

Awareness Raising
and Policy Improvement on

Social Care Services



Care work holds significant value in our society and includes a wide range of sectors.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) provides a comprehensive definition of care work, including **not only interpersonal care workers** such as caregivers and childcare workers, **but also professionals in the health and medical sectors** such as doctors, nurses, and therapists, as well as teachers in pre-primary, primary, and secondary schools (ILO, 2018).

Shall we closely examine the main results of **the survey conducted by the KWDI which targeted 10,270 respondents from the general public**, to understand how people perceive care work and social care?

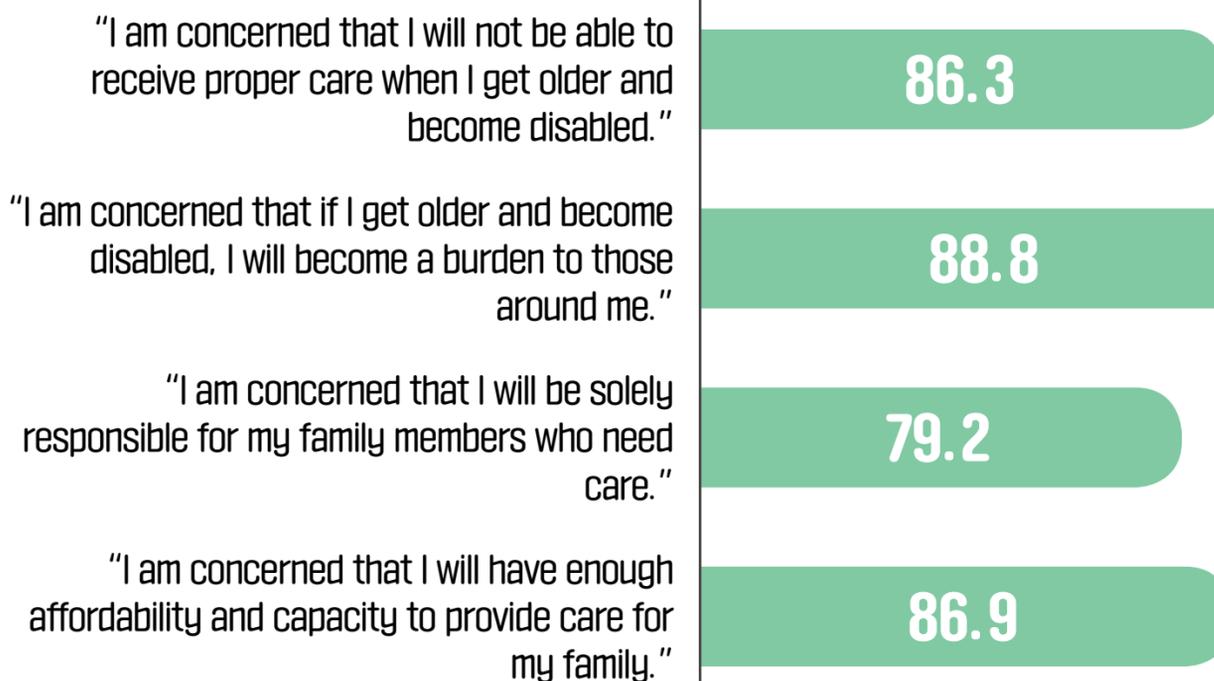
* This content is based on excerpts and summaries from the following 2022 research report of the Korean Women's Development Institute: Kim, E., Ma, K., Choi I., Kim, Y., Choi, J., Sung, K., & Yoon., J. (2022). A study on the Reorganization of Social Care from a Gender Perspective (I): The Transformation of the Care Policy Paradigm in the Age of Individualization. Seoul: Korean Women's Development Institute.

Care Anxiety

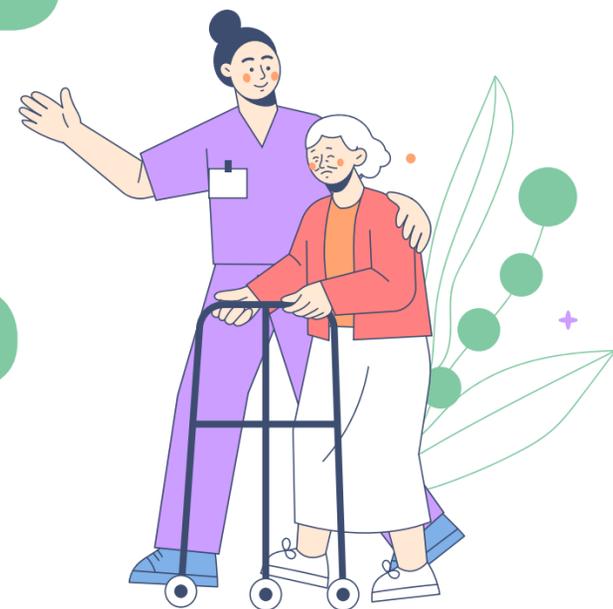
First, most of the respondents expressed their **concerns about the possibility of receiving care in the future or caring for family members who will need care.**

<Figure 1> Care Anxiety

(Unit: %)



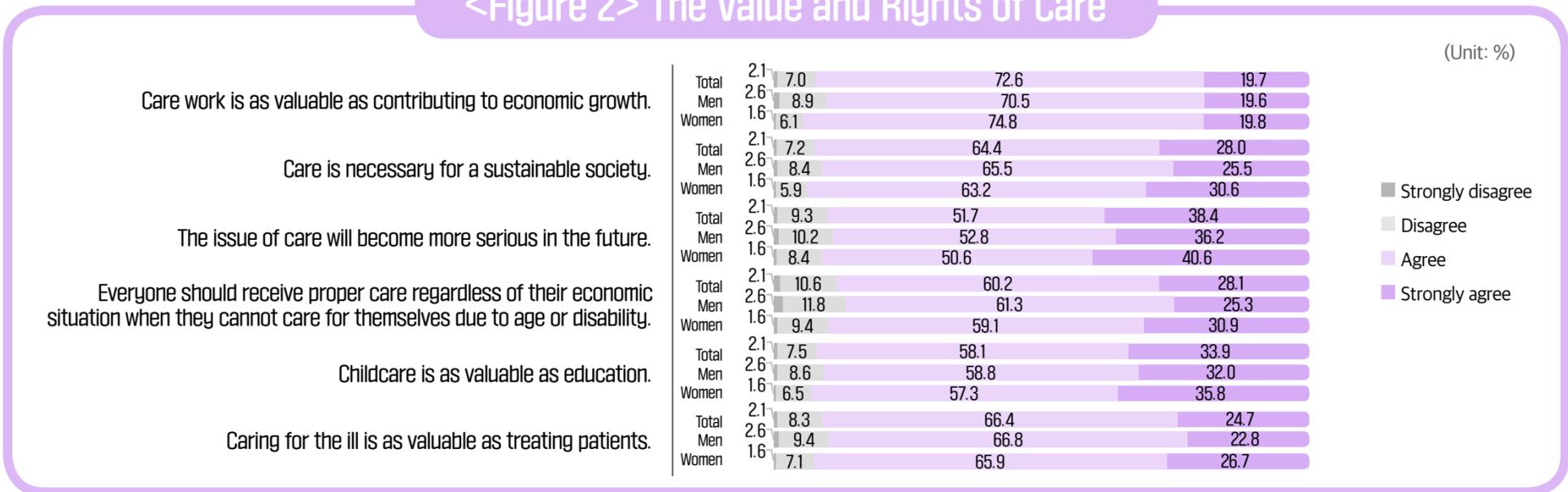
■ Strongly agree + Agree



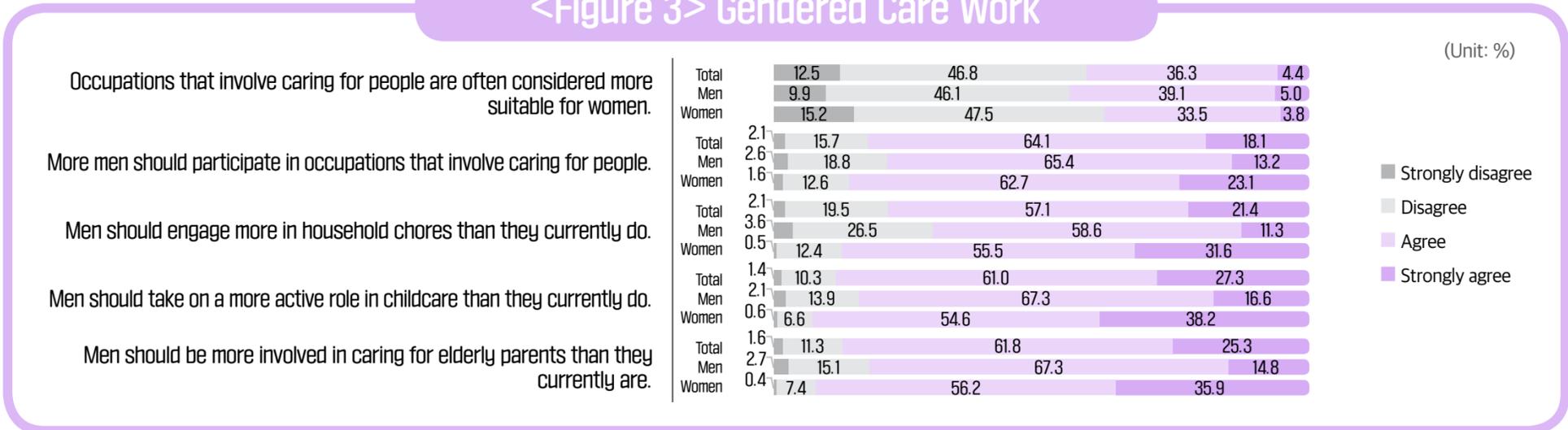
Perception of Care

In general, **care** has been perceived to hold **significant value** in various aspects such as the sustainability of society and universal rights. In addition, the majority of the respondents have expressed the opinion that **both men and women should participate in care**.

<Figure 2> The Value and Rights of Care



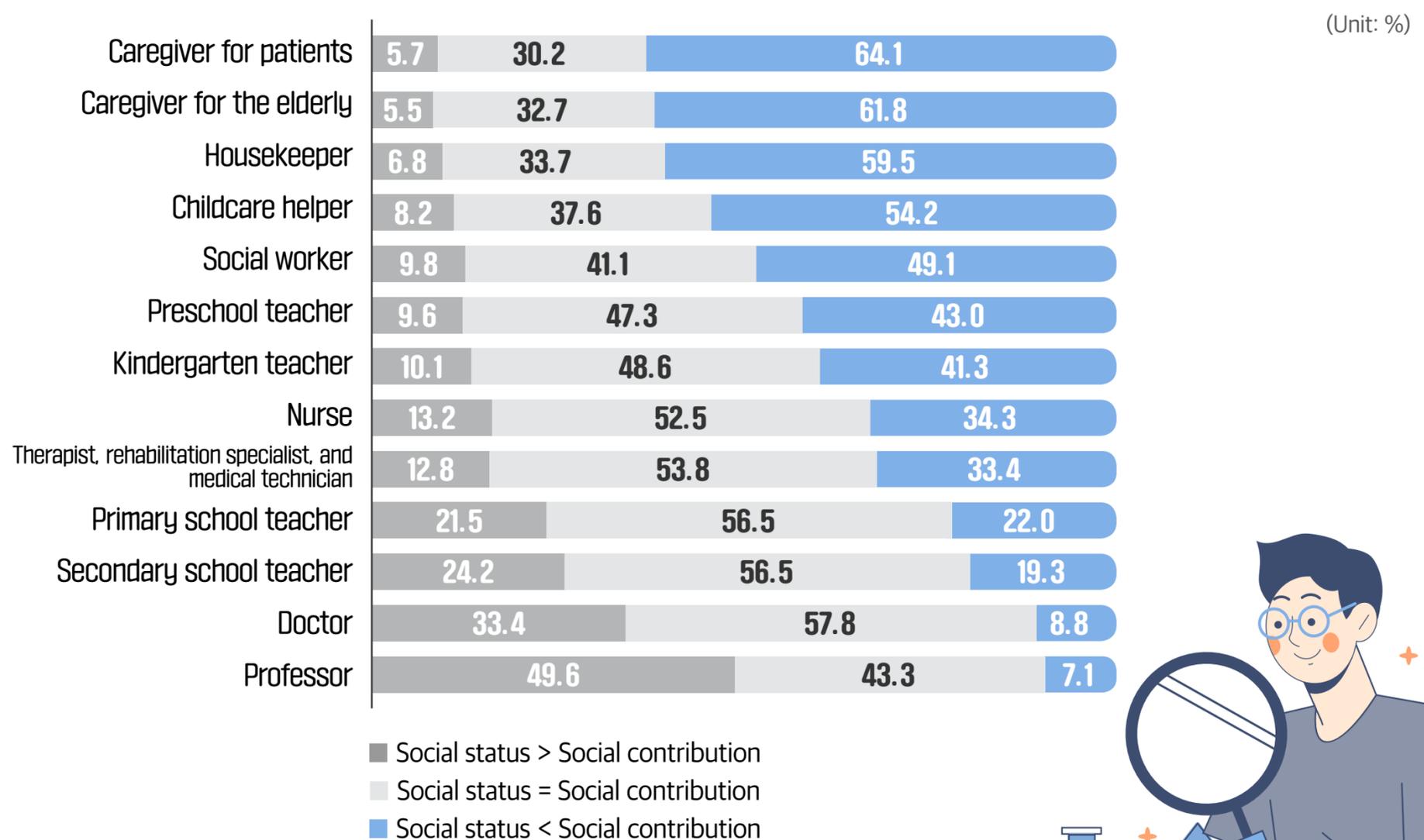
<Figure 3> Gendered Care Work



Social Status and Evaluation of Care Workers

However, **depending on the type of care profession**, some occupations were **not properly acknowledged** for the value of their work in society.

<Figure 4> Differences in the Evaluation of Social Status and Contribution of Care Work



The Necessity of Expanding Expenditure on Social Services, Including Care

On the other hand, when examining opinions on **the expansion of government expenditure** across various sectors, **the highest level of agreement was observed regarding the necessity of social services, including care.**

<Figure 5> The Necessity of Government Expenditure Expansion Across Policy Areas



Note: The figures in the graph represent the combined responses of “much more spending needed” and “somewhat more spending needed.”

Policy Tasks for Social Care

Through research, **the necessity and value of social care, as well as the perception of care work as an occupation, have been identified.** The research has presented the following **policy tasks** to address social anxiety regarding care:

1

Expanding financial investment in care services and strengthening national accountability.

2

For an improvement in the quality of care services:

- Narrowing the disparities by occupation within the care labor market.
- Developing a 'high-road' strategy for care job opportunities.

3

Expanding policy support to reduce gender differences in both care professions and participation in family care.



For more detailed information, please visit the KWDI website (Publications & Issues > Issue Papers).

