



NZASIA INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

27–29 NOVEMBER 2017 | UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO
CASTLE LECTURE THEATRE

Bringing together scholars working in the broader,
open, and contested site of Asian studies

Programme

With the support of the New Zealand Society of Asian Studies (NZASIA), the Asia New Zealand Foundation, the New Zealand India Research Institute (NZIRI), the International Research Center for Japanese Studies (Nichibunken), and the University of Otago.

Lucy M. O'Connell
2017

Welcome

NZASIA 2017 International Conference 27 – 29 November, 2017

Bringing together scholars working in the broader,
open, and contested site of Asian studies

Tēnā koutou, tēnā koutou, tēnā tatou katoa!

Welcome to our 22nd NZASIA Biennial International Conference.

In line with NZASIA's key objectives, our biennial conference is multidisciplinary and aims at bringing together scholars working in the broader, open, and contested site of Asian studies. As this year's hosts, the University of Otago would like to thank all delegates for their participation. We are looking forward to learning about everybody's research from a broad range of disciplines across the diverse regions of Asia. We have particularly sought contributions from emerging scholars and postgraduate students and a number of events are specifically targeted to support the new generation of researchers.

The organisers would like to recognise the support of:

the New Zealand Society of Asian Studies
(NZASIA)

the Asia New Zealand Foundation, the New
Zealand India Research Institute (NZIRI)

the International Research Center for Japanese
Studies (Nichibunken)

the University of Otago

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“I relied on my intuition, not the media, to protect my family”

A sense of personal responsibility emerged during the triple disasters in Japan, 2011

Satomi Mizutani & Tomoko Koda-Dallow
Unitec Institute of Technology

Outline

- Research context
- Rationale
- Our Research (Study 1 & Study 2)
 - Method
 - Participants
 - Results
 - Discussion
 - Conclusion

Three Disasters in Japan (2011)



- Claimed about 18, 500 lives
- Misplaced hundreds of thousands

Rationale

- Few studies have looked at the emotional responses of the people who were caught up in the triple disasters
- Few studies have looked at the influence of Japanese society on the way such people felt

Method

Research design:

Convergent parallel design

Data collection



Study 1
(Quantitative)

Study 2
(Qualitative)



Analysis

SPSS

NVivo

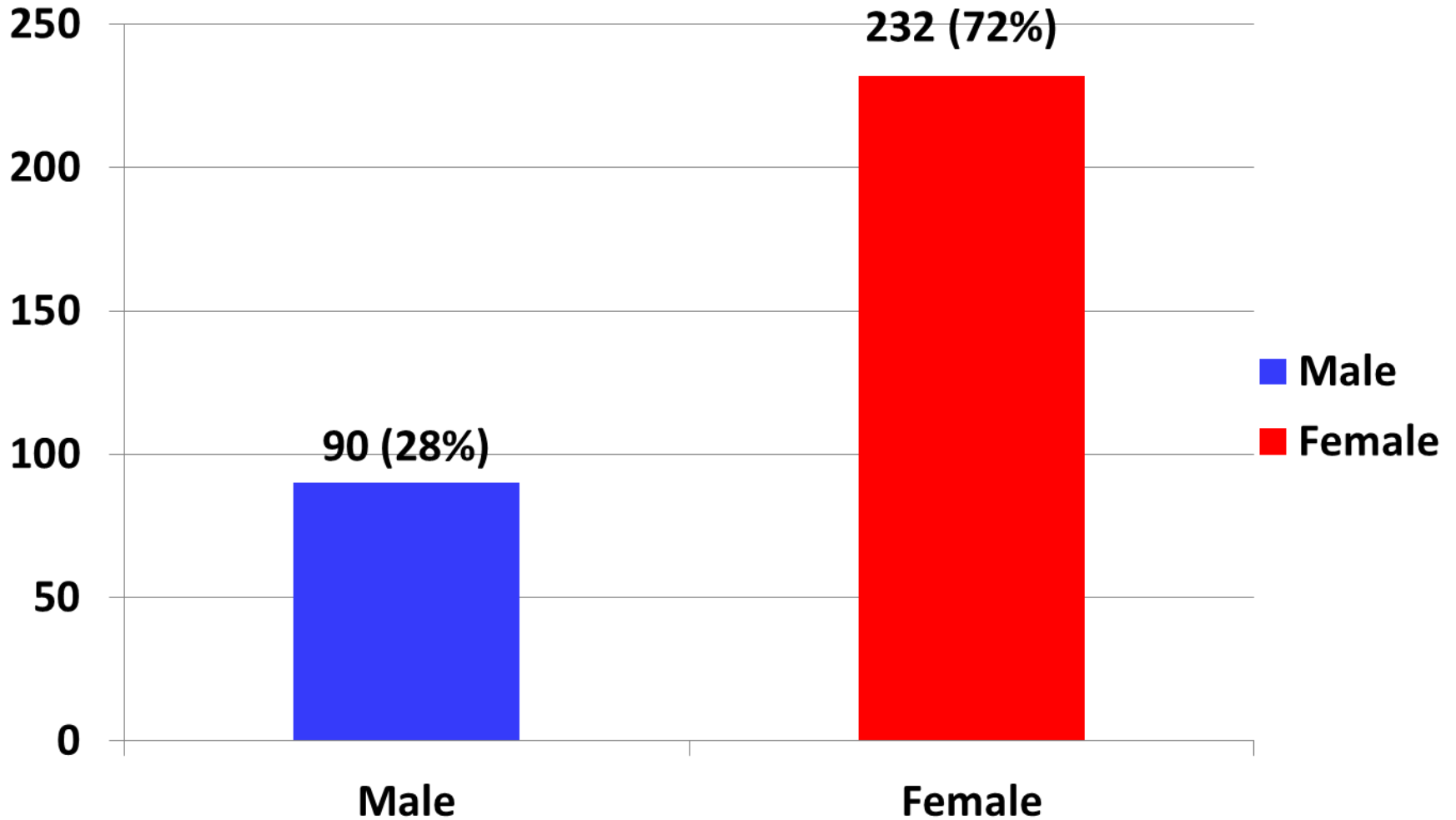


Interpretation

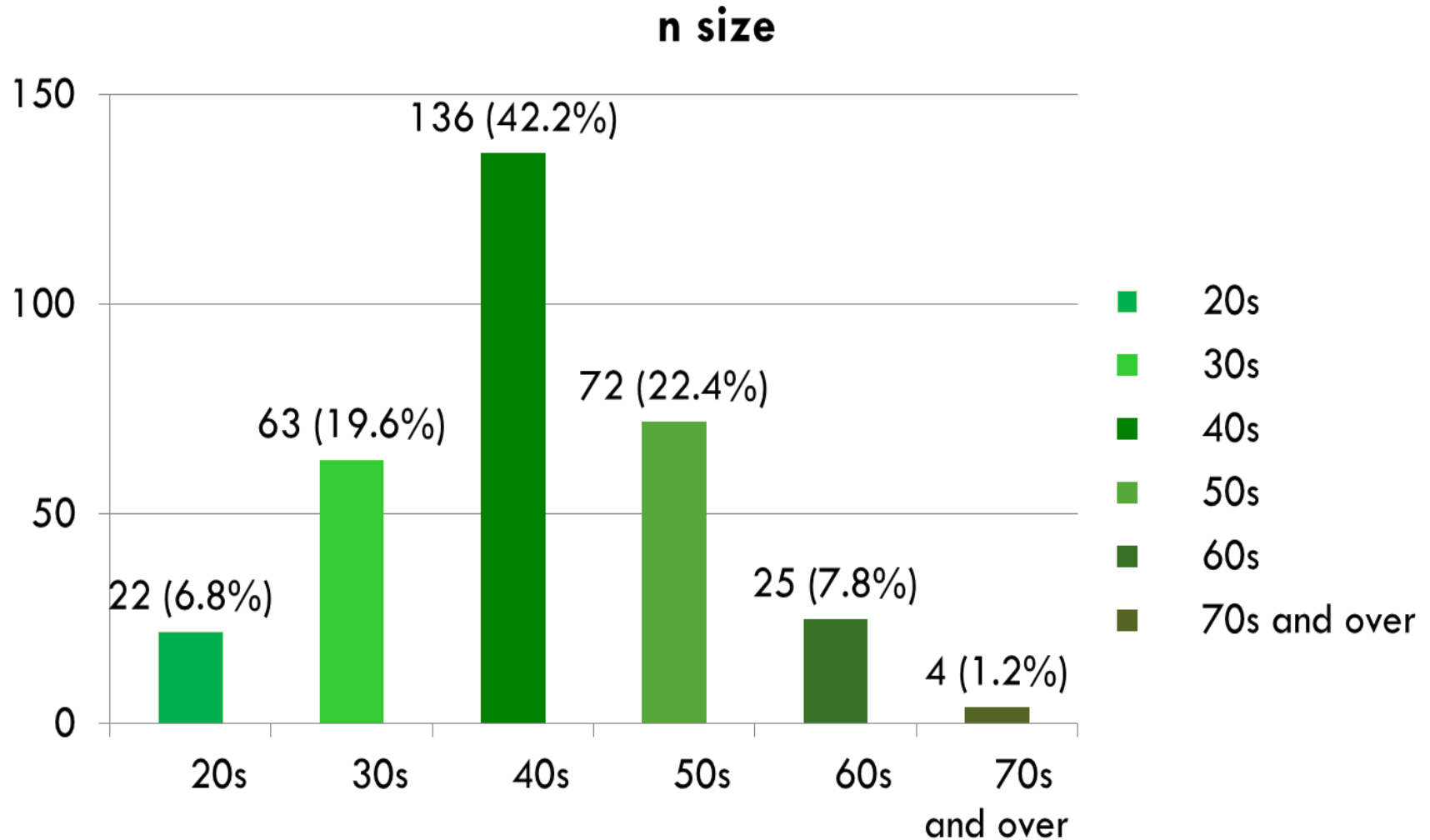
Compare
& Contrast

Participants (n=322)

n size



Participants (Age)



Our Previous Study (Study 1)

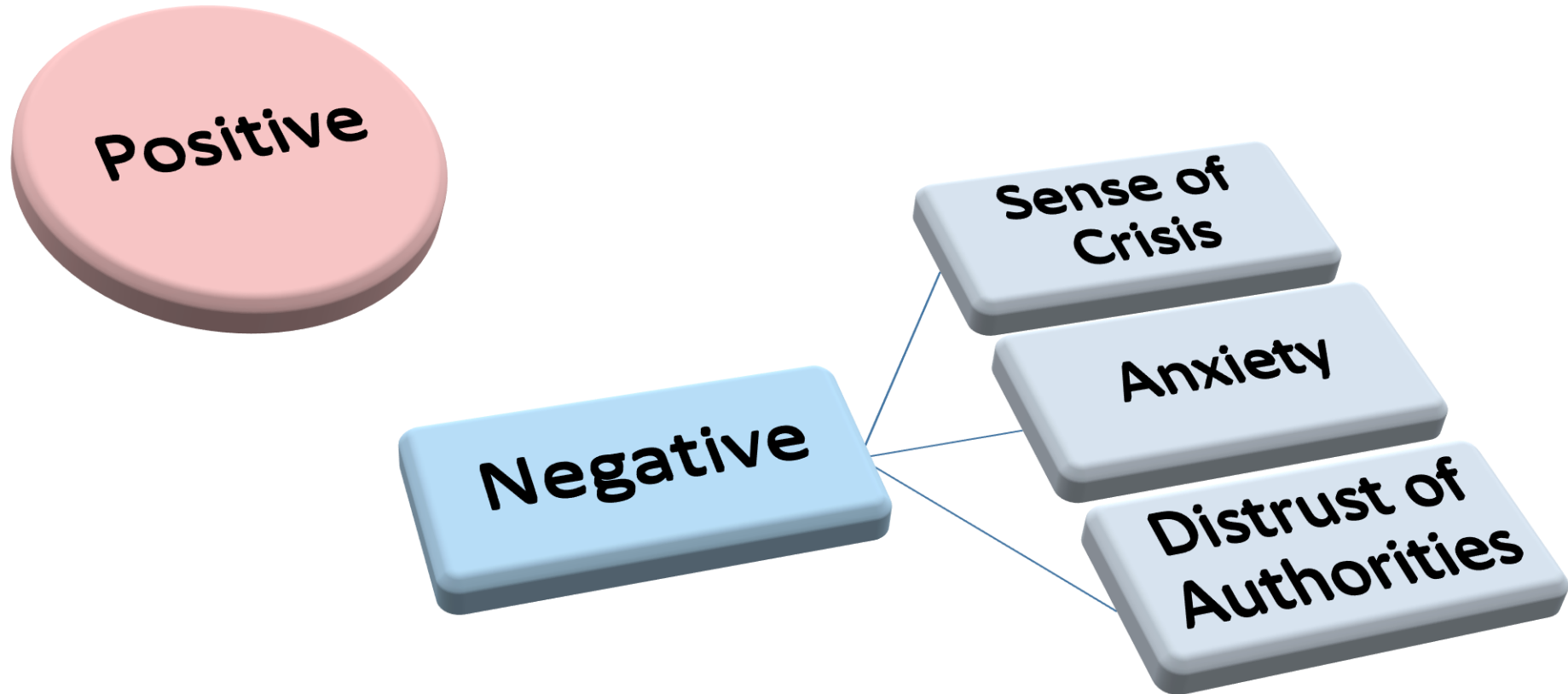
Reliability (Items for emotions)

- Positive emotions ($\alpha = .916$)
- Negative emotions ($\alpha = .877$)

Validity (Items for emotions)

Factor Correlation Matrix	1	2	3	4
1. Positive emotions	1.00			
2. Distrust of authorities	-.52	1.00		
3. A sense of crisis	-.36	.37	1.00	
4. Anxiety	-.24	.11	.17	1.00

Emotions identified (Study 1)



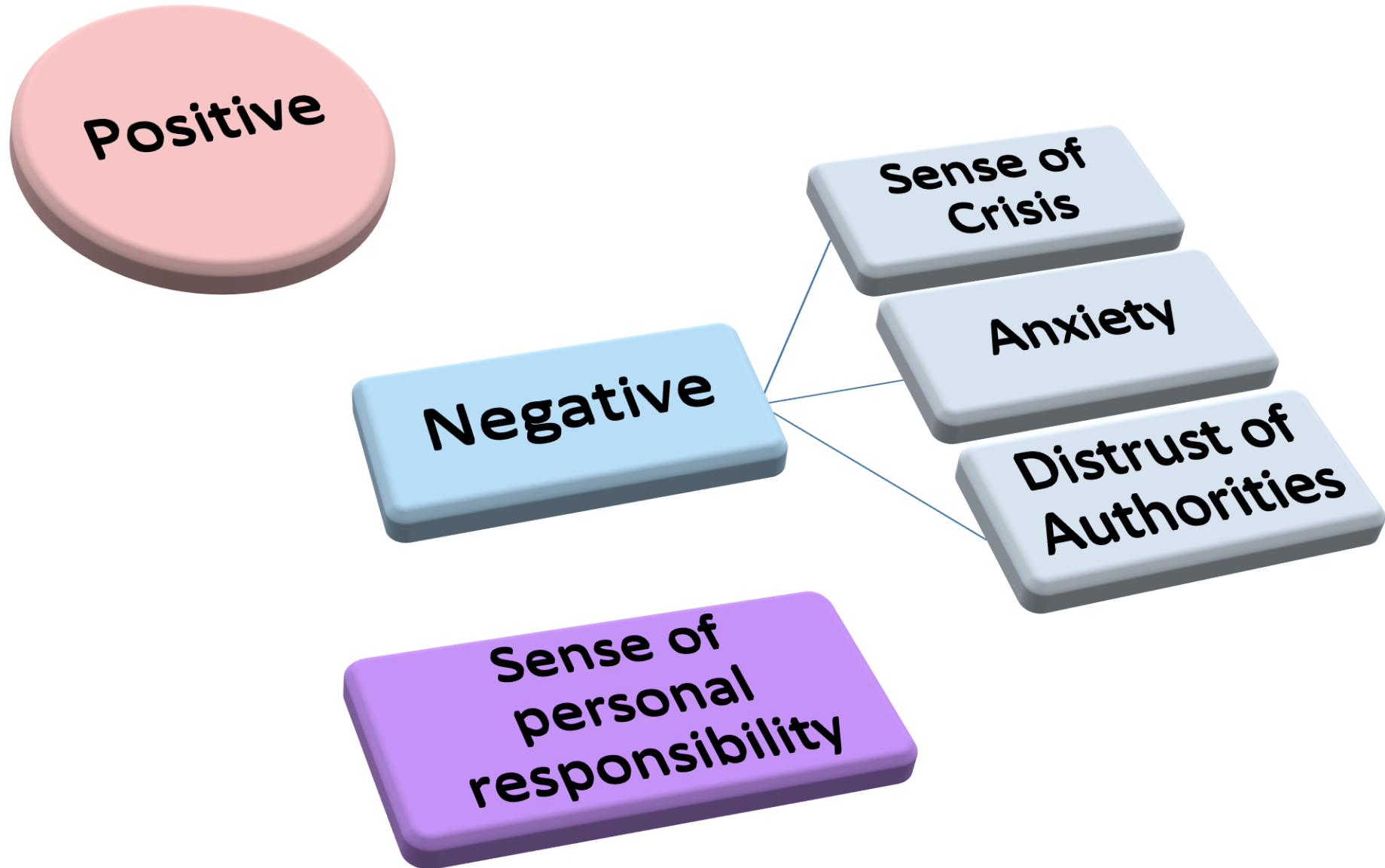
Our Current Study (Study 2)

Research Questions (Study 2)

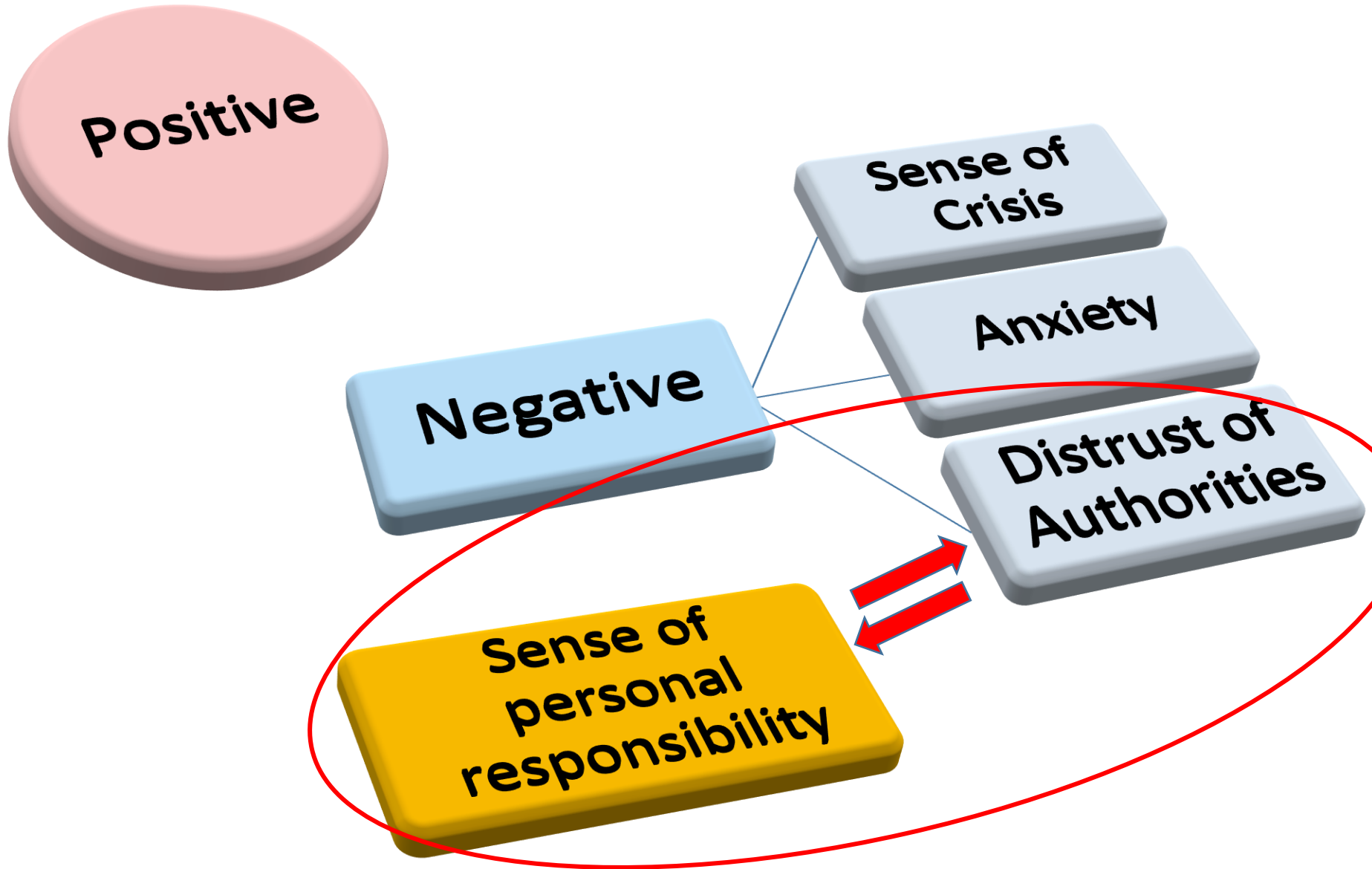
RQ1: To what extent did the findings in Study 2 support those in Study 1 in terms of the types of emotions experienced?

RQ2: Were any aspects of Japanese society reflected in factors identified?

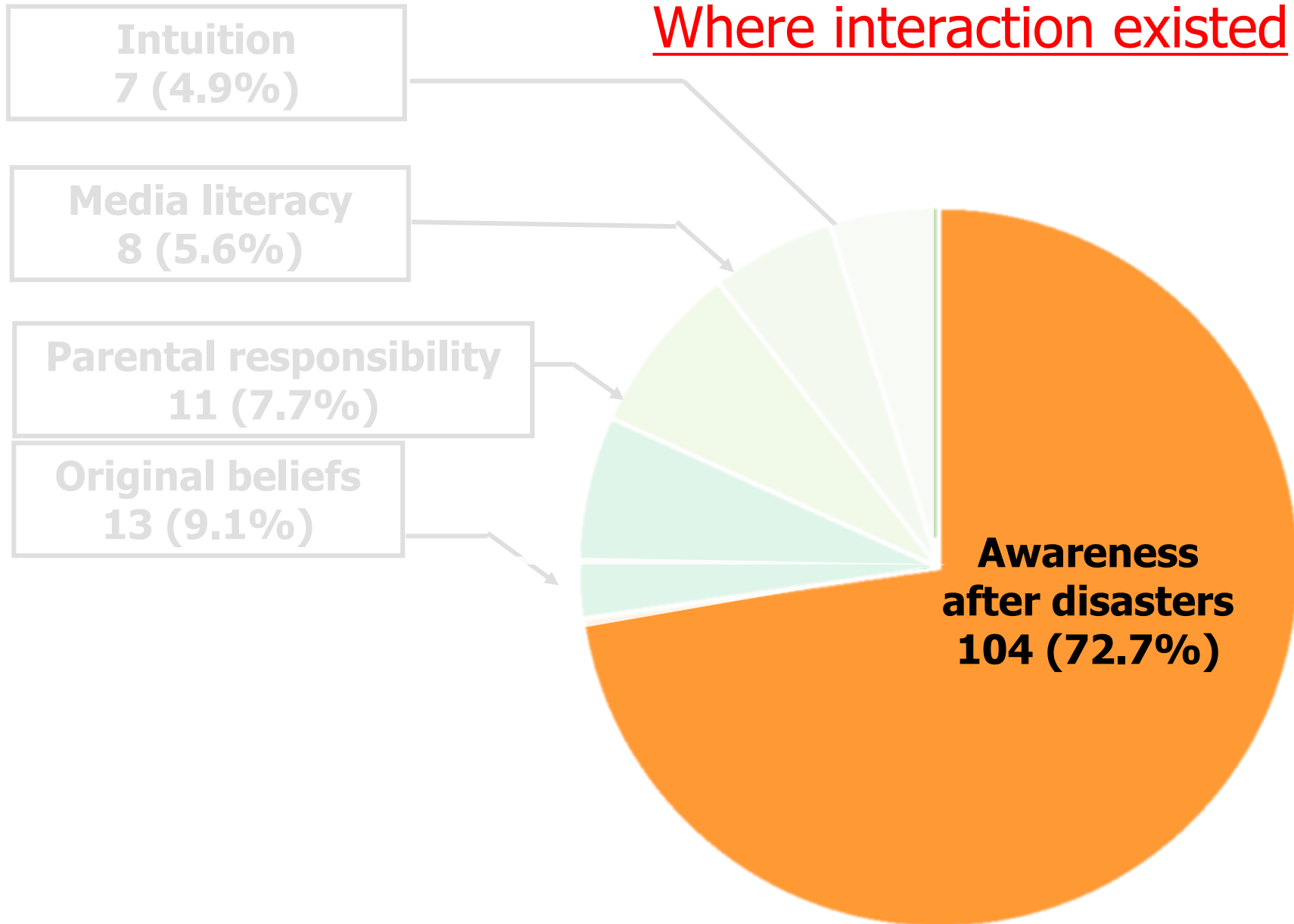
Emotions identified (Study 2)



Emotions identified (Study 2)



Sense of Personal Responsibility (Study 2)



Awareness after disasters

Strong disappointment



I've realized I must protect myself by getting info from various sources without swallowing info from the media and 'experts'. Our very own country won't protect us even where we were born, brought up, and have paid taxes out of hard-earned money.

No. 275



I'm disappointed by the government and TEPCO that didn't reveal accurate data in public... I take the information from the media with a pinch of salt.

No. 66



I was really disappointed as I became aware that the truth is not reported. I've realised how mind-controlled I had been.

No. 250

Awareness after disasters

A sense of betrayal



I've realised the Fukushima nuclear accident was a human-caused disaster... Nuclear energy is for military and vested interests. The Citizens are not included in what the government calls the 'country'... I've realised politics for money rather than for lives is prevalent. I've learnt no human rights in Japan.

No. 114



I can't trust the media. The nuclear power industry involves various interests, and I felt that the country considers money more important than people's lives.

No. 134



The government and media tell lies. We must get information and think for ourselves. We must not fall for optimism (in emergencies).

No. 162

Awareness after disasters

Strong surprise



60s

No. 5

I was surprised by the difference in info between experts with common sense and the media. I've become acutely aware we can't get the truth from the major media.

A sense of horror



40s

No. 84

A chill ran down my spine as I found a huge difference in info between my British friend and the Japanese media. I've come to the conclusion that I've got to protect myself, and started getting info from Twitter.

Ability to get overseas news

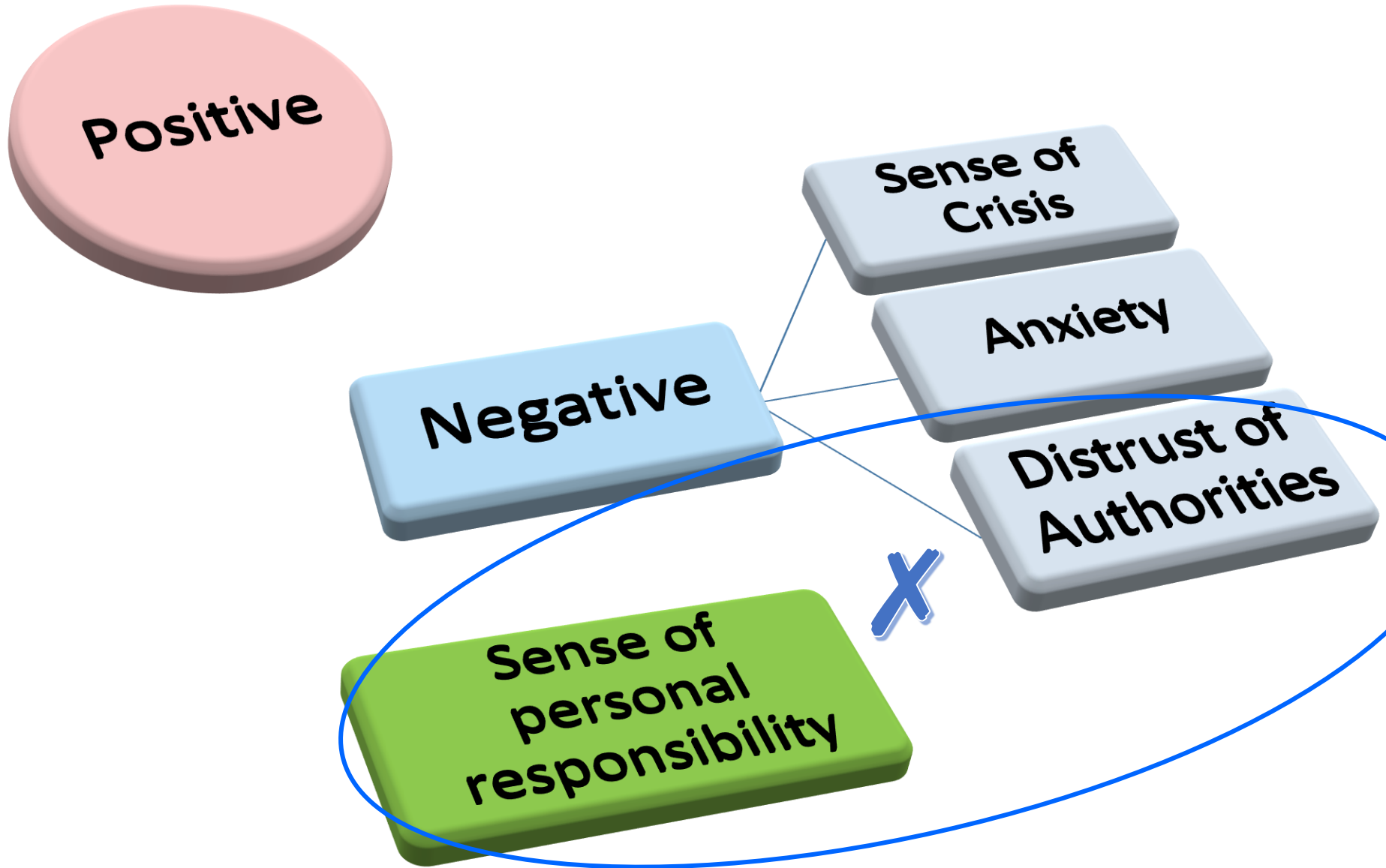


50s

No. 257

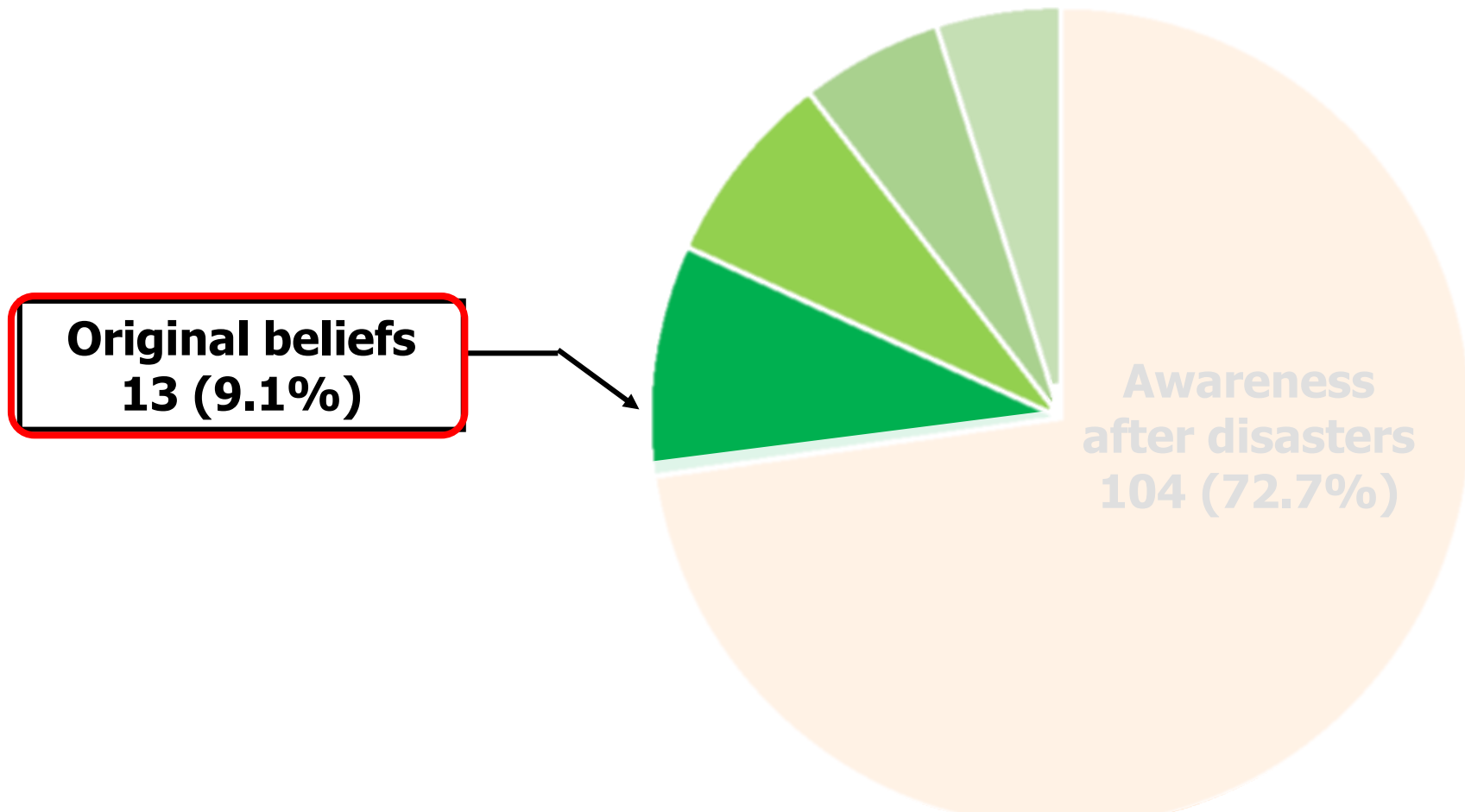
The internet came in handy. I can't trust the media or government. The news from overseas was useful..

Emotions identified (Study 2)



Sense of Personal Responsibility (Study 2)

Where interaction did NOT exist



Original beliefs

Knowledge of corruption / the Chernobyl case



No. 285

Only info that suits the government will be reported in Japan where the top of the major media and government officials have business dinners together.



No. 71

The government says there is nothing to worry about, but I know very well how the Chernobyl case was reported and what was really going on. I don't trust the government no matter what it tells us. Once it started to report lies about the nuclear accident, I have relied on the information found on the internet.

Upbringing

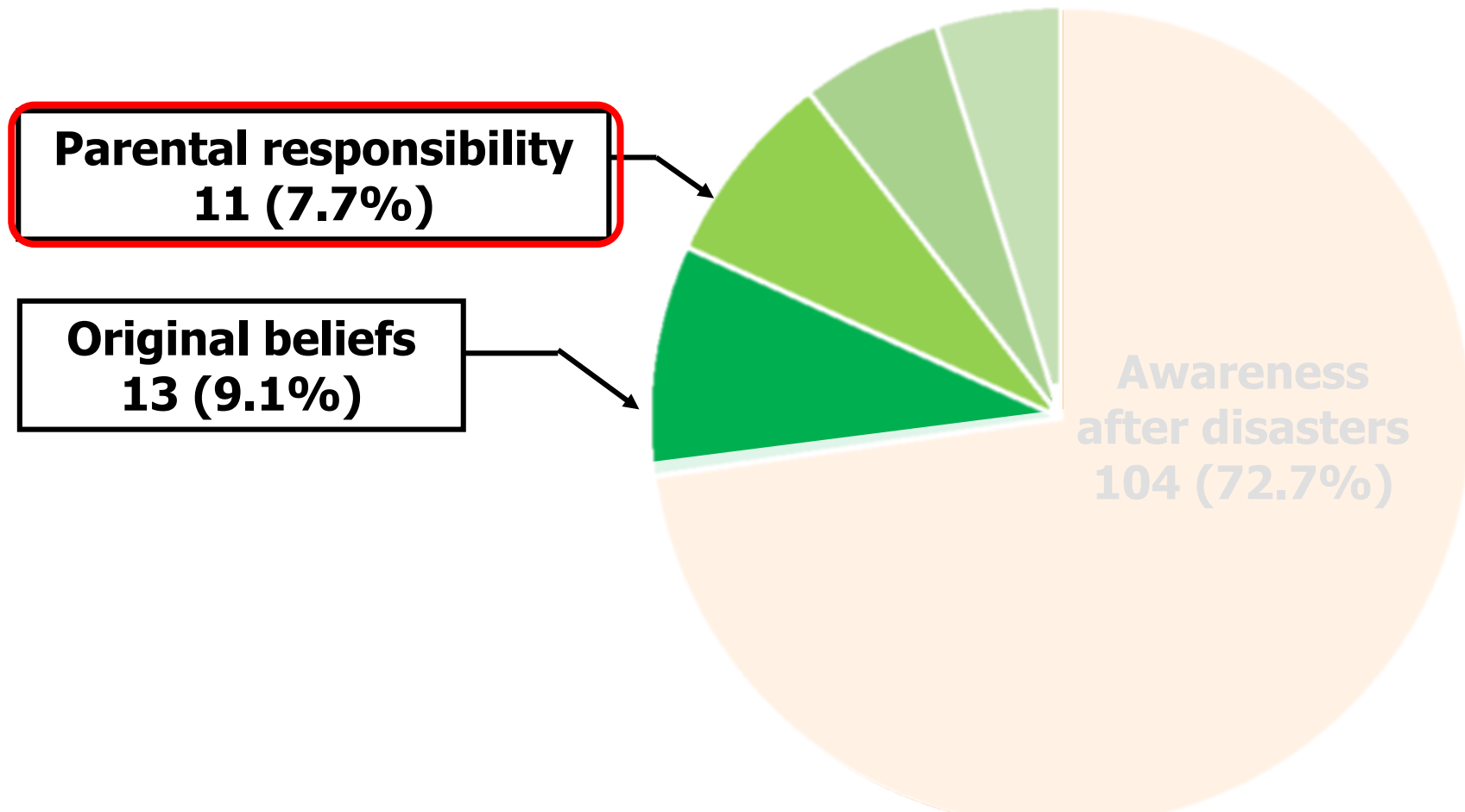


No. 71

My personality worked out OK as I was brought up being told not to completely trust authorities, and was encouraged to interpret critically.

Sense of Personal Responsibility (Study 2)

Where interaction did NOT exist



Parental responsibility

Children as a factor



I moved my family out because I couldn't be sure of safety, based on the information I had collected. I believe it's my responsibility to protect my children. I would not have moved out if I had no child.

No. 88

Social norm of male/female role

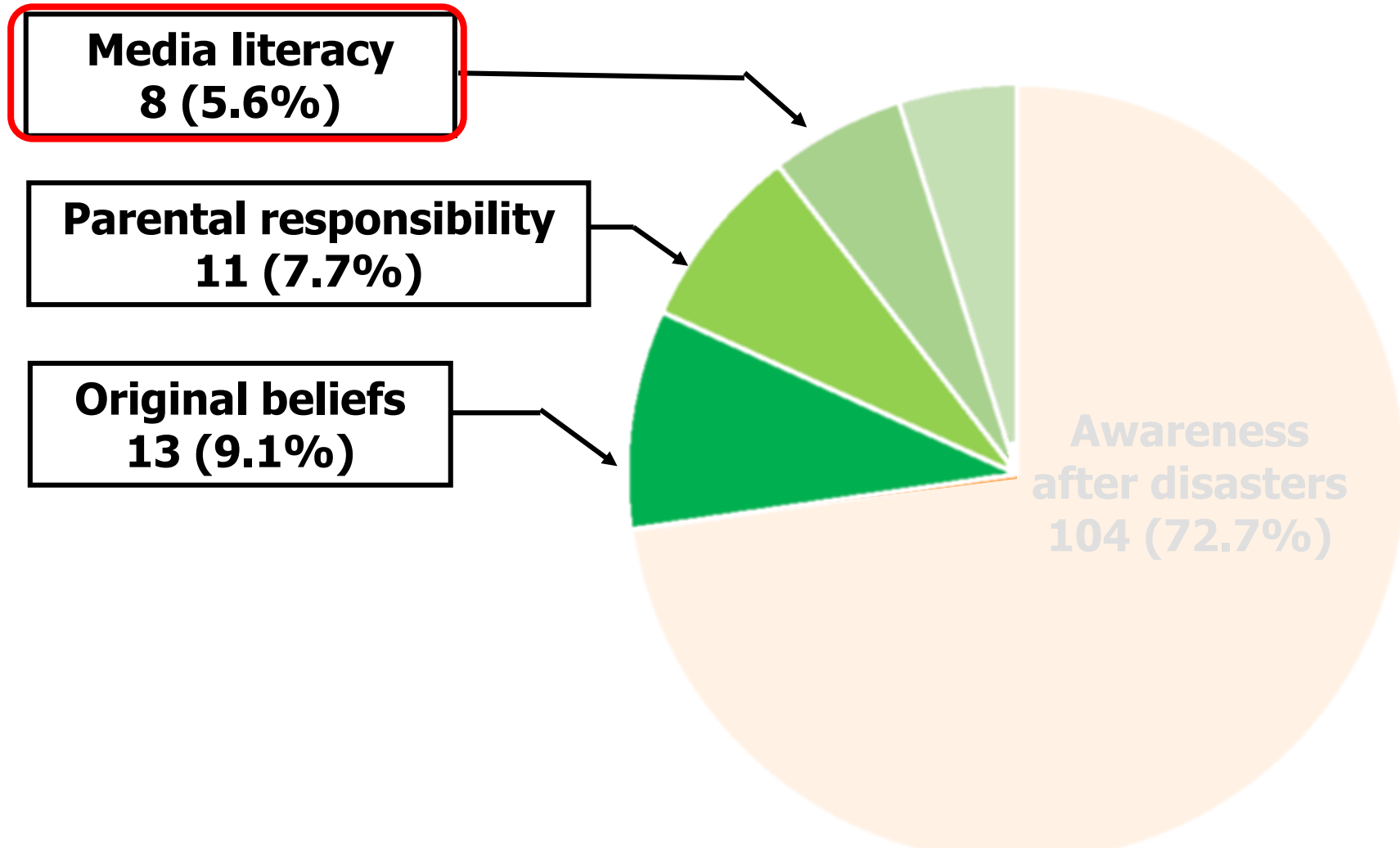


My husband had to go to work (even in an emergency). I strongly sensed that I'm the only person who can protect my children. I strive for the best as much as I can.

No. 130

Sense of Personal Responsibility (Study 2)

Where interaction did NOT exist



Media literacy

Importance of ability to judge the quality of info



No. 203

It's so important to have a high level of media literacy that allows you to judge the quality of information shown on the internet. It's my judgement and action that can help me protect my family and myself.



No. 141

It can be political when serious disasters happen. The credibility of information from the media and the internet is almost the same, and it's a mixture of wheat and chaff. You would be left ignorant if you passively receive information, and you can be deceived if you actively seek information.

Sense of Personal Responsibility (Study 2)

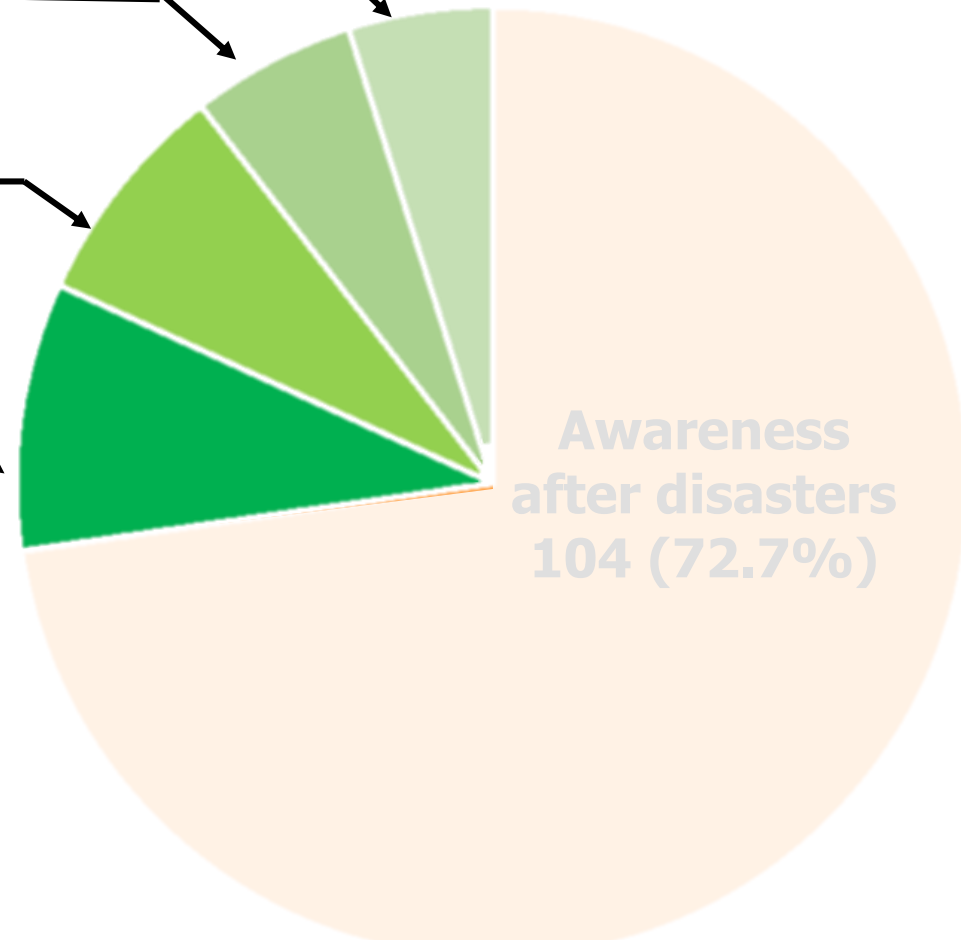
Where interaction did NOT exist

Intuition
7 (4.9%)

Media literacy
8 (5.6%)

Parental responsibility
11 (7.7%)

Original beliefs
13 (9.1%)



Intuition

Importance of intuition



No. 137

It's better to rely on your senses and intuition to protect yourself and your family. Such senses are much more useful than unreliable news/information.



No. 243

A lot of knowledge is required to escape a crisis, but I believe that intuition determines the outcomes when surviving natural disasters.



No. 147

Look for the truth yourselves. Intuition is most important.

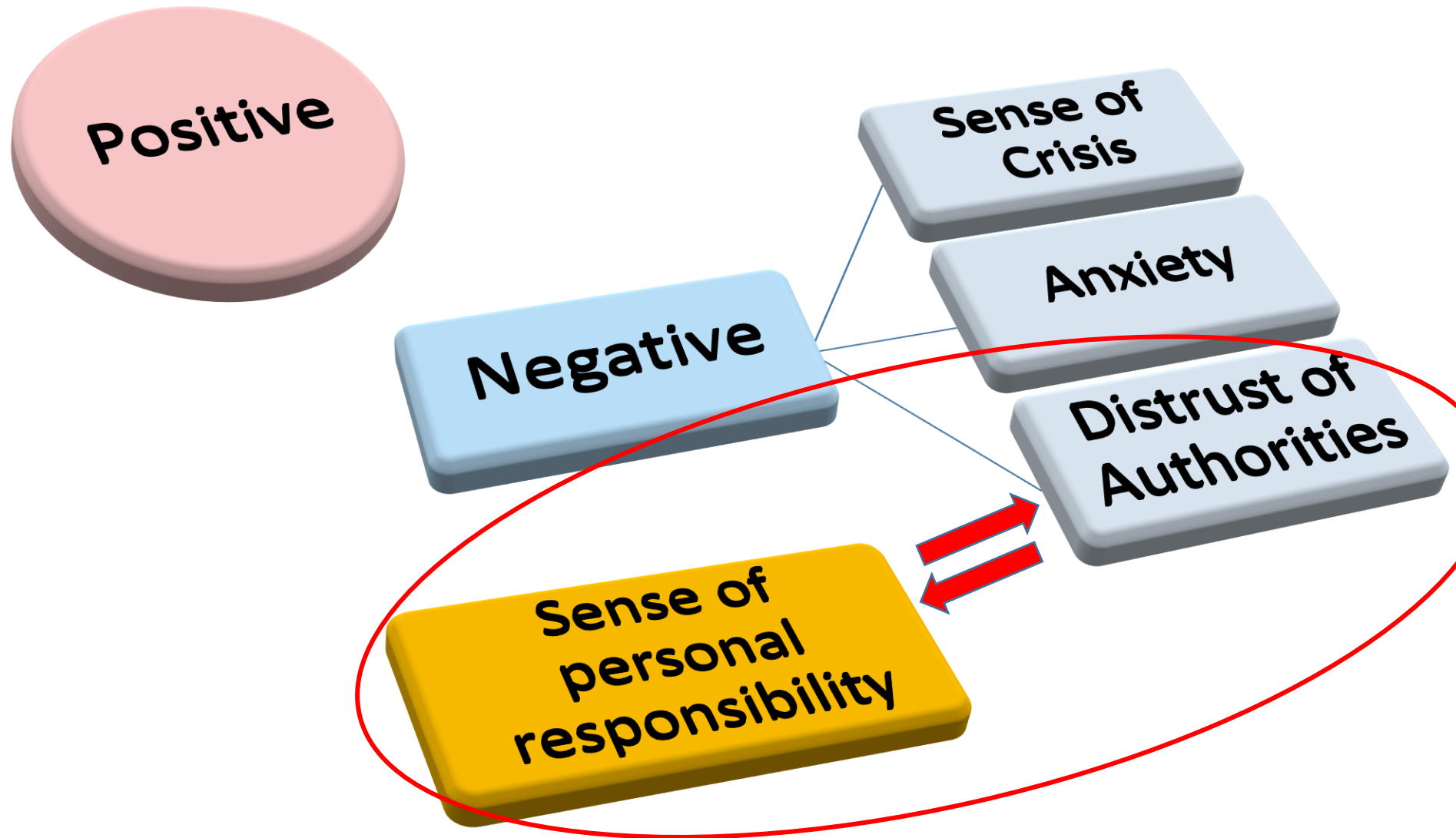
Discussion

RQ1: To what extent did the findings in Study 2 support those in Study 1 in terms of the types of emotions experienced?



Discussion

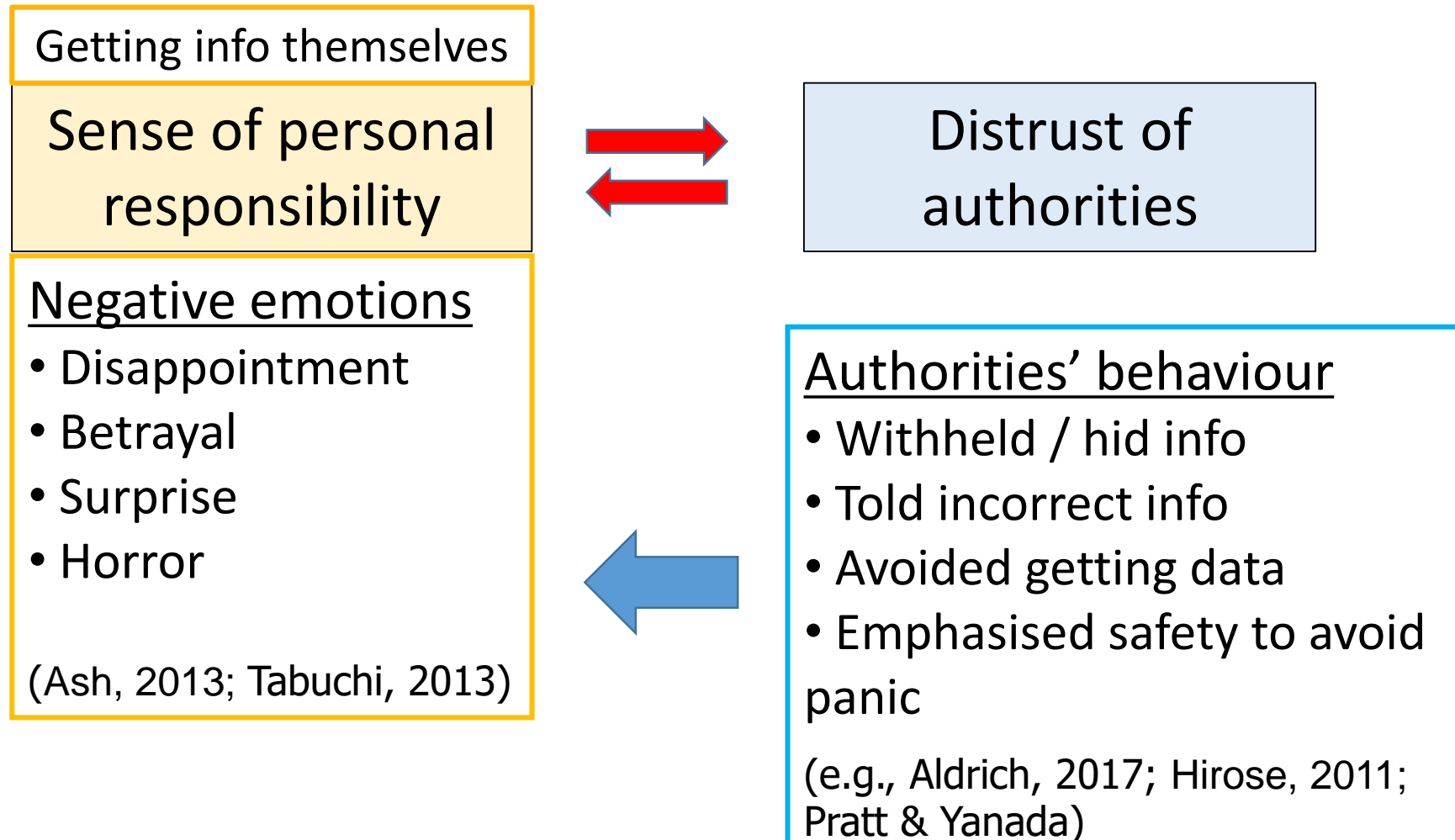
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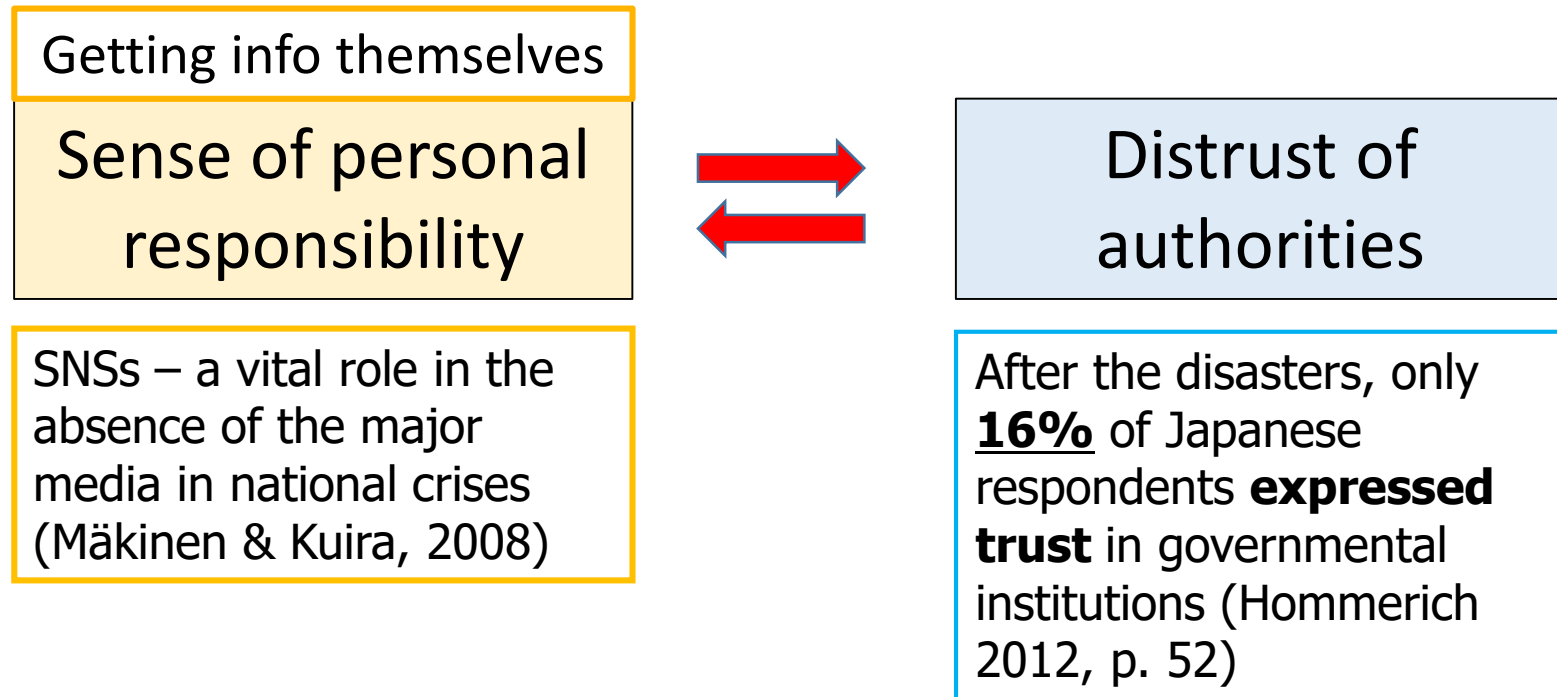
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Where interaction existed



Discussion

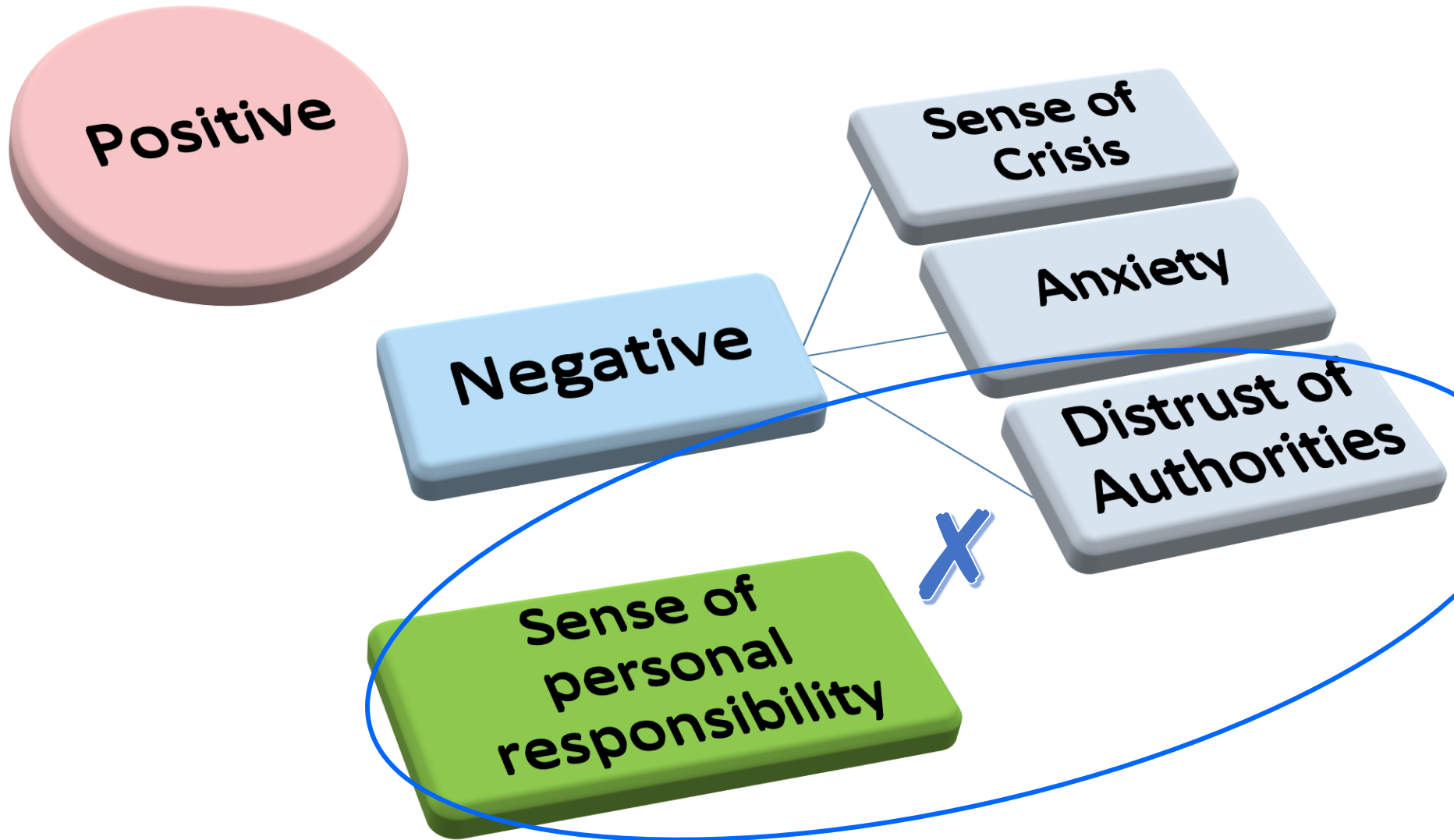
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Trust & credibility - the most necessary factors for effective risk communication (Covello, McCallum & Pavlova, 2012)

Emotions identified (Study 2)

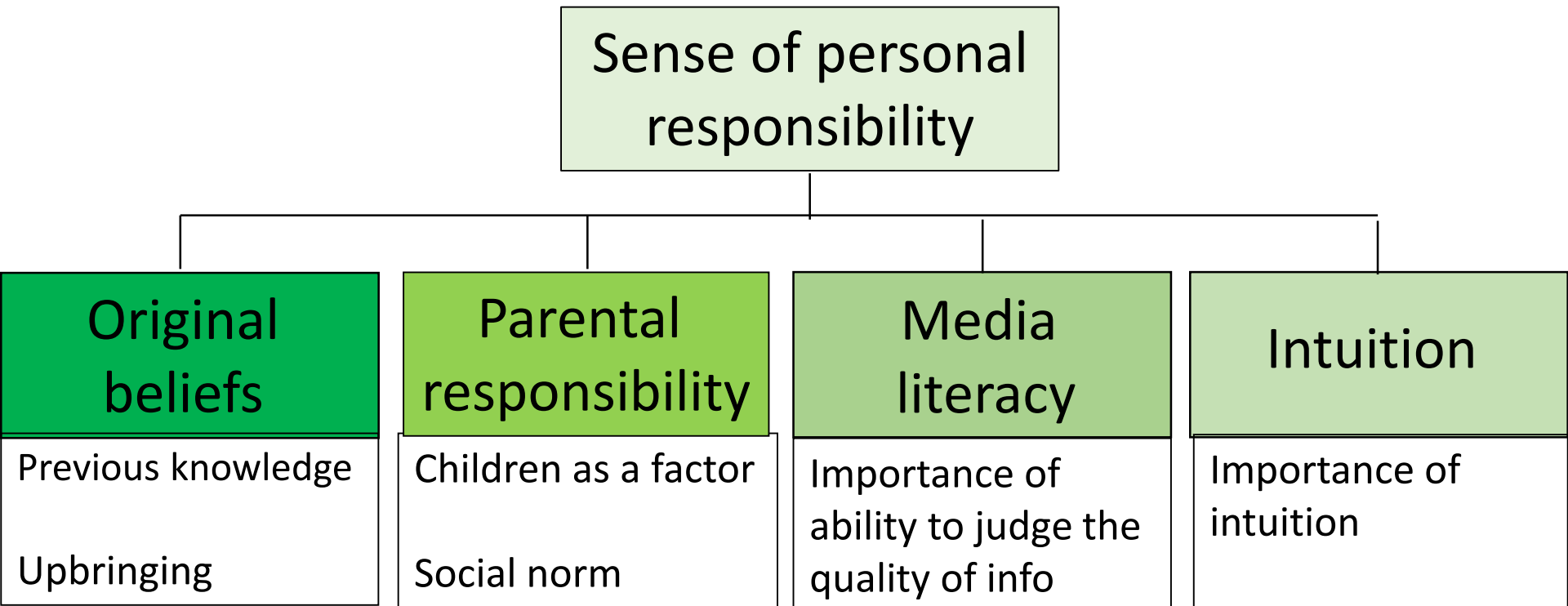
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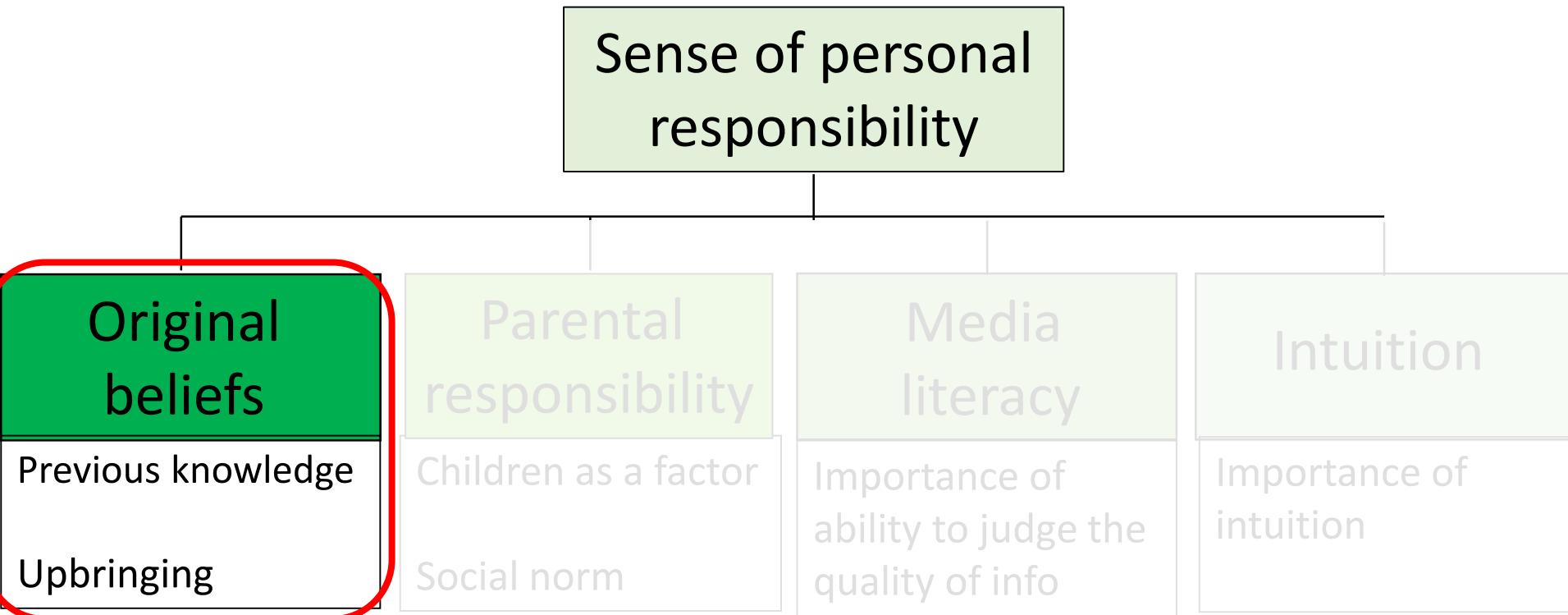
Where interaction did NOT exist



Discussion

RQ1: To what extent did the findings in Study 2 support those in Study 1 in terms of the types of emotions experienced?

Where interaction did NOT exist

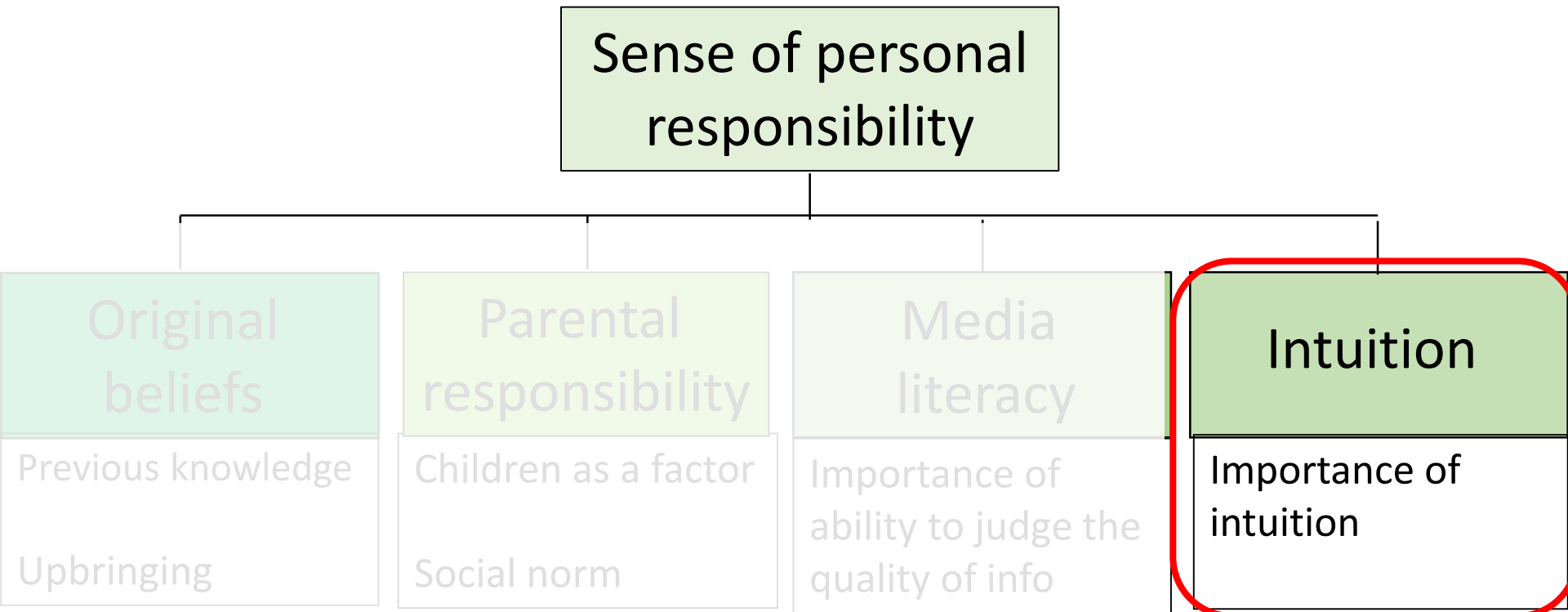


Only 1/4 of Japanese respondents trusted their government in the early 2000s (Aldrich, 2017)

Discussion

RQ1: To what extent did the findings in Study 2 support those in Study 1 in terms of the types of emotions experienced?

Where interaction did NOT exist

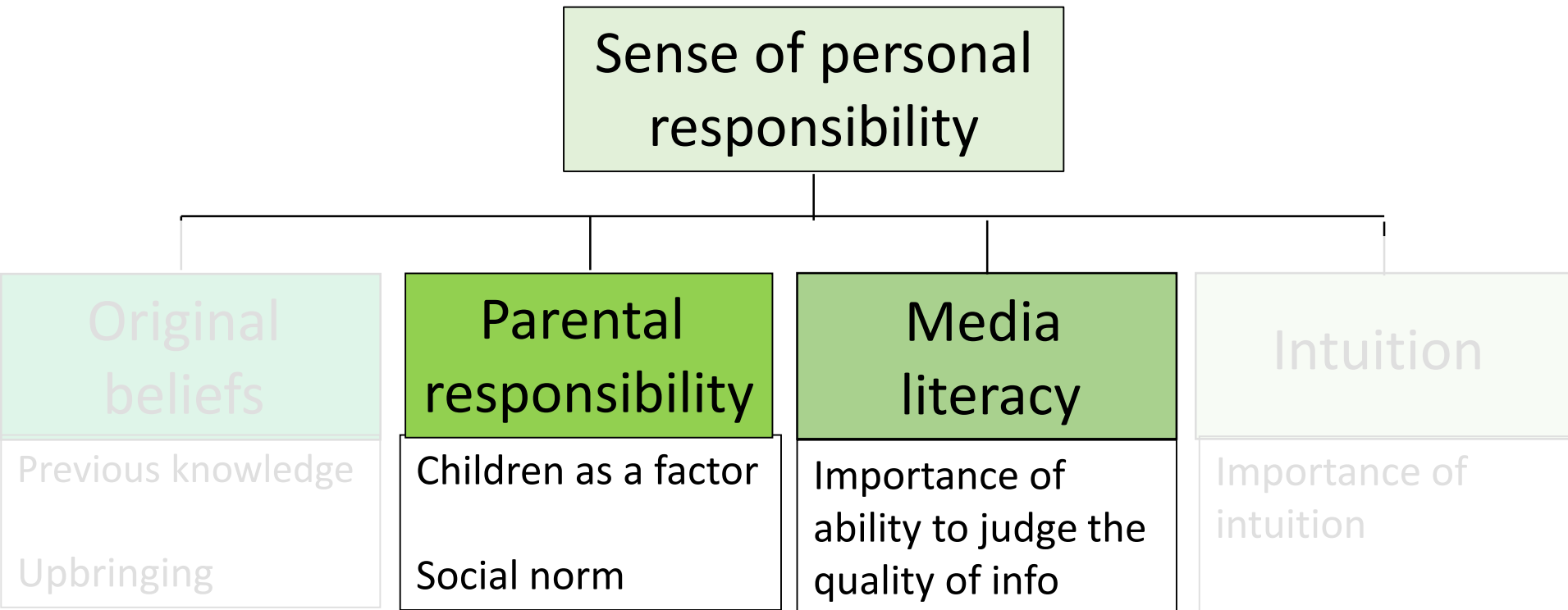


Intuition - a neglected research area [decision making] (Böhm & Brun, 2008)

Discussion

RQ1: To what extent did the findings in Study 2 support those in Study 1 in terms of the types of emotions experienced?

Where interaction did NOT exist



Discussion

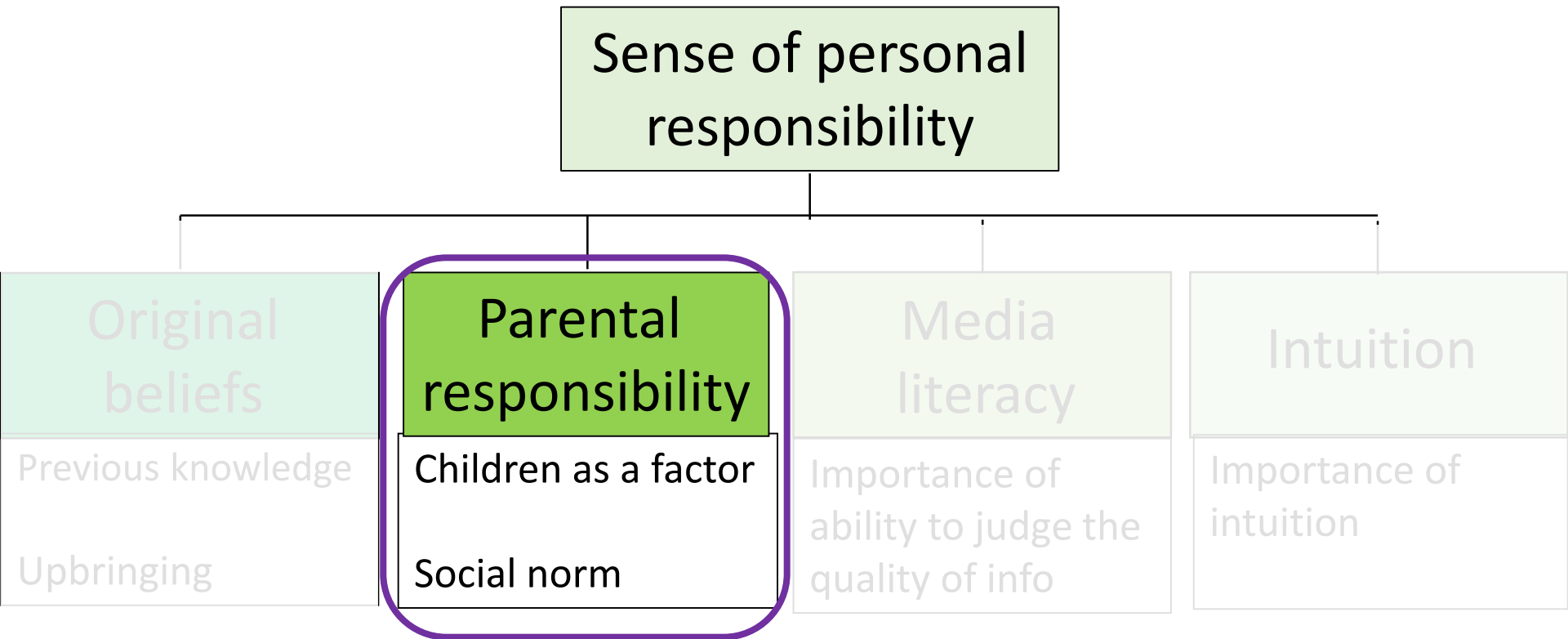
RQ2: Were any aspects of Japanese society reflected in factors identified?

1. Social norms in Japanese society
2. Division between information literate/illiterate

Discussion

RQ2: Were any aspects of Japanese society reflected in factors identified?

1. Social norms in Japanese society



Discussion

RQ2: Were any aspects of Japanese society reflected in factors identified?

1. Social norms in Japanese society

Male

- obligation to work (with sense of corporate loyalty)
- long working hours (unavailable at home)

Female

- obligation to look after home and children on their own
- accepting husband's absence from home



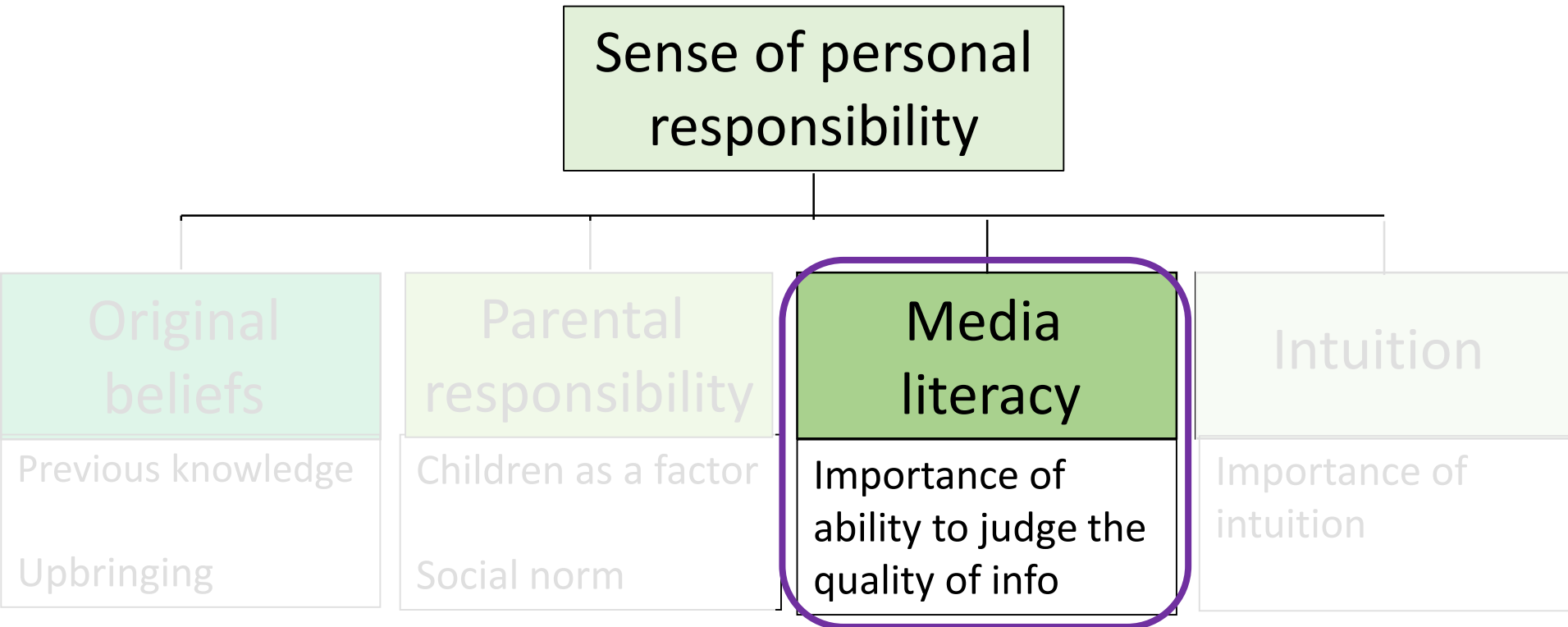
Sense of personal responsibility

- Fathers prioritised work over private life even in the triple disasters
- Too tired to doubt info from authorities (Morioka, 2014)

Discussion

RQ2: Were any aspects of Japanese society reflected in factors identified?

2. Division between info literate/illiterate



Discussion

RQ2: Were any aspects of Japanese society reflected in factors identified?

2. Division between info literate/illiterate

Information literate

Japanese people with:

- another language
- skills to use SNSs
- personal overseas contacts
- close people who are information literate



Sense of personal responsibility

Information illiterate

Japanese people with:

- no other language but Japanese
- no skills / no need to use SNSs
- no personal overseas contact
- no close people who are information literate



Conclusion

- A mixed method helped get a more complete picture
- Trust - vital to achieve effective risk communication
- Authorities should develop better strategies to handle risk communication
- Language & IT skills - a great help to maximise the amount and quality of information
- Cultural and contextual factors should be taken into account to achieve effective risk communication

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