

A Study on Law as an Instrument of Social Change in India

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ABSTRACT:

Indian law has long been recognized as a powerful tool for social transformation, shaping society, ensuring justice and protecting individual rights. The development of law in India ranges from ancient times, when common law and religious texts dominated society, to the introduction of British common law principles during the colonial period. After India's independence in 1947, the Indian Constitution provided the basis for a comprehensive legal framework focused on social justice and equality. The government has made various efforts to use this law for social change, including codifying the Personal Law to eliminate discrimination and promote gender equality. Political will and international efforts are also influencing legal reforms to bring them in line with global standards. Recent trends in India include the impact of digital platforms and social media on legal information dissemination and access to justice, increased focus on environmental law and sustainability, awareness of various rights, and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. including the growing popularity of These trends reflect a commitment to inclusivity, environmental awareness and efficient dispute resolution. Overall, the law remains an important tool for social transformation in India, aiming to eliminate discrimination, promote justice and build a more just society. The researcher has conducted an empirical method and using a convenient sampling method has collected 200 responses as sample size.

KEYWORDS:

Indian law, Social transformation, Justice, Gender equality, Legal reforms

INTRODUCTION:

It has long been recognized in India as a powerful instrument for social change. It plays an important role in shaping society, ensuring justice and protecting individual rights. Over the years, the development of law in India has been marked by significant milestones, government initiatives and shifting social dynamics. This comprehensive primer examines the evolution of law, government initiatives, factors influencing law reform

and current trends related to law as a vehicle for social change in India. The **evolution** of the study has been since the development of law in India can be traced back to ancient times when customary law and religious texts governed society. During the colonial period, the principles of British common law were introduced, bringing about major changes to the legal system. After India's independence in 1947, the Indian Constitution was the basis for establishing a comprehensive legal framework to govern the country. The Constitution sets out the basic rights and duties of citizens and guides the legal system to ensure social justice and equality.

The **Government** of India has made several efforts to harness the law as an instrument for social change. One notable effort was the codification of personal law. The Hindu Code of Laws Bill of the 1950s was intended to reform Hindu personal laws on marriage, divorce, inheritance and adoption. Subsequently, reforms were introduced to address issues related to Muslim character laws, such as the Islamic Women Protection Act 1986 (Protection of Rights in Divorce). These efforts were aimed at eliminating discriminatory practices and ensuring greater gender equality. In addition, the government has implemented various laws and policies to address social problems and protect vulnerable members of society. Legislation such as the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act 1989 and the Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act 2005 aim to protect marginalized communities and women from discrimination and violence. This is an example of a law that Factors influencing legal change:

Several **factors** influence the role of law as an instrument for legal reform and social change in India. These factors include social movements, legal action, political will, international obligations and changes in social values. Social movements and public pressure played an important role in bringing about legal changes. High-profile cases, public interest lawsuits, and actions by civil society groups have driven legal reform and raised awareness of social issues. In addition, the legal activities of the Indian judiciary have contributed to shaping legal reforms. Courts have interpreted laws and constitutions to protect fundamental rights, promote social justice, and fill legal gaps. Litigation in the public interest allowed the public to seek remedies and challenge wrongdoing. Political will also plays an important role in promoting legal reform. Governments and policy makers must prioritize social justice and justice, which leads to the enactment and revision of laws. International commitments and commitments, such as international human rights conventions, influence legal reforms and promote alignment of domestic law with international standards. Current development status:

In **recent** years, several emerging trends have shaped the legal landscape as a vehicle for social transformation in India. These include the rise of digital platforms and social media, increased focus on environmental law and sustainability, recognition of LGBTQ+ rights, and promotion of alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. The emergence of digital platforms and social media has changed the way legal information is disseminated, improved access to justice, and empowered citizens. Concerns about climate change and sustainable

development have put environmental legislation in the spotlight. The judiciary has played an active role in solving environmental problems, promoting environmental rights, and introducing stricter regulations.

There are also alternative dispute resolution mechanisms such as mediation, arbitration is becoming increasingly popular, allowing for faster and more cost-effective resolution of legal disputes. To **conclude**, law as a tool for social transformation in India has evolved significantly due to government initiatives, social factors and changing trends. The purpose of the law reform was to eliminate discrimination, protect vulnerable members of society and promote social justice. Ongoing trends such as digitalisation, environmental awareness, LGBTQ+ rights and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms continue to shape the legal landscape to ensure a more inclusive and just society.

OBJECTIVES:

- To understand the need for law to be used as an instrument for social change.
- To find the reasons inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.
- To critically analyse the role of law as a social instrument.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE:

Zimring F (1983) deals with the legal threat as an instrument of social change. Noting that it is important to distinguish threats aimed at shoring up existing norms from those that seek to change customary patterns of behavior, the article discusses a number of conditions influencing the outcome of threats that attempt to produce social change. Among the factors considered are variations in the type of custom, the rationale for change, the social characteristics of the threatened audience, and the extent of law enforcement. The implications of these factors for socializing change are presented. **Mulela (1995)** deals with the constitution and sexual discrimination in Zambia. The paper looks at the process of achieving gender equity through law reform. By tracing the process of amending the Constitution and other overtly discriminating laws in Zambia. The paper questions the effectiveness of legal centralism in circumstances which clearly indicate the existence of legal pluralism. **Uma Devi Bellary (2022)** deals with section 498A of IPC as a legal instrument for social change. Section 498A was added to the Indian Penal Code in 1983 to check incidents of cruelty by the husband or his relatives. This paper gives an appraisal of Section 498A and highlights the need for such a penal provision to tackle the deep-rooted social problem. The Section is also an important instrument to ensure that married women can claim their right to live and live with dignity—a right which is not only a basic human right but also a guaranteed constitutional right. **Swati Kaushal (2020)** The topic has its objective by entering into punishments other than those prescribed

in the codes. The reformations and rehabilitations have already assumed the space in criminology but still are considered to be so effective keeping in view the increasing crime rate in the referred target group. The research proposal will deal through doctrinal methodology based on primary and secondary sources of data. After analysis of one data it will be corroborated with the other for arriving at certainty. **Adel Azer (1979)** deals with the law as an instrument of social change in the case of population policy. Many minds, multiple energies and much cooperation has gone into the creation and production of this monograph. Principally it is the outcome of a seminar on the theme of "Law and Social Change: Problems and Challenges" which was organized and co-sponsored within the general framework of the Open University Seminar Series by the Department of Sociology-Anthropology-Psychology of the American University in Cairo and the National Center for Sociological and Criminological Research. **Muh Yusuf (2017)** studied the role of the judge in creating justice as an instrument of social change. This paper attempts to unravel the main duties of the judges solving the cases. It concludes that in order to meet the demands of justice, the paradigm, mindset and behaviour of judges that have tended to weaken and humiliate the position and dignity of the judiciary need to be changed and developed. To realise the existence of the role of judges is determined by the performance, professionalism, idealism and adequate infrastructure to support the efforts of both internal and external approach. **William M (2010)** The role of law in driving social change is not well understood due to a lack of evidence on the causal impact of legislation. Efforts and intended consequences of social reform laws are often assumed to indicate significant behavioural changes, such as compulsory schooling laws. However, there is limited evidence to support or refute the belief that such laws have effectively increased children's participation in the US education system over the past century. Questions arise regarding whether these laws were the cause or result of observed increases in school attainment and doubts persist about the enforcement of compulsory schooling laws, as evidenced by widespread truancy in urban schools today. The fundamental question of the actual effect of these laws on school enrollment and attendance remains unanswered. **Fatima (2006)** The Moroccan feminist movement has played a significant role in feminising and democratising the public sphere in the country. The 2004 Family Law reforms serve as an example, representing the culmination of efforts by decision-makers, political parties, and public actors, with the feminist movement acting as a major driving force. These reforms sparked unprecedented public debates involving various societal actors and demonstrated the insertion of feminist ideas and associations into the public sphere, marking a historic moment where women and gender issues became subjects of national dialogue and contention in Morocco. **Carrie (2018)** This essay argues for a reorientation of feminist theory in exploring the role of gender in the legal profession. It highlights two common approaches: analyzing gender as a reinforcement of stereotypes or measuring women's success within traditional law firms. Instead, the author suggests asking different questions by drawing from recent historical and sociological research on women in the legal and medical professions. The aim is to examine the impact of socially constructed gender differences on the transformation of law practice, rather than reinforcing gender distinctions. **Tomas K (2018)** Every corporation has a dual responsibility to its stockholders - economic and

moral - to achieve financial success. Despite the growing number of bankruptcies in Slovakia, without an apparent macroeconomic cause, efforts are being actively made to prevent further deterioration and retain foreign capital. Conventional bankruptcy prediction tools have been analyzed and found adaptable to local conditions, including legislation, with the ability to provide advance warnings of financial problems. A new bankruptcy prediction tool has been developed, outperforming traditional models. However, predicting bankruptcy risk has become more challenging due to the complexity and globalization of corporations, as well as their use of intricate schemes to conceal their true situations. Despite this, skepticism remains as economic engineers have used bankruptcy as a strategy to limit liability resulting from court penalties. **Catherine R (2005)** This study explores the implementation and impact of the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA), which mandates job-protected leave for employees. By conducting interviews with workers who faced challenges in utilizing their leave rights, the study examines how social institutions influence the activation of these rights in the workplace. The findings reveal that leave rights are influenced by established norms regarding work, gender, and disability, which shape workers' perceptions and decisions regarding their rights. However, the study also highlights that workers can utilize the law as a cultural discourse to challenge these norms, form alliances, and redefine the meaning of leave. **Paul Burstein (2020)** This article aims to establish connections between social movements and the mobilization of law by examining legal mobilization as a tactic within social movements, specifically focusing on the equal employment opportunity (EEO) movement. The article explores how minorities and women utilize federal EEO laws to advocate for equal treatment in the job market, the success rate of their cases, and the significance of organizing and receiving support from the federal government for achieving victory. Analyzing the mobilization of EEO laws in the federal appellate courts, the study concludes that grievances and mobilization are complexly intertwined, with black individuals remaining central to the fight for equality in the United States. It also highlights the importance of resources for challengers of the status quo and the influential role the federal government can play when it chooses to intervene on behalf of women and minorities, aligning with recent research on social movements. **Pennie (2010)** This paper highlights the limited involvement of youth in the data analysis phase of participatory action research (PAR) projects, despite its potential to enhance critical awareness and the effectiveness of subsequent PAR stages. Many youth-led PAR projects struggle to promote critical consciousness due to mismatched methods that don't align with their developmental needs. The paper introduces the ReACT Method, a PAR approach specifically designed to engage youth in problem identification, data analysis, and feedback stages to promote local knowledge production and critical consciousness. Detailed descriptions of the methods used for problem identification and qualitative data analysis are provided, addressing the gap in literature regarding youth engagement in these processes. **MJ Papa (2006)** Previous studies on entertainment-education lacked a proper theoretical understanding of how exposure to media messages leads to community-level changes. This observational case study in an Indian village explores the impact of a radio soap opera, revealing the complexities, contradictions, and challenges faced by audience members in achieving media-induced change through parasocial interaction,

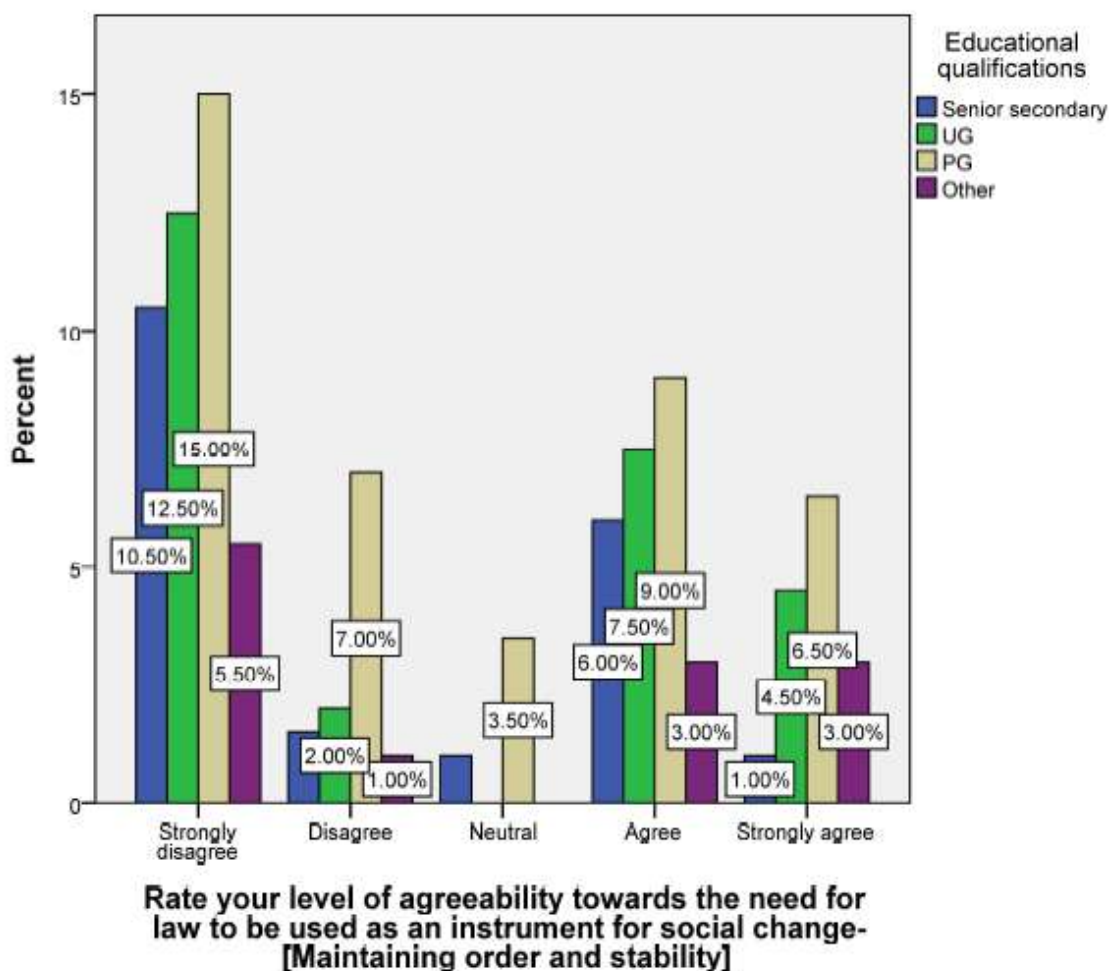
peer communication, and collective efficacy. **Lawrence (1979)** This paper introduces a "routine activity approach" to analyze crime rate trends, focusing on the circumstances surrounding criminal acts rather than the characteristics of offenders. It emphasizes the convergence of likely offenders, suitable targets, and the absence of guardians against crime. Using human ecological theory, the study explores how social structure facilitates this convergence, allowing illegal activities to thrive alongside everyday life. The hypothesis suggests that the dispersion of activities away from households increases crime opportunities and leads to higher crime rates. Data from the United States between 1947 and 1974 supports this hypothesis, linking crime rate trends to changes in variables like labor force participation and single-adult households. **Ruth V (2007)** This study presents a comprehensive theoretical model that explains why business organizations are adopting corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiatives, leading to positive social change. The model combines theories of organizational justice, corporate governance, and varieties of capitalism, suggesting that organizations face pressure from various actors with instrumental, relational, and moral motivations to engage in CSR. The paper concludes by outlining potential empirical research questions and discussing managerial implications arising from this framework. **Michael (2006)** In the past, social movement scholars and traditional legal scholars showed little interest in each other's fields. However, in recent years, there has been a growing interest in the intersection of law and social movements. This interest has been driven by political scientists and law and society scholars. This review examines the diverse literature in this area, starting with general theories that explore core concepts. It then moves on to discuss empirical studies that are organized around the multi-stage model, which is derived from political process approaches and legal mobilization frameworks. **Susanne K (2001)** Globalization will increase cultural interactions and potential conflicts, as migration, global business, and consumption expose us to new experiences of diversity and common ground. Criminology recognizes the significance of culture, with Western scholars studying Asian societies for insights into low crime rates, while Asian criminologists caution against Western influences leading to increased crime. Comparing cultures and crime can provide fresh theories and perspectives, but it is crucial to understand the complexities, avoid exaggerated differences, and address the challenges of applying general theories and criminal justice practices across diverse cultural environments. Criminology must develop strategies to navigate cultural comparisons in the globalized era. **Polly Higgins (2013)** Various crimes and harms against the environment and species jeopardize the planet and humanity's future, requiring more effective models of justice. The essay explores an "earth jurisprudence" and the proposal for "ecocide" to be recognized internationally as a crime, tracing its origins from debates on genocide to near acceptance by the United Nations. The article concludes by advocating for ecocide to be established as the 5th Crime against Peace. **Paddy H (2007)** This article explores ongoing debates between proponents of criminology and those advocating for a social harm perspective. It outlines criticisms of criminology raised by critical criminologists and suggests that adopting a social harm perspective may offer greater theoretical coherence, imagination, and political progress as an alternative disciplinary approach.

METHODOLOGY:

The research method followed here is empirical research. A total of 200 samples have been collected out of which all samples have been collected through a convenient sampling method. The sample frame is taken in public areas in and around Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The independent variables are gender, age, educational qualification, occupation and marital status. The dependent variables include the role of law as a social instrument. The statistical tools used here are Chi square, independent sample t-test and ANOVA test under SPSS and graphical charts such as simple charts and complex charts.

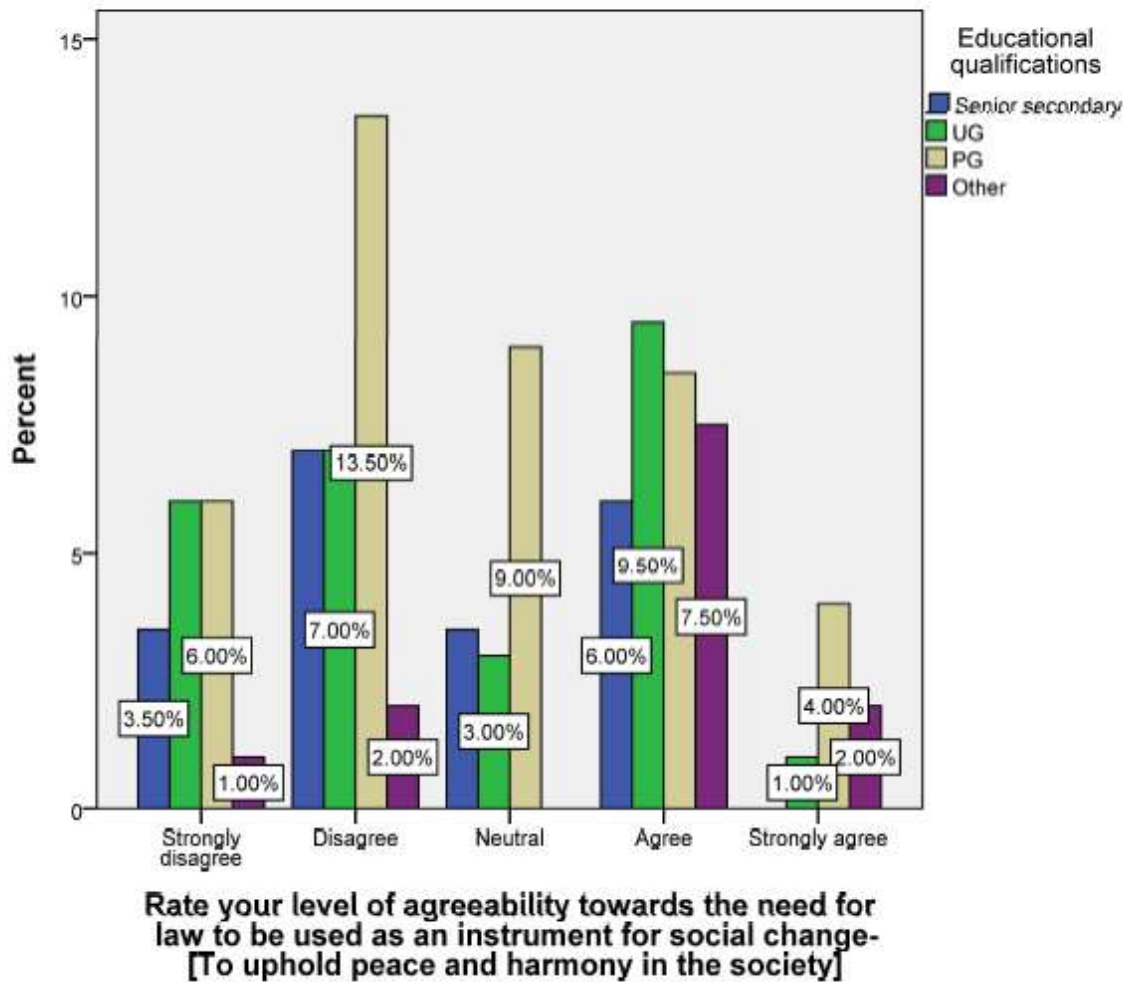
DATA INTERPRETATION AND ANALYSIS:

FIGURE 1



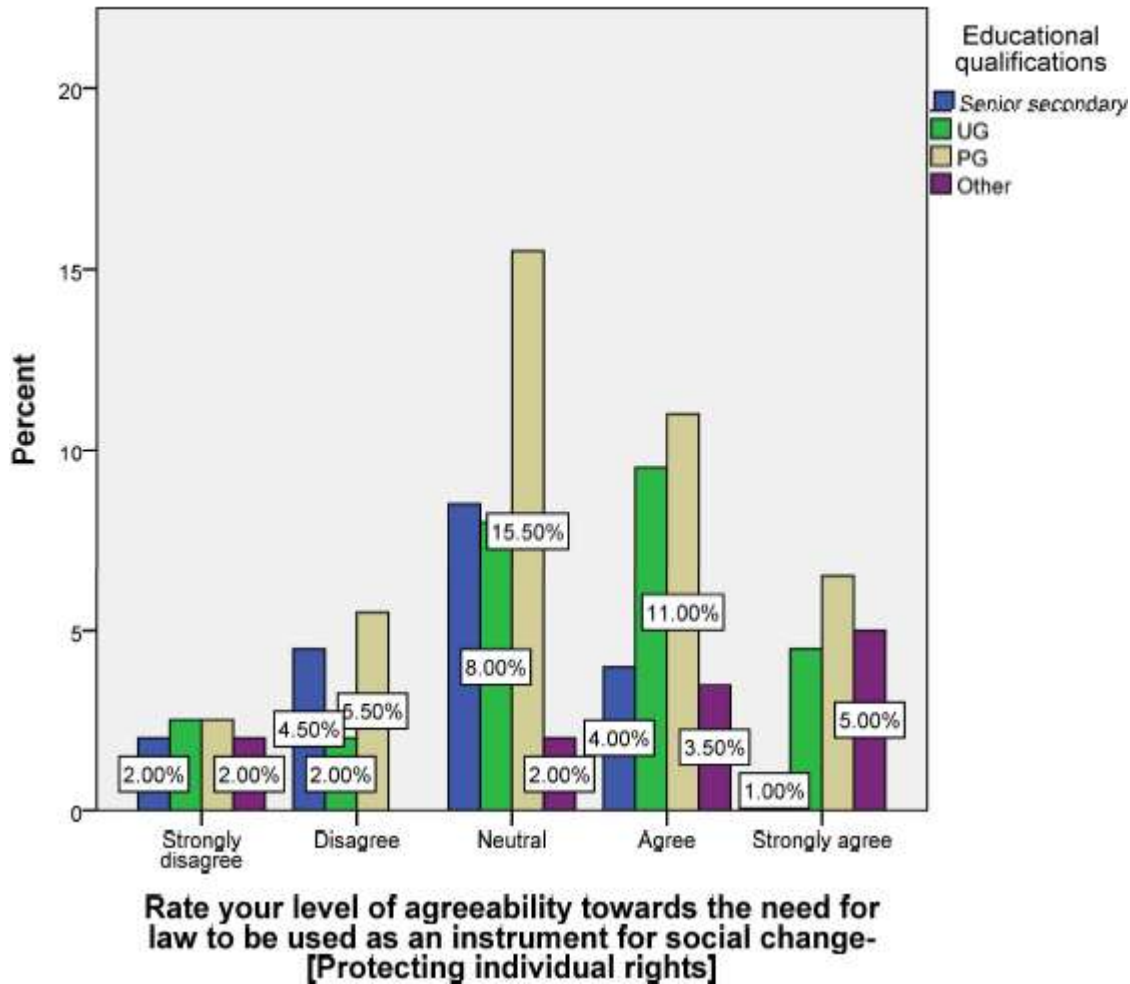
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards maintaining order and stability as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 2



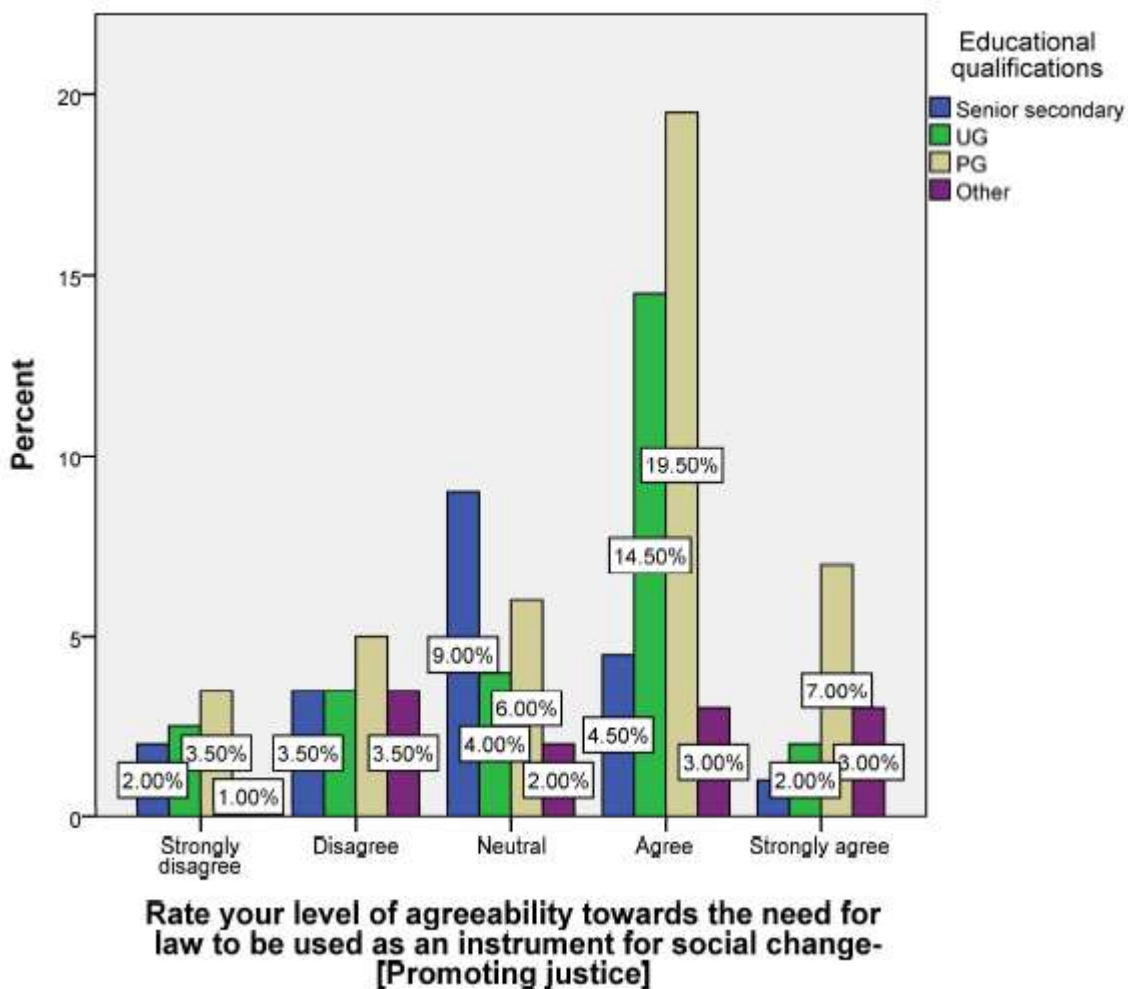
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability to uphold peace and harmony in the society as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 3



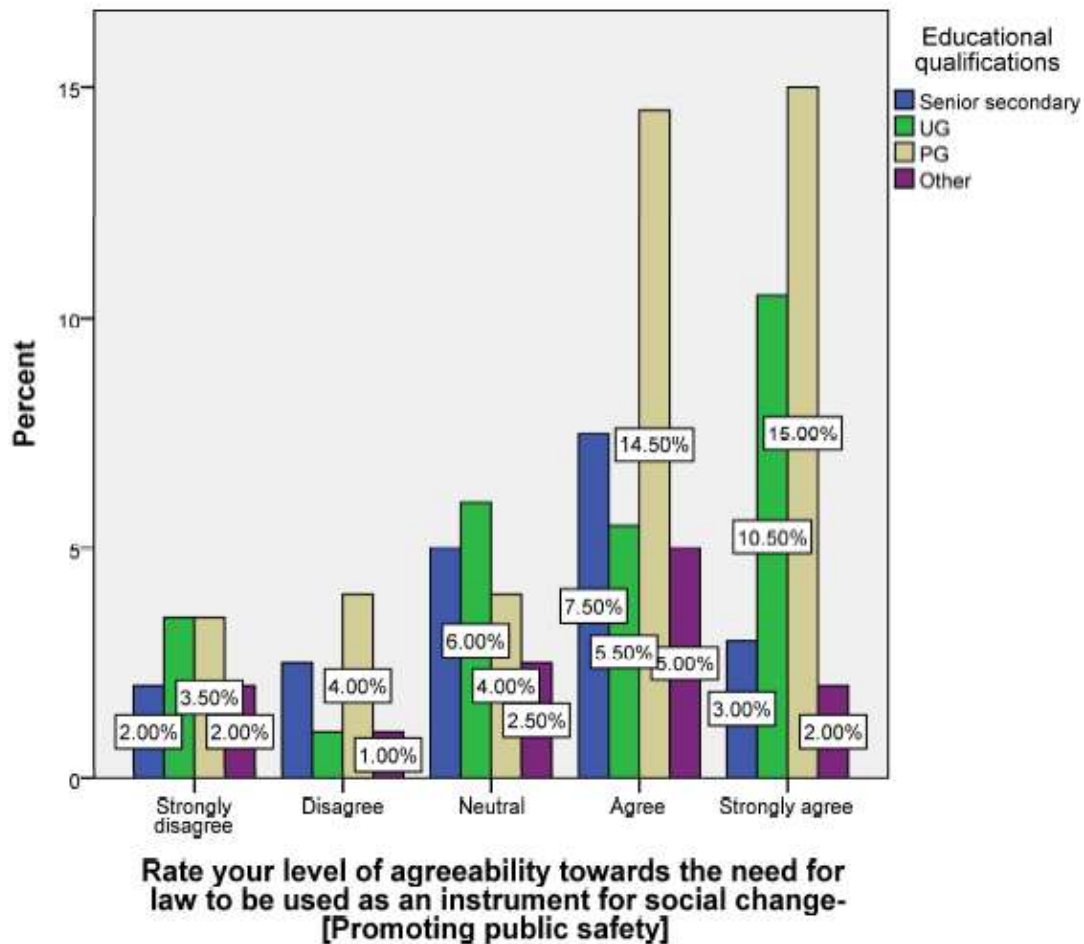
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards protecting individual rights as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 4



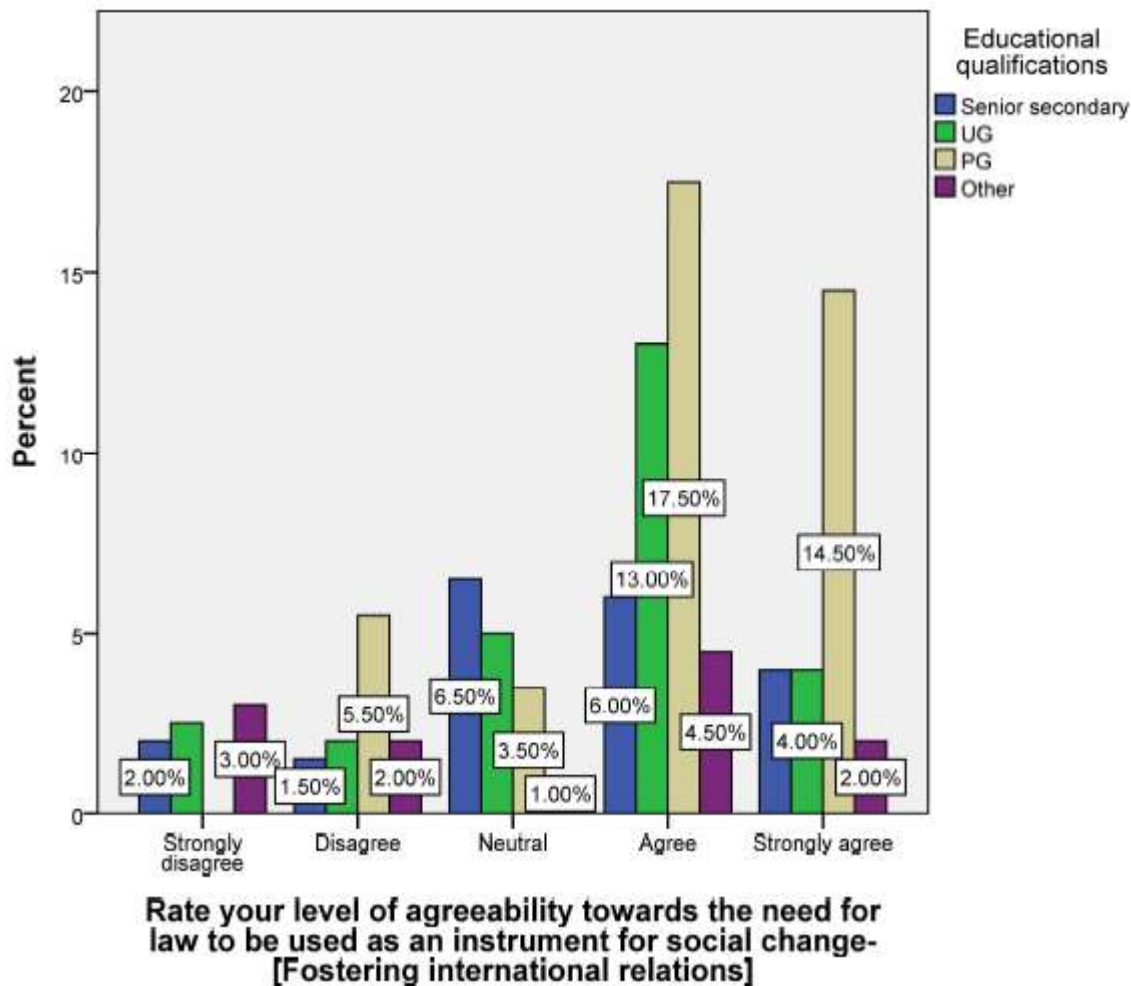
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards promoting justice as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 5



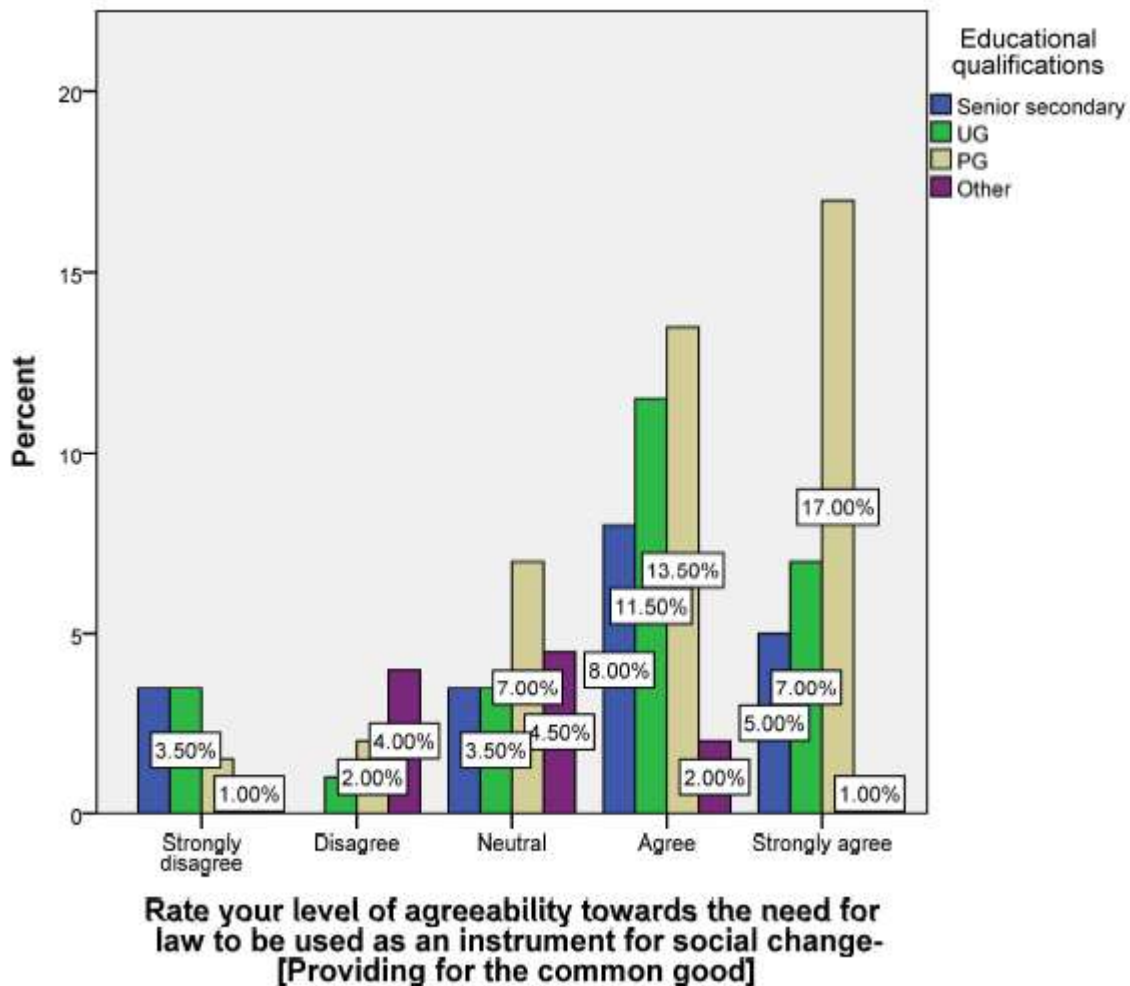
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards promoting public safety as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 6



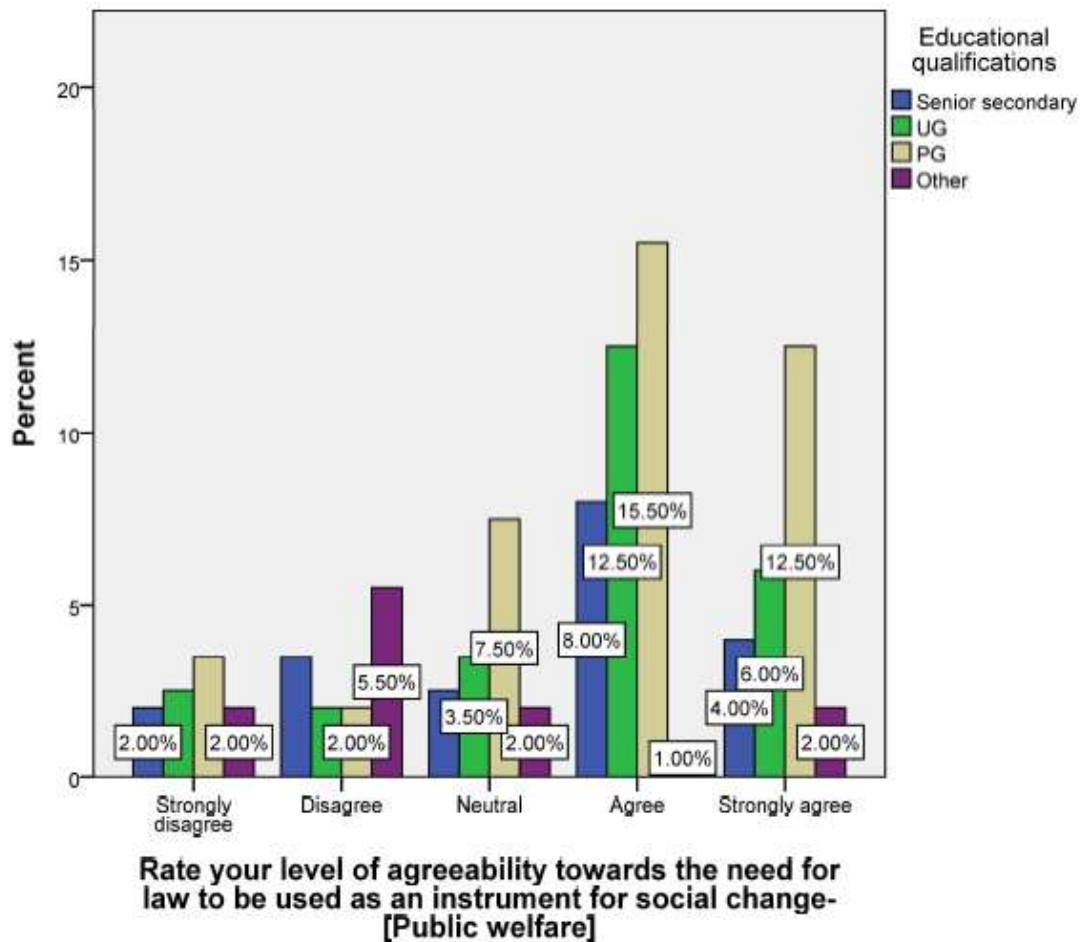
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards fostering International relations as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 7



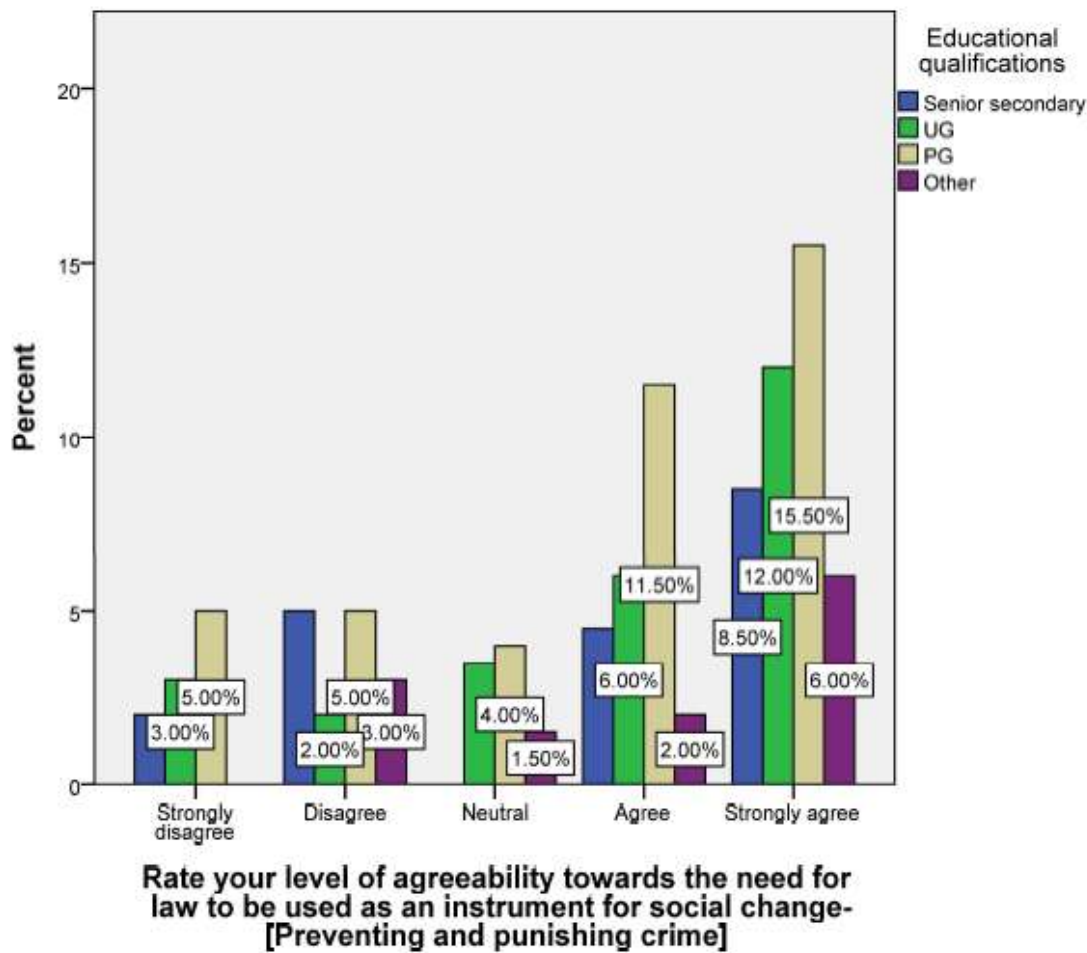
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards Providing for the common good as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 8



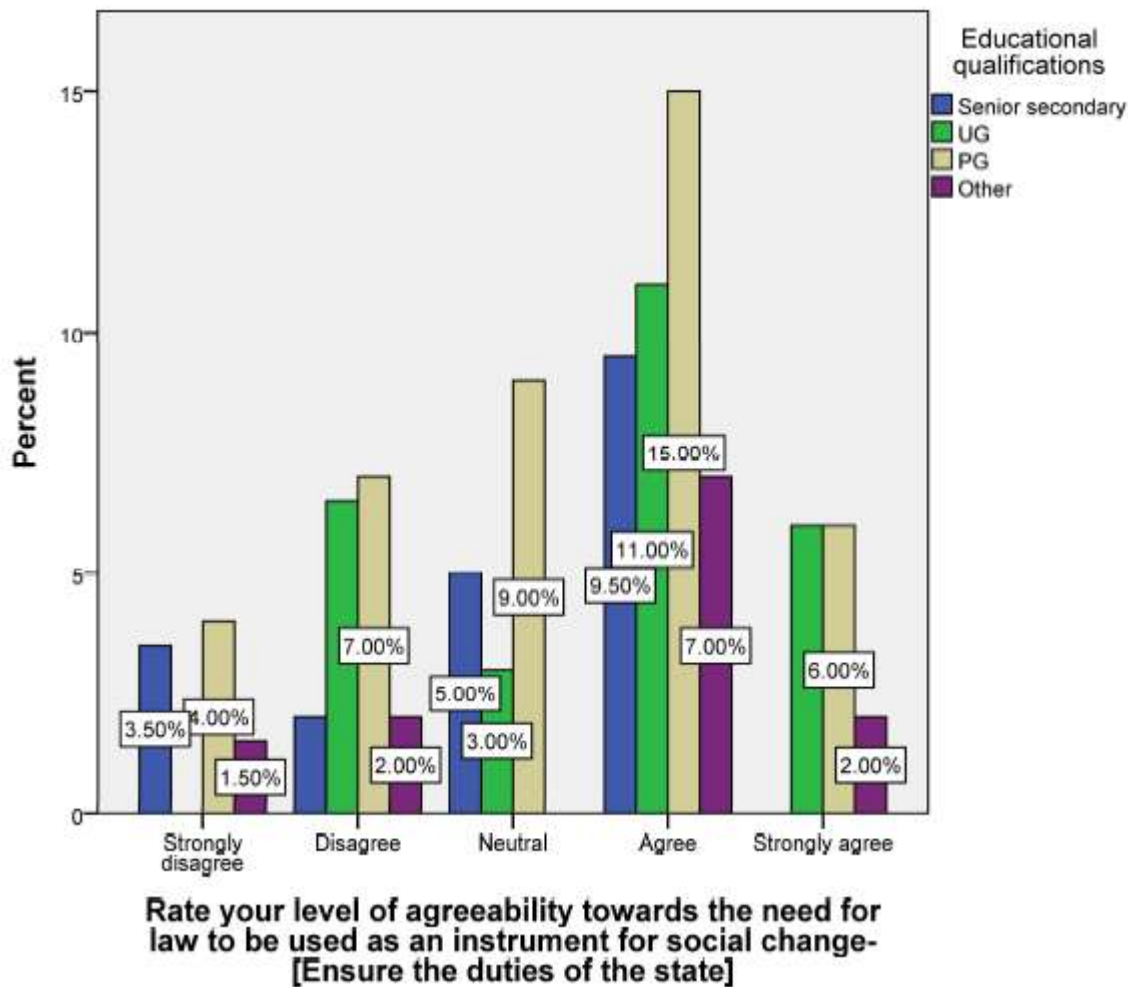
LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards public welfare as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

FIGURE 9



LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards preventing and punishing crime as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

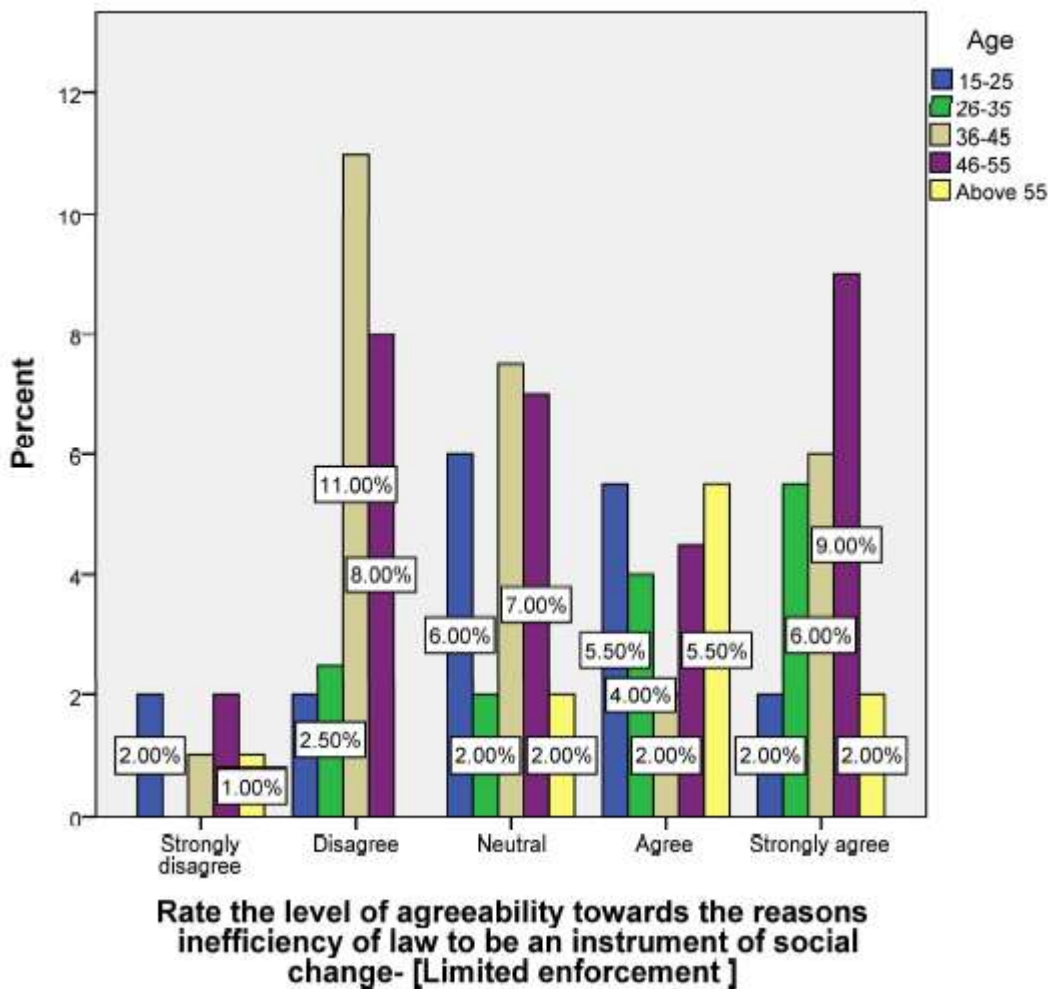
FIGURE 10



LEGEND: The above graph represents the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards ensuring the duties of the state as one of the means for using law as an instrument for social change.

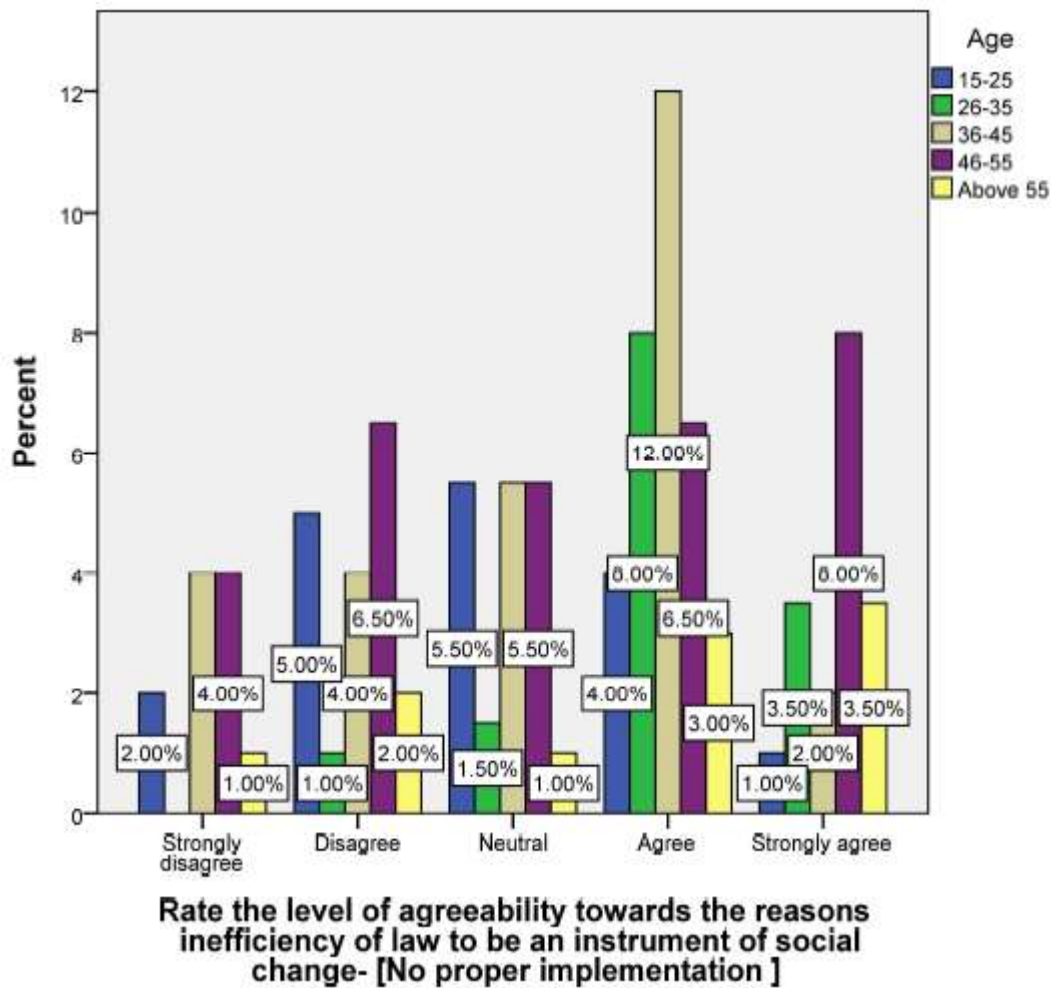
FIGURE 11

GGraph



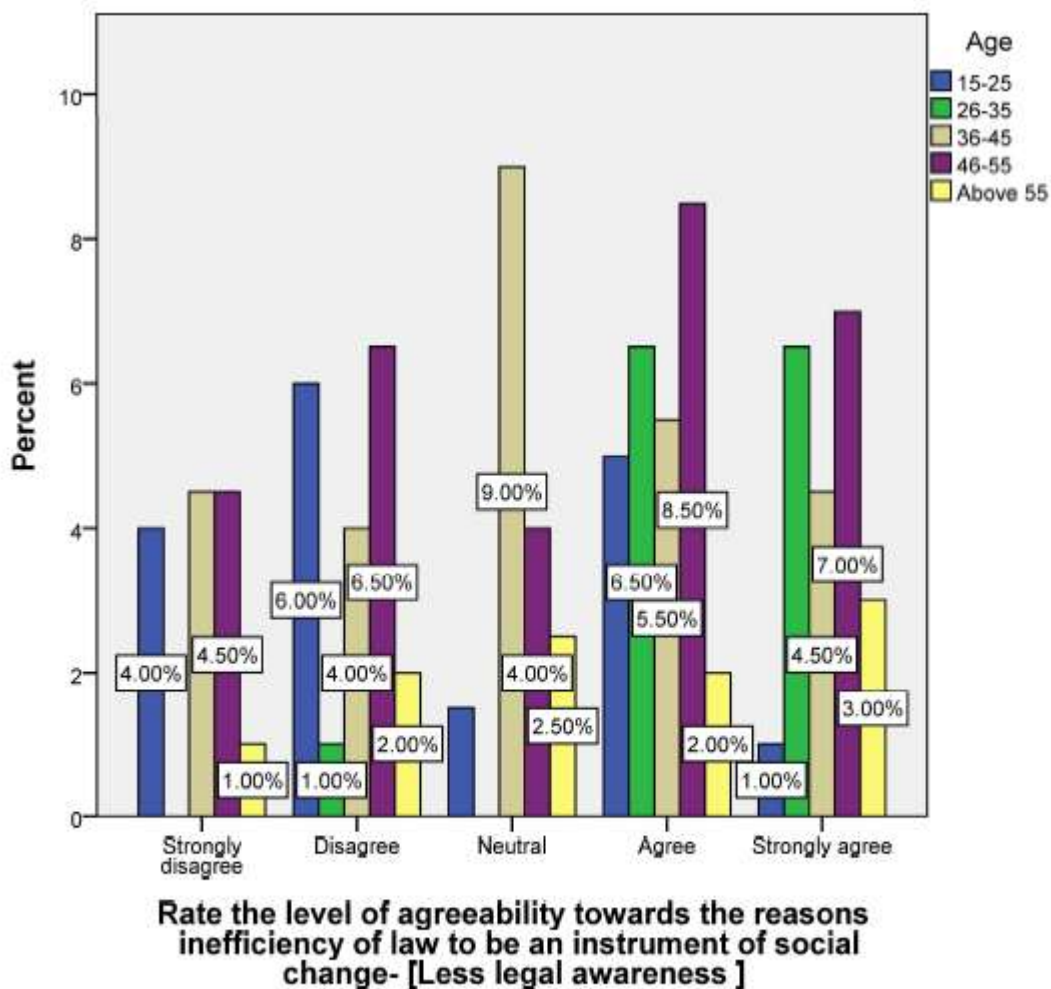
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards Limited enforcement as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 12



LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards no proper implementation as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

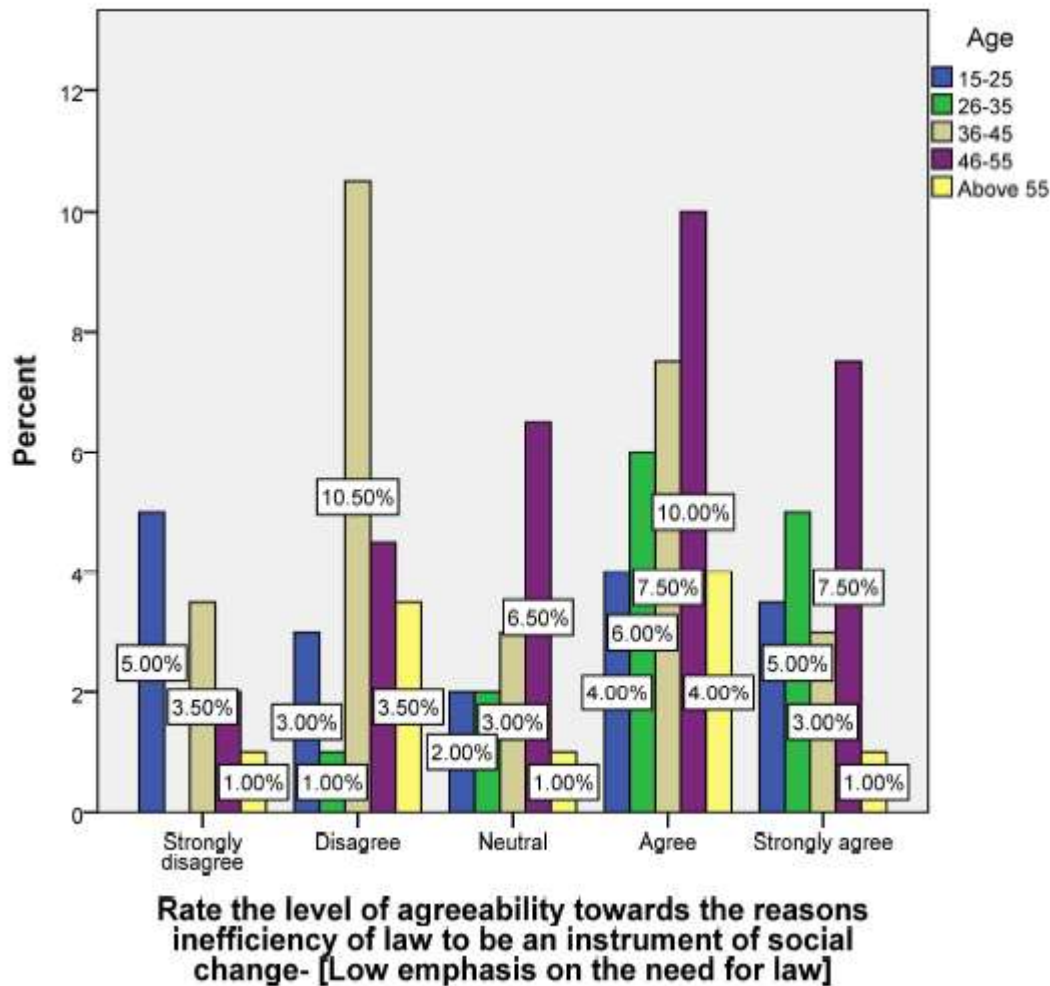
FIGURE 13



GGraph

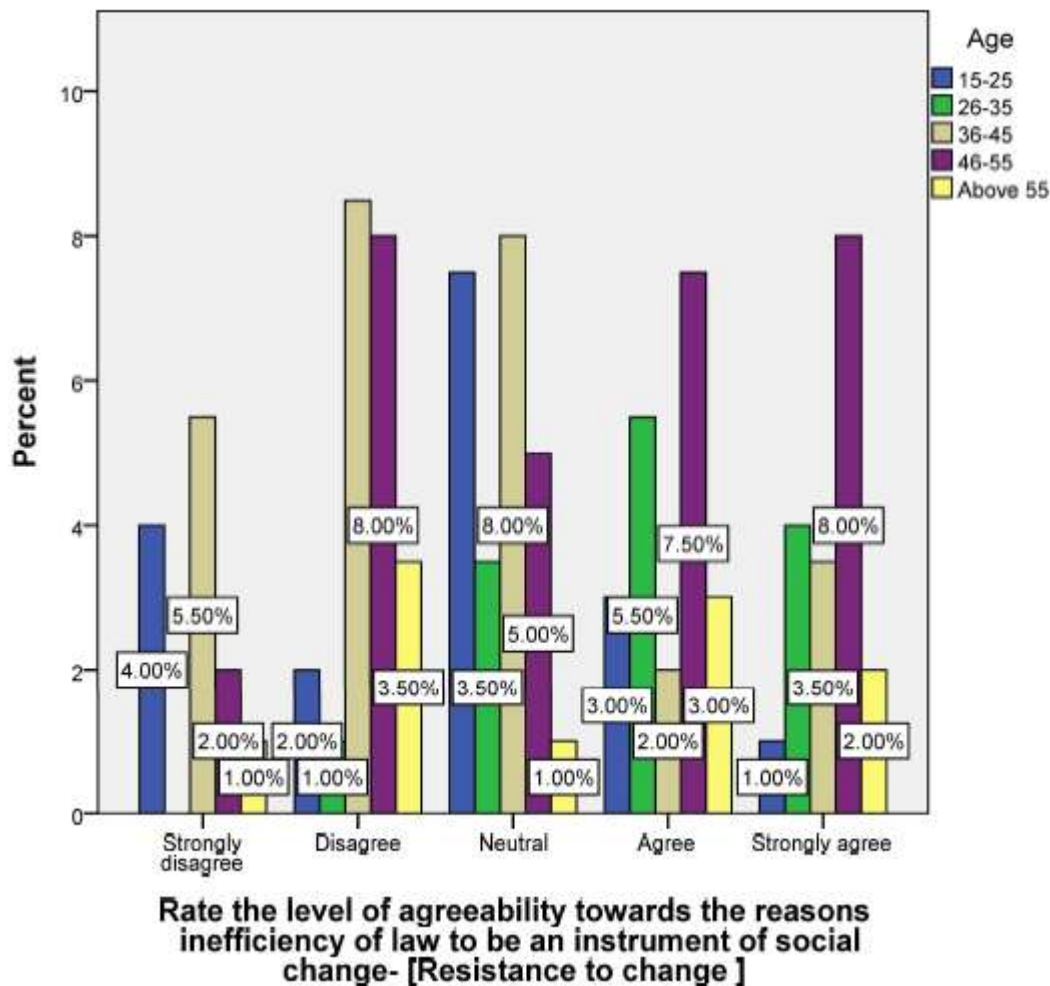
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards less legal awareness as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 14



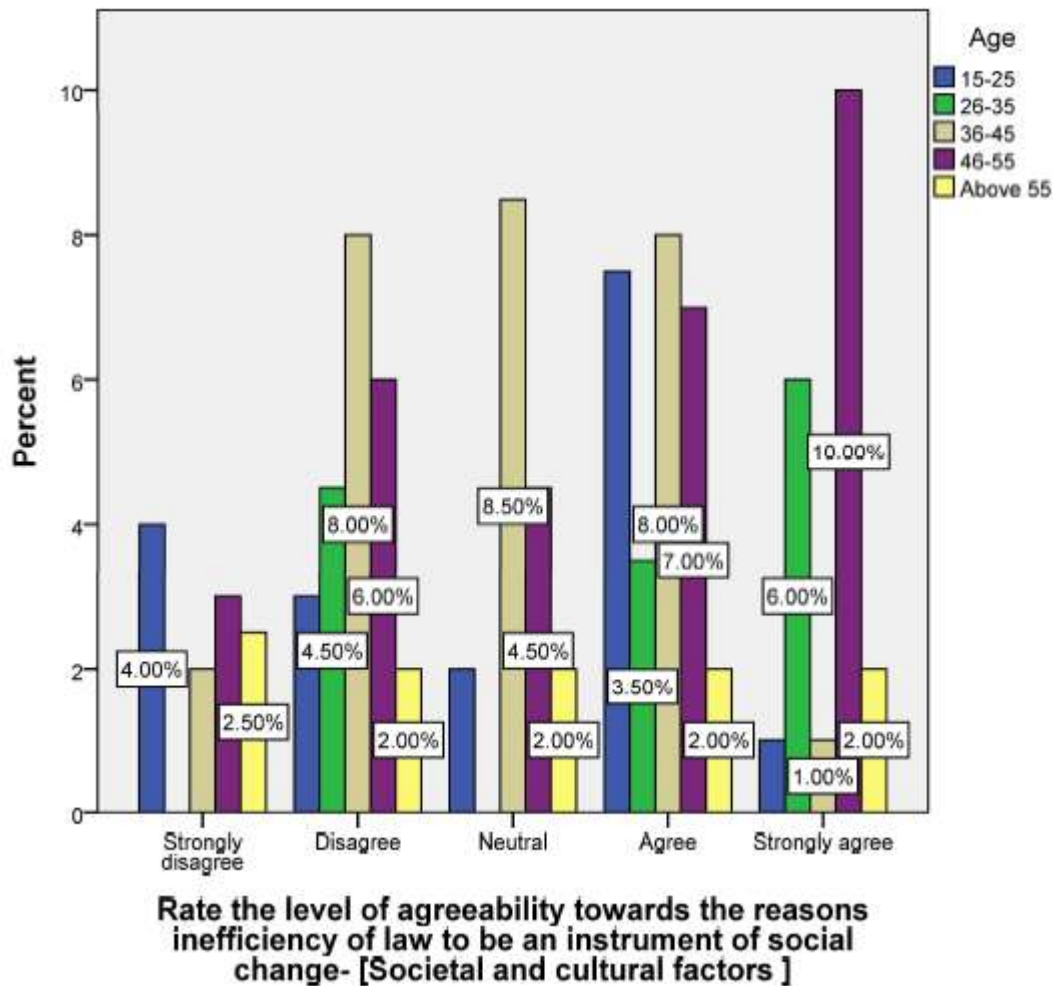
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards Low emphasis on the need for law as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 15



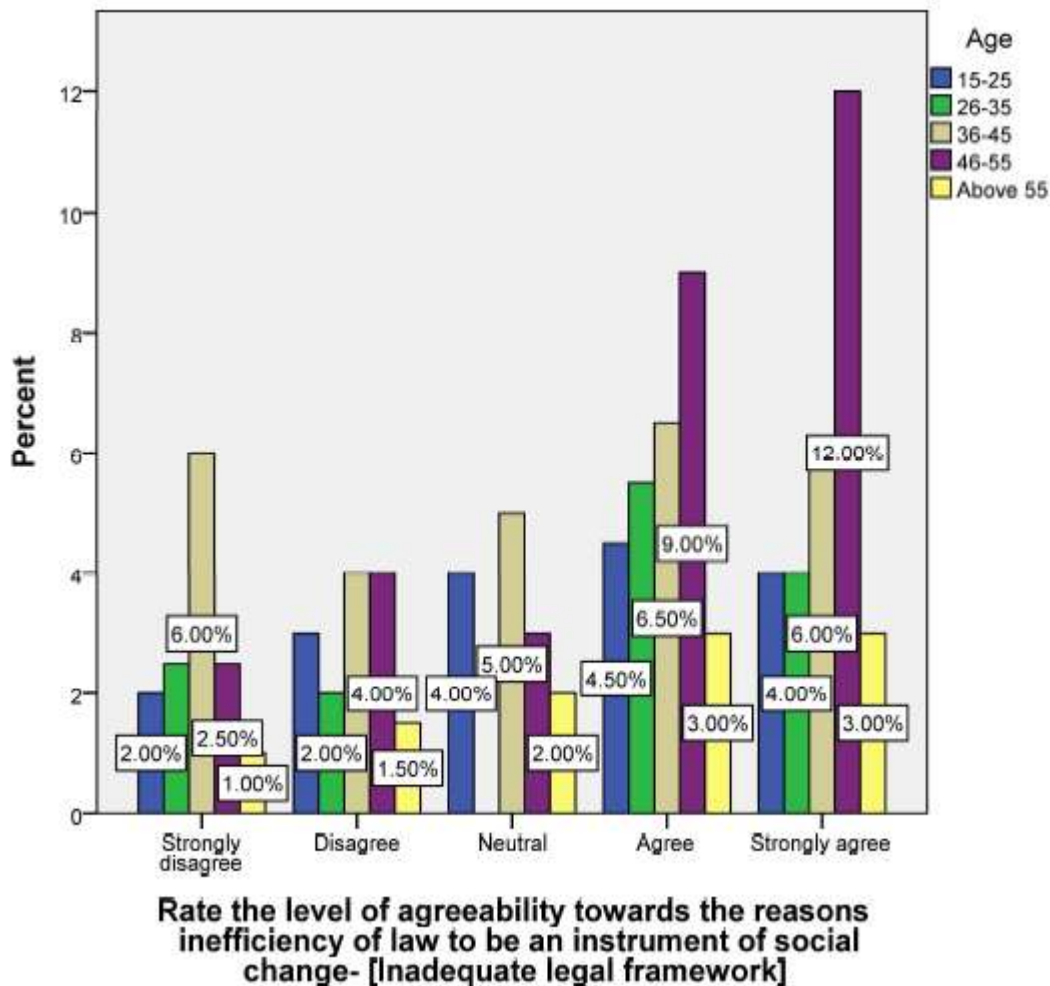
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards resistance to change as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 16



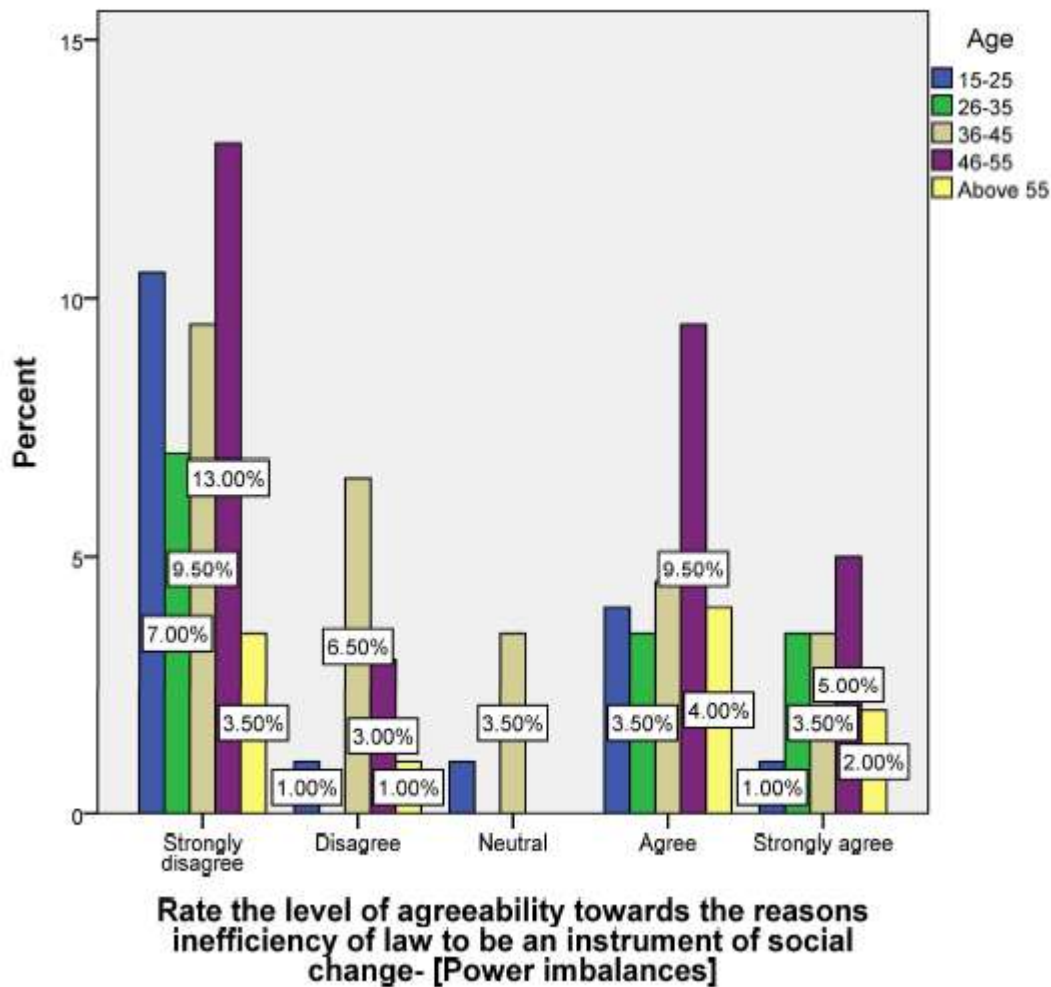
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards societal and cultural factors as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 17



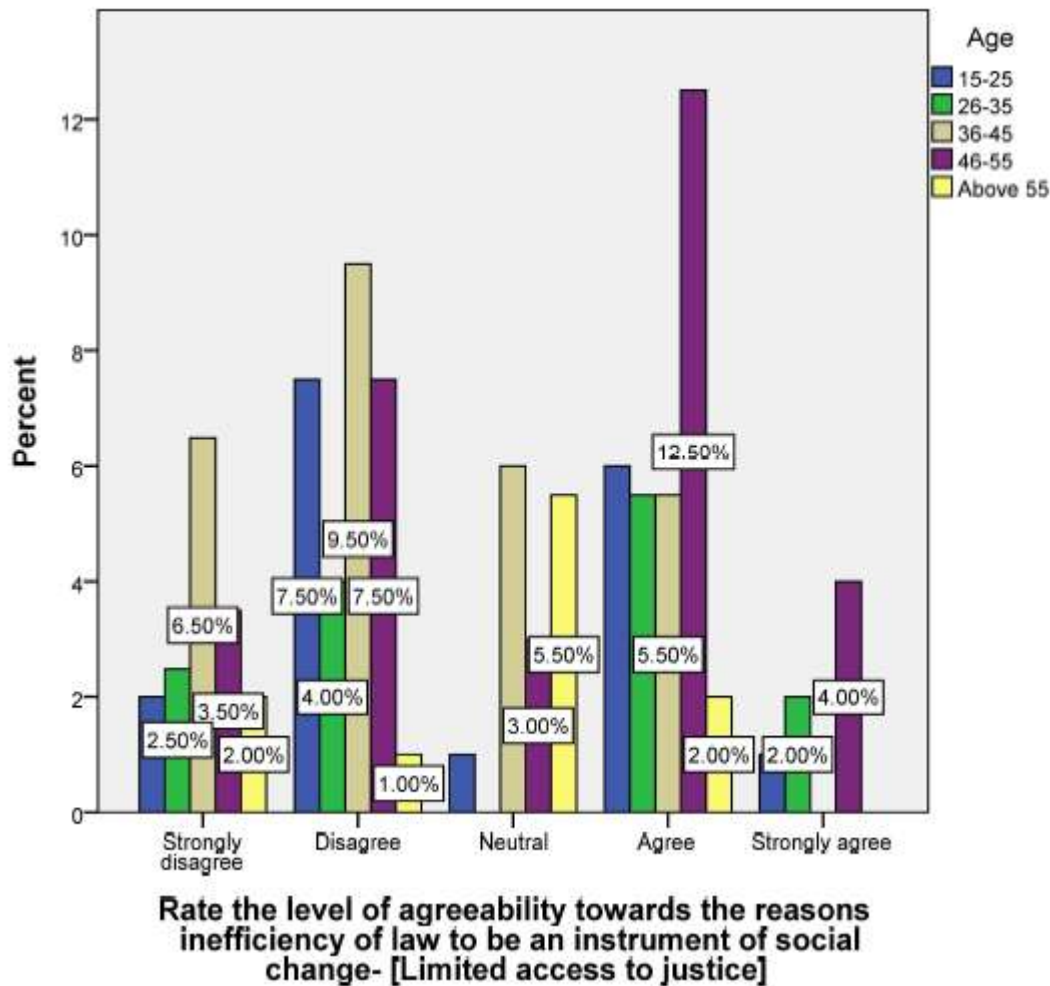
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards Inadequate legal framework as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 18



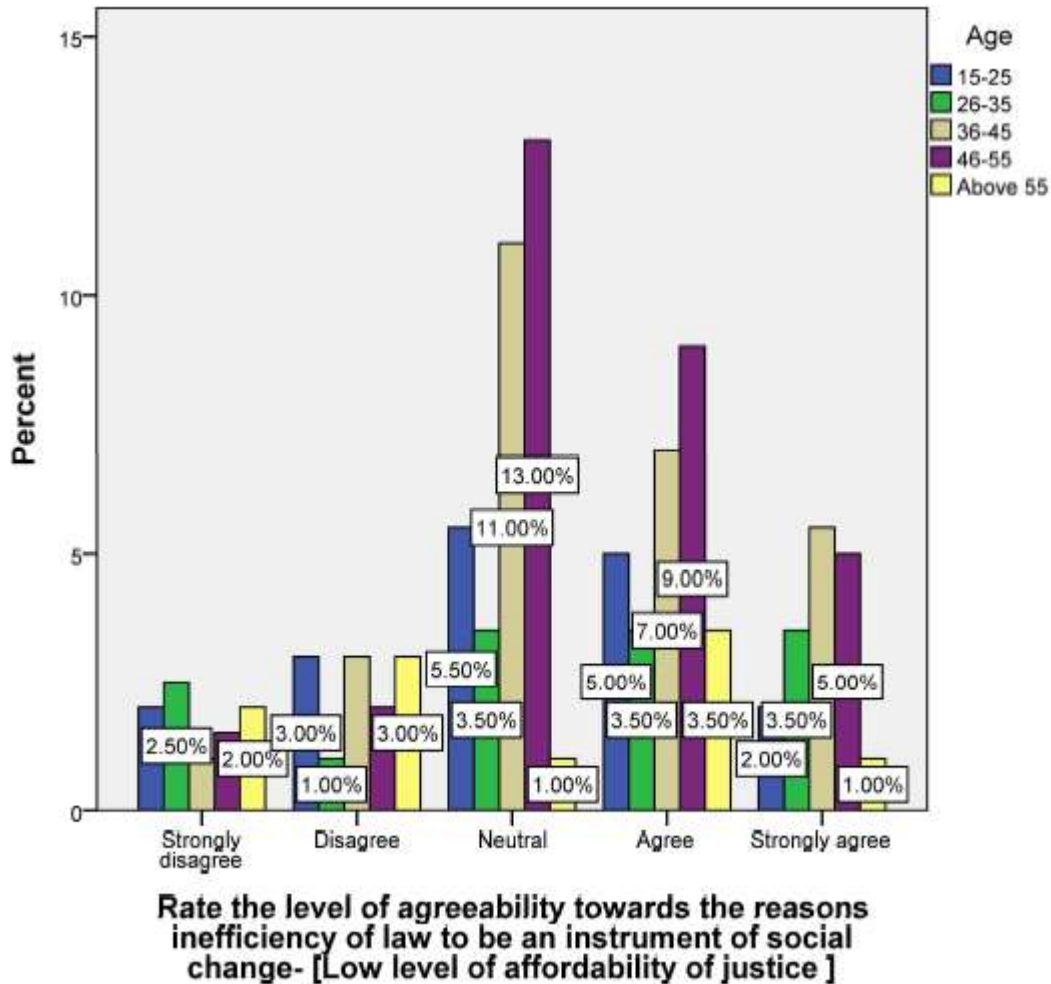
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards power imbalances as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 19



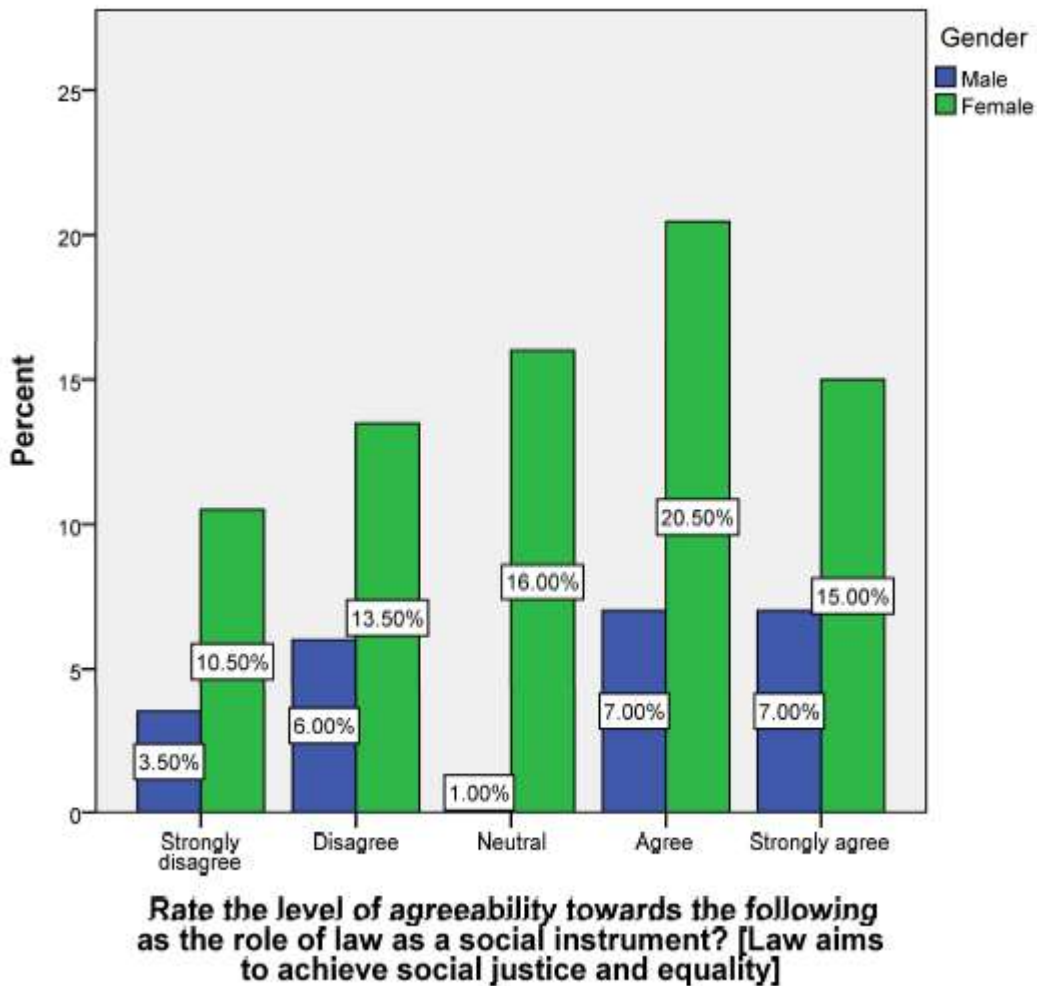
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards Limited access to justice as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 20



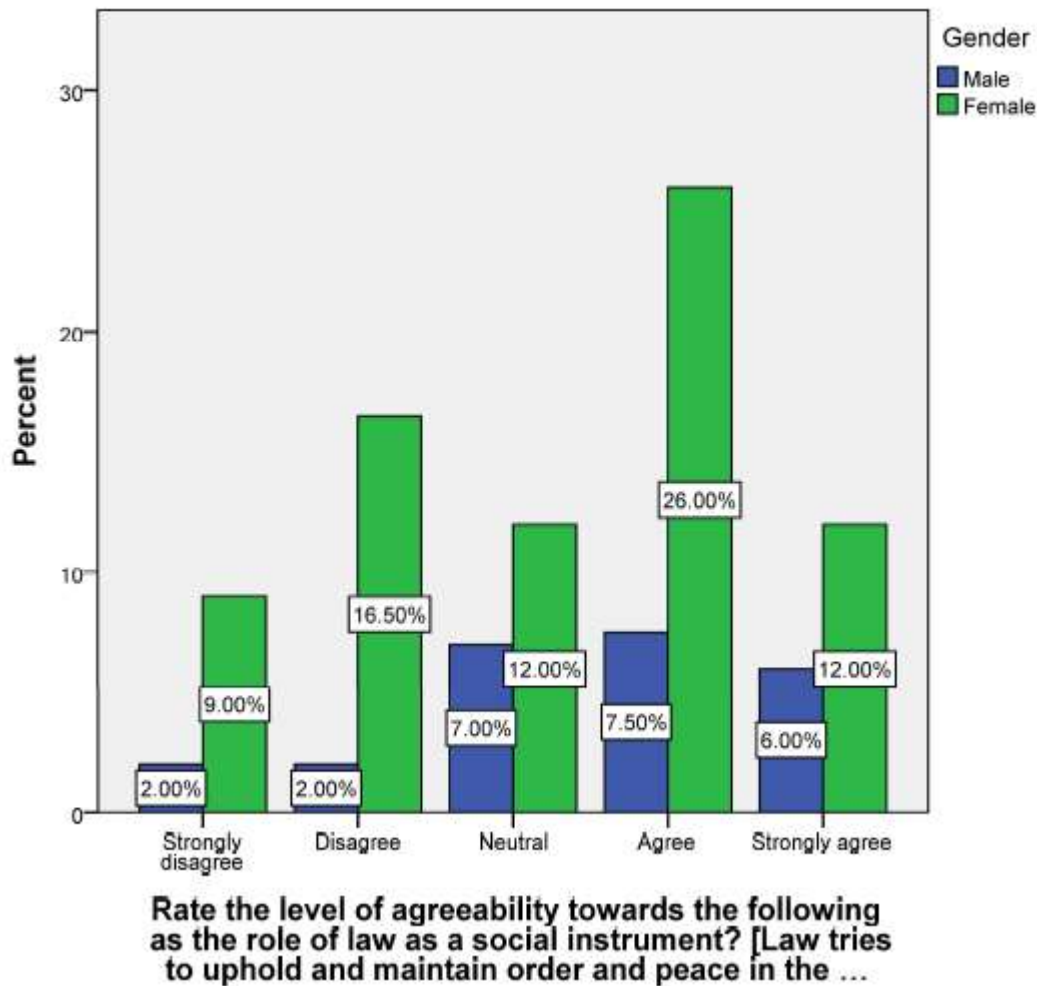
LEGEND: The above graph represents the examination of the age of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards the low level of affordability of Justice as one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

FIGURE 21



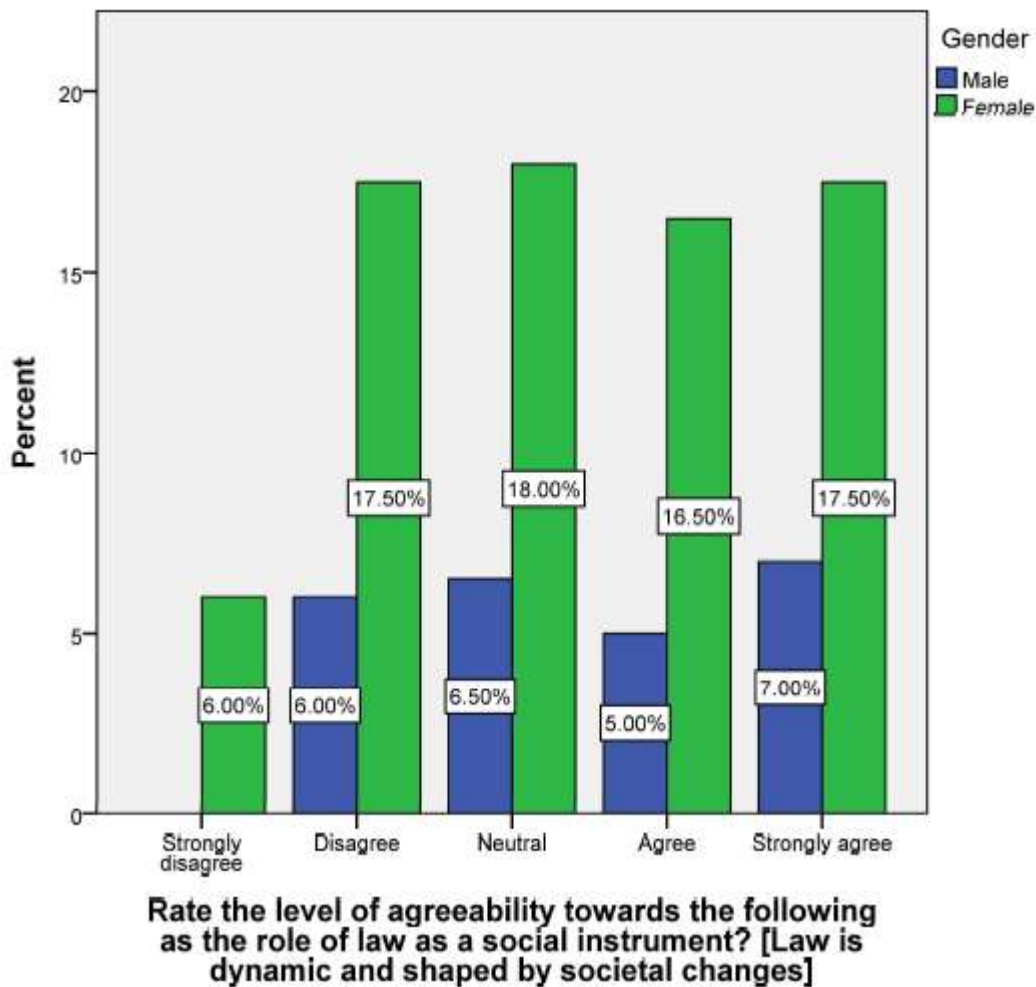
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the gender of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law aims to achieve Social justice and equality.

FIGURE 22



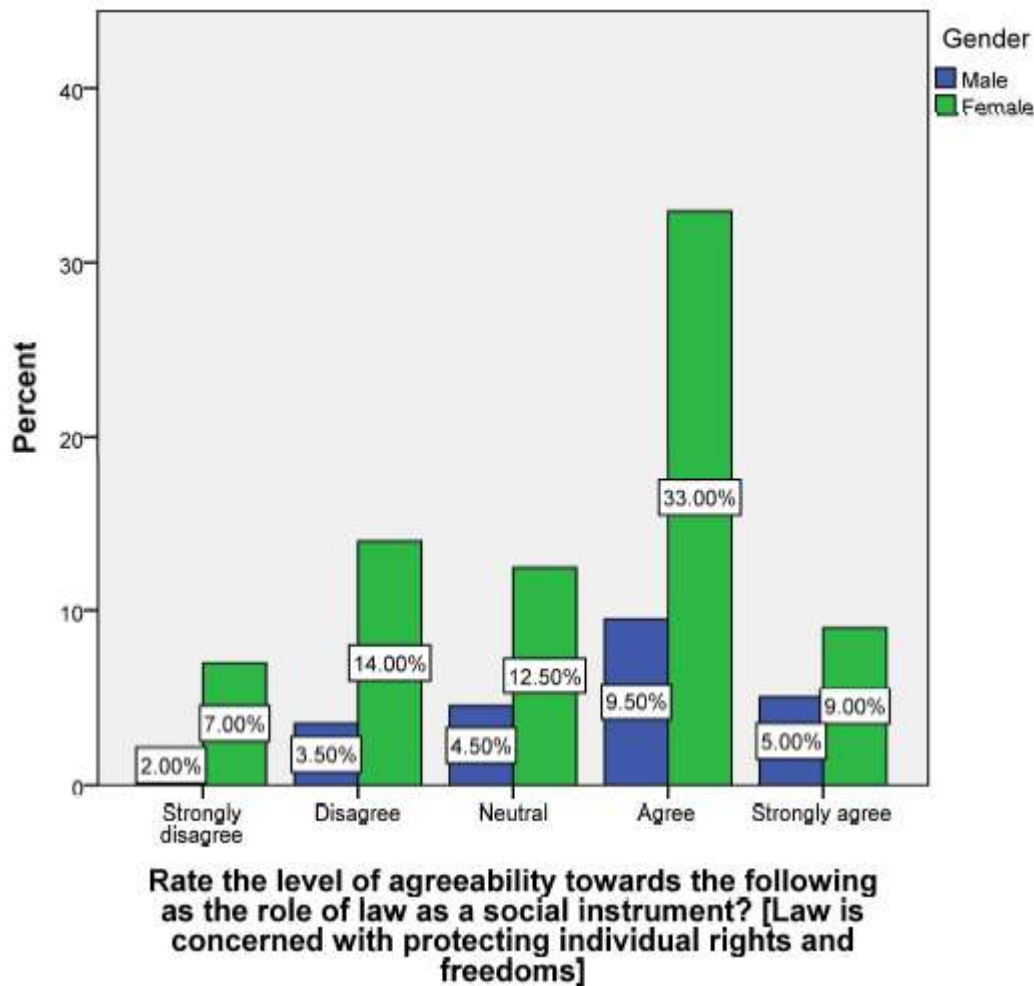
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the gender of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law tries to maintain order peace in the society.

FIGURE 23



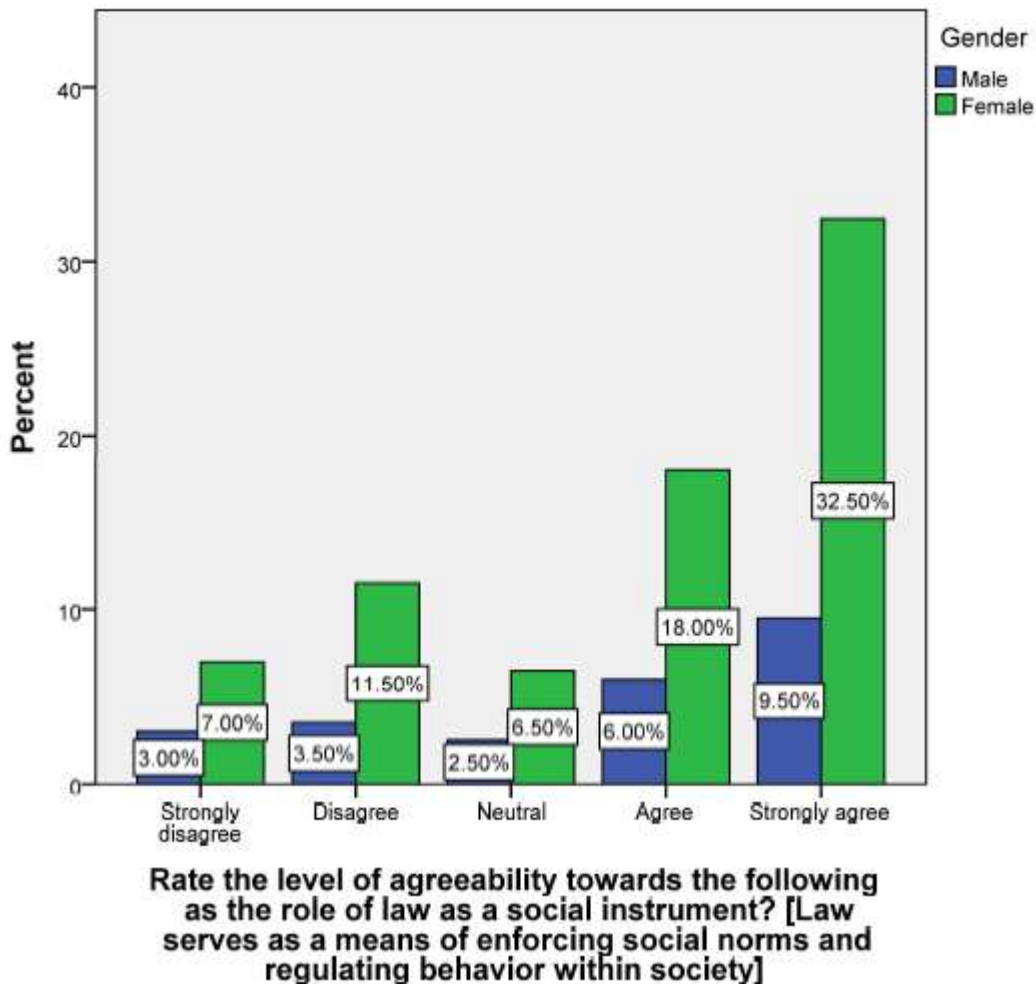
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the gender of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law Is dynamic and shaped by societal changes.

FIGURE 24



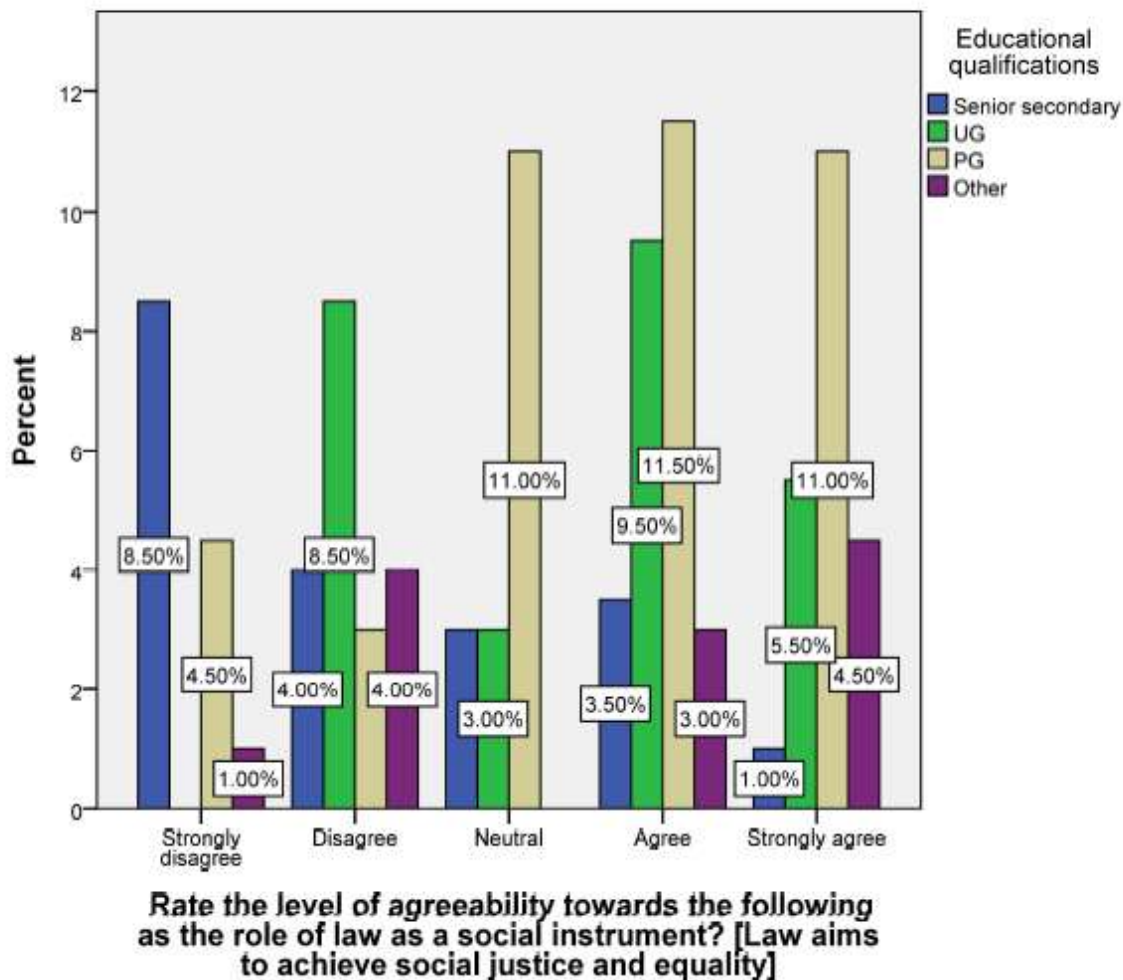
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the gender of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law is concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms.

FIGURE 25



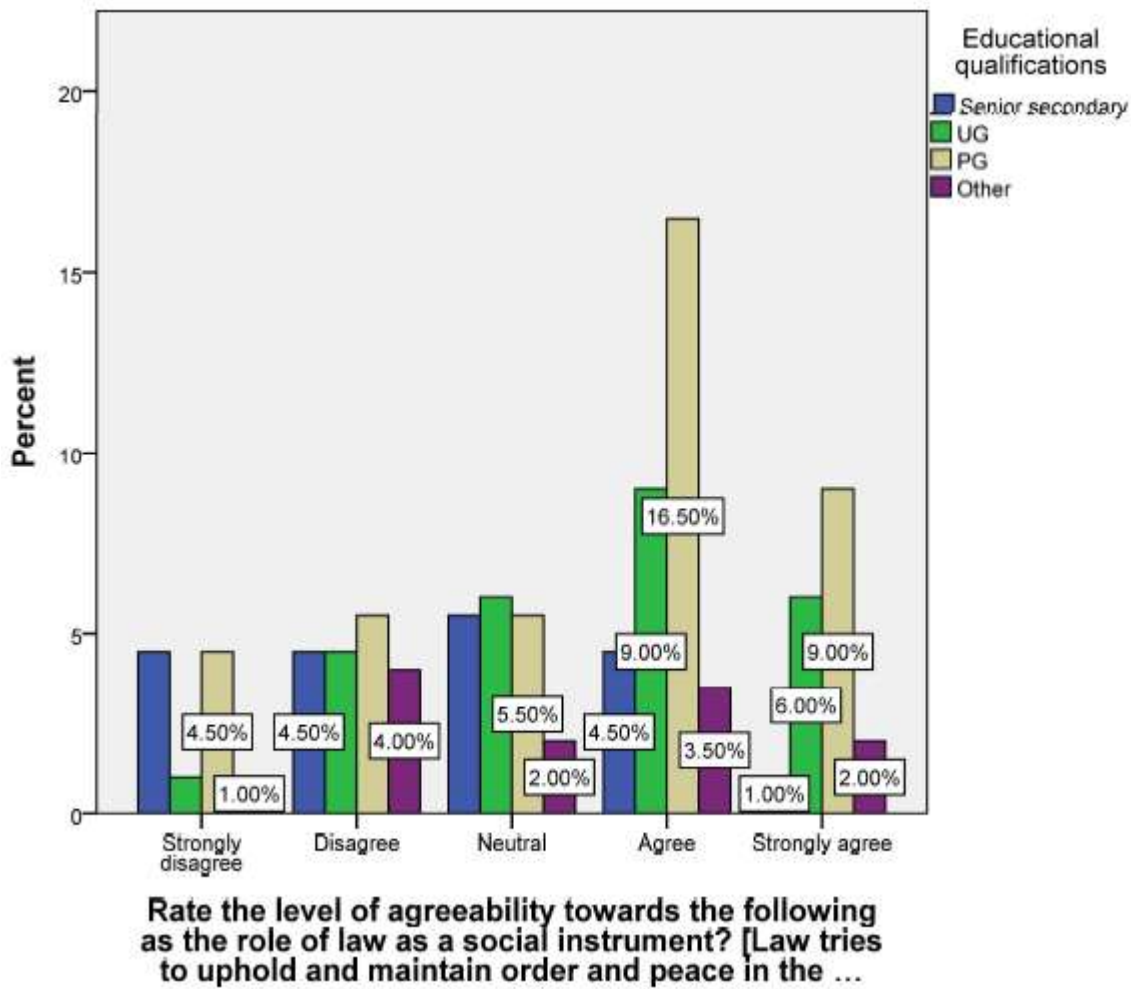
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the gender of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law serves as a means of enforcing social norms and regulating behaviour within the society.

FIGURE 26



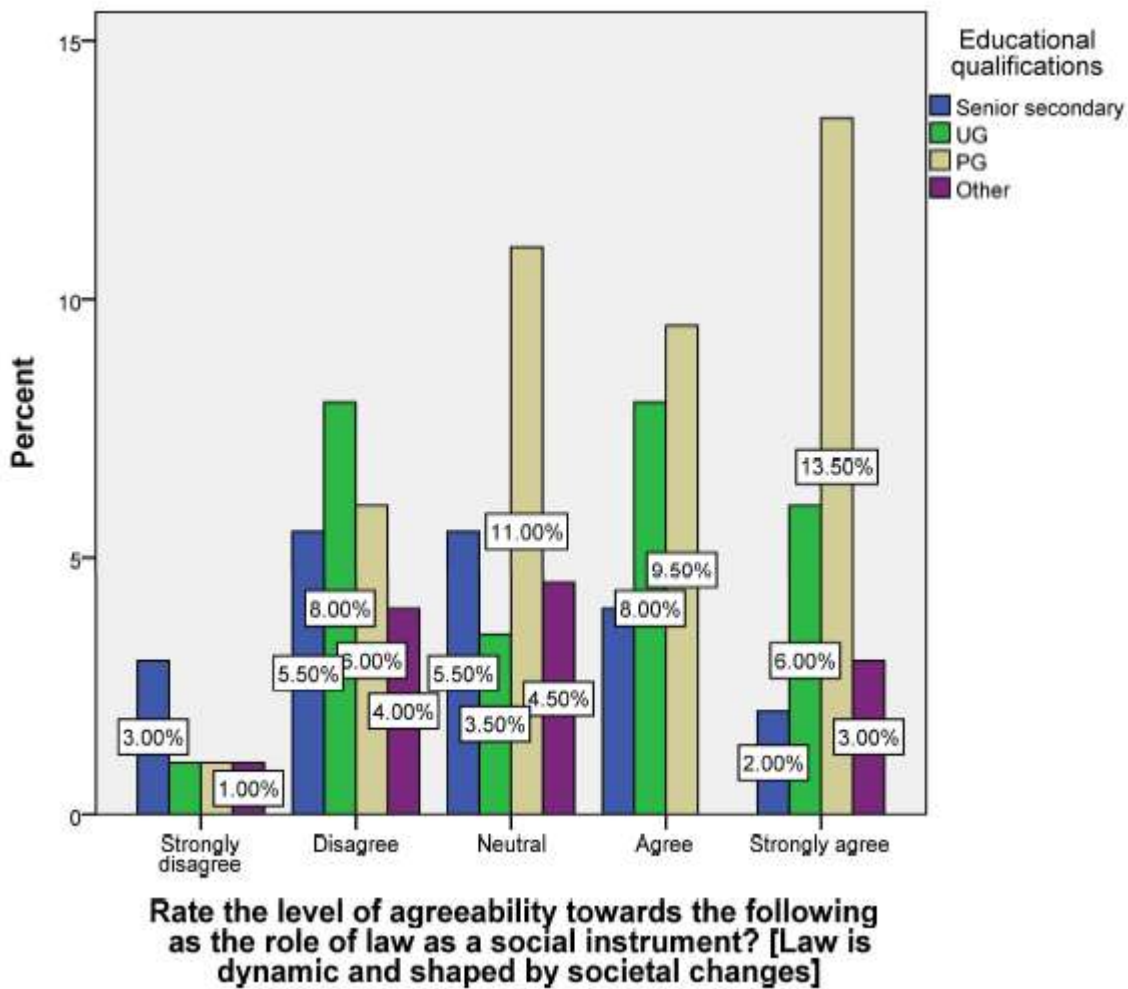
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law aims to achieve Social justice and equality.

FIGURE 27



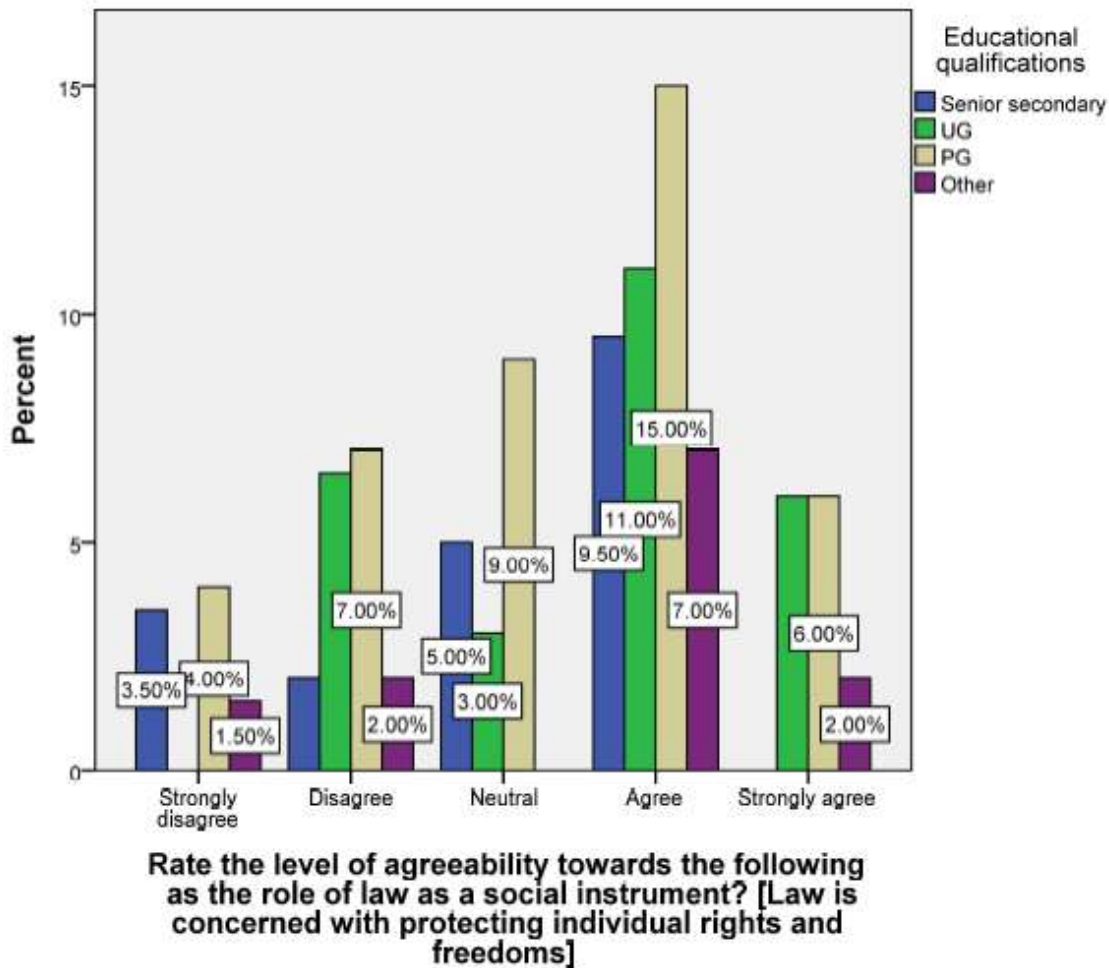
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the Educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law tries to maintain order peace in the society.

FIGURE 28



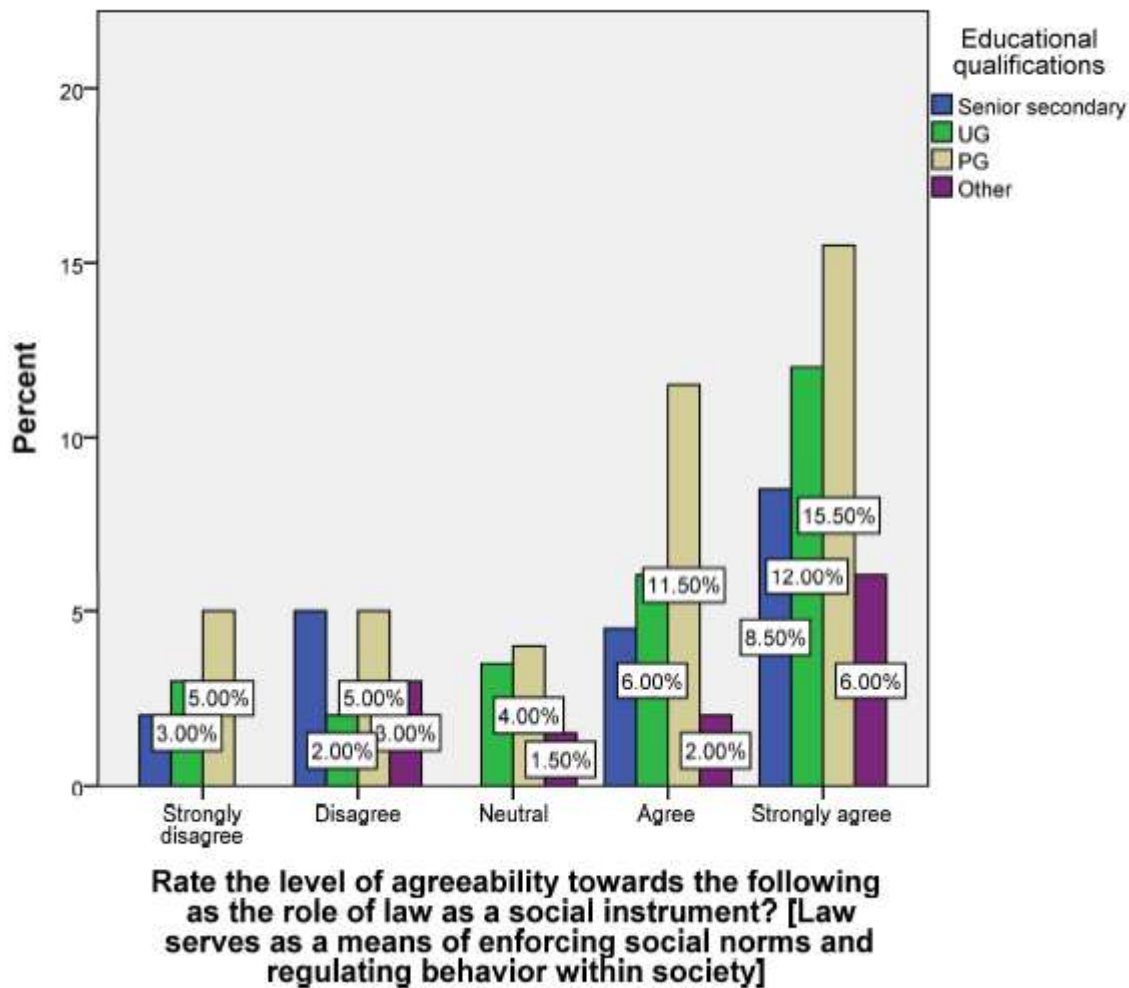
LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the Educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law Is dynamic and shaped by societal changes.

FIGURE 29



LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the Educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law is concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms.

FIGURE 30



LEGEND: The above graph represents the Impact of the Educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeability towards whether law serves as a means of enforcing social norms and regulating behaviour within the society.

RESULTS:

Figure 1-10 deals with the association between the educational qualification of the respondents and their level of agreeable towards the need for law to be used as an instrument for social change. According to **figure 1** around 15% of the PG students have strongly disagreed that maintaining order and stability as one of the major needs for the law be used as an instrument for social change. According to **figure 2** around 13.5% of the PG students have disagreed that law can be used as an instrument for social change in order to uphold the peace and harmony in the society. According to **figure 3** around 15% of the PG students have neither agreed, not disagreed to the need of protecting individual rights through using law as an instrument for social change. According to **figure 4** around 19.5% of the PG students have strongly agreed that promoting justice is one of the major needs for why Law has to be used as an instrument for social change. According to **figure 5** around 15% of the PG students have strongly agreed and around 14.5% of the UG students have agreed that promoting public safety is one of the major reasons as to why Law has to be used as an instrument for social change. According to **figure 6** around 17.5% of a group agree that if Law has to be used as a social change, it will lead to fostering international relationships with other countries. According to **figure 7** around 17% of the respondents belonging to the PG sector, have strongly agreed that Law has to be used as an instrument for social change for providing the common good of the public in general. According to **figure 8** around 15.5% of the PG students have agreed that Law can be used as an instrument for social change in order to promote the public welfare of the citizens as a whole. According to **figure 9** around 15.5% of the previous strongly agree that using Law as an instrument for social changes can prevent and punish the crime that has been evolving and prevailing in the current society. According to **figure 10** around 15% of the PG students have agreed that using laws as instruments for social change, ensures the duty of the state around 15% of the PG students have agreed that using laws as instruments for social change, ensures the duty of the state.

Figure 11-20 deals with examination of the age of respondents and the level of agreeable T towards the reasons for the inefficiency of the law as an instrument of social change. According to **figure 11** around 11% of the respondents belonging to the age group of 36 to 45, have disagreed that limited enforcement or one of the reasons as to why there is efficiency of law to be an instrument of social change. According to **figure 12** around 12% of the respondents in the age group of 36-45 have agreed that there is no proper implementation of the last being made or the legislation being created contributes to one of the major reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change. It contributes to one of the major reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change. According to **figure 13** around 9% of the respondents in the age group of 36-45 have been neutral towards the reason as to less legal and is being one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change. According to **figure 14** around 10.5% of respondents belong is the age group of 36 to 45 have disagreed to the fact as in there is no low emphasis on the need for law and this does not

contribute to one of the factors or the reasons as to why there is inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change. According to **figure 15** around 8% of the respondents belonging to the age group of 46 to 55, have responded that they disagree with the reason as to resistance or to change as one of the reasons for not being inefficient to be an instrument for social change. According to **figure 16** around 10% of the age group of 46 to 55 has strongly agreed that the society and culture factors are one of the major reasons as to why Law is efficient as an instrument for social change. According to **figure 17** around 12% of respondents belonging to the ages 46 to 55, have strongly agreed that since there is inadequate legal framework, law is yet to be very efficient as an instrument for social change around 12% of respondents belonging to the aged 46 to 55, have strongly agreed that since there is inadequate legal framework laws yet to be very efficient as a instrument for social change. According to **figure 18** around 13% of respondents belonging in the age group of 46 to 55 have strongly disagreed that power imbalance is one of the reasons as to why there is inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change. According to **figure 19** around 12.5% of the respondents belonging in the age group of 46 to 55 have agreed that since there is limited access to justice, Law cannot be as efficient as it has to be. According to **figure 20** around 13% of the respondents belonging to the same age group have agreed not to disagree as to the lower level of affordability of justice, as one of the reasons as to why there is inefficiency of law to be an instrument of social change.

Figure 21-25 who deals with the impact of gender of the respondent and the level of agreeable towards Law and what it aims. According to **figure 21** around 20.5% of female respondents have agreed that Law aims to achieve social justice and equality. According to **figure 22** around 26% of the female respondents have agreed that Law) tries to uphold and maintain the order and peace in the society. According to **figure 23** around 18% of the female respondents have agreed that Law is dynamic and shaped by societal changes. According to **figure 24** around 33% of the female respondents have agreed that law is concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms. According to **figure 25** around 32.5% of female respondents have strongly agreed that losses as a means of enforcing social norms and regulating behaviour within the society.

Figure 26-30 deals with the impact of educational qualification of the respondents and the level of agreeable to watch what law aims to achieve. According to **figure 26** around 11.5% of PG students agree that Law aims to achieve social justice and equality in the society. According to **figure 27** around 16.5% of the PG students have agreed that Law) tries to uphold and maintain order and peace in the society. According to **figure 28** around 13.5% of the PG students have strongly agreed that law is dynamic and it is shaped by societal changes. According to **figure 29** around 15% of PG students have agreed that law is concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms of the citizens. According to **figure 30** around 15.5% of PG students strongly agree that law serves as a means of enforcing social norms and regulating behaviour within the society.

DISCUSSIONS:

In Figure 1, approximately 15% of postgraduate (PG) students strongly disagreed with the idea that maintaining order and stability is a major need for using law as an instrument for social change. Figure 2 states that around 13.5% of PG students disagreed that law can be used to promote peace and harmony in society. Figure 3 reveals that about 15% of PG students neither agreed nor disagreed with the need to protect individual rights through the use of law for social change. Figure 4 indicates that approximately 19.5% of PG students strongly agreed that promoting justice is one of the major reasons why law should be used as an instrument for social change. Figure 5 shows that around 15% of PG students strongly agreed, and around 14.5% of undergraduate (UG) students agreed, that promoting public safety is a major reason for using law as an instrument for social change. Figure 6 states that about 17.5% of a certain group agreed that using law as a social change tool fosters international relationships with other countries. Figure 7 reveals that around 17% of PG students strongly agreed that using law as an instrument for social change is necessary for the common good of the public. Figure 8 states that approximately 15.5% of PG students agreed that law can be used to promote the overall public welfare. Figure 9 indicates that around 15.5% of PG students strongly agree that using law as an instrument for social change can prevent and punish evolving and prevailing crimes in society. Figure 10 states that around 15% of PG students agreed that using laws as instruments for social change ensures the duty of the state. In summary, these figures highlight the varying levels of agreement among PG students regarding different aspects of using law as an instrument for social change, such as maintaining order and stability, promoting justice, public safety, international relationships, common good, public welfare, crime prevention, and the duty of the state.

Paragraph 2 discusses the relationship between the age of respondents and their level of agreement regarding the reasons for the inefficiency of law as an instrument of social change. The paragraph presents several figures to support the discussion. Figure 11 states that around 11% of respondents aged 36 to 45 disagreed that limited enforcement is one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law as a social change instrument. Figure 12 reveals that about 12% of respondents in the age group of 36-45 agreed that the improper implementation of laws and legislation contributes to the inefficiency of law as an instrument of social change. Figure 13 indicates that around 9% of respondents in the age group of 36-45 were neutral about the idea that less legal awareness is one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law as a social change instrument. Figure 14 states that approximately 10.5% of respondents aged 36 to 45 disagreed that the lack of emphasis on the need for law contributes to the inefficiency of law as an instrument of social change. Figure 15 reveals that around 8% of respondents aged 46 to 55 disagreed with the idea that resistance to change is one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law as a social change instrument. Figure 16 shows that about 10% of respondents aged 46 to 55 strongly agreed that societal and cultural factors are major reasons why law is efficient as an instrument for social change. Figure 17 indicates that around 12% of respondents aged 46 to 55 strongly agreed that the inefficiency of law as an instrument of social change is due to inadequate legal frameworks. Figure 18 states that approximately 13% of respondents

aged 46 to 55 strongly disagreed that power imbalance is one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law as a social change instrument. Figure 19 reveals that around 12.5% of respondents aged 46 to 55 agreed that limited access to justice hinders the efficiency of law as an instrument of social change. Figure 20 shows that about 13% of respondents aged 46 to 55 agreed (not disagreed) that the lower level of affordability of justice is one of the reasons for the inefficiency of law as a social change instrument. These figures illustrate the varying levels of agreement among respondents of different age groups regarding the reasons for the inefficiency of law as an instrument of social change, such as limited enforcement, improper implementation, lack of legal awareness, lack of emphasis on the need for law, resistance to change, societal and cultural factors, inadequate legal frameworks, power imbalance, limited access to justice, and the affordability of justice.

Paragraph 3 discusses the impact of gender on the level of agreement regarding the aims of law. The paragraph presents several figures to support the discussion. Figure 21 states that around 20.5% of female respondents agreed that law aims to achieve social justice and equality. Figure 22 reveals that about 26% of female respondents agreed that law aims to uphold and maintain order and peace in society. Figure 23 indicates that around 18% of female respondents agreed that law is dynamic and shaped by societal changes. Figure 24 shows that approximately 33% of female respondents agreed that law is concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms. Figure 25 states that around 32.5% of female respondents strongly agreed that law serves as a means of enforcing social norms and regulating behavior within society. These figures demonstrate the varying levels of agreement among female respondents regarding the aims of law, including achieving social justice and equality, maintaining order and peace, adapting to societal changes, protecting individual rights and freedoms, and enforcing social norms. Paragraph 4 discusses the impact of educational qualification on the level of agreement regarding the aims of law. The paragraph presents several figures to support the discussion. Figure 26 states that around 11.5% of postgraduate (PG) students agree that law aims to achieve social justice and equality in society. Figure 27 reveals that about 16.5% of PG students agreed that law aims to uphold and maintain order and peace in society. Figure 28 indicates that around 13.5% of PG students strongly agreed that law is dynamic and shaped by societal changes. Figure 29 shows that approximately 15% of PG students agreed that law is concerned with protecting individual rights and freedoms of citizens. Figure 30 states that around 15.5% of PG students strongly agree that law serves as a means of enforcing social norms and regulating behavior within society. These figures demonstrate the varying levels of agreement among PG students regarding the aims of law, including achieving social justice and equality, maintaining order and peace, adapting to societal changes, protecting individual rights and freedoms, and enforcing social norms. In summary, the provided figures in each paragraph highlight the distribution of agreement levels among respondents based on their educational qualification, age, gender, and their perceptions of law as an instrument of social change.

LIMITATIONS:

One of the major limitations of the study is the sample frame. There is a major constraint in the sample frame as it is limited to a small area. Thus, it proves to be difficult to extrapolate it to a larger population. Language barrier.

SUGGESTIONS:

For this area of study, a wider and larger sample size and sample frame will help the researcher for better future scope of this project.

CONCLUSION:

In summary, Indian law has long been recognized as a powerful tool for social transformation, playing an important role in shaping society, ensuring justice and protecting individual rights. Indian law has its ancient roots and was influenced by British customary law during the colonial period to evolve into a comprehensive legal framework modelled on the Indian Constitution, which emphasises social justice and equality. Governments have taken important steps to harness the power of law to bring about social change, including codifying the People's Law to eliminate discrimination and promote gender equality. Political will and international efforts have also influenced legal reforms and brought them into line with global standards. Recent trends in India reflect the influence of digital platforms and social media in disseminating legal information, improving access to justice and raising awareness of various rights. The growing focus on environmental law and sustainability shows a growing awareness of environmental issues and the need for protective measures. Additionally, the recognition of various rights, including those of the LGBTQ+ community, marks a continuing shift towards inclusiveness and equality. Alternative dispute resolution mechanisms are becoming more popular and provide a more efficient method of dispute resolution. In summary, the Act remains an important tool for social transformation in India with the aim of ending discrimination, promoting justice and building a more equitable society. The researchers' empirical approach using practical sampling methods with a sample size of 200 provided valuable insight into the current state and perceptions of the Indian legal system. This research serves as a basis for further research and action towards a fairer and more inclusive society.

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