

Is career a male thing?

# Outline

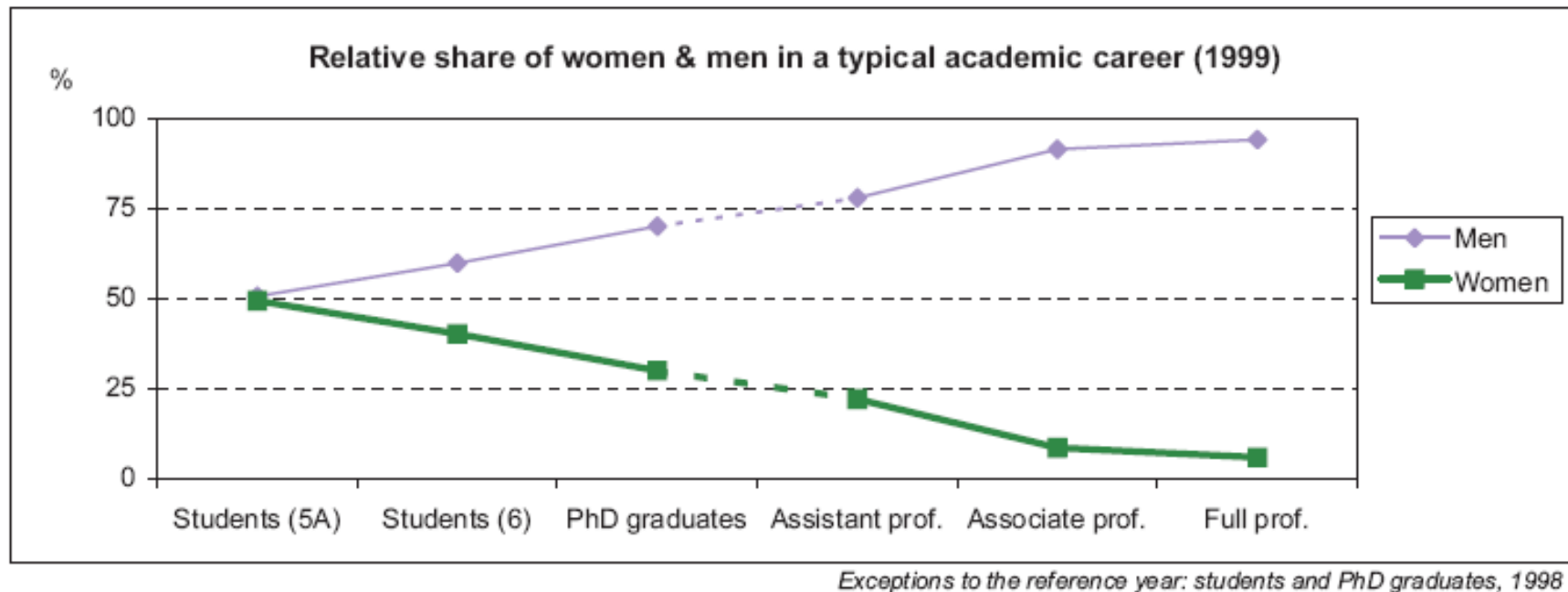
- Stating the obvious: only few women in high positions
- What's the situation of people in career: stress, single-mindedness, solitude
- A different attitude towards career:
- Enjoy your work, enjoy your life, stay a social person

# What I'm NOT gonna talk about

- Child care
- Marrying a house-man
- ... and other external conditions

# Stating the obvious:

## % of women in academia in the Netherlands (1999)

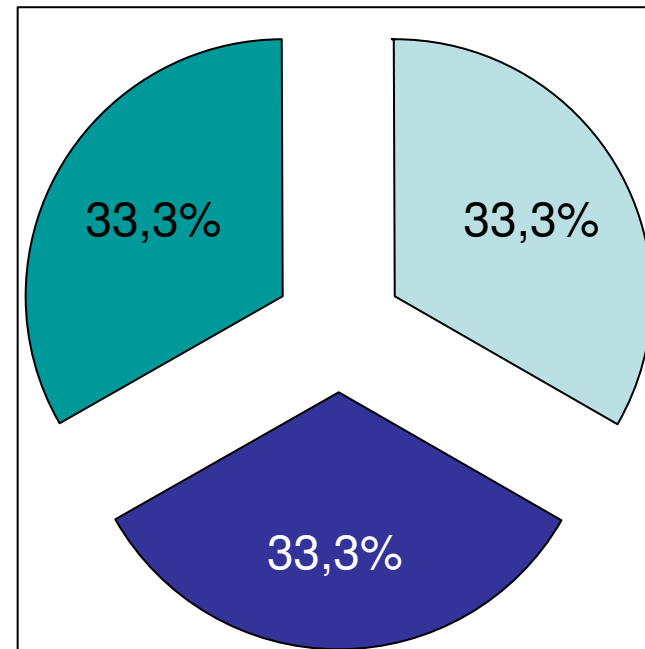


source: NATIONAL POLICIES ON WOMEN AND SCIENCE IN EUROPE, a report about Women and Science in 30 countries, by Prof. Teresa Rees, School of Social Sciences, Cardiff University, U.K., March 2002, published by the European Commission.

# Situation during your career

What do you do the whole day?

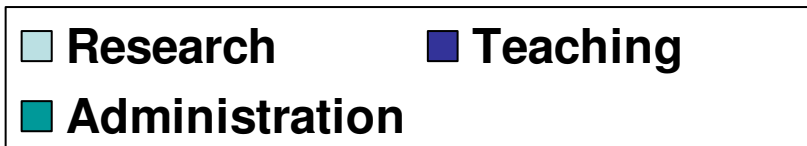
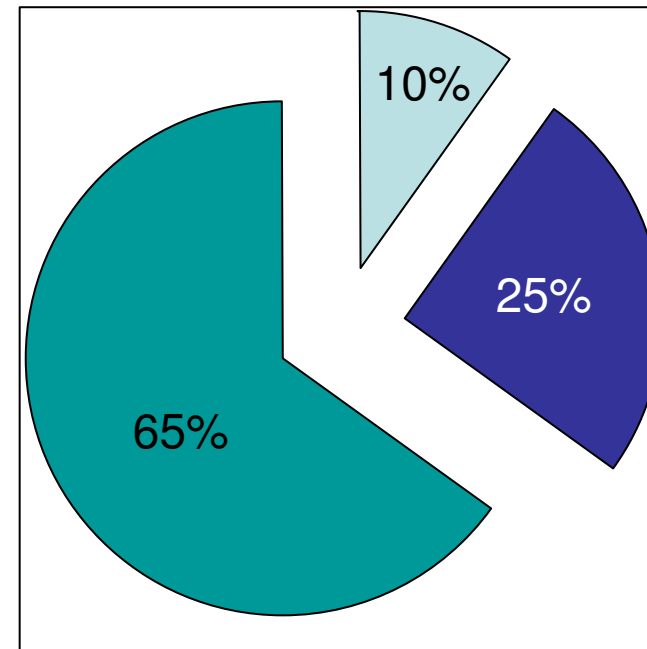
- “Well, I do research, teaching and administration.”
- (This would be nice)



# Situation during your career

What do you do the whole day?

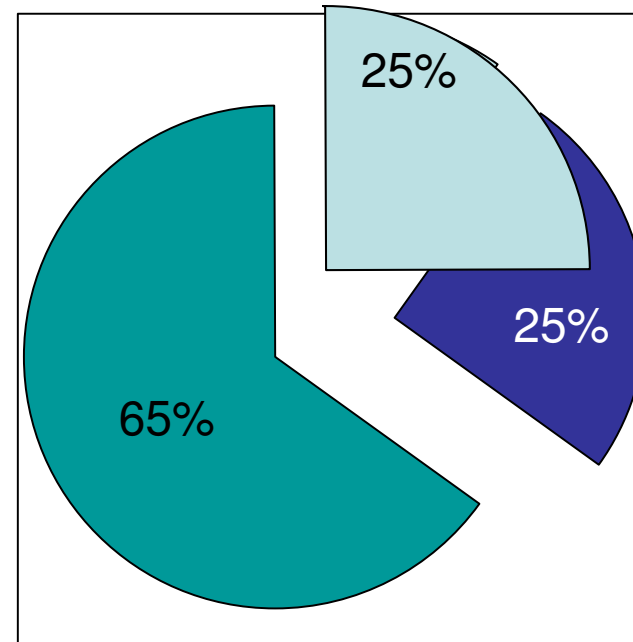
- “Well, I do research, teaching and administration.”
- (This is the more realistic picture)



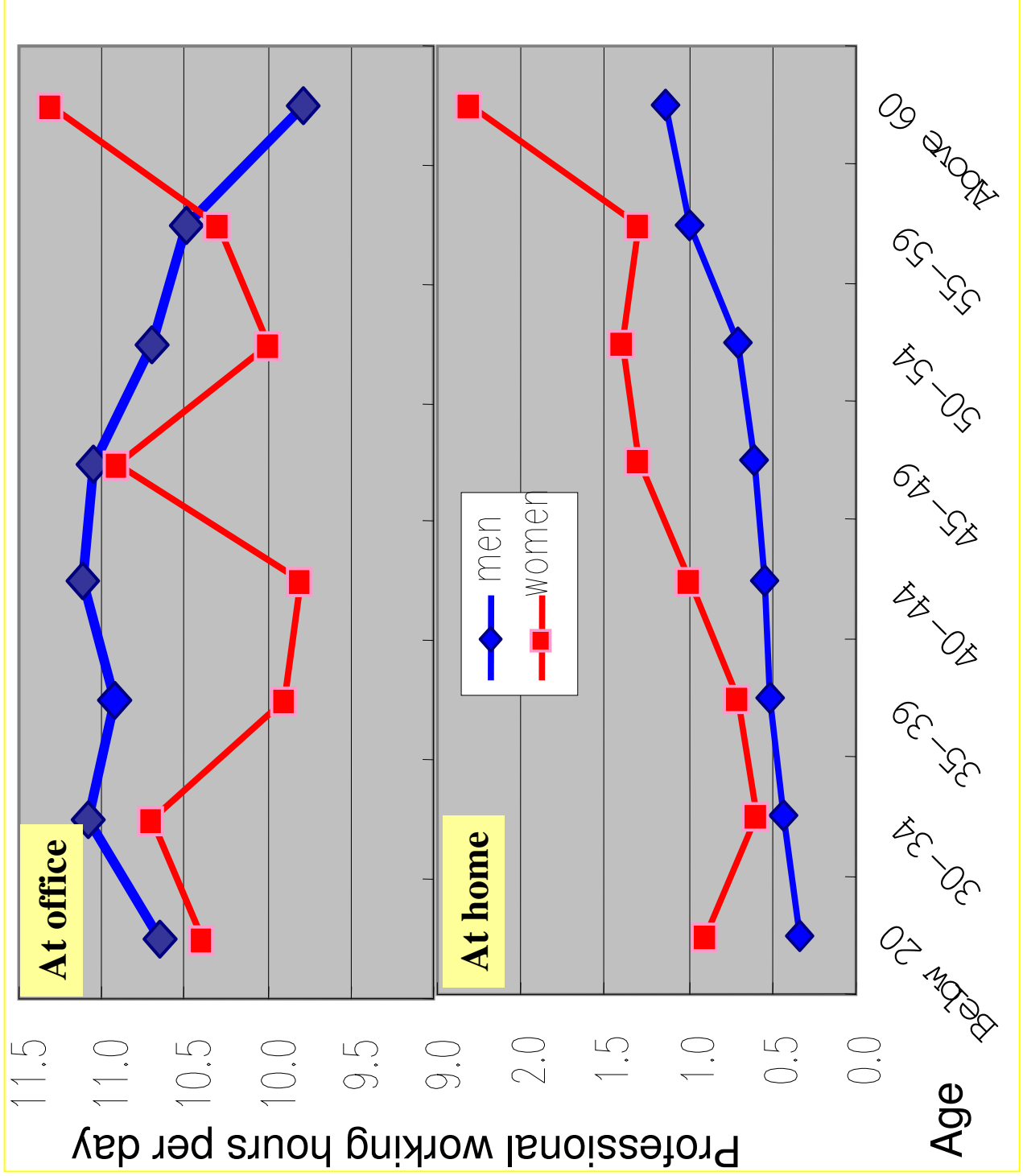
# Situation during your career

What do you do the whole day?

- If you try to do more research you usually find yourself in this situation
- Invent the 34 hour day



# The usual consequence





# Typical consequences

- Stress (The *Gastritis*-Project)
- Becoming a workaholic (... well, you know)
- Fast food ( The 'Ramen Noodles' principle)
- Few social contacts (single-mindedness)
- Little time for your partner / children (The 'Thrice divorced before becoming professor' - Project)
  
- Social deprivation

**Do we really want this?**

# Back to the topic: What's that to do with gender?

- Women often care more about their social contacts
- Women invest more time and energy in the family / partnership
- Are we really striving to adapt to this system?

# Conclusions

- **Women:**
- Focus: Say “No” to requests detaining you too much from your goal which is your research
- Request that your scientific quality counts for your career and not mainly your commitment measured in hours
- **Men and women:**
- Change your thinking: Career does (or at least ought) NOT necessarily lead to becoming a workaholic

... just think about it.