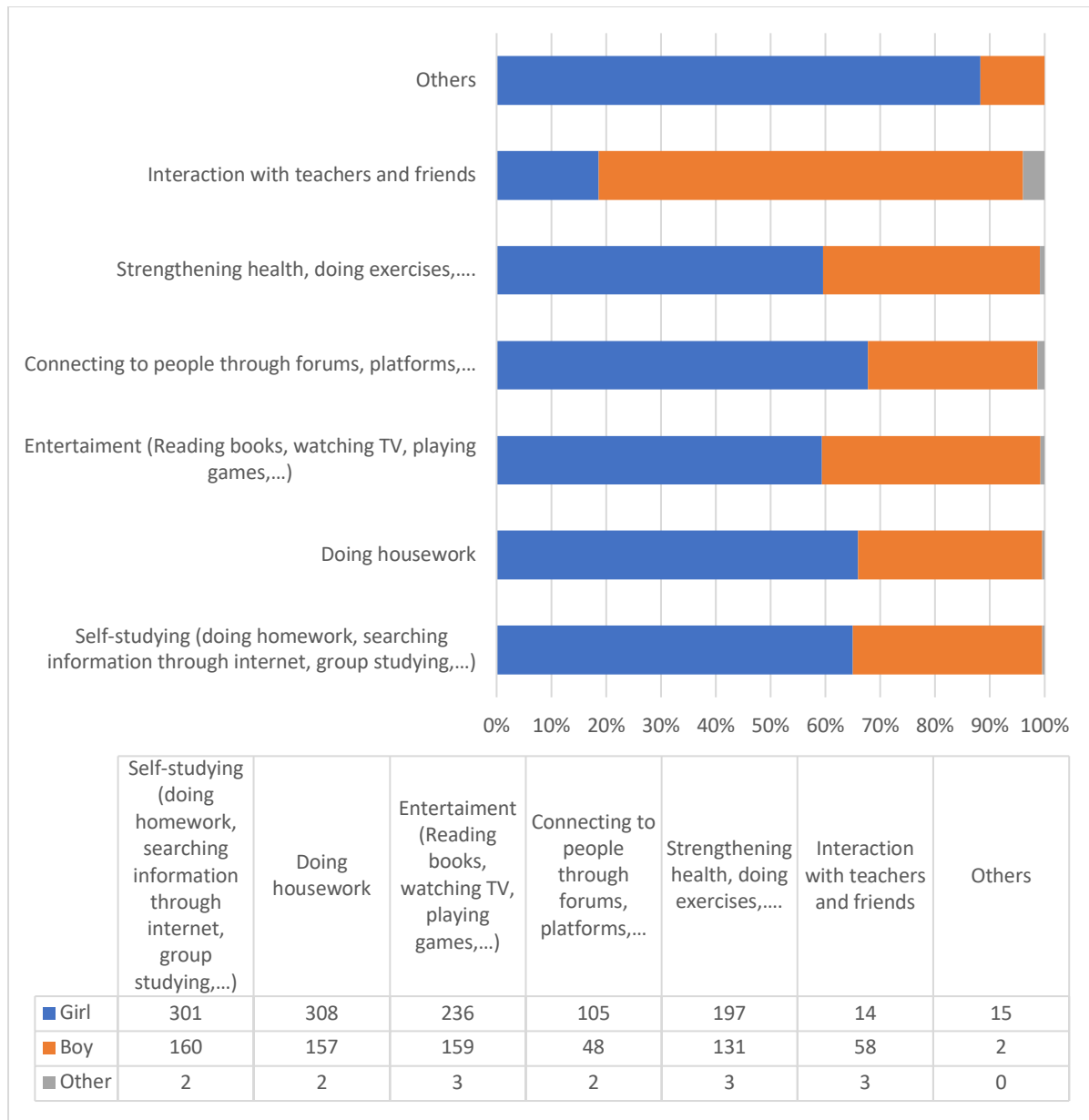


Figure 9: Other children's activities besides studying during a day

More than 60% of female surveyed child usually help their parent to do housework, study by themselves as well as maintain their health condition besides attending classes

In addition to self-studying, doing house chores, entertainment, connecting to everyone through platforms and clubs, doing regular exercises, improving health condition, contacting with teachers, children also ‘to farm to help parent’, ‘looking after younger siblings to help parent’,... There is also situations children said that they ‘make rice, dry clothes, wash dishes,...which they almost miss classes frequently’.

## 3.3 The Covid-19 infection's impact on relation between children and caregiver

### 3.3.1 An assessment of relation between children and caregivers

The assessment's question was also designed to encourage children themselves evaluate the relation between them and caregivers.

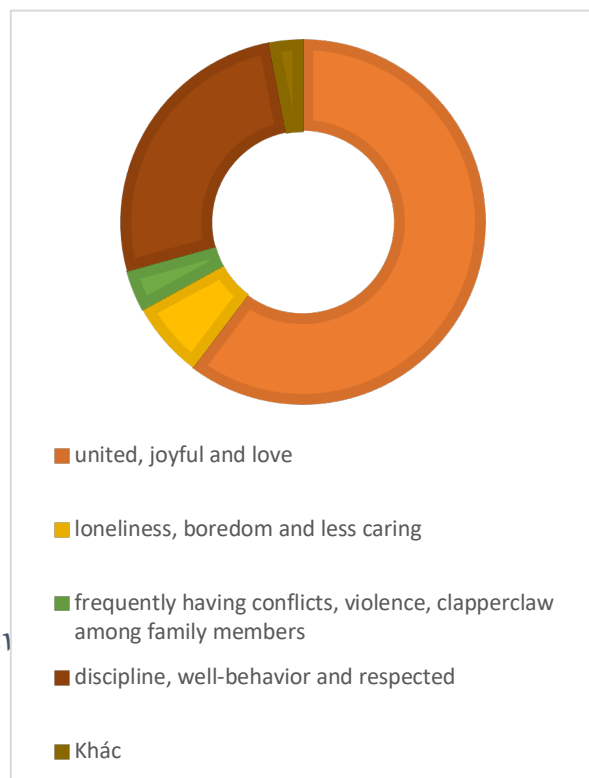


Figure 10:  
living env

Above 60% children said that family living environment was united, joyful and love as well as discipline, well-behavior and respected mutually during lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This was being recorded because children realized that the comfortable family gathering is formed when they have more time to work and play together.

4% children said that family living environment usually combines with conflicts, violence, clapperclaw among family members

**“My father used to get drunk because he does not have any businesses. After that, he comes back home with impolite badly**

This might be one of reason behind which causes children's thinking of a “loneliness, boredom and caring less” family living environment. The living area of this children group is mainly located in the northern part of Vietnam such as Bac Giang, Bac Ninh, Ha Noi, Hai Phong, Lao Cai and Quang Ninh.

## 3.3.2 Difficulties that children has faced during the Covid-19 lockdown

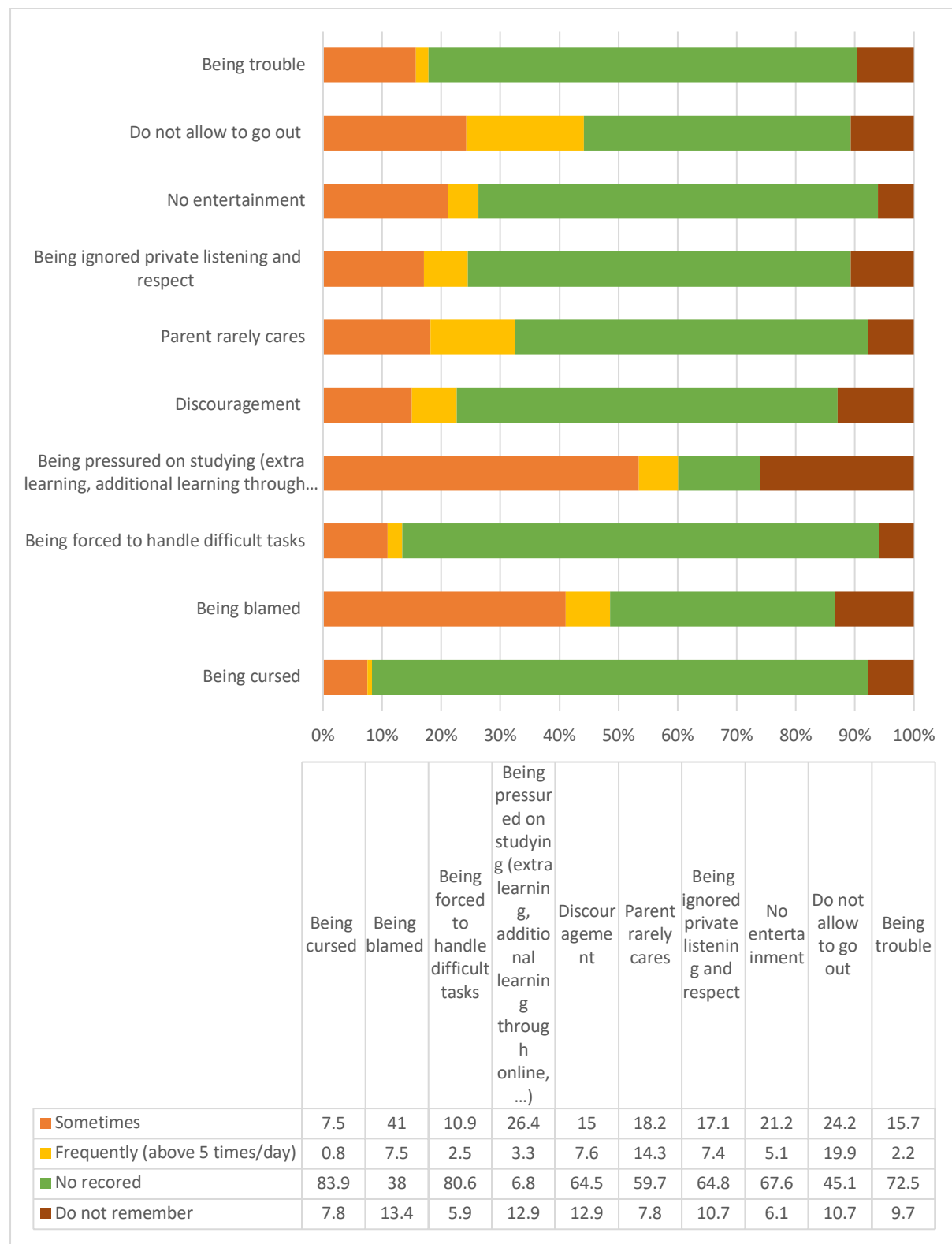


Figure 11. Circumstances that children have experienced during school closure due to the Covid-19

About 60% of children's general feedback mainly focuses on difficulties of studying pressure. This situation is happened to children from almost provinces and cities in the assessment, especially in the big cities such as Hanoi, Hochiminh and Da Nang. Children are required to stay at home which is also considered as the key pressure on students due to complicated exaggeration of the pandemic (44,1%). Besides that due to families usually spend time together at home, 48% children in the assessment said that they underwent pressure of clapperclaw. About 32,5% children felt as if their parent turns into cold relation without caring during this period.

### 3.3.3. Problems might cause conflicts between children and caregivers

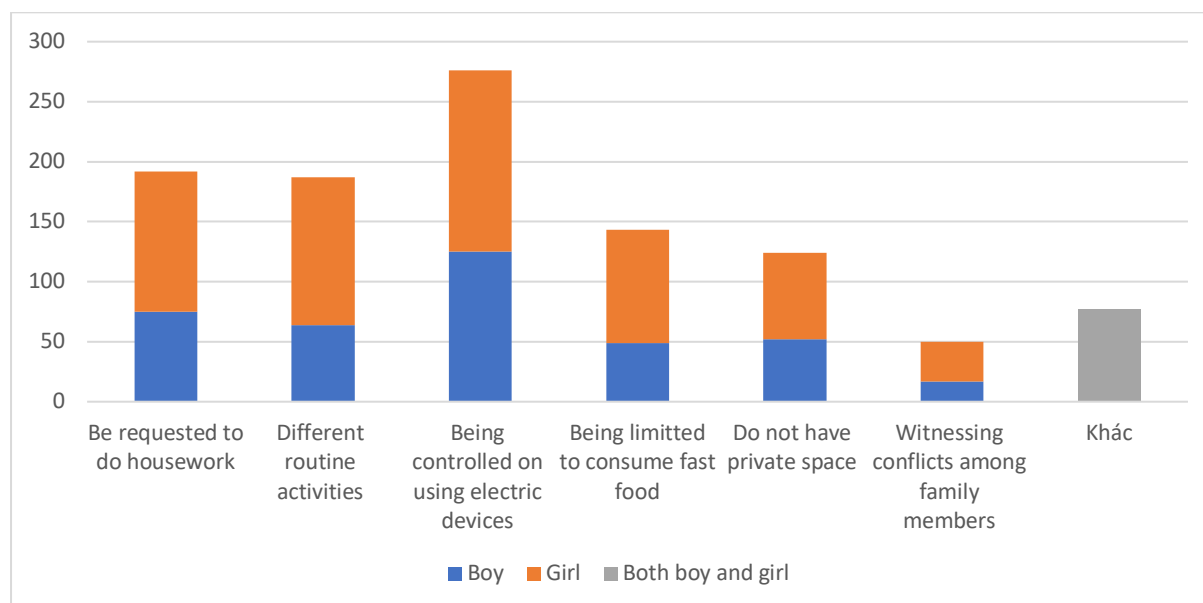


Figure 12: Problems lead an unpleasant sphere for children at home

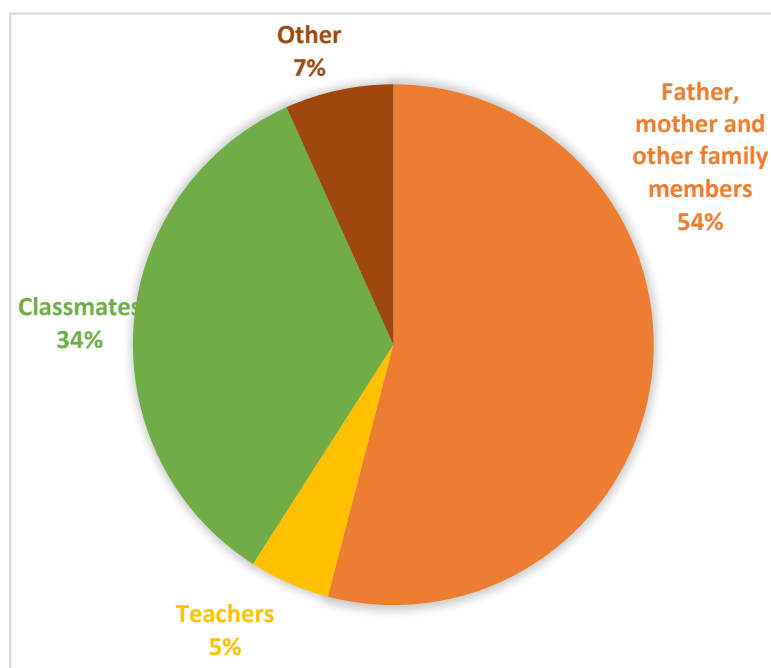
There are 40% surveyed children pointed a cause “ *being controlled on using electric devices*” as reason creating uncomfortable feeling during at-home period.

Moreover, roughly 26,4% of children struggled with unpleasant living sphere because “ *a big gap in difference of daily life activities between children and adults*”. Also about 27,1% of children has stated that because “ *they are required to do housework*” that make them feel inconvenient ( including 61% children is girls).

An explanation for a situation that surveyed female participants had been through unpleasant feeling when they are requested to do housework are: 75% of them

used to require clean up the house to help their parent; 55% of them were responsible to prepare meals for their family, and 37% of them in the assessment indicated that they had to take care of younger siblings and handle other housework. On the one hand, only 60% of male surveyed participant are force to clean up the house, 44% prepared meals for family and 25% looked after their siblings or do other housework.

### 3.3.4 Individual is being trusted or shared by children during this time



When surveyed children are being asked to choose the person whom they believe or share things in interest, there are 54% of them made a choice among father, mother or other family members. There are also another options such as friends, teachers and other people which accounted respectively for 34%, 5% and 7%.

*Figure 14: Individual is being trusted or shared*

### 3.4 Children's special stories

Children were extremely excited to share their own impression on our nation's health system and prevention forms comparing to foreign friends

*“ I send my great respect to medical frontline staff because of their courage. Because through TV, I see doctors do not have any space for resting, so I love them so much. And there are elderly people tailor masks themselves to send to other less prosperous than them. Through this thought, I bear in mind that the bravery of doctors and the kindness of people are deserved to enhance.*

*– A twelve-year-old child from Hanoi--*

*“My most impressive story was Bach Mai hospital had saved a women’s life while her heart stop beating in 120 minutes, and a girl remaining a death heart more than 3 hours”-A fifteen-year-old child in Quang Nam*

*“During a long-term school shut because of Covid-19, I had more chances to contact with electric devices such as TV, computer, cell phone, to support study as well as entertainment. Among those things, the story of The Prime Minister Vu Duc Dam has drawn my best attention. Previously I had no idea about who he is until the whole country was hand in hand united to combat Covid-19. While social media was full of information relating the inflection, PM Vu Duc Dam has named with all special trust. As the head of the National Steering Committee for COVID-19 Prevention and Control, he is also silent hero during this pandemic in the peacetime. Thanks to a concerted regulation under his administration, progressively we are count on him that the crisis will be contained. It is not that long before we can come back schools where we are able to study and have fun”- A thirteen-year-old child in Lao Cai*

*“A series of miserable anxious pictures of Mr Dam in Vietnam together with victims has lost their life during a non-stop Covid-19 contagious from all over the world are major tragic images and stories that bother my great sorrow. However, they also cause the greatest impressive stories that have been happened to me. In particular, it was the Mr Dam’s portrait”*

*A sixteen-year-old child from Quang Ninh*

*“ Taking tests through apps and suddenly phone is either interrupted or lost at least 5 to 6 minutes to revise normal status. It causes almost unreachable tests happening because time is run out ”*

A fourteen-year-old child from Lao Cai

*‘Able to access Internet through the Zoom or the Zalo also persuades me a lot. Students and teachers may send and assign homework via the Zalo application easily. Entering online classes through Zoom also provides interactions with teachers and classmates, which are performed on a smartphone supporting a seeable lesson display. Particularly, I am able to see the same my friends’ face as if I am attending the class at school’*

A thirteen-year-old child from Ho Chi Minh city

Lao Cai

#### 4. The outcomes of adult’s survey

##### 4.1 A general assessment on survey’s participants

###### 4.1.1 A range of age

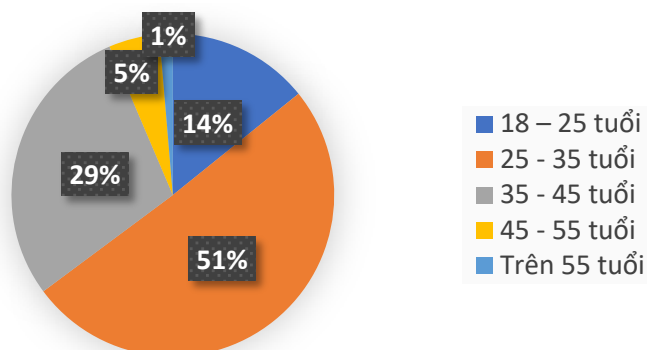


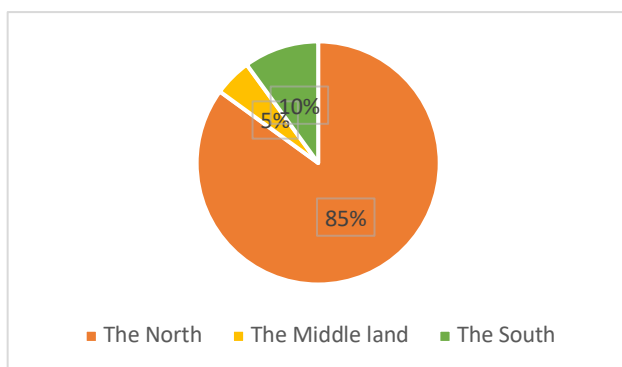
Figure 15: A range of age of the surveyed caregivers

The number of surveyed takers is the most falling on a group from the age of 25 to 35 accounting for 51% totally. The following second group from the age of 35 to 45 is 29% in total. 14% is recorded for the group from the age of 18 to 25. Therefore, there are 94%



of the total participants belonging to a group of labor force arranging from the age of 18 to 45. This is the main working force in family. Only 5% is applied to the group from the age of 45 to 55 and even sorely just about 1% surveyed takers is above 55.

### 4.1.2 Inhabiting area



There are 2027 surveyed people in the assessment who come from the Northern, middle and highlands and Southern part measured for 85%, 5% and 10% respectively

Figure 16: Inhabiting area of surveyed child's

### 4.1.3 The number of child is contemplated as the key caring receiver

Whereas there are 51% of surveyed participants currently taking care of children below the age of 6. 36% of them are responsible for child from the age of 6 to 12. Merely 13% of caregivers are responsible to the group of children the age of 12 to below 16.

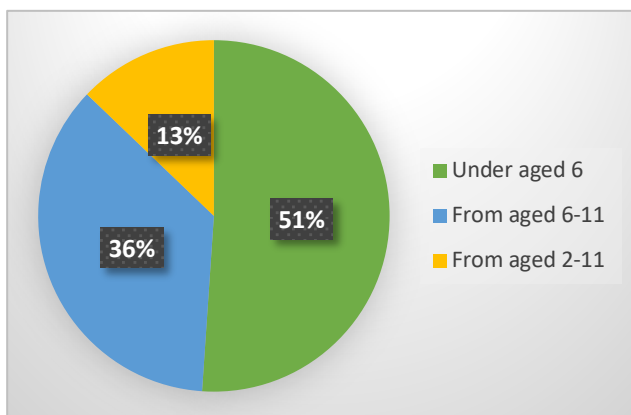


Figure18. The age of children who are receiving care

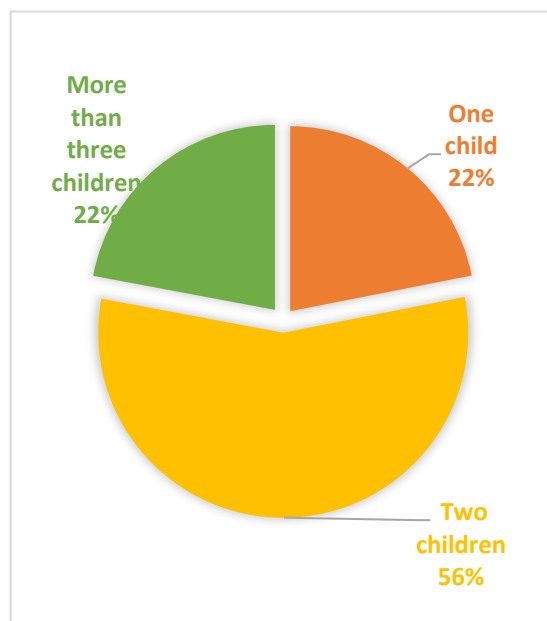


Figure17. A number of children are being cared

## 4.2 Effects of the Covid-19 pandemic on Children's activities

### 4.2.1 The difficulties that burden the caregivers

Due to the Covid-19 crisis, during 'social distancing', the problem of taking care for a child while handling professional work at home became one of the considerable pressure that about 33,6% of surveyed adult said that they had to deal with by themselves. There are 6.6% of them giving the answer of requesting support from others. Mainly these people are responsible for either 2 children or more than 3 children, respectively accounting for 58% and 25%. The group of care enjoyer is still baby under 6 with 66%

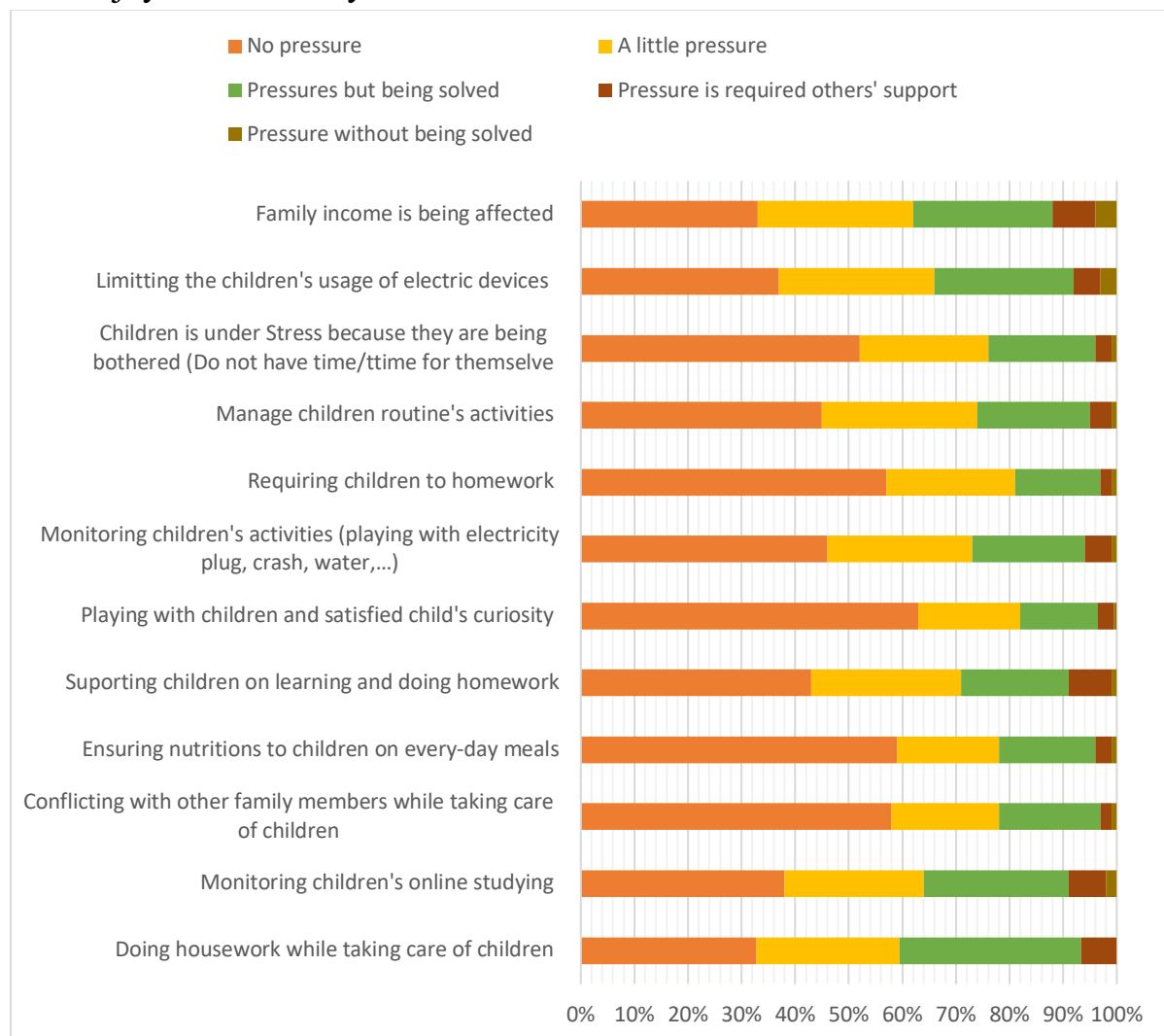


Figure 19: The difficulties that burden the caregivers

Additionally, there are about 27,1% of surveyed takers struggling with difficulties when monitoring studying online because the majority of caregivers are currently responsible for 2 children or 3 children reporting for 59% and 24% consecutively.

Among these, only 16% of caregivers are taking care of a group of children from the age of 12 to 18 whom requested help whenever they need

There are 25,7% of adults have met difficulties on monitoring the usage of electric devices (mainly these people have a duty to care for 2 children (58%) or 3 children (24%) and focus on the group of child below the age of 6 (60%)

Besides that there are 26,1% of the surveyed group said that the economic burden is the main impact they have troubles with. However it is still under control. Only 12% of surveyed family said that they need assistance from others whether they want to survive from the family economic fall.

(Answer no 82: ‘the pressure of interest and payment bank term is remained tightly due to delayed income payment’)

(Answer no 06: ‘Taking responsibility during a long-term period is not allowed to return home’)

### 4.2.2 Solutions are applied to deal with problems

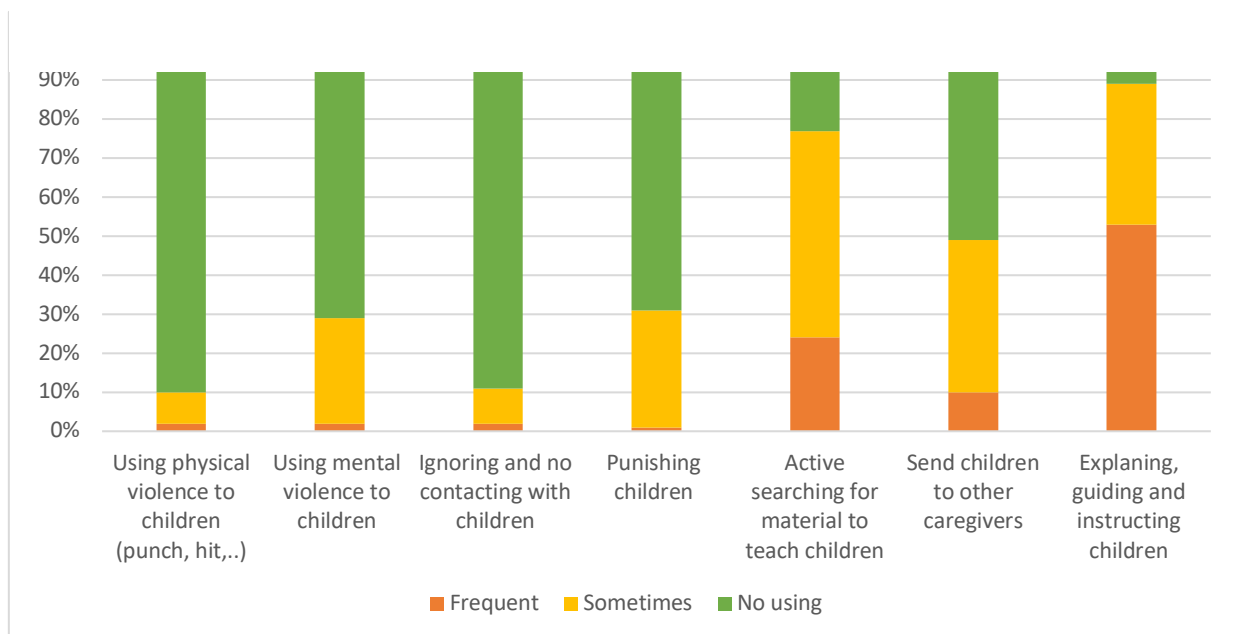


Figure 20: Solutions are applied to cope with the problems that caregivers selected

With 94% surveyed takers are from the age of 18 to 45. Thus it is seeable that this group of people has received a changing method on educating children instead of applying ‘‘ knock them into shape ’’ approach. According to the assessment, there are above 89.4% of surveyed takers have applied a form of explanation, consultation and guidance to children. There is a record of 77,3% of

surveyed adult searching a teaching mode through referencing materials (comprising of both internet, books and papers).

Only about 10% of surveyed participants have searched for physical violence (hit, kick, slap,..) to children including only 1,9% of them applying a frequent of 5 times per day study (mainly at Lao Cai, Dong Nai and Quang Binh). There is also 29,4% performing spiritual violence (scold, curse, threaten, compare,...) to children including 2% of them using spiritual violence at the level of 5 times per day. This proportion is mainly directed on Lao Cai, Quang Nam and Quang Binh. They are responsible for the children under 6. There is an existence of 1% caregivers regularly committed both physical and mental violence (more than 5 times'/days), at all age level in two-to-three-children-or-above family in Lao Cai, Ben Tre, Ba Ria-Vung Tau and Quang Binh.

*'While staying with parent, children often disobey parent's instruction. As a result, whips are applied''*

*– Respondent no 144–*

There are 28,6% parent, including 73% parents whose children are under 6, recognizing the problematic possibility of injuries accident might happen during lockdown period because of the pandemic. Although, more than 94,4% parents said that monitoring children to prevent injuries them which is either non-pressure or pressure potentially cope with.

*“With a long break, kindergartens used to watch TV a lot which is main cause to damage their vision. Some of them follow their parents to farm on rice paddy while weather has changed dramatically with danger hail. Few of children do not have TV to watch so they climb trees, play on streets or game jeopardy electricity”*

*– Respondent no 94–*

*My son has been diagnosed with a hyperactivity disorder. The longer he can not go out for activities, the worst degree of hyperactivity's symptoms are shown. Moreover, without any interaction peripheral with society is caused autism disorder being harder"*

*-- Respondent no 47--*

There are 49,3% of surveyed participants selected the solution which is sent their children to others to release pressure mainly focusing on the group of parent who is responsible for children under the age of 6 (72%)

*We still have to go to work as normal, thus we have to bother my parents to take care of them. We have to work outside so that we are anxious of contracting the virus to them"*

*--Respondent no 22--*

In addition, the surveyed takers also recommended other solutions to release pressure such as mutually teaching among siblings, older children take care of younger one, and couples share responsibility with each other.

Along with solutions to handle problems that adult are facing, there are % of them said that after applying these solutions, it is seeable that children has changed on their behavior as 8% of them mention the fact of nothing change even solutions are implemented

In particular, in 8,2% of the assessment takers applied violence( consist of physical and mental violence) said that children remains their behavior as well as also changes their way the act as respectively 12,4% and 87,6%

### 4.2.3 The dangers that children are to possible to face according caregivers' assessment

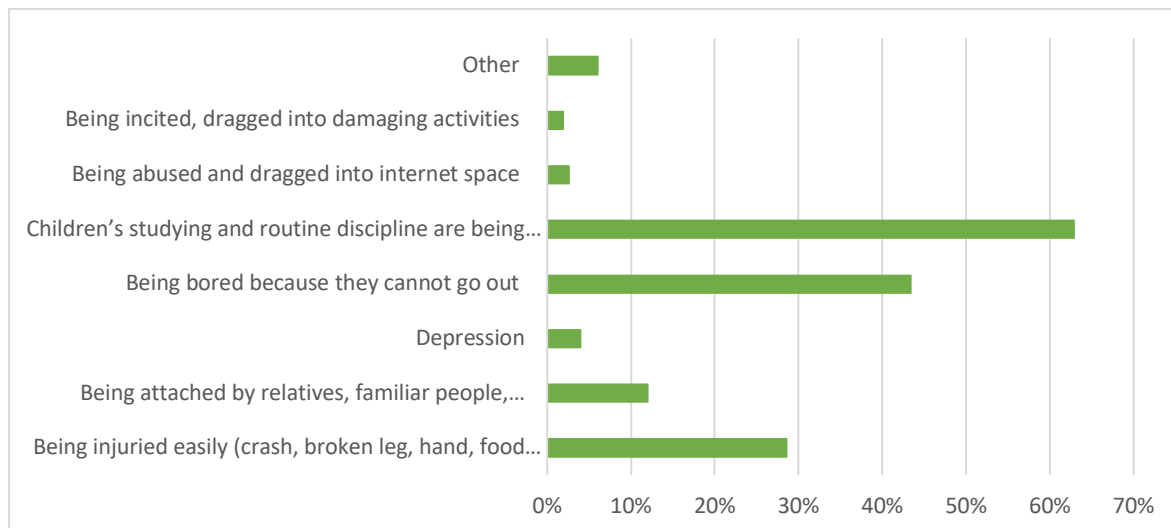
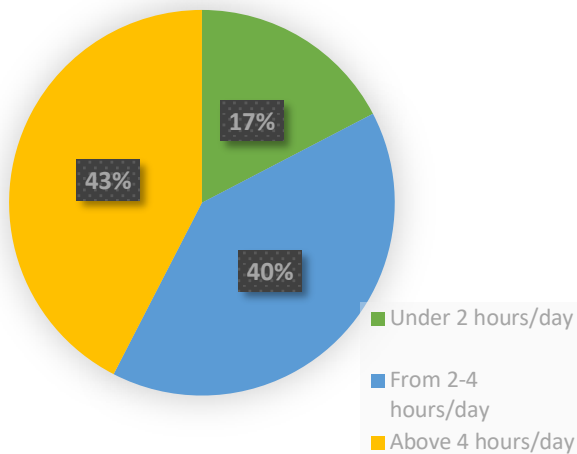


Figure21. The dangers that children are to possible to face according caregivers' assessment

Among the possible dangers that children has faced during break lockdown time at home, there was 65% of surveyed takers mentioned that children mainly have faced the effects because of chaotic living routine. About 47% of caregivers said that their children get bored due to prohibition of being out and depression. There was only 28% parents recognizing injuries dangers might occur with children during this time at home due to the pandemic including 73% parent are taking care of children under 6

### 4.3. The relationship between caregivers and children who suffered from the Covid-19 pandemic's effects

#### 4.3.1 Joyful time with children



*Figure22: Caregivers' time for playing with children*

There is 83% of total-surveyed participants spent good time with more than 2 hours each day to play with children comparing to 17% for the rest of participants spent less than 2 hours each day focusing on the children at the age of 6. It is clear that almost caregivers truly spent time to talk, share, listen to children more than normal through a series of activities such as learning together, cooking together,

handicraft involvement, taking part in fun puzzles, orienting career, setting up plan within a day. The assessment's result is also indicated that 42% of caregivers played with children more than 4 hours each day mainly focusing on the group of children under 6 while the group of children from the age of 12 to below 16 was only 6%.

*‘Studying together with playing and being her friend are my duty. Actually children staying at home even under more pressure than parent does because they are more proactive. They miss schools and friends. They love going out, When staying at home, it is not easy for them to watch TV and use phone. In contrast, studying online is such self-talk. They feel like dizzy that they cannot enhance knowledge. The more parent force them to work hard, the more stress put on them. Therefore, the best method is teaching them by true love.’*

*—Respondent no 46—*



### 4.3.2 The caregivers' evaluation on the relationship with children during this period

Above 59% of surveyed participants said that their relationship with children is becoming closer, easier and friendlier (86% of surveyed adult spent more than 2 hours per day to care and have fun with children). On the other side, 26% of them said that there is no change in their relationship with children and only 14% of surveyed group agreed that listening to children gets more challenge because 32% people in this group spent less than 2 hours each day for their children.

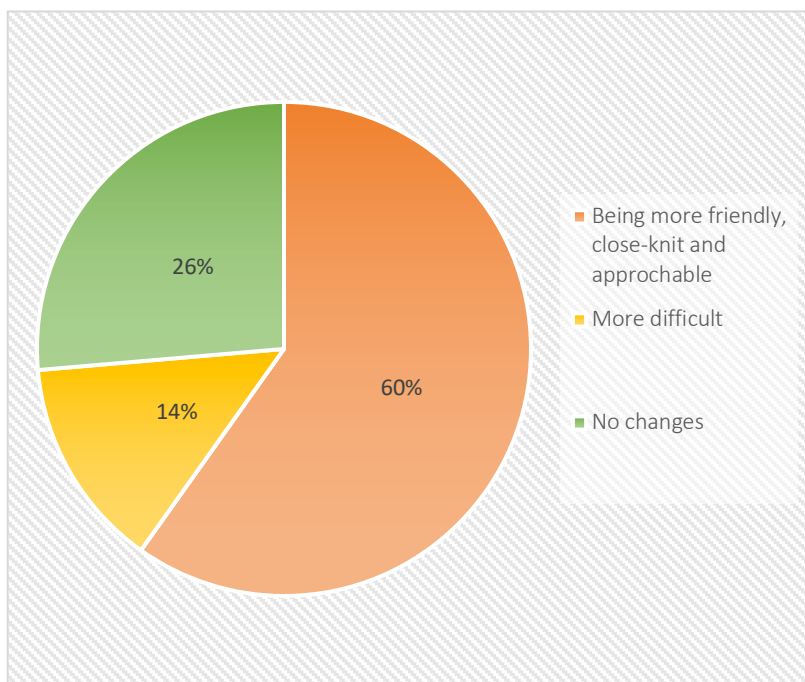


Figure23. The caregivers' evaluation on the relationship with children during this period

*'Children at the age of 15 rarely share with parents about friends, class, online classes because it is better to approach them by a subtle way which is open chances for them to talk''*

*–Respondent no 62–*

### 4.4. Special stories and caregivers' recommendations

During staying-at-home period, most of caregivers spend time to study and play with their children. Therefore, the most memorable stories gifted at their heart is

focusing on when they together with their children study, have fun, make handicraft, cook or do exercises. As a result, the feeling is closer-knit.

*“ My 2 sweethearts gave me a hug and said” I love you so much. I am gratitude to be your children”. And they will try their best to study and live with the best result as well as to understand how to live a saving life with an ‘ enough’ living standard”*

*– Respondent no 27–*

A number of caregivers shared that they wish their children can come back home. They will receive a series of particular programme for children which are applicable to their age together with training necessary life skills for them.

*“Parents who have kids are prioritized to work from home to easily take care of their children. Their studying should be limited on content. The concentration should dig in teaching life’s skills “*

*– Respondent no74–*

*“Kindergarten class was apparently being ignored in many prevention measures of educational department. Although, they do not have any online classes, it is necessary for them to communicate online with teachers and classmates”*

*– Respondent no 1016–*

*“It should be an honor priority to family whose one member is providing prevention services to combat to disease such as police officers, border safeguard and medical staff. If one person go to work, the other one should allow to stay at home to manage household chores but still enjoy full income that supports everyone steadily to work and devote”*

*– Respondent no 27–*

## 5. An analysis on problems between children and caregivers

### 5.1 Relating problems on the relationship between children and caregivers

Whereas 59% adult said that the relationship between them and children has improved during this time leading the way to listen to the children is much easier and closer, respectively 54% of children share their concerns to the parents, mainly belong to a group of children at the age of 12 to below 16 (measuring for 78%).

It is clear that when the caregivers spend time to share with children, as a result, the relationship becomes better. Because at this age range, children truly need to be respected, listened, especially with those who are in their ‘puberty age’. And the caregivers also required listen to them in a straight wholehearted way.

Both caregivers and children the same desire to end this pandemic and to come back schools as soon as possible which is correspondently following 60% and 68,2% of surveyed group.

### 5.2 Caregivers’ assistance /monitoring to children during this time

27,1% of surveyed takers is facing difficulties on monitoring children’s online studying whereas 47% of surveyed children who cope with the problems of seeking support on doing tests, interacting with teachers and effectively studying is highly recorded. Considering the difficulties challenging children to maintain routine activities in the condition of ‘social distancing’, there are 56% of children in the group from the age of above 6 said that online studying have affected harmfully to their health. However, there are 43% of caregivers recognized that children is possible to be in danger of stress because of boredom which causes from preventing to go out. There are only 2 caregivers said that

children is potentially in danger of obesity, myopia and incapacity of fully understand knowledge during online studying.

*' While I myself take care of my children as I see that because of studying online so that it also causes eye and ears damage when they work with computers a whole day long. A lesson costs one hour, thus it is hard for them to concentrate as well as teachers also do not cover and support them effectively. It is an insufficient whether accounting other things has been done by children such as switching on, turning off camera, consuming junk food or neglecting naughtily. Teachers meet challenges on managing their students''– Respondent no 94–*

Only 4,6% of surveyed participants said that children is confronting the threaten of sexual assault,...and dragging into harmfully activities in internet environment while 42% of surveyed children have not yet either equipped knowledge or enhanced but incapable understanding know-how using safe internet. This is indicated that caregivers do not actually realize the danger of sexual abuse and violence through online. Observing children's using electric devices also causes 25,7% of surveyed caregivers encountering problems. On the other hand, there are 40% of children shared that they also feel uncomfortable with their parent or caregivers when they are controlled on using electric equipment to entertain.

About 43% of caregivers and 44,1% of children both view their points that children is dealing with stress, boredom in account of being stay away from outside.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Government commands involving ministries, departments to evaluate and infer experiences regarding child's protection activity in the condition of social distancing due to the inflection, thus actively constructing appropriate programs and plans, precise guidance materials ensuring child's rights in prevention activities on emergency circumstances (diseases, disaster,...)
- Government creates opportunities and stipulates budget which are for social organizations expand training and communication activities about "positive discipline" for caregivers to advance public awareness of giving care, positively educate children, minimal inducement of applying physical and mental violence for children within family education.
- The National Committee for Children carries out survey, evaluates the implementation of Government's command in containing and combating the crisis to children
- The National Committee for Children urgently strengthen, coordinate among ministries, departments and local authorities; cooperating with National Assembly's bodies, Viet Nam Fatherland Front, polis-social, socio-occupation and socio-civil organizations in implementing child's rights and solving child's problems in emergency situations (disease, disaster,...)
- Suggestion for the Ministry of Labour, War Invalids and Social Affairs:
- -In cooperating with Ministry of Education and Training, Ministry of Health and Viet Nam Women's Union builds programs, guidance materials and publication for parents/ caregivers regarding concerning problems, takes active actions on caring, educating, managing studying progress and protects children at home to prevent additional situations which forces a child skip class to stay at home during a long-term period of time.
- It is necessary to develop policy regulating specifically on working forms and time at home of official and civil servants and workers who are parents/ caregivers to foresee in advance additional situations that lead children staying at home during a long time

- The Ministry of Education and Training should place children as a central target in rapid assessments to gather child's viewpoints on developing online studying programs and forms of examination, confirming examination's outcomes, focusing on training to advance knowledge and skills of applying online teaching software, training to improve organizational forms and cooperating with family to instruct teachers who are responsible to manage online class ....during this new normal.
- The Ministry of Information and Communications pays attention, develops and prints materials, particularly, prevalent communication materials, extends time for propagation in mass media.
- Ministries, departments strengthen to cooperate with social organization on implementing activities to advance knowledge for caregivers and children about the possibility of dangers that children face while using internet, particularly in a relation with secure information skills and skills to prevent bully, violence, sexual assault in the internet environment.
- Local affiliations of Vietnam Association of Protection Children's Rights (VACR) strengthen network, cooperate with involving organizations, adopt and gather information from members and community to publicize information, suggest, consult to institution, organization, educational organization,...in accordance with ensuring children's rights in prevention action to emergency situation. (disease, disaster,..)