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# The Austrian Female Farmers' Perspective on Cooperation between Partners and Generations

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# Content – live on the farm?

- **The actors**
- **Data and methods**
- **Select areas of cooperation and interaction**  
(partnership, cohabitation, parental duties and caregiving)
- **Reflections**

# Data and methods – setting the scene?

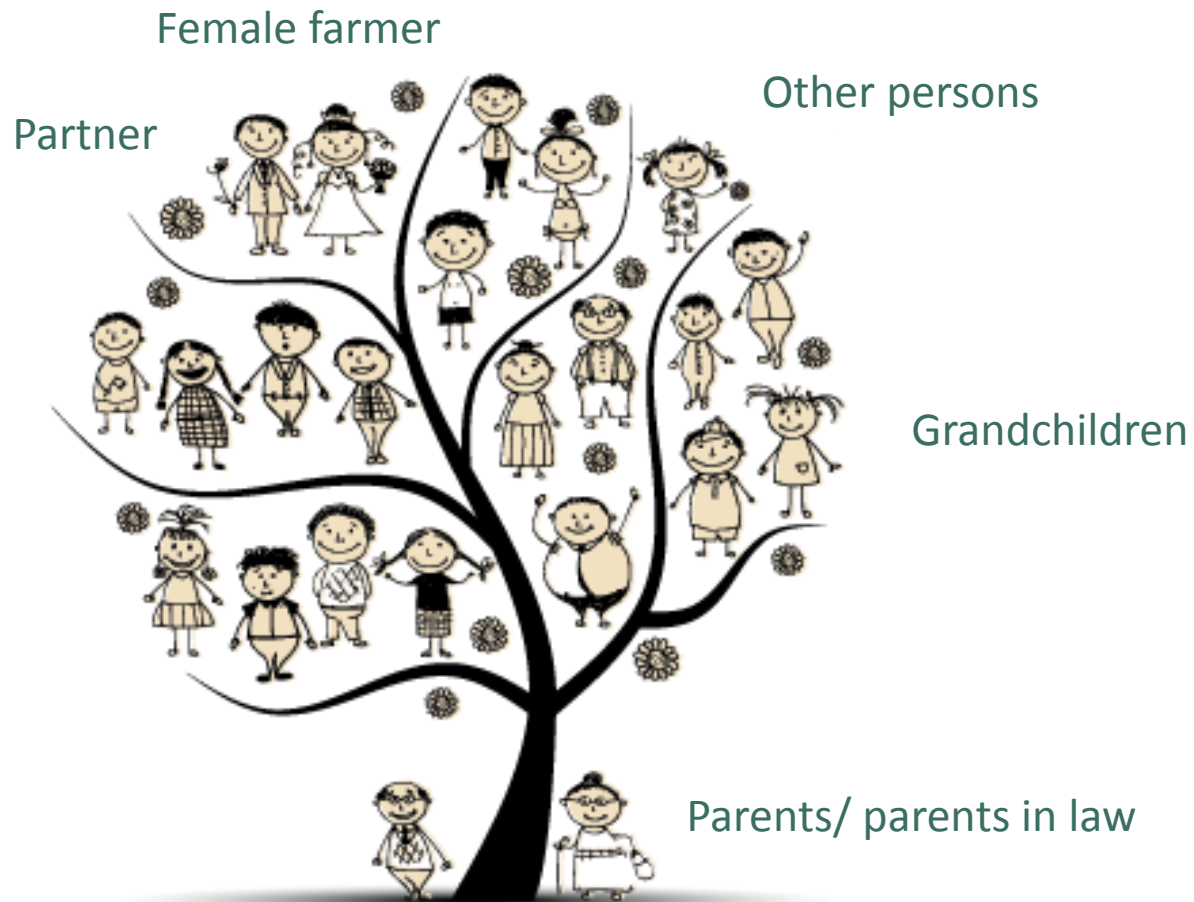
- **Survey of female farmers**
  - Study area: Austria
  - Online survey
  - Agricultural population 115,615 farms
  - Relevant 2,200 questionnaires
  
- **Descriptive analysis**

# The actors involved – cast list?

**Extended family**



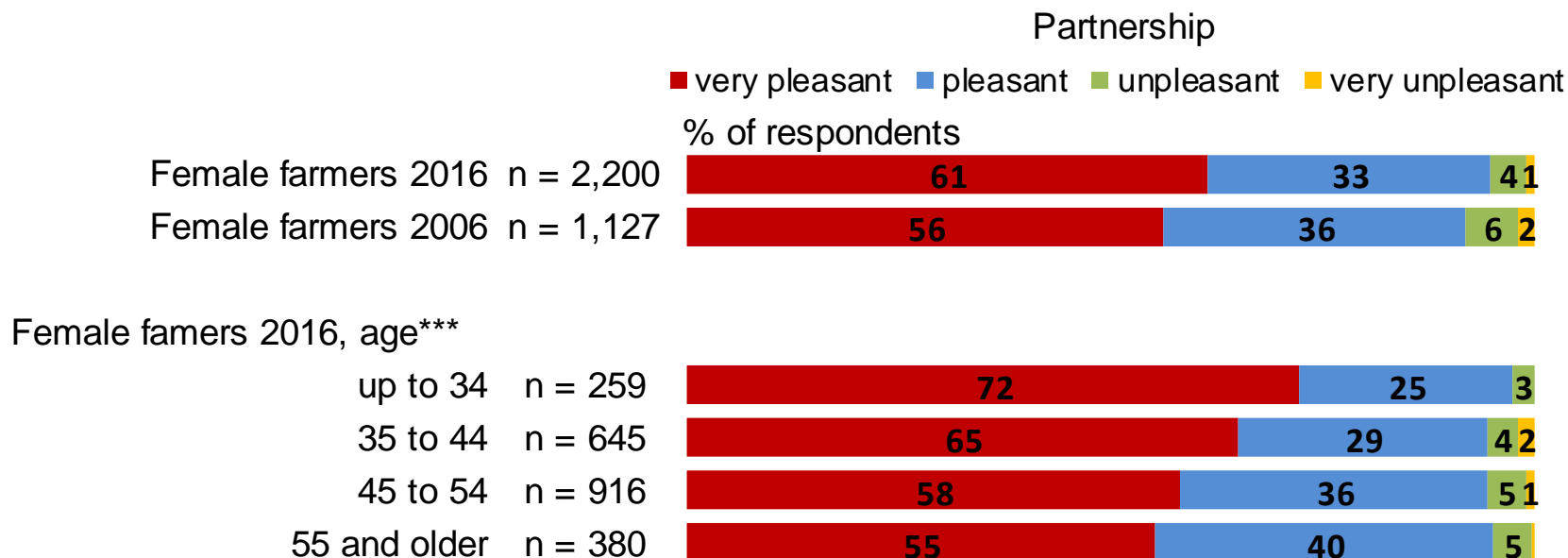
Children



Source: <http://active-body.info/pages/f/family-cartoon/>

# Partnership – heaven or hell?

- 92% of the respondents live in a partnership.
- The relationship with the partner is evaluated as good.

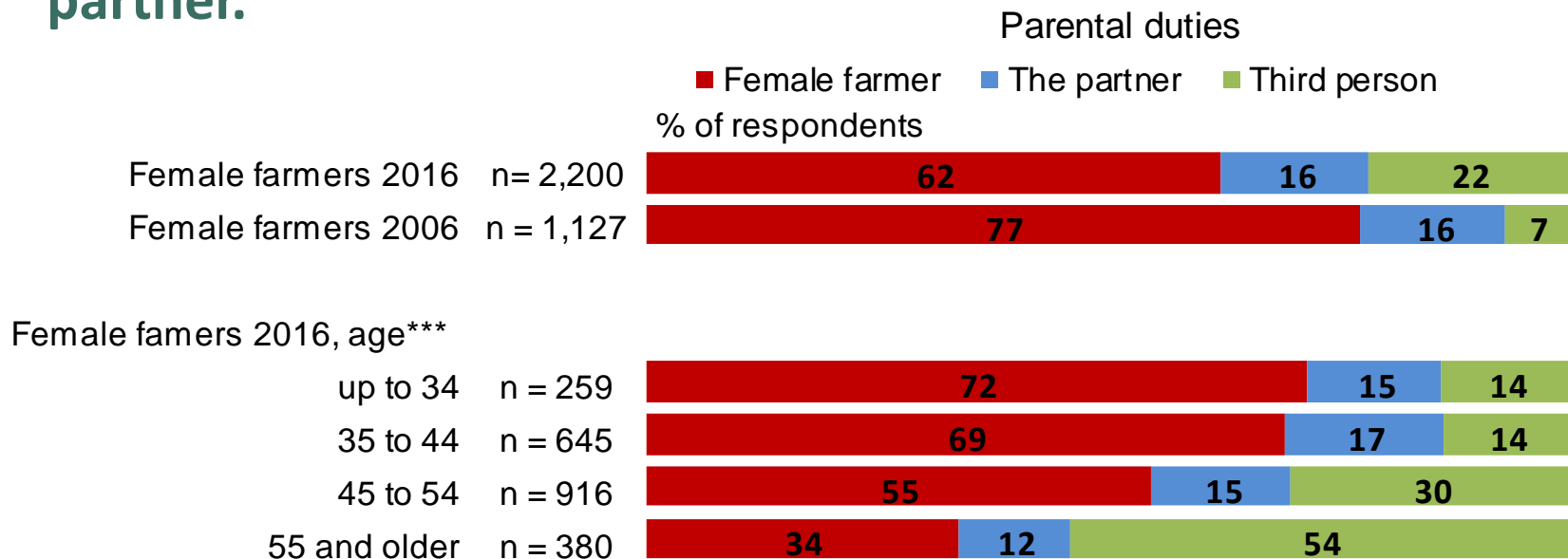


\*\*\* highly significant ( $p \leq 0.001$ ).

Source: Survey of female farmers 2016.

# Parental duties – how much, by whom?

- A female farmer has 2.6 children on average.
- The bringing up of children is evaluated as good.
- The main care work is done by the female farmer and her partner.

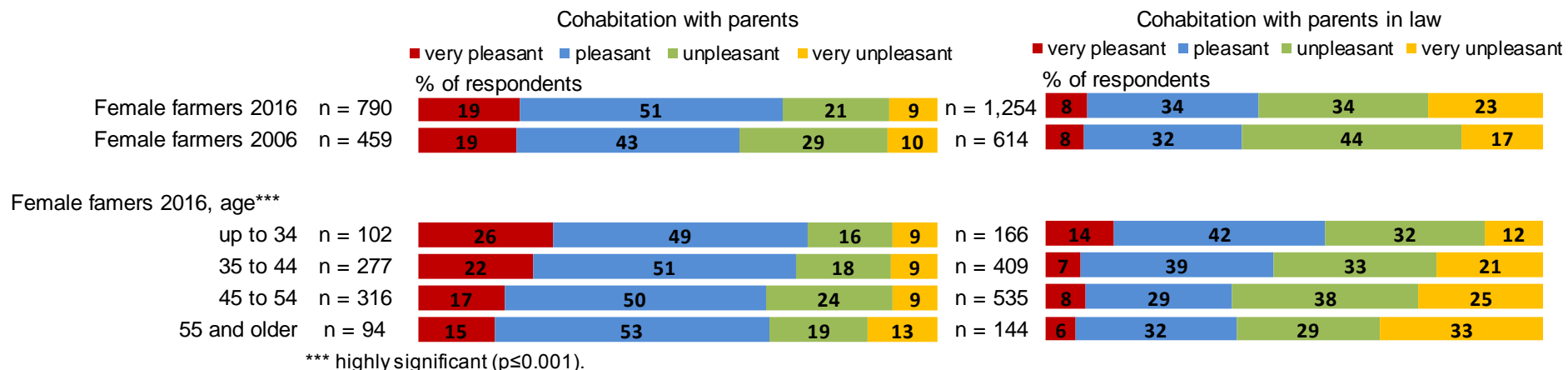


\*\*\* highly significant ( $p \leq 0.001$ )

Source: Survey of female farmers 2016.

# Cohabitation – heaven or hell?

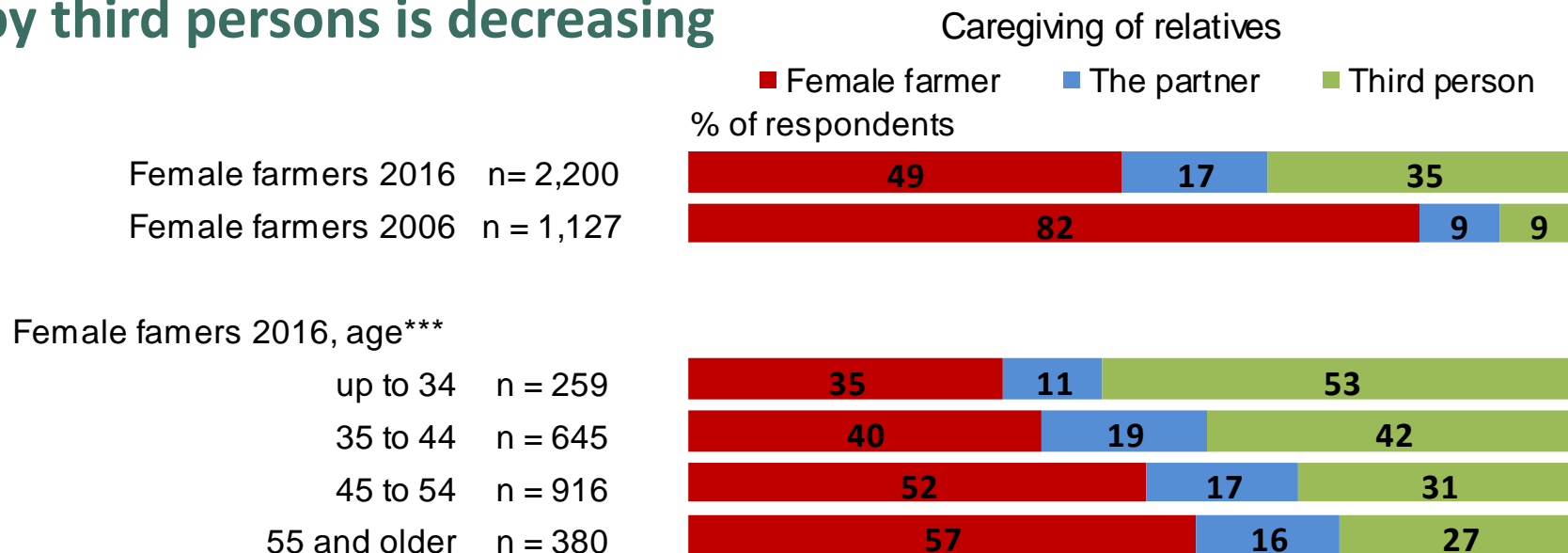
- 50% of the respondents live together with one or both of the predecessors on the farm.
- With increasing age, living on the farm with parents or in-laws is felt less and less pleasant.



Source: Survey of female farmers 2016.

# Caregiving – how much, by whom?

- On 16% of the farms there are relatives who need to be cared for.
- Female farmers do the most of the caring for elderly people in need.
- With age female farmers do more caregiving and the work done by third persons is decreasing



Source: Survey of female farmers 2016. \*\*\* highly significant ( $p \leq 0.001$ )



# Reflections – the way forward?

- **The way in Austria**
  - Austria is very traditional regarding partnerships.
  - Partnerships and cooperation between generations ensure continuity.
- **Further research**
  - Measurements and evidence-based practices of cooperation
  - Cross-regional, cross-cultural studies
  - New cooperation models

# Thank you



*We can see that all the desirable experiences  
that we cherish or aspire to attain are  
dependent upon cooperation and interaction  
with other sentient beings.*

*~ Dalai Lama*



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XXXVII CIESTA

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13-15 June 2017, Palermo, Italy

