

Perspectives on Home Modifications for Accessibility, Affordability, and Aesthetics

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BACKGROUND

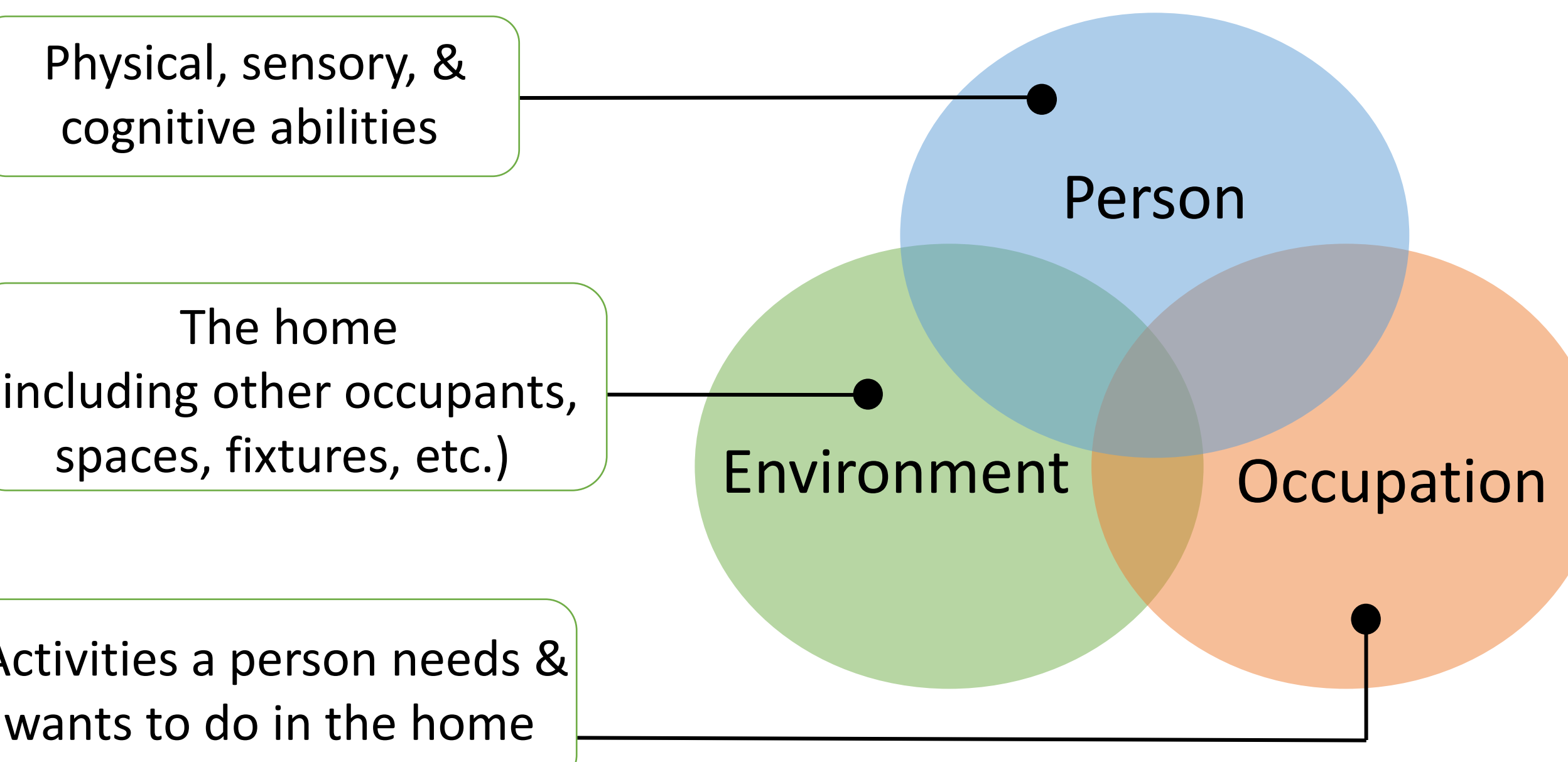
- The development of design standards & accessibility for individuals with disabilities or functional limitations have advanced considerably¹
- Issues still exist concerning accessibility due to spatial & structural barriers in residential homes^{2,3}
- Repurposing fixtures or spaces may be a way to address these concerns

OBJECTIVES

- Identify innovative accessible, affordable, & attractive solutions that re-purpose residential fixtures or spaces to improve accessibility for individuals with functional limitations
- Provide data to inform the next phase of a larger study (Project Re-Envision)

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

PERSON-ENVIRONMENT-OCCUPATION (PEO)



METHODS

- Two focus groups (N=16)
 - Consumers (n=8): individuals with low vision & functional mobility limitations
 - Professionals (n=8): individuals working in the field of home modifications
 - E.g. Occupational & Physical Therapists, architects, & building renovators
- Participants were asked to complete a Likert scale on the accessibility & attractiveness of proposed solutions
- NVivo 12 Software for data management & coding

THEMES

Accessibility

- "...great, but for me, I can't do it [solution offered] because I can't take the steps." - Consumer
- Sub-themes:** High Contrast, Height, Doors, & Flooring

Affordability

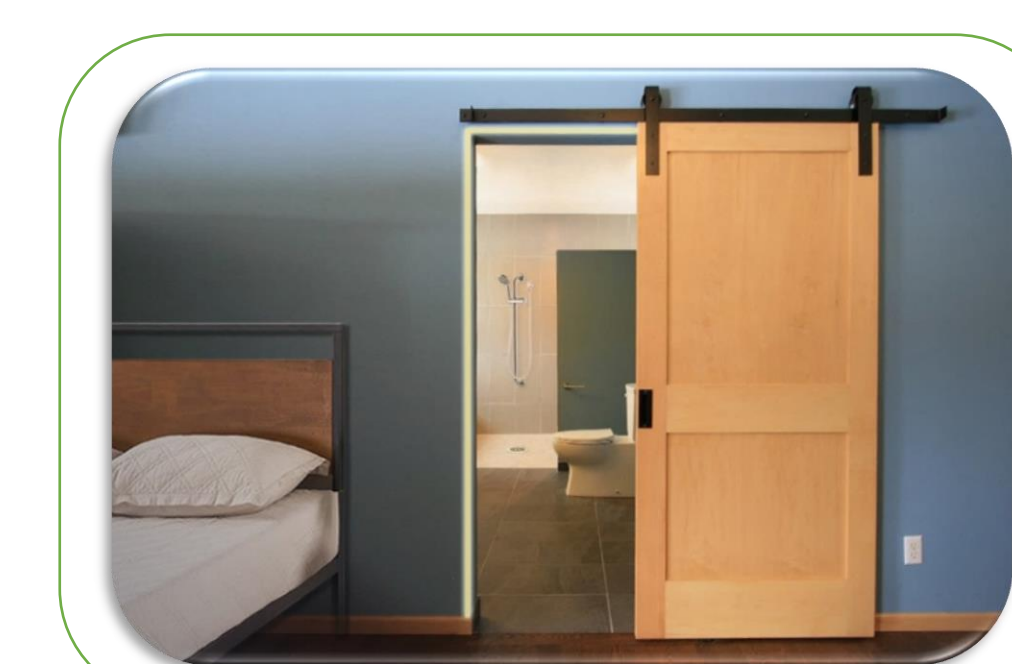
- "Do [a home modification] each year. Put the grab bars in this year, get a raised toilet in next year, just if they're going to stay at home then go ahead and bite the bullet and do it piece by piece." - Professional
- Sub-theme:** Do-It-Yourself (DIY)

Attractiveness

- "One thing that I don't like is I don't like glass doors in general because I can't see them well unless I do the tape, but it's kind of like, I kind of want my home to look nice without having duct tape everywhere, you know?" - Consumer

OUTCOMES

LIKERT SCALE RESULTS

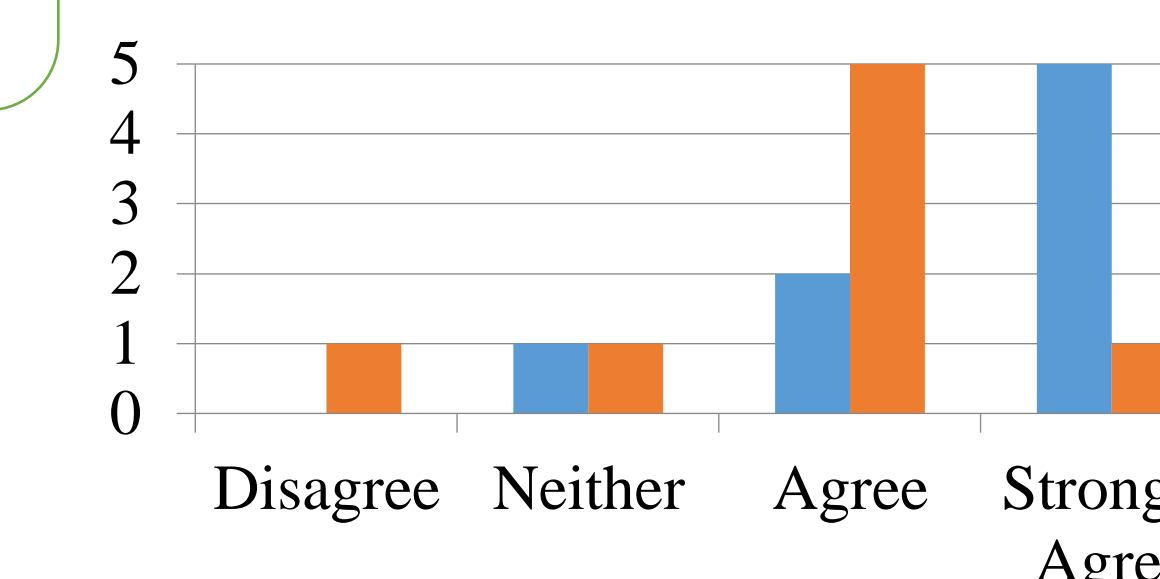


KEY

- Consumer (Blue)
- Professional (Orange)

Image 1

Accessibility



Attractiveness

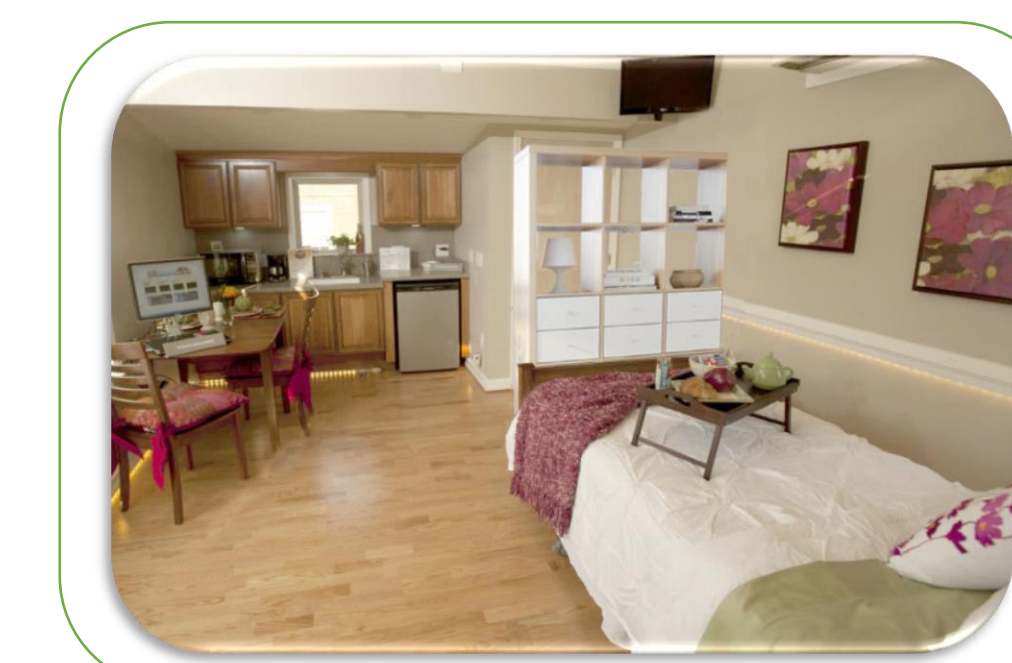
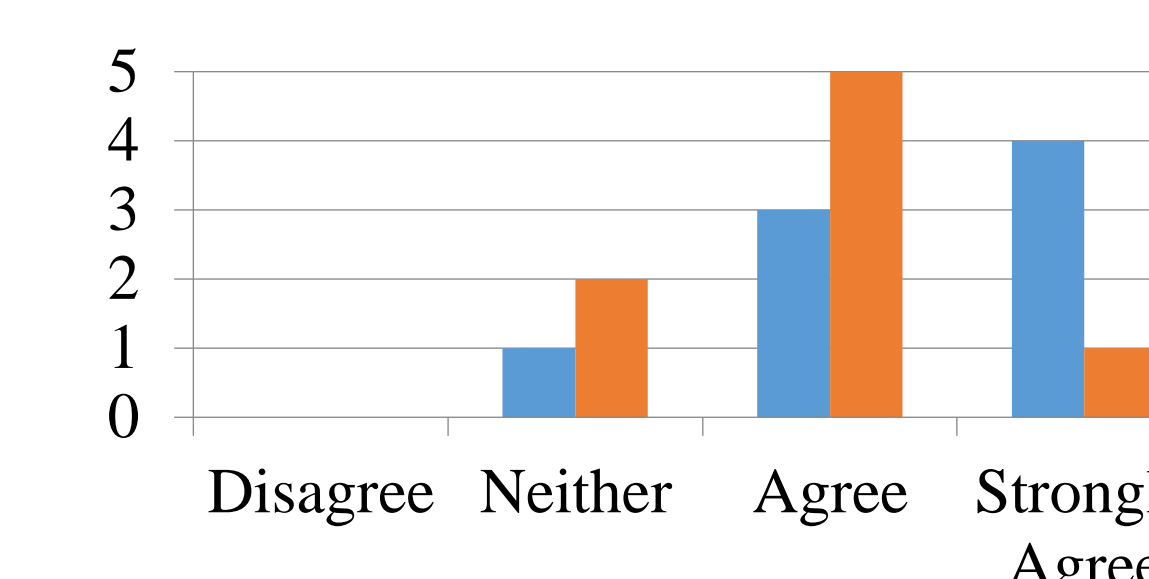


Image 2

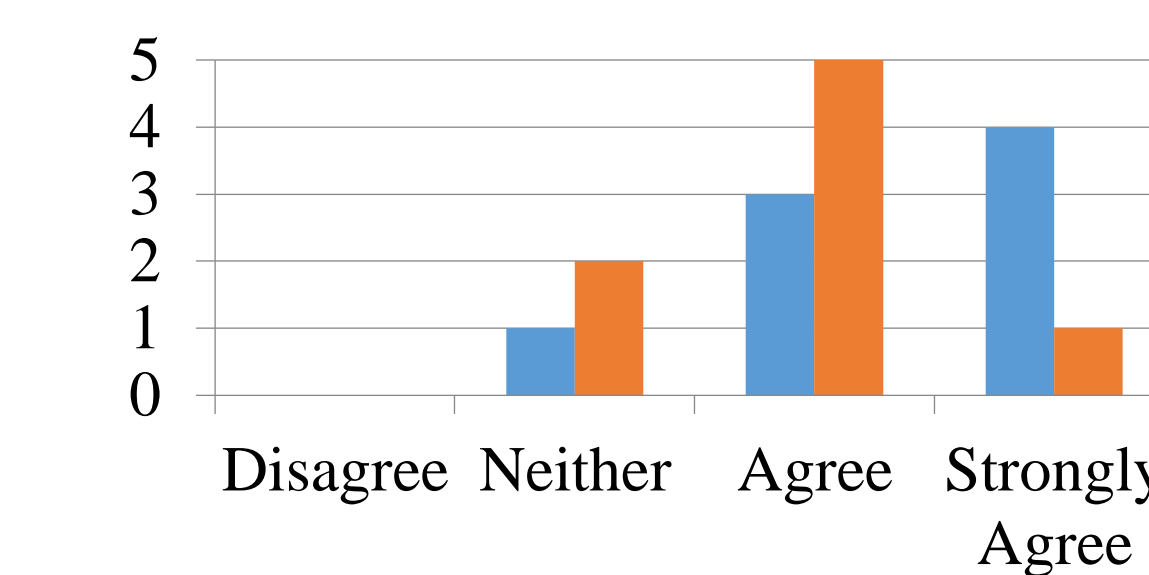
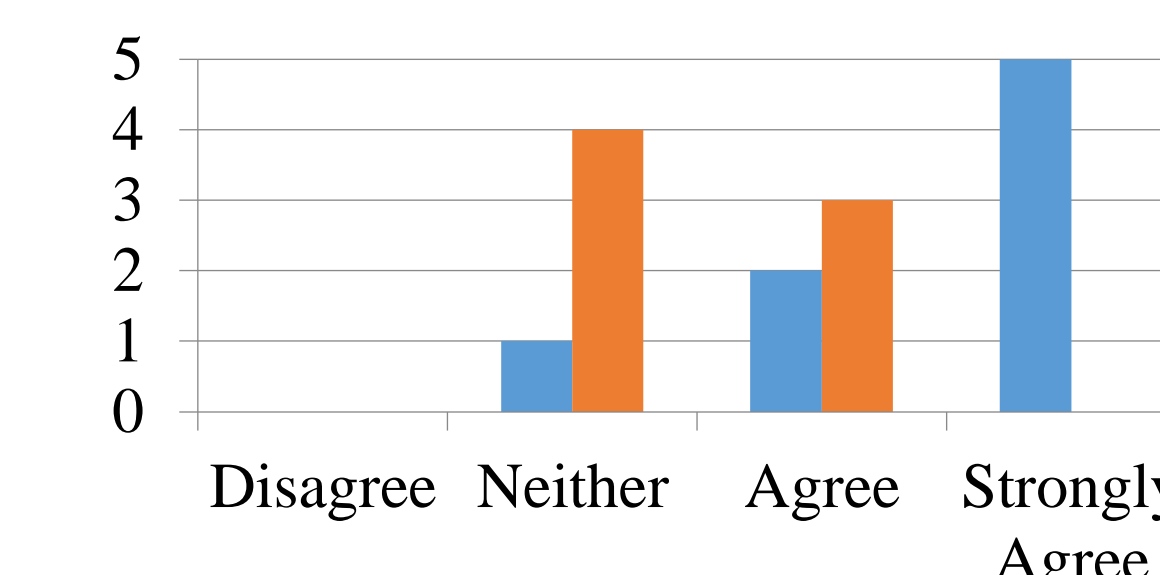
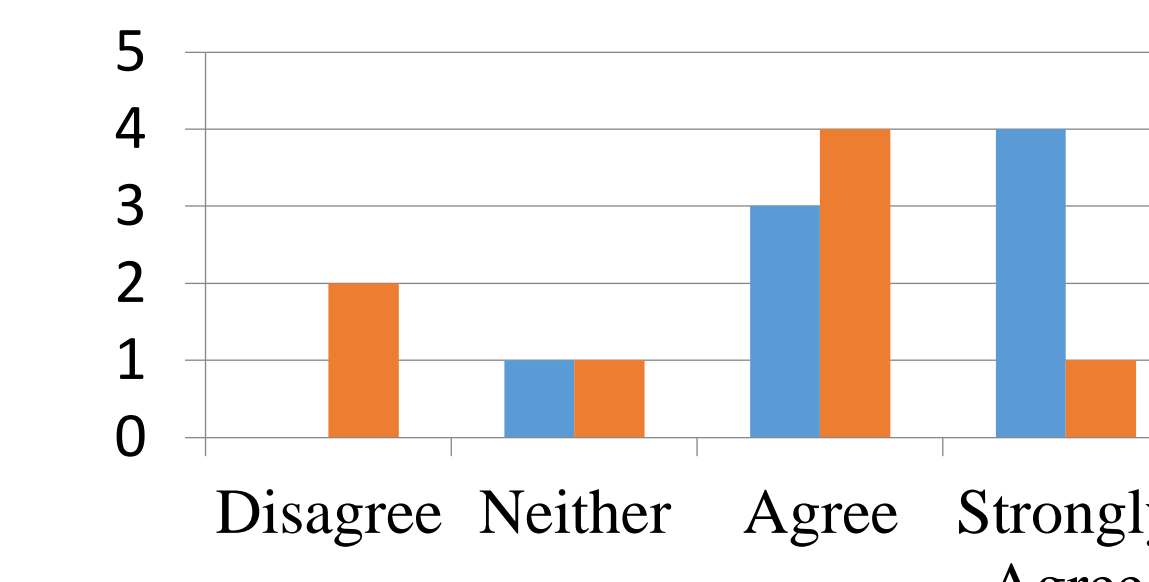
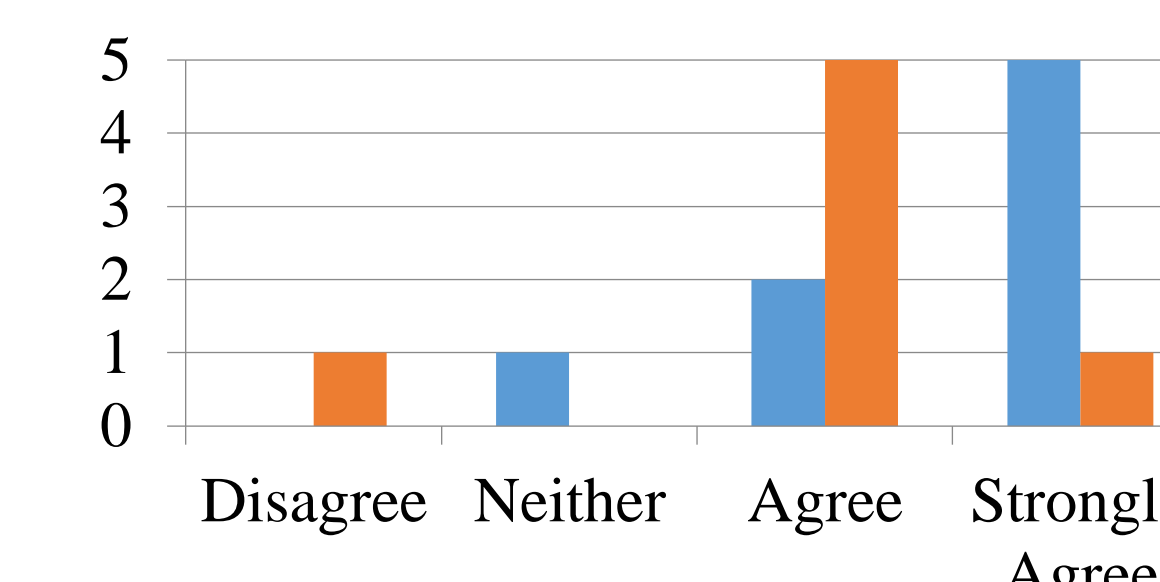


Image 3



FREQUENT WORDS

Consumers



Professionals



DISCUSSION

FUTURE DIRECTIONS

- Repurposed solutions may meet the needs of clients regarding accessibility, affordability, & attractiveness
- Both groups preferred solutions that were:
 - cost-effective
 - easily implemented
- Professionals prioritized safety & function over attractiveness while consumers often chose function over safety & attractiveness
- Client-centered solutions are needed to meet the needs & wants of consumers⁴

- Validate identified repurposed solutions with a larger sample
- Identify additional repurposed solutions
- Examine the balance between the benefit of repurposed solutions (e.g., low cost, everyday items used) & their limitations (e.g., safety, replicability)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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