



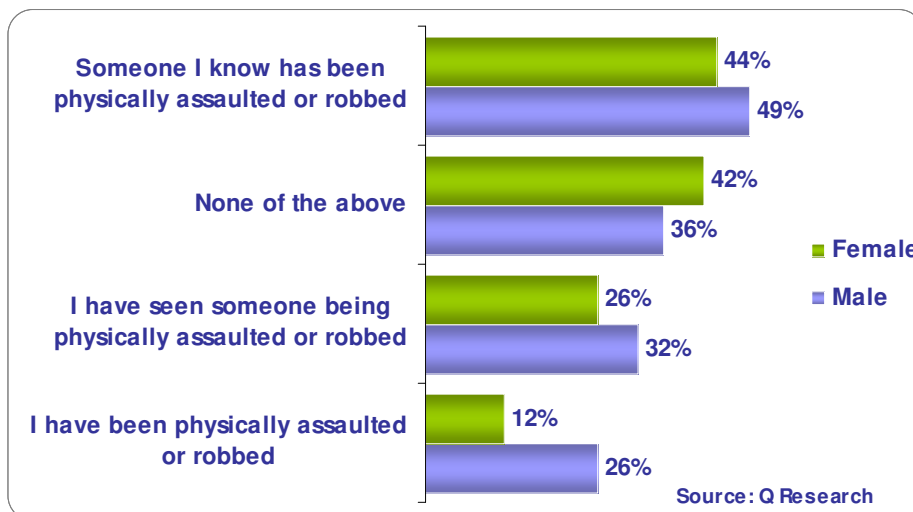
19% of Britain's 11-19 year olds have been the victim of robbery or assault

Almost half know someone who has been physically assaulted or robbed

London 25th February 2008 Youth research specialist Q Research today publishes the findings from its latest survey, revealing the experiences, concerns and opinions of Britain's young people about robbery, assault and carrying weapons. The survey, carried out at the end of 2007, reveals a shocking level of experience of violent crime amongst the UK's youth and overwhelming opposition to young people carrying weapons.

Almost half (49%) of males and 44% of females know someone who has been assaulted or robbed, with more than a quarter of males (26%) having personally been a victim of assault or robbery. More than a quarter of females and 32% of males have actually witnessed an assault or robbery taking place.

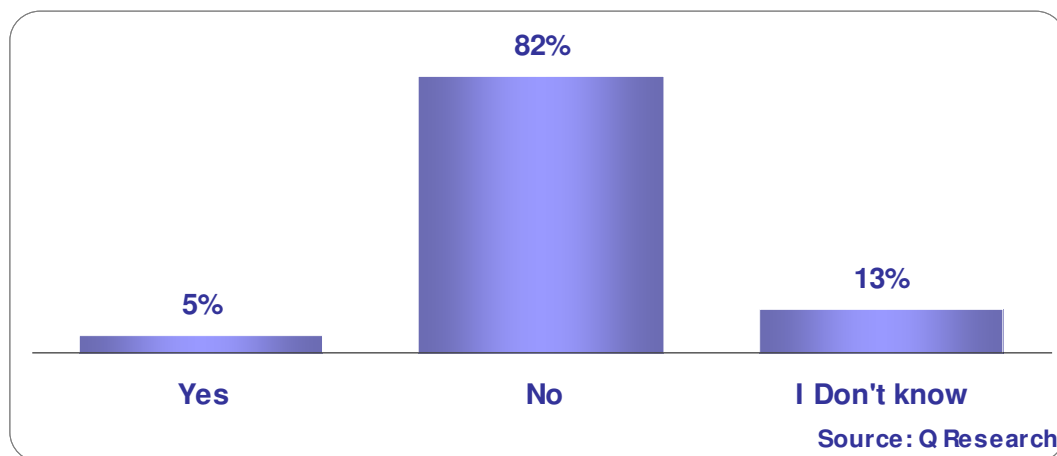
Have you ever seen or experienced any of the following?



50% of all respondents agreed with the statement 'I think violence against young people is increasing all over the country', with only 17% agreeing with the statement 'I don't think violence amongst young people is increasing, it is just the media making an issue of it'.

With so many young people experiencing violence, either by seeing it first hand or being a victim themselves, it is not surprising that the overwhelming majority (82%) do not think it is acceptable for young people to carry weapons. Verbatim comments like this one were typical of the responses to this question; "If one person has a weapon every one in their 'clique' gets one and if anyone is afraid of them they get a weapon and the chain goes on. By having a weapon it increases violence." Of the 5% who believed it was acceptable to carry weapons, the reason they gave was self-defence, with comments such as "Nowadays you need protection".

Do you think it's OK for young people to carry weapons?



Liam Corcoran, Q Research's Managing Director, says: "This survey shows just how frightening Britain is for today's 11-19 year olds. Half believe violence is increasing against and amongst young people. The responses about carrying weapons indicate that there is some concern that being armed is the only way to guarantee your own safety. It's no wonder young people spend time on the Internet in virtual worlds and creating their own social networks and communities when their real world is so scary."

Ends

Note to editors

The survey was sent to 1200 Q panellists aged 11 to 19 years at the end of November 2007.

About Q Research

Q Research helps companies and organisations understand today's youth. To reach one of the hardest audiences to survey Q Research uses cutting edge technology to carry out research using mobile phones and the Internet. With the Q Panel, weekly omnibus and custom research, we help our clients engage and understand the youth audience. www.q-blue.com

Media Enquiries

Lucy Green, PR Manager

Tel: +44 (0)7817 698366

Email : lgreen@greenfieldscommunications.co.uk