

Stop Dog Abuse



Researched By: Annamarie Montle & Emma Pelot

Presented by: Annamarie Montle

Abstract

In our presentation we will talk about dog abuse. We will discuss pet stores, puppy mills, euthanasia and our plans for the future. Also, why we care about stopping dog abuse. Stopping Dog Abuse is an important part of our hopes and goals as sixth graders. We were once faced with the fact that at such young age, we were not able to make a difference. We didn't think we had the same power as adults. We can't let Dog Abuse continue. We hope you have the determination, patience and understanding to take what we say into consideration.

Background Information

Puppy mills have been going on for too long. Why haven't we done enough to stop it? We come to the State House in hopes of changing that. We are aware that we have laws protecting these animals, but we know we can all do better. Are you oblivious to the fact that dog abuse fines are only a few hundred dollars? We believe that is not a big enough punishment. If someone treats dogs so poorly, they should be given a much greater fine. Did you know puppy mills have existed since 1984? How could our government let this exist for over 30 years?

Pet Stores

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Pet Stores

Pet stores are not just a problem for dogs, they are a problem for all pets. The first problem is the neglect. The workers and managers refuse to help animals when they are sick or dying. If an animal is taken to the vet, or the emergency vet, it is very expensive, especially for a pet store. And, in order for the managers to get their bonus, they have to save money. Meaning, they refuse to spend money to help the animals. If an animal from a pet store is neglected, it goes to the shelter. Shelters are already very packed, so why do we allow pet stores to continue to be allowed to sell puppy mill puppies?

Euthanasia

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Euthanasia

When I was little, my family rescued a dog from the shelter. I later found out that she could have been killed. I thought this was only going to happen to her, but then I found out it happens a lot every day. This broke my heart. This is when I found my passion for dogs and saving them. I then learned about puppy mills and how they breed dogs over and over until they die. I was so upset. I thought, what can I do I'm just a kid. I talked to my mom and she taught me even more about shelters and puppy mills. She also taught me ways to help and told me I was never too young to start. I didn't think researching it in school would really help. I am so glad I did. If I hadn't, I wouldn't be here in front of you today, trying to help puppies live better lives.

What We Need To Do

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What we need to do!

- Puppy breeders should be made to pay a yearly fee and be registered with the State. The fee will be based on the number of dogs they are breeding.
- Breeders should only be allowed to have up to so many dogs per square foot.
- The Humane Society should have an organization or vets that go into the homes once or twice a year to make sure the laws are being followed, all dogs and puppies are healthy and the dogs have a livable environment.
- All female dogs that are being bred, must be registered with the State. Every time one is bred, they must report it to the State and then should only be bred every 18-24 months.

- The sale of puppy mill puppies in pet stores needs to stop. The pet stores should be selling shelter dogs. This would help with the number of dogs killed by euthanasia.
- If there are still too many dogs, then shelters should be expanded or there should be a centrally located farm where dogs and other animals are taken. The dogs or animals can be trained and placed in the perfect home.
- These improvements can be paid for by grants, donations and the fees and fines breeders pay.

Why We Care

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If Dogs Are Man's Best Friend...

If dogs are man's best friend, then why don't we treat them like they are? Dogs are very intelligent and have very good sense of smell. They can help us out in our everyday lives. Dogs can help the sick by warning the owner or others around them if they are going to have a spell (like a seizure for example) or to remind their owner to take medication. Dogs can also help the blind find their way around. Dogs are helpful to kids that are sick or in the hospital. Many kids find comfort when around animals and it also is a distraction for them. Dogs make great police helpers. They help officers find people or drugs that they may not find on their own. Dogs are great companions for many men, women, kids and elderly.

Adopted

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Ginger

Meet Ginger. My family adopted Ginger from the Athens County Dog Shelter 5 years ago. She was dumped at the shelter with her 3 sisters and 2 brothers (which all ended up being adopted). My mom arrived at the shelter and waited outside until they opened on a cold winter morning. She saw a pup advertised, that she wanted to see. Ginger is not the pup she saw advertised. When she arrived at the shelter Ginger kept coming up to her. My mom was sitting on the floor with a room full of puppies and Ginger was the one that kept coming to her to sit on her lap. My mom says, “Ginger picked her, she didn’t pick Ginger.”

Ginger is the best! She sleeps with me every night. She is still afraid of people. Especially men. It took her over a year to be okay with my dad touching her. To this day, my dad can still only get her to come to him with a treat. Not sure if its because she is still a little afraid or if she is smart and knows my dad will give her a treat.



Max

Max is a miniature pinscher mix. He belongs to my friend, Sofia. Sofia lives just around the corner from me so I get to see Max a lot. When Sofia's family decided they wanted to get a family dog, they knew they wanted to adopt. They knew the shelter had so many stray and misplaced dogs that needed a home. They looked online and found Max through Athens Friends of the Shelter Dogs.

Max is very hyper and he had previously been with an elderly person that said Max was just too much for her to handle. She was probably right. Max needed a lot of training, love and patience to settle him down. He was around 1 ½ when Sofia's family adopted him a little over 4 years ago.

Thank you

Thank you for listening to our presentation. It means a lot to be invited to the State House. We hope that you've enjoyed and use some of the ideas we presented. Animal abuse is very important to us and we know it is a very serious topic.

Bibliography

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www.paws.org

www.barkingroyalty.com

www.thepupppymillproject.org