

# Gender Awareness in ICT with Focus on Education

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# Gender Awareness

- Interest
- Young Communication
- Pilot study



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# Gender Awareness



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- Discourse on ICT
- ICT among **young people**
- Described in terms of how boys behave
- Need for gender to be an integral part of ICT discussion

# Young Communication

- Collaborative project
- 3 universities in south-east Sweden
- 5 year: 2006 – 2011

# Aims of Young Communication

- Improve ICT competence of teachers, student teachers and teacher trainers
- Bridge the gap between young people's reality and schools
- Collaboration between schools and universities



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# Gender awareness in ICT with focus on education- approach



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1. Are there differences and if so, what are they?
  2. What does this mean for ICT in education?
- Pilot study- April 2008
  - Main study- Autumn 2008

# Gender awareness in ICT with focus on education- approach



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- Bring results into schools
- Seminars
- Explore ideas with teachers and student teachers
- Reflection on current teaching in ICT
- Open forum for discussion and improved awareness

# Target group

- South-east Sweden
- Lower secondary schools
- Upper secondary schools
- Age 13 -19 years



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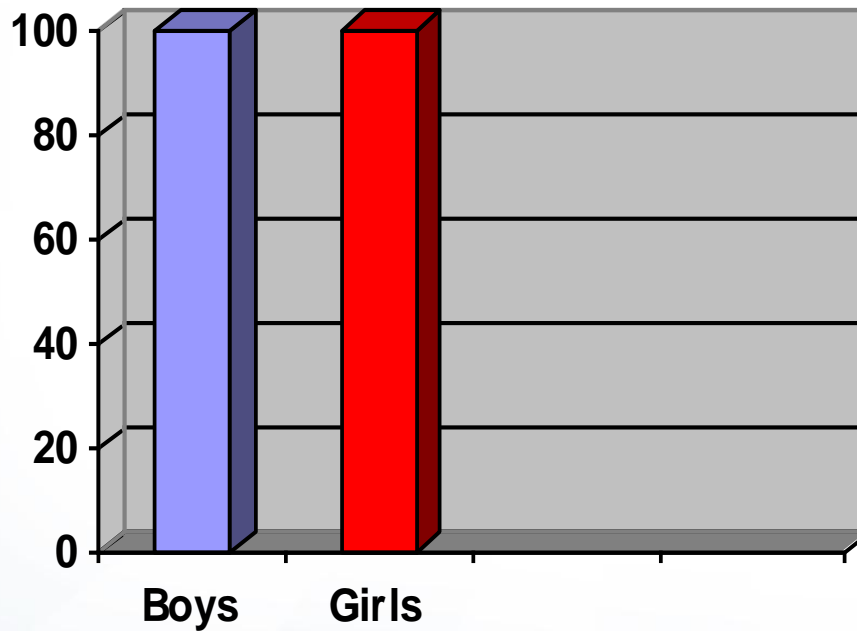
# Pilot study



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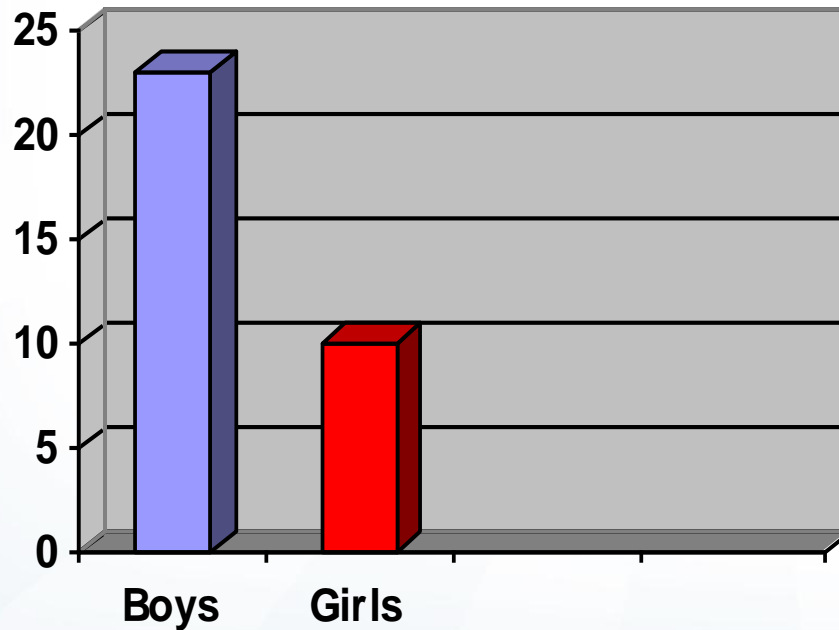
- One lower secondary class- 15 year olds
- One upper secondary class- 17 year olds
  
- Possible respondents – 50
- Actual respondents – 33

# Access to computer and Internet at home



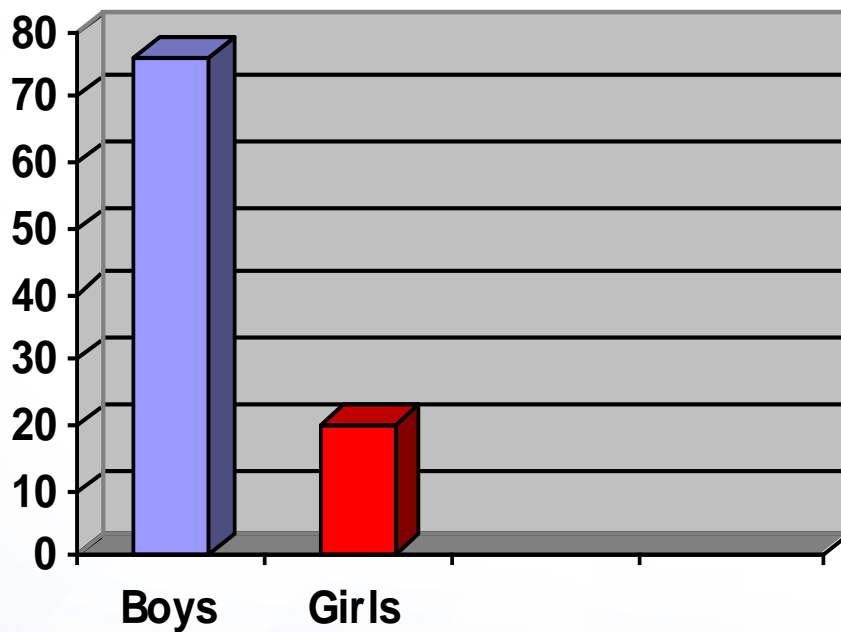
# Attitudes

- Ratio of boys to girls who answered questionnaire. 2:1



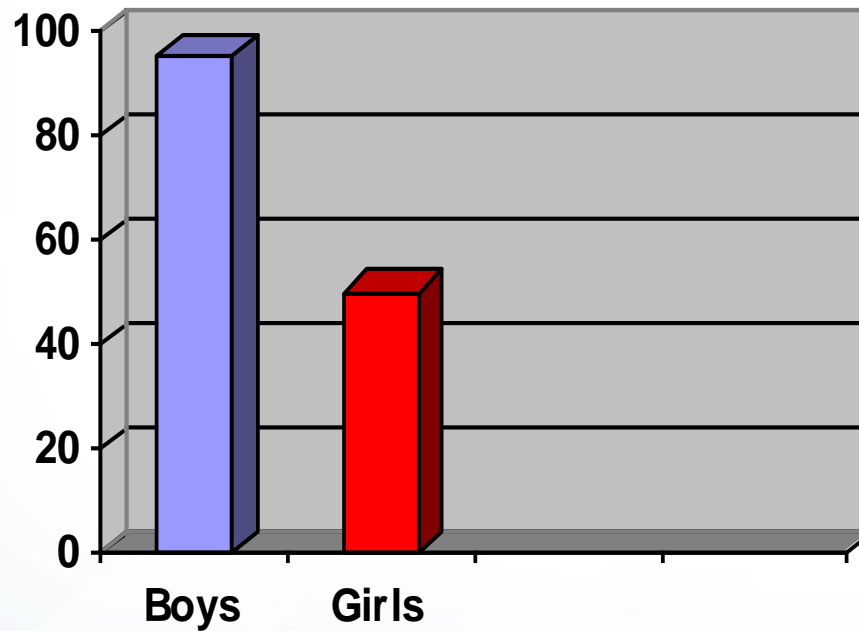
# Time spent on computer daily

- More than 2 hours per day



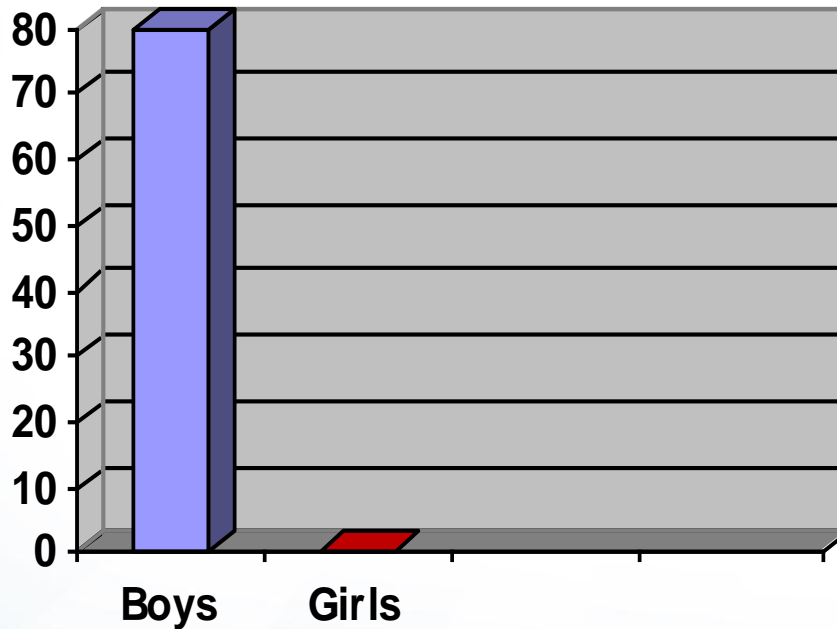
# Gaming

Do you play games on the computer?



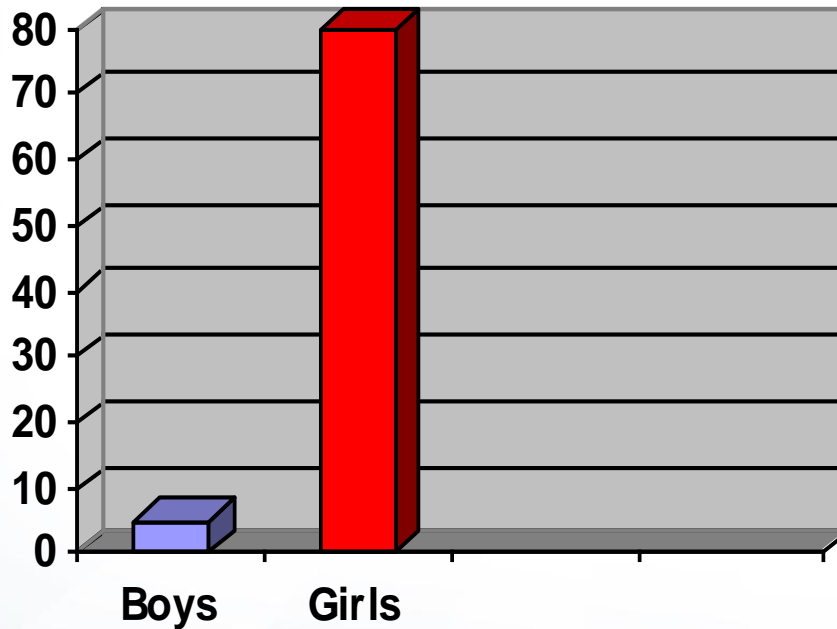
# Types of games

Do you play action games on the computer?



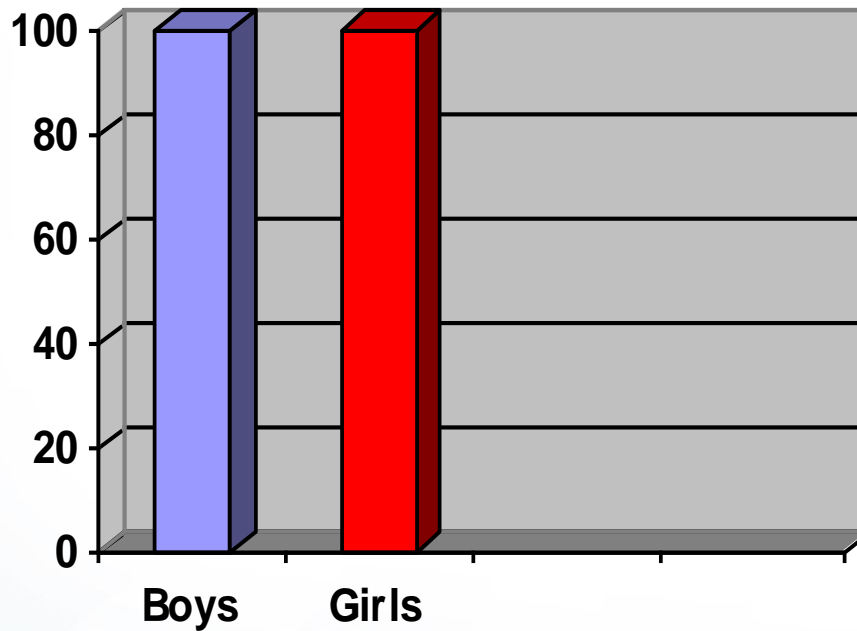
# Types of games

Do you play games like "The Sims"?



# Chatting

Do you use the computer to chat?



# Attitudes



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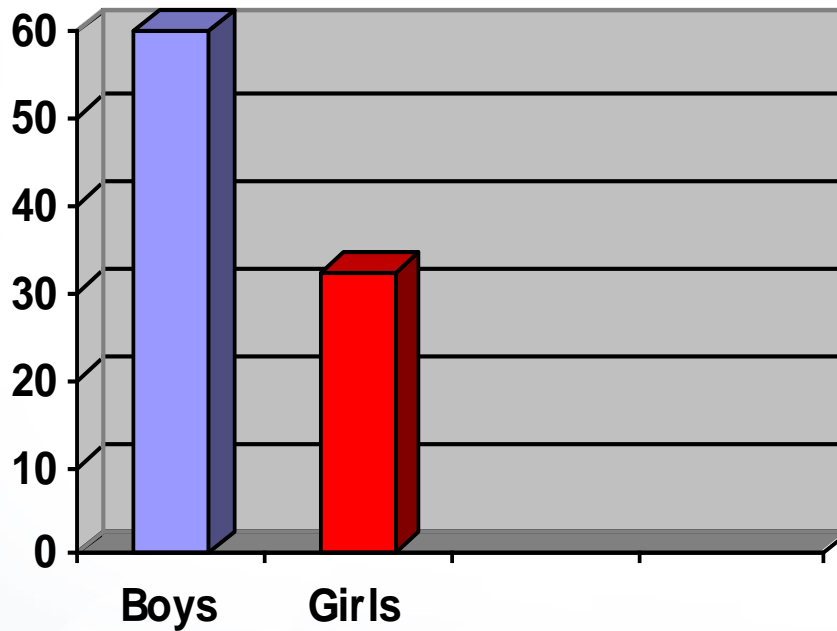
- Boys believe they are better than girls at ICT
- Girls believe that boys are better than girls at ICT

# Comments

- Boys:
- "Boys are more interested in computers"
- "Girls have no idea of what computers can do"
- "But some girls are good at computers"
  
- Girls:
- "Boys are more interested"
- "Boys play more games"
- "Girls can do as much as boys with computers"

# Teaching of ICT

- My teachers are good at teaching ICT.



# Indications from pilot study- summary

- More boys than girls answered
- Boys **and** girls believe that boys are better than girls at ICT
- Boys play more games
- Girls **and** boys chat
- **Only 30% of girls think that teaching of ICT in schools is good**



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# Questions?