



Annual Report on US Attitudes towards Socialism

Victims of Communism Memorial Foundation

October 2017



— **Americans increasingly see communism as a problem in the world**



Communism was and is still a problem—up 5% from 2016

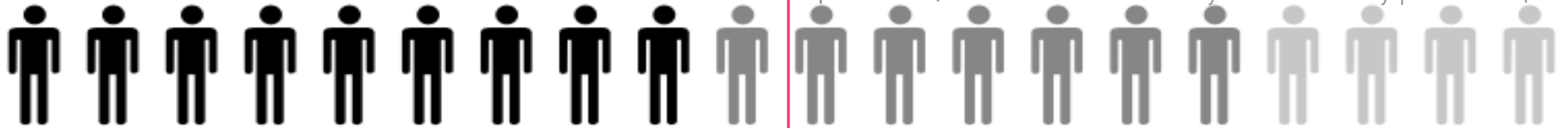


Communism was and still is a problem (75%)



Communism was only a 20th century problem (14%)

Communism has never been a problem (7%) Communism is only a 21st century problem (4%)



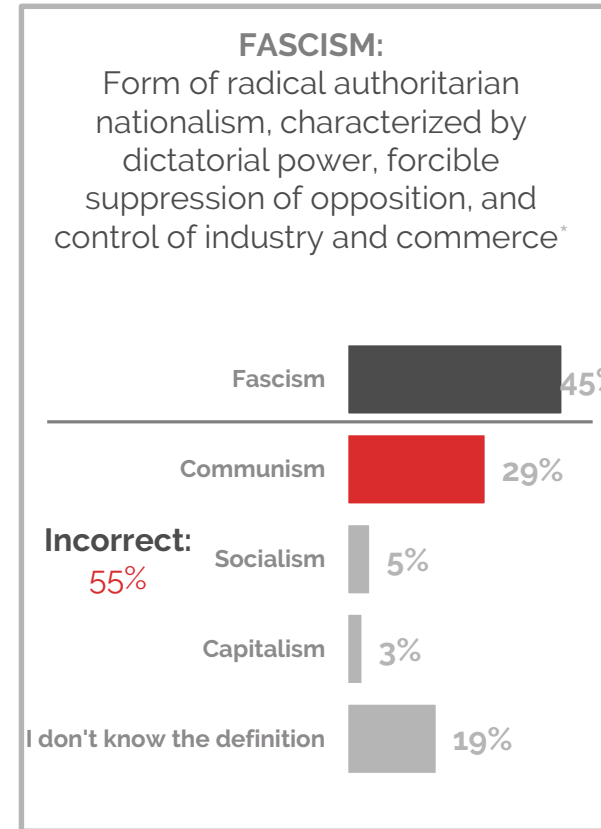
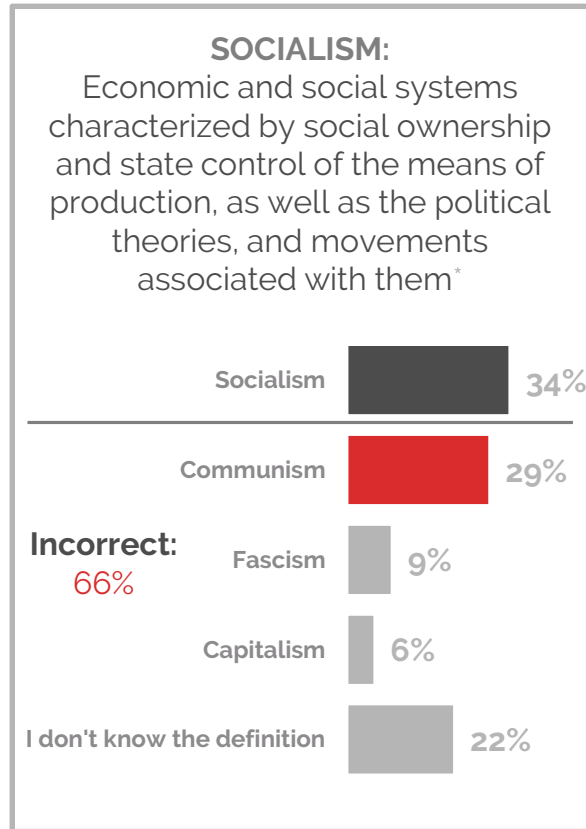
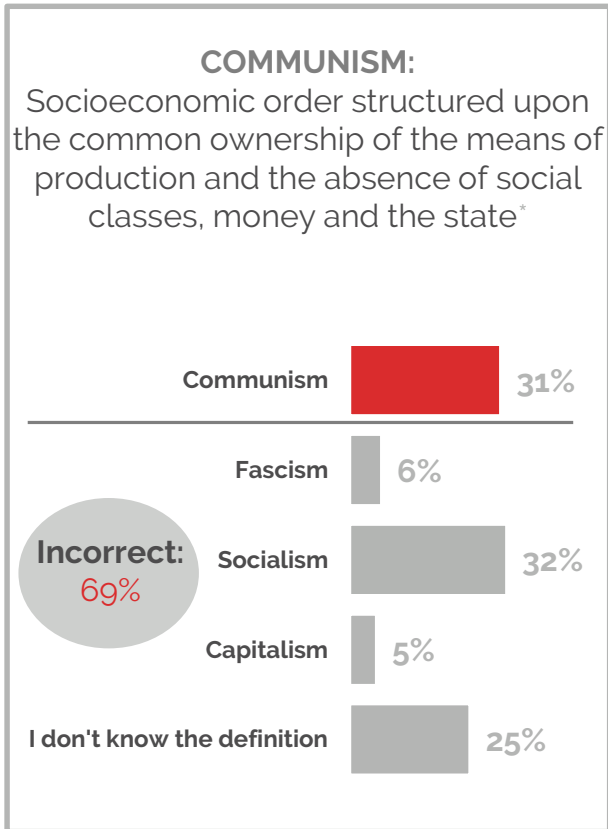
5% increase from 2016



— **Americans still have a lot to learn about communism**

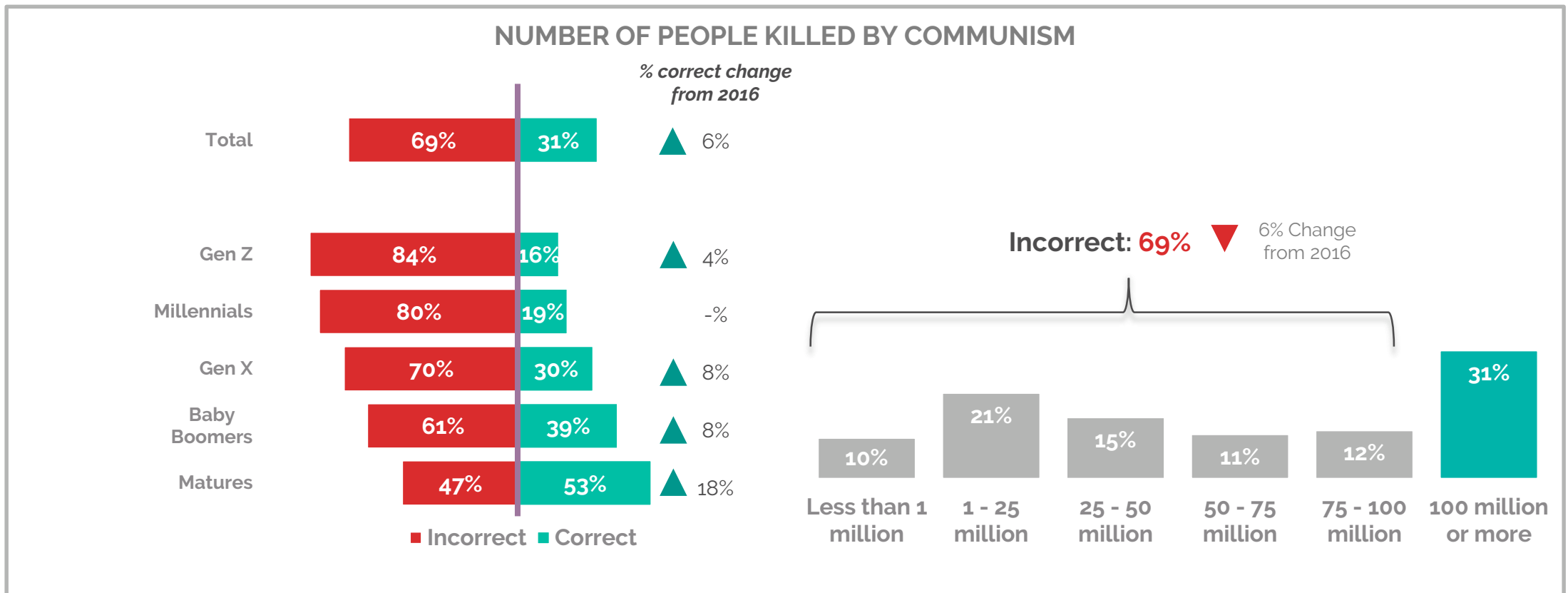


7 in 10 Americans either don't know the definition of communism or misidentify it



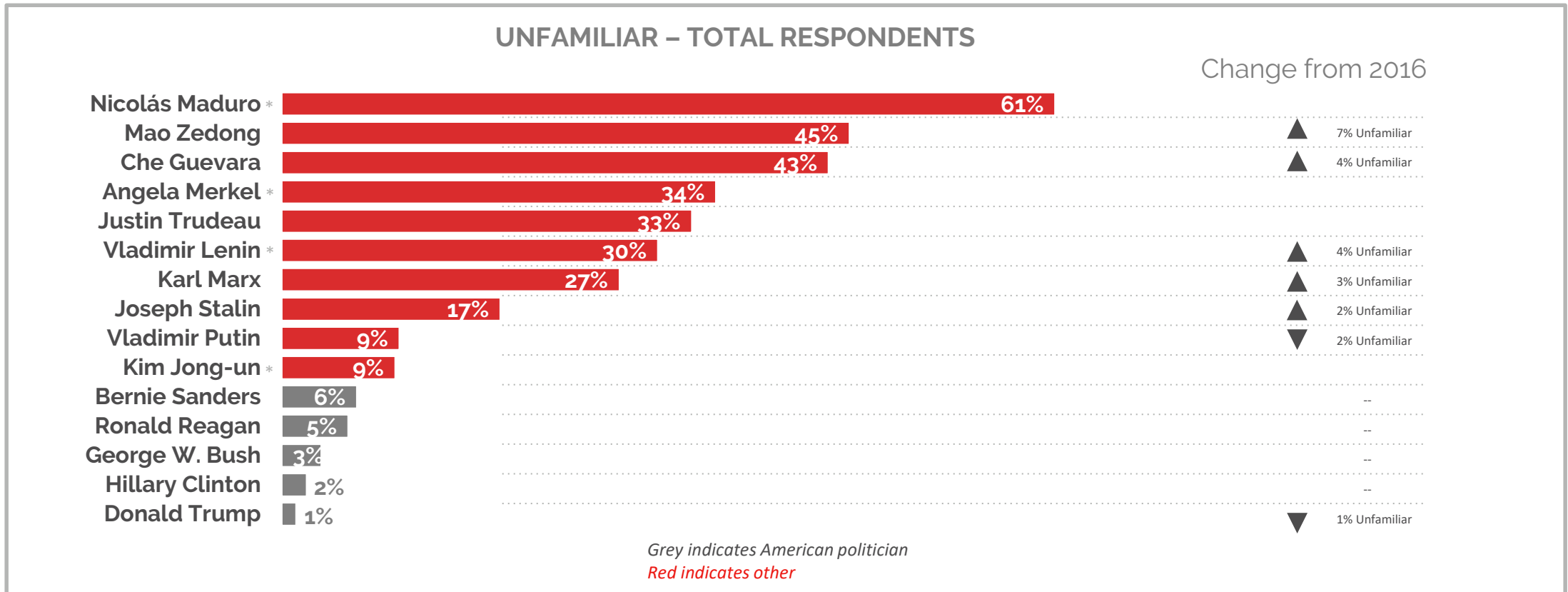
7 out of 10 underestimate number killed by communism

This is an improvement from 2016

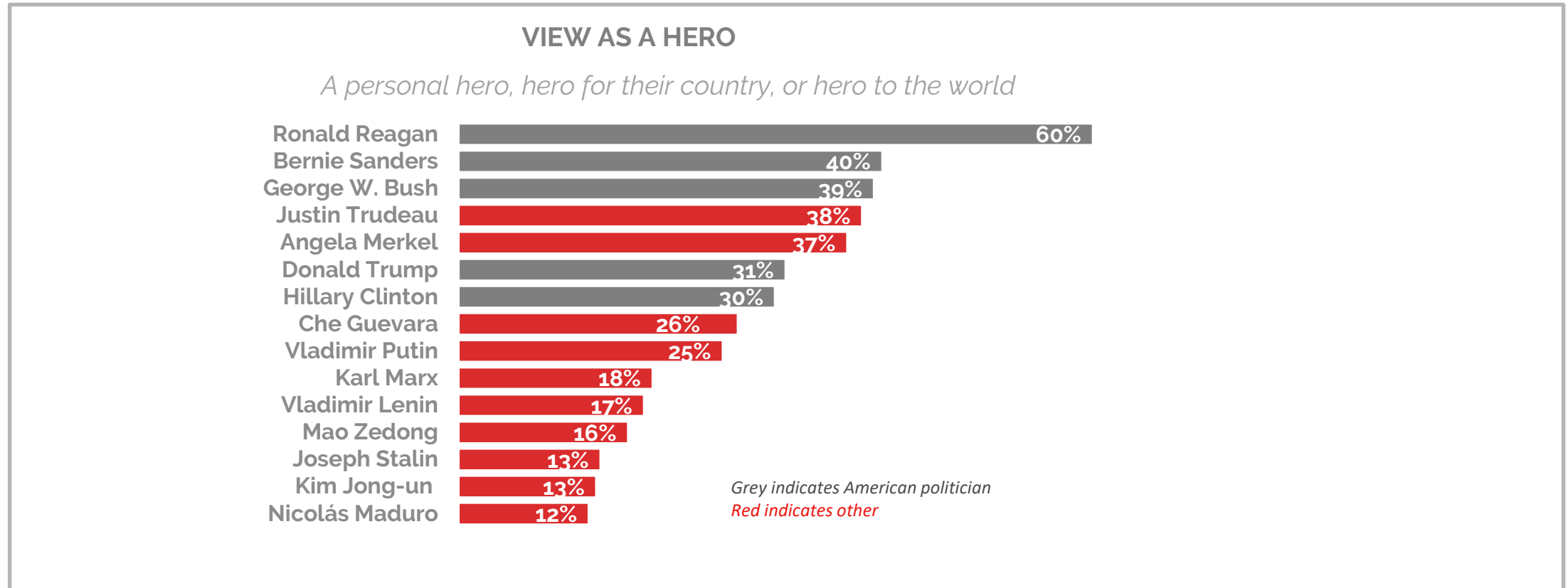


Is something happening in Venezuela?

6 in 10 are unfamiliar with Nicolás Maduro



Communist leaders are cited as heroes to their countries by 10-20% of Americans

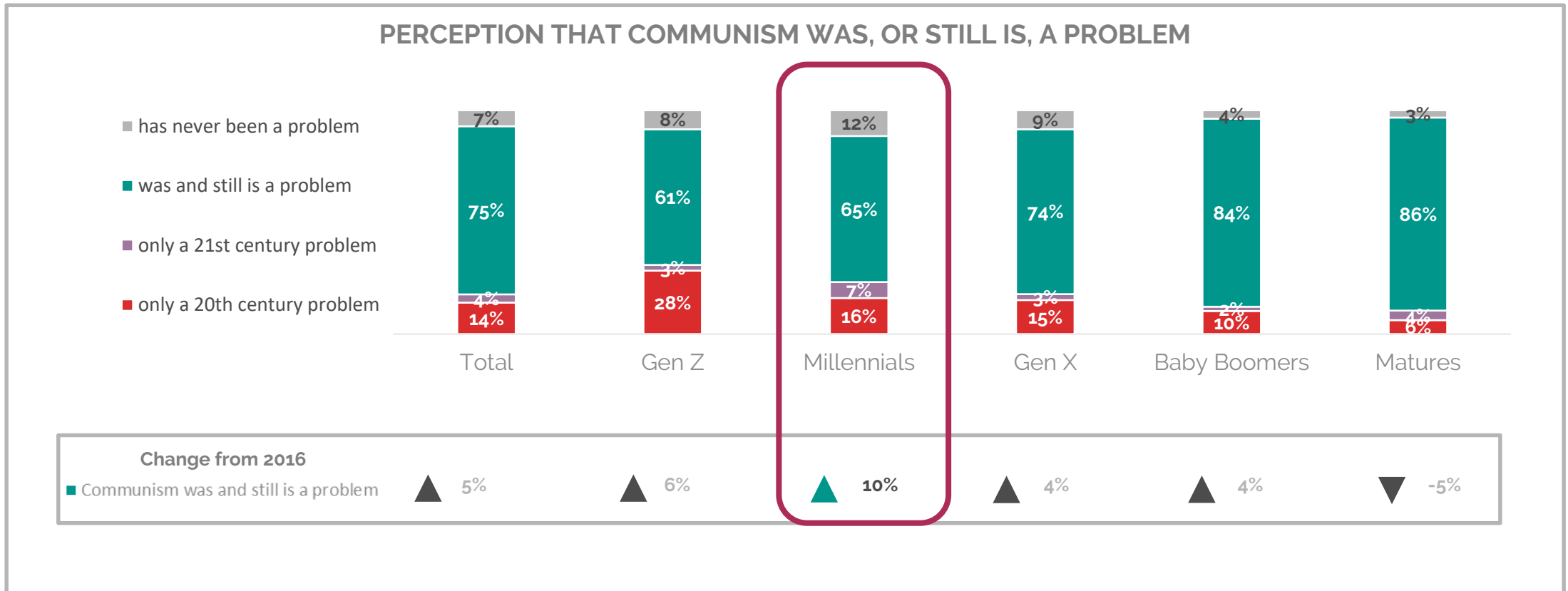


— Millennials

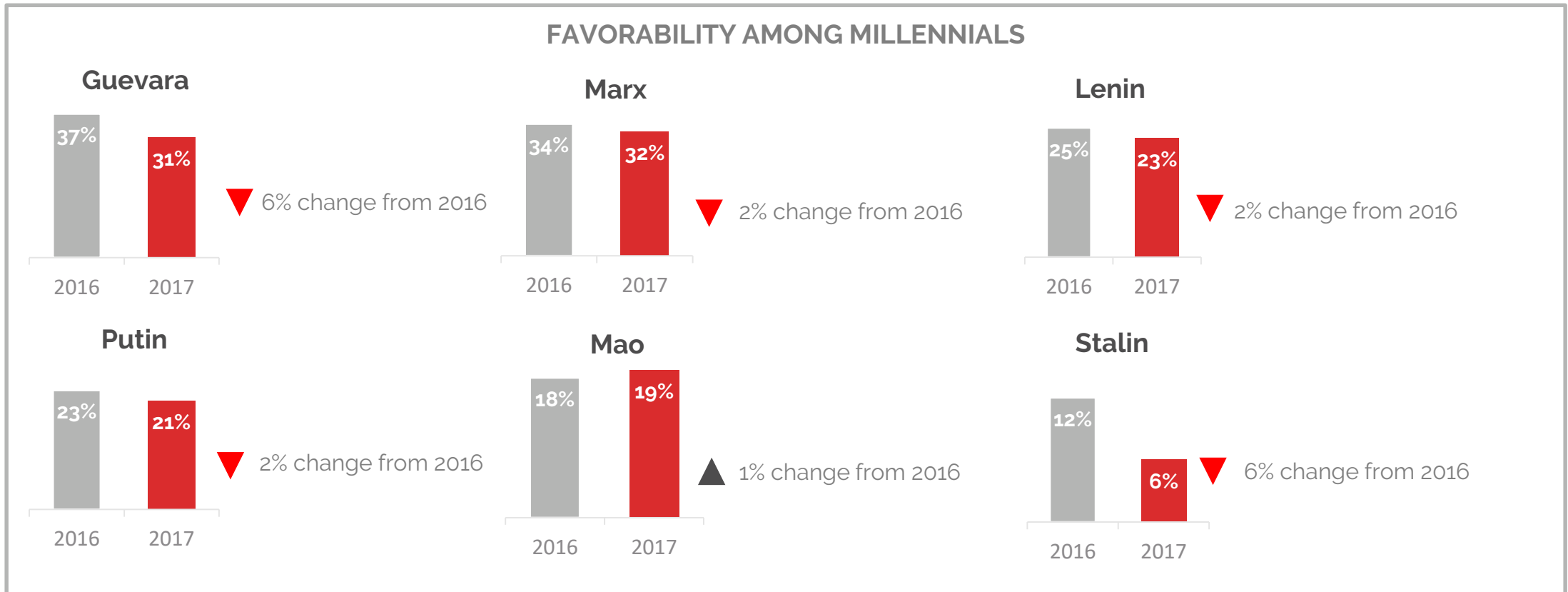
- Increasing understanding of ills of communism
- Disconnect between communism and socialism
- More would opt for socialist nation



More Millennials cite communism as a current day problem, as compared to one year ago



Favorability of communist leaders drops among Millennials compared to last year

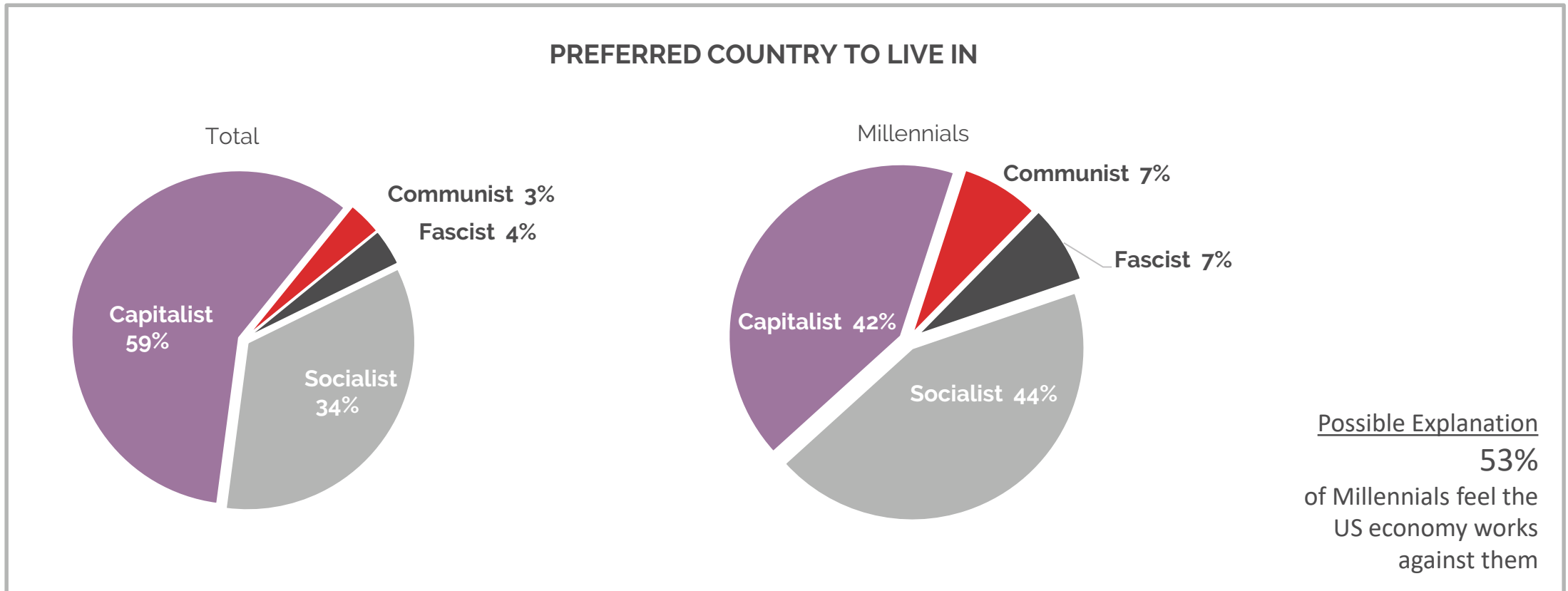


— Millennials opt for socialism over capitalism



Millennials opt for socialism over capitalism

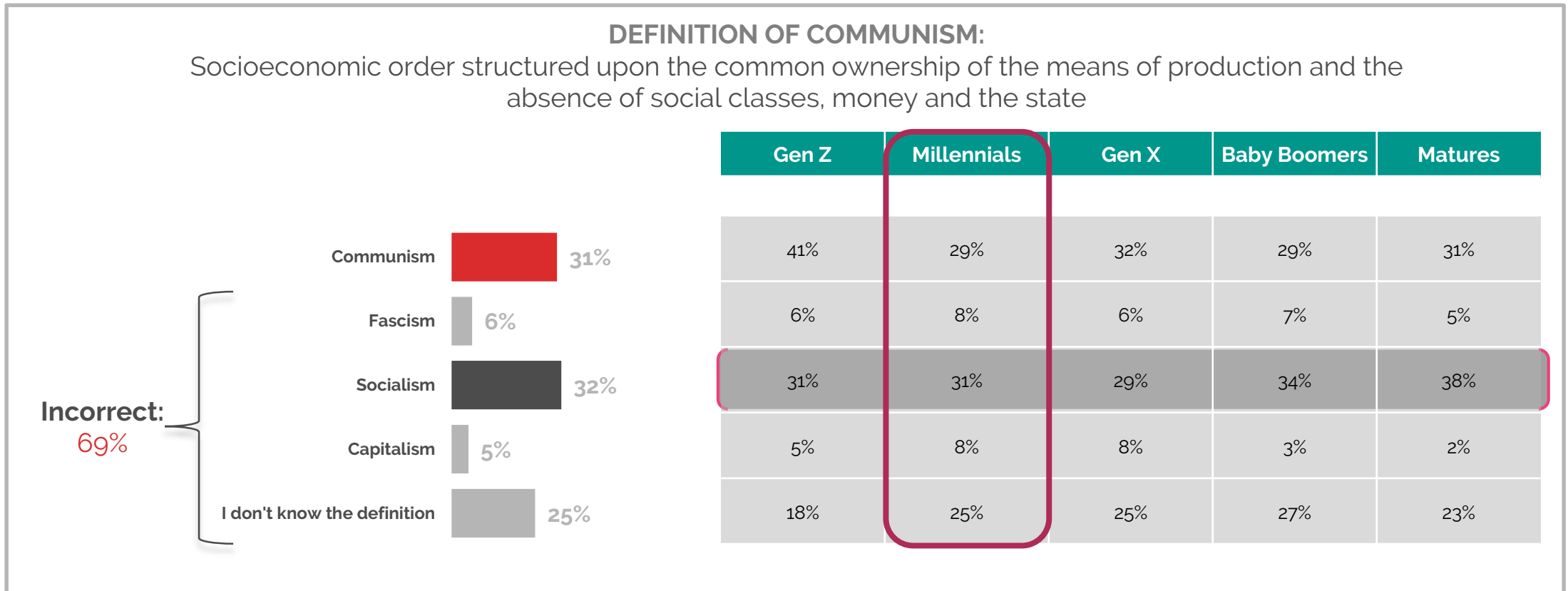
Given the choice, most Americans would opt for a capitalist country. However, one third would prefer to live in a socialist nation. Millennials are the leading force behind this preference with more than four in ten opting for socialism.



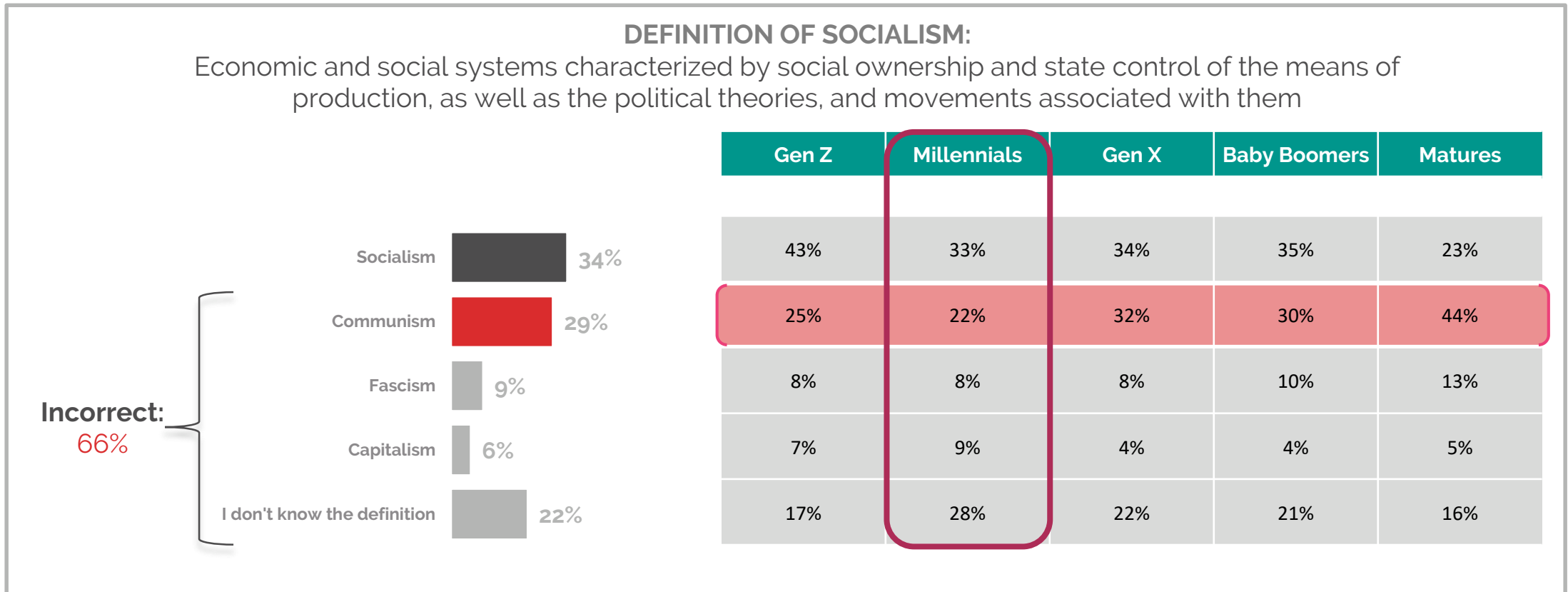
— **Despite Millennials' enthusiasm for socialism, they often confuse the definitions of communism and socialism**



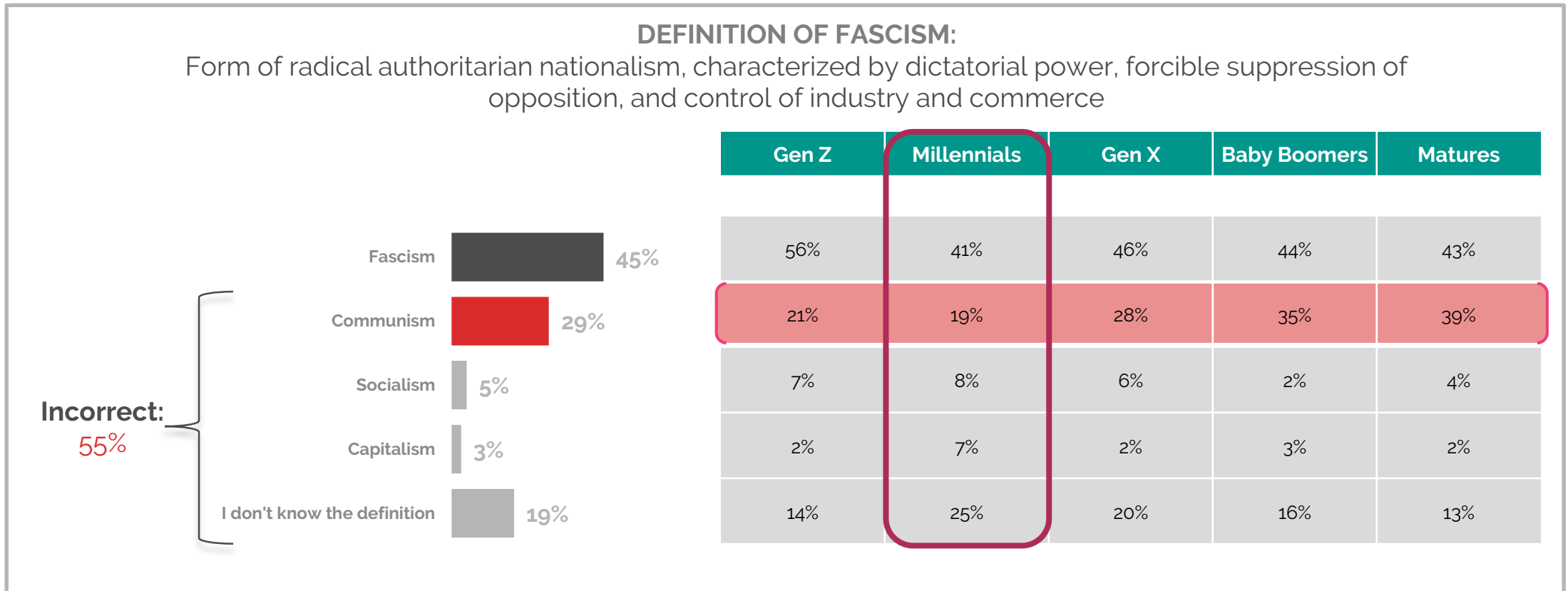
7 in 10 Millennials (like Americans as a whole) either don't know the definition of communism or misidentify it



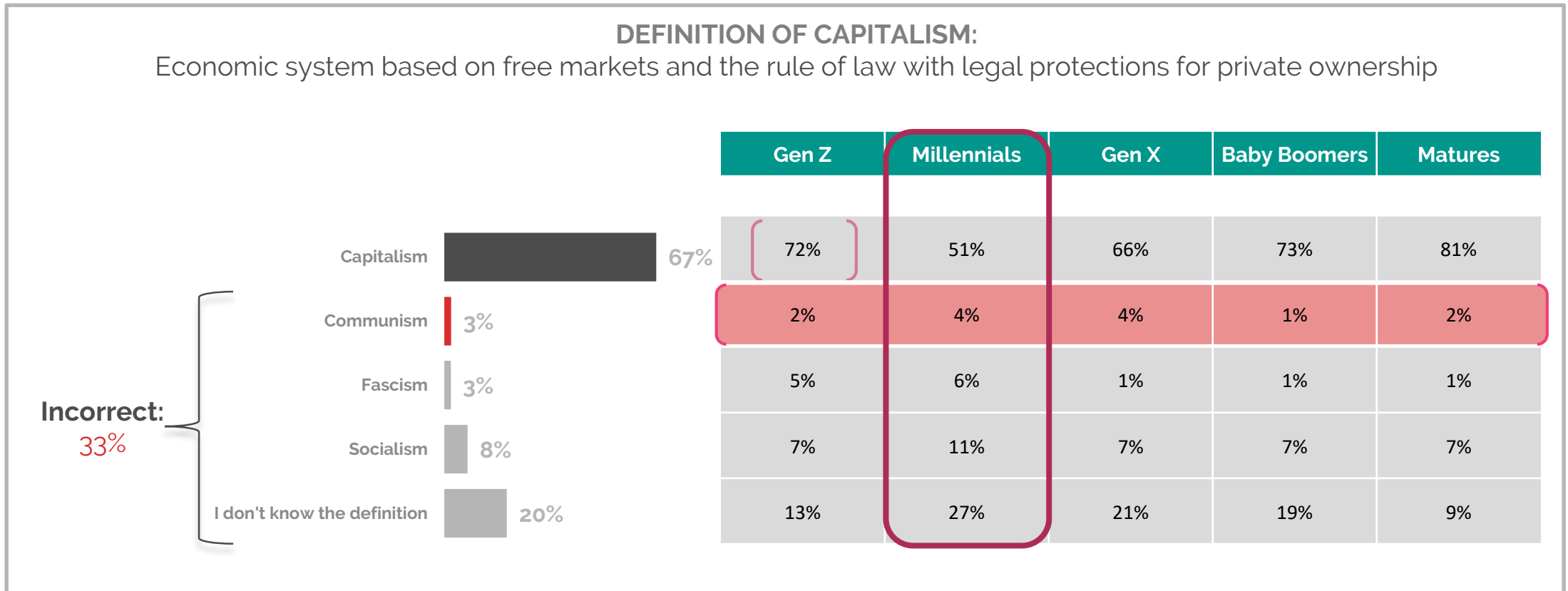
Is it socialism or is it communism? Many are confused



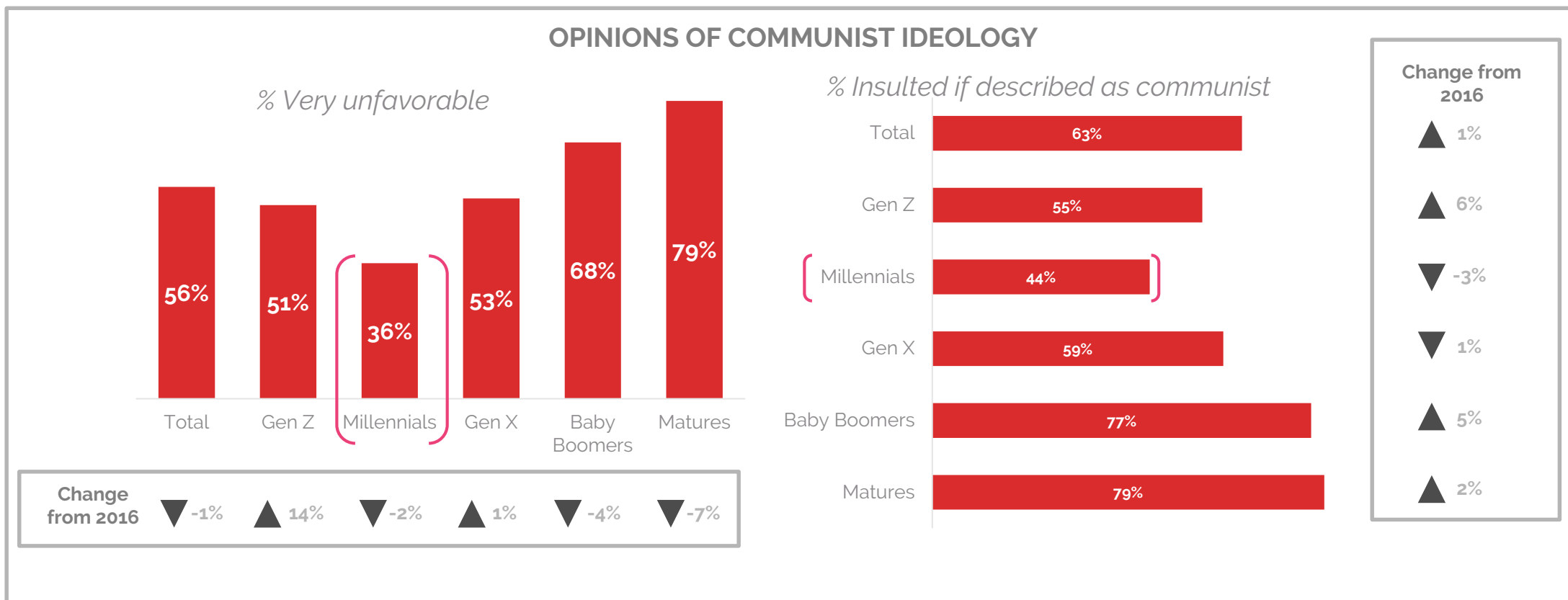
Fascism is also confused for communism



Half of Millennials, compared to 7 in 10 of all Americans, correctly define capitalism



Millennials are the least unfavorable to communism





State of the Union

A look at inequality and freedom of speech

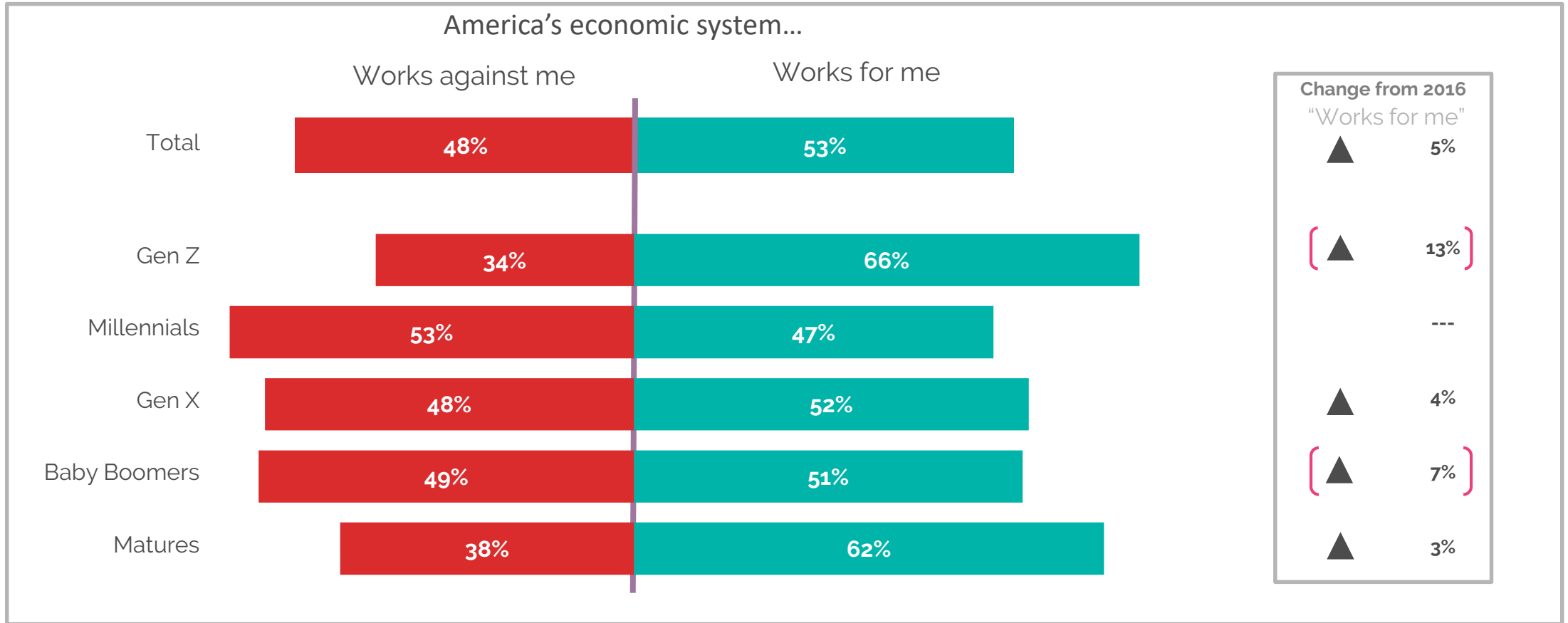


Americans are divided on our economic system

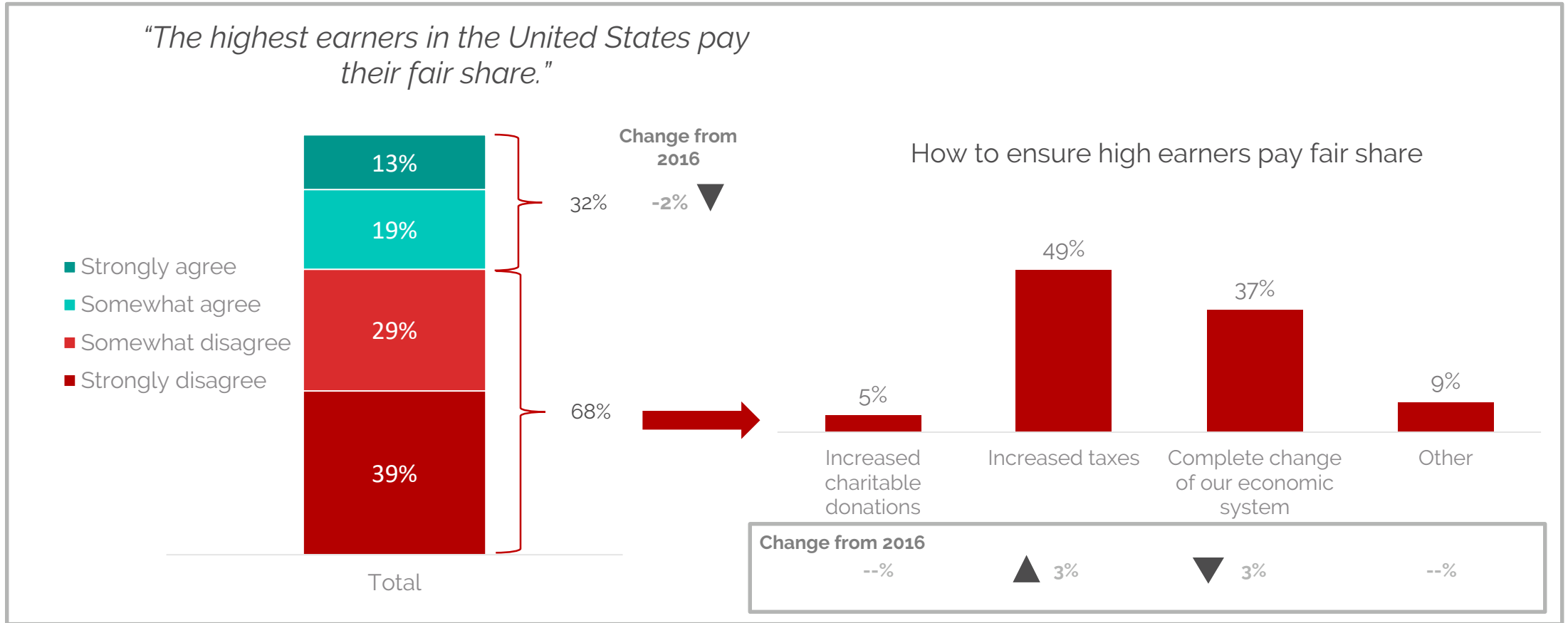
- Concerns about inequality are prevalent
- Many believe highest earners should pay more taxes



Americans divided on the economic system

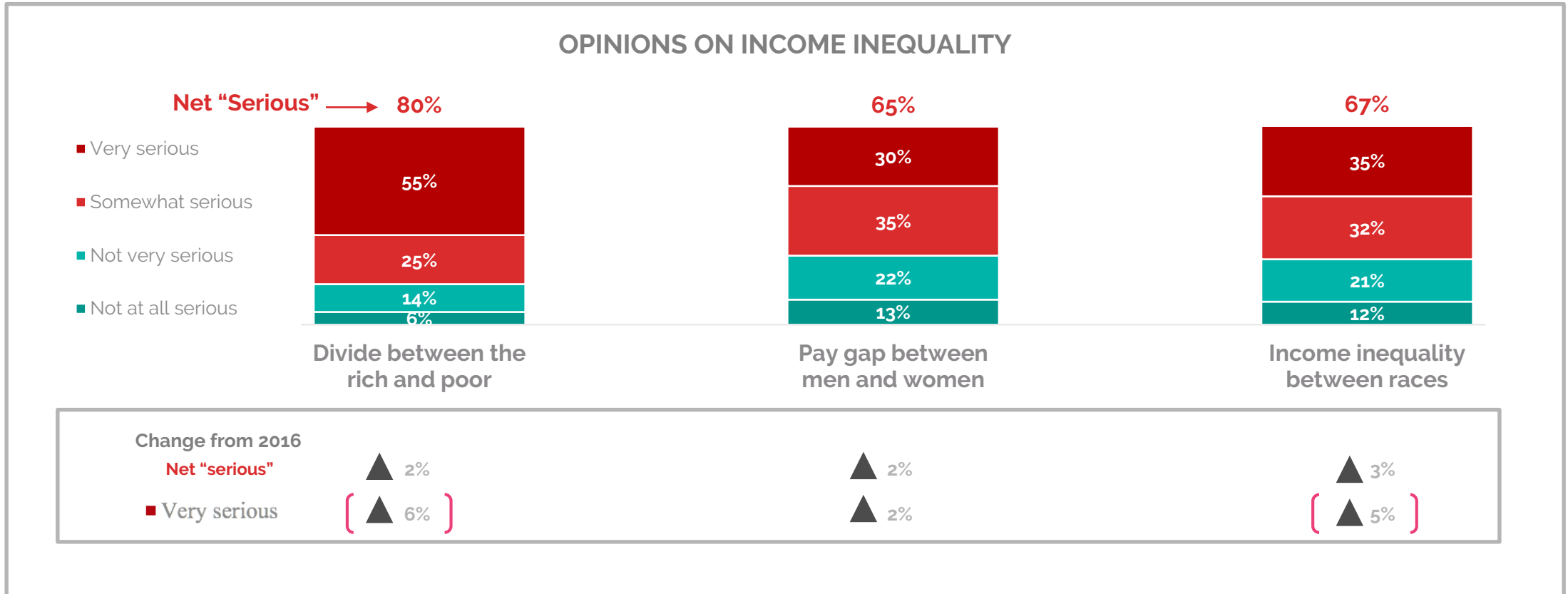


7 in 10 feel highest earners do not pay their fair share, and favor higher taxes



8 in 10 think divide between rich and poor is a serious issue

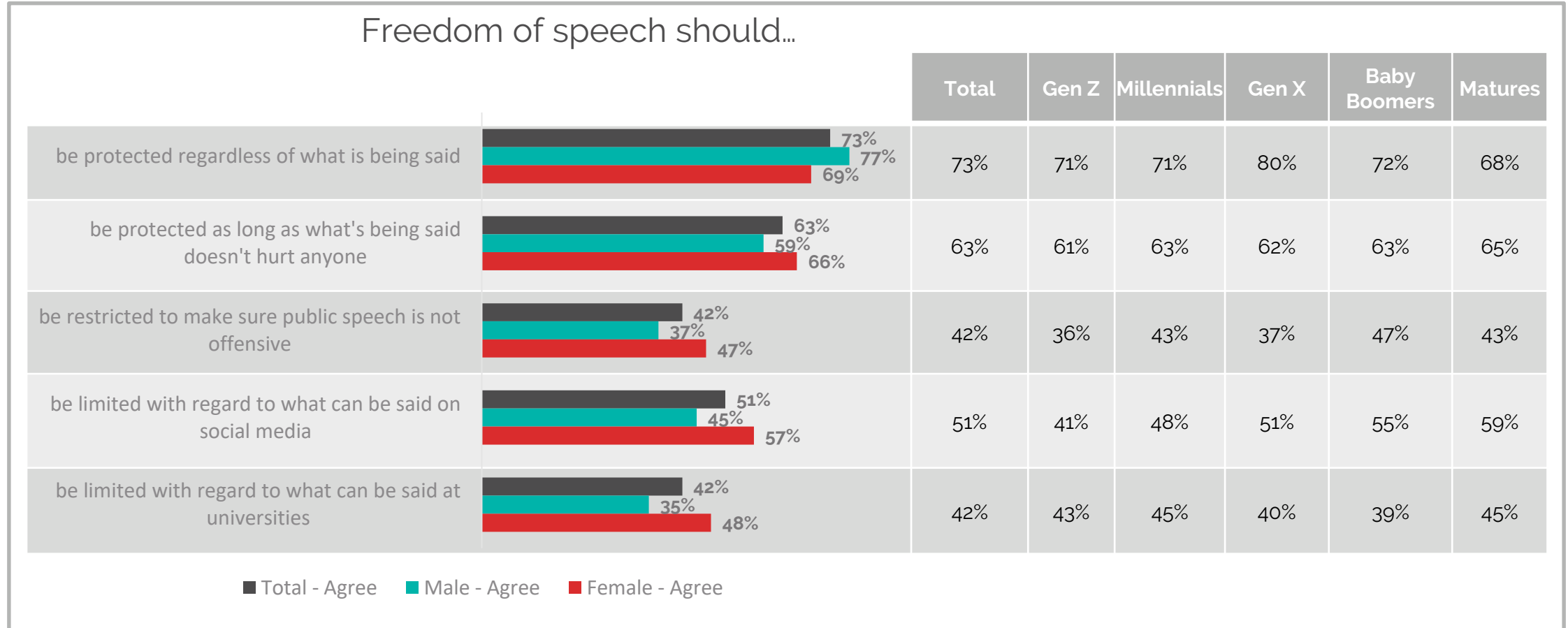
Increase in the proportion of Americans who see income inequality between races as a serious issue



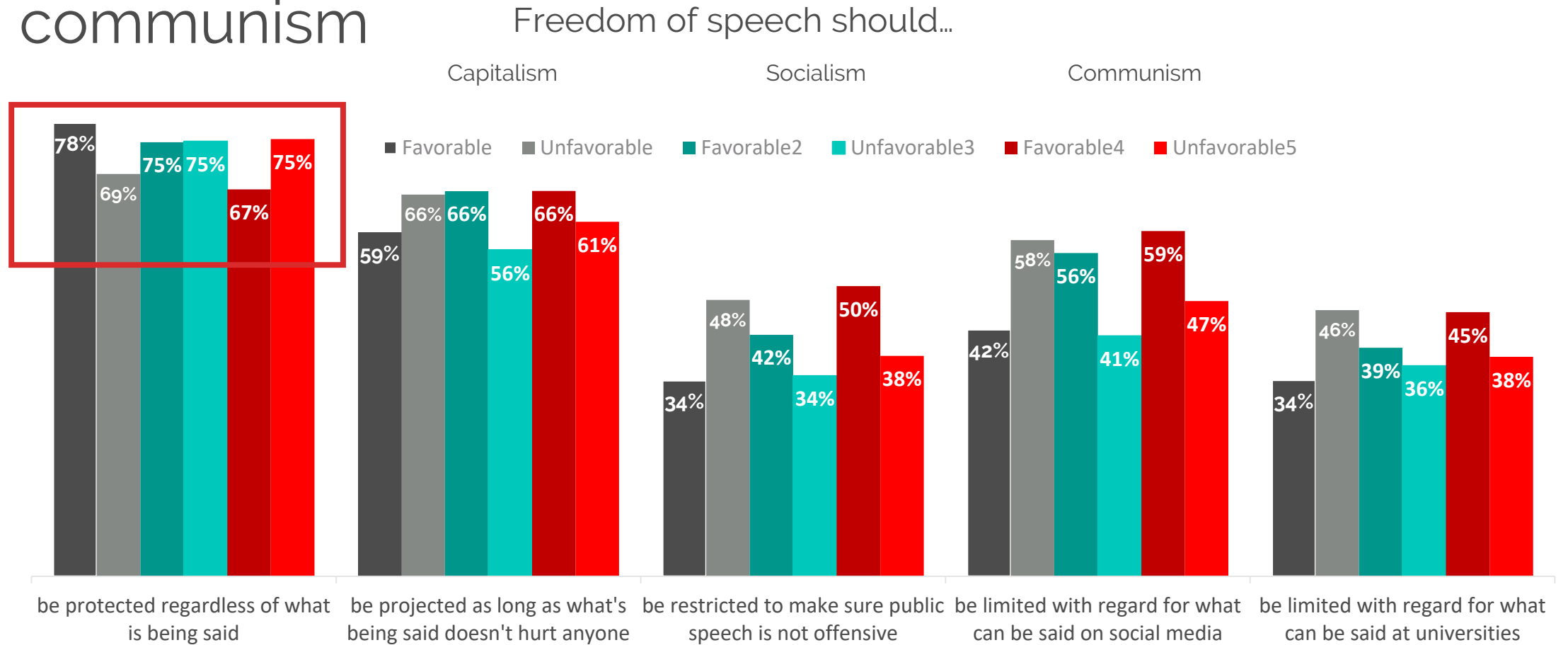
— **7 in 10 feel free speech should be protected no matter what is being said**



Support for limitations on free speech stronger among women



Freedom of speech to be universally protected— regardless of views toward socialism and/or communism



Appendix

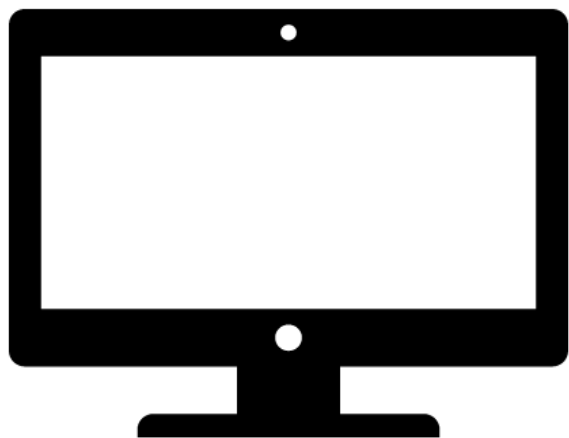


Demographics

	Total
Base	
D1: Gender	
Male	48.6%
Female	51.4%
D2: Age	
16-20	8.8%
21-29	15.5%
30-44	24.2%
45-64	33.4%
65+	18.1%
D3: Race	
White	65.4%
Black	11.9%
Hispanic	14.9%
Other	7.7%
D4: Education	
HS or Less	42.6%
Some College	31.4%
College Grad	16.6%
Postgrad	9.4%

	Favorable		
	Capitalism	Socialism	Communism
Base			
D1: Gender			
Male	56.4%	52.6%	54.3%
Female	43.6%	47.4%	45.7%
D2: Age			
16-20	9.8%	9.0%	12.2%
21-29	12.0%	19.5%	28.8%
30-44	20.3%	29.1%	28.3%
45-64	36.2%	29.4%	24.6%
65+	21.7%	13.0%	6.1%
D3: Race			
White	71.2%	57.7%	49.0%
Black	8.3%	18.0%	19.6%
Hispanic	13.4%	15.5%	22.4%
Other	7.1%	8.8%	9.0%
D4: Education			
HS or Less	37.2%	38.2%	50.5%
Some College	32.0%	28.1%	25.2%
College Grad	19.5%	19.7%	15.6%
Postgrad	11.2%	14.0%	8.7%

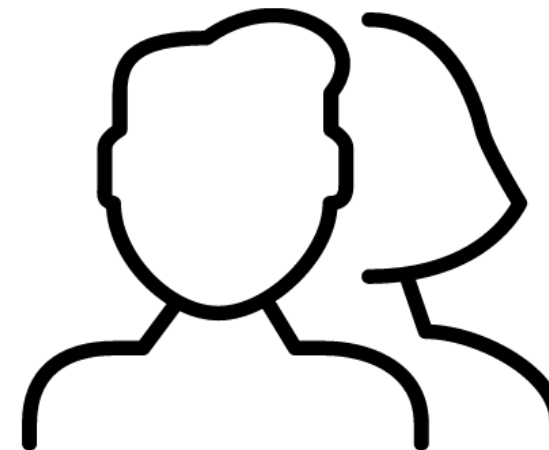
	Unfavorable		
	Capitalism	Socialism	Communism
Base			
D1: Gender			
Male	50.4%	53.0%	50.8%
Female	49.6%	47.0%	49.2%
D2: Age			
16-20	8.1%	9.8%	8.8%
21-29	17.2%	10.5%	10.8%
30-44	28.2%	18.9%	22.5%
45-64	29.2%	35.9%	35.3%
65+	17.4%	24.9%	22.7%
D3: Race			
White	61.3%	72.7%	71.1%
Black	15.9%	6.2%	8.8%
Hispanic	13.4%	13.3%	13.0%
Other	9.4%	7.9%	7.0%
D4: Education			
HS or Less	40.7%	39.9%	38.3%
Some College	32.1%	33.3%	33.0%
College Grad	15.2%	17.6%	18.4%
Postgrad	12.0%	9.2%	10.3%



Online Survey
September 28 – October 5, 2017



7 minutes



2,300 General
public, age 16+

The sampling frame was constructed through the use of stratified sampling from the full 2010 American Community Survey (ACS) sample, and matched on other variables to the November Current Population Survey, and 2007 Pew Religious Life Survey. Each set of matched cases were weighted to its sampling frame using propensity 2010 scores. The matched cases and the frame were combined and a logistic regression was estimated for inclusion in the frame.