

Michelle Argir

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Emne: Fremsendelse af yderligere materiale
Vedhæftede filer: iowa_Presentation_final_compressed1.ppt; farligehundeattest-biggie090424kopi.doc; farligehundeattest-Hanson090514kopi.doc

Kære medlemmer af Udvalget om hunde

Jeg videresender hermed input fra USA. Præsentationen er ifølge Pernille lavet af Kansas City Dog Advocates, som er hjemmeboende i Kansas City, Missouri. Den har været vist i 20 omkringliggende "communities" og to nationale konferencer inden for de sidste fire år. Den har været vist i offentligt forum samt for "city council representatives", "humane social workers" og "animal control officers".

Herudover har jeg vedhæftet rapporter fra to hundesager, der har været omtalt i medierne de sidste måneder, således at medlemmerne kan se, hvordan en sagkyndig undersøgelse af hunde foregår i praksis.

Med venlig hilsen

Michelle



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Dogs & Public Safety:

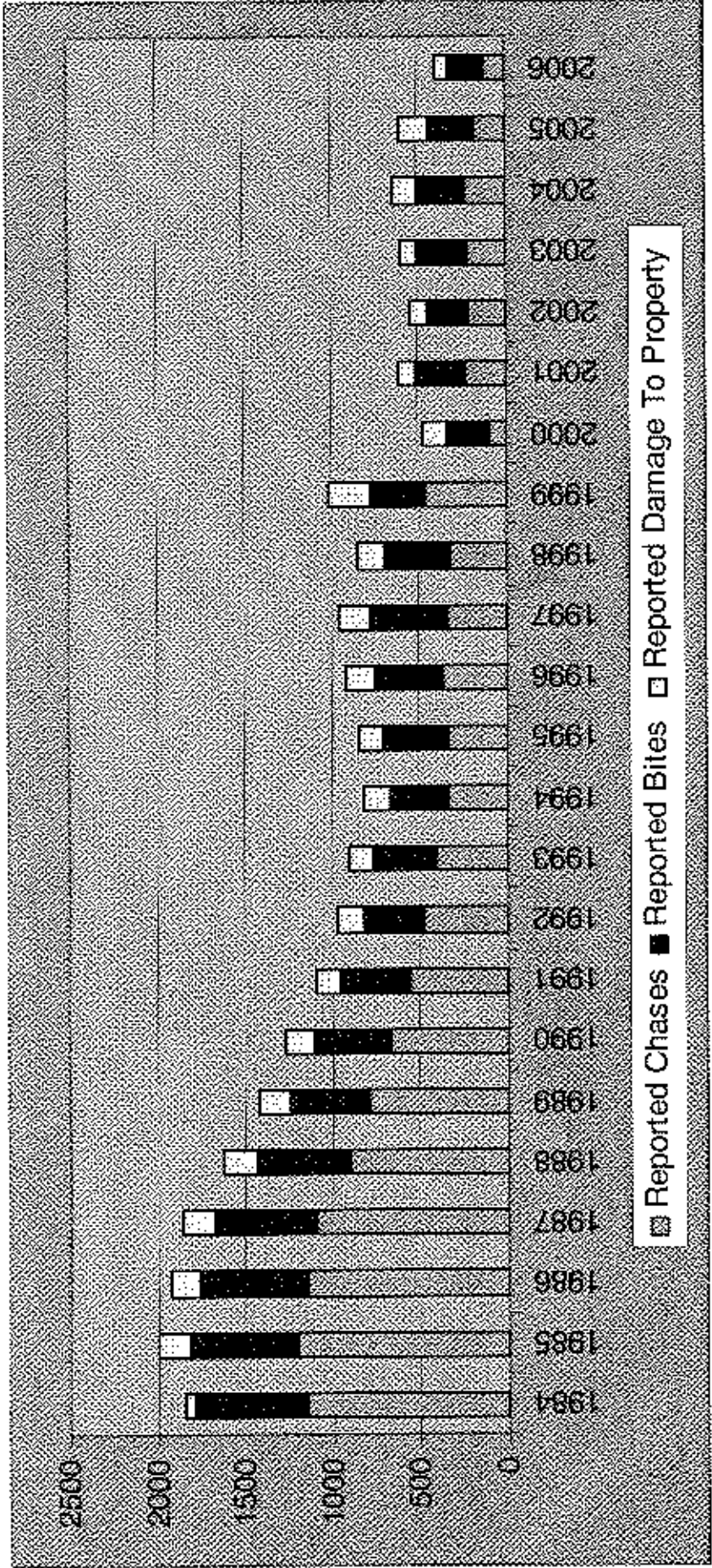
Addressing myths & providing
effective solutions for safer
Neighborhoods

What should a well run city animal control department look do?

- 1) Protect people from dangerous animals
- 2) Protect animals from people
 - Cruelty/neglect
 - Excessive shelter killing
- 3) Do so in the most efficient way necessary for taxpayers

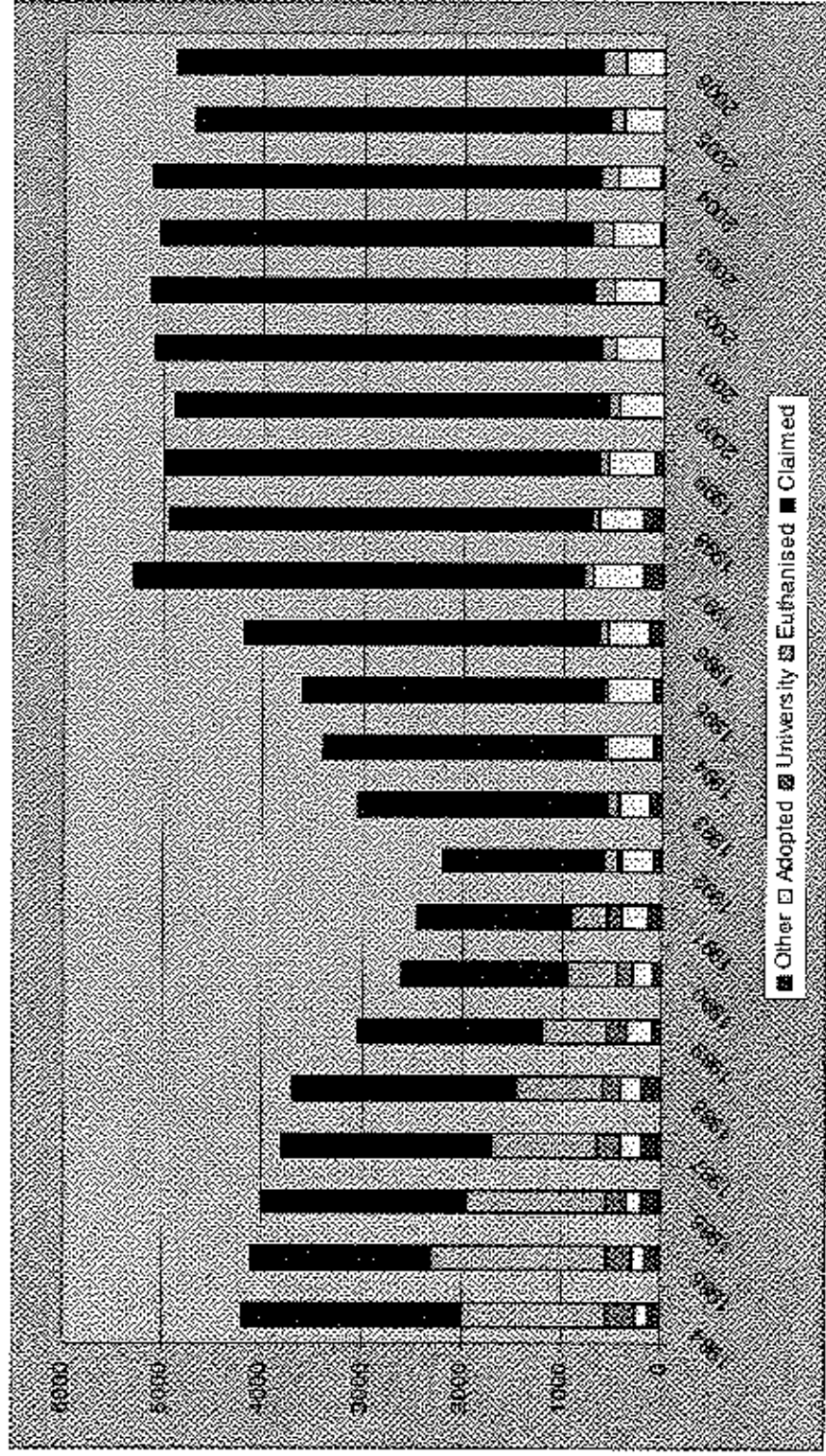
So Let's Look at a Model Example

Aggressive dog incidences in Calgary, Alberta



Source: Bill Bruce, head of Animal Control, Calgary
<http://content.calgary.ca/CCA/City+Hall/Business+Units/Animal+and+Bylaw+Services/Animal+Services/Statistics/Animal+Statistics.htm>

Disposition of Dogs Impounded



In 2006, 146 animals euthanised due to behavior, 66 because of poor health, and 26 for “other” reasons

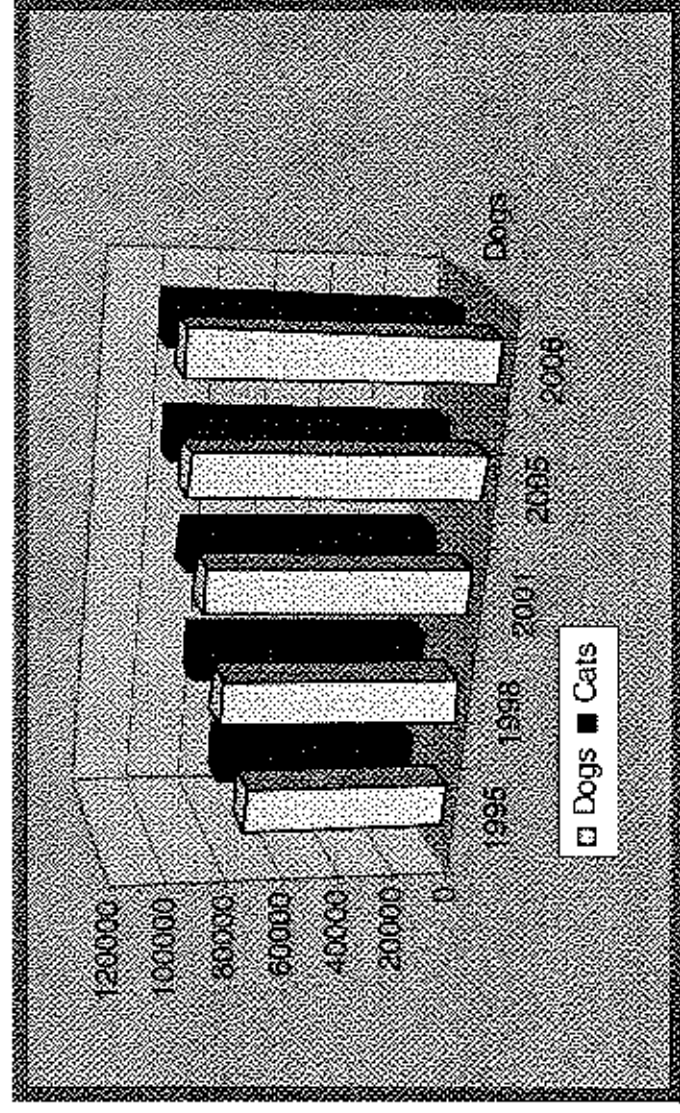
Source: Bill Bruce, head of Animal Control, Calgary
<http://content.calgary.ca/CCA/City+Hall/Business+Units/Animal+and+Bylaw+Services/Animal+Services/Statistics/Animal+Statistics.html>

This has all happened while the population of Calgary has grown

People (2006):
1,000,000

Dogs (2006):
104,837

Cats (2006):
102,243



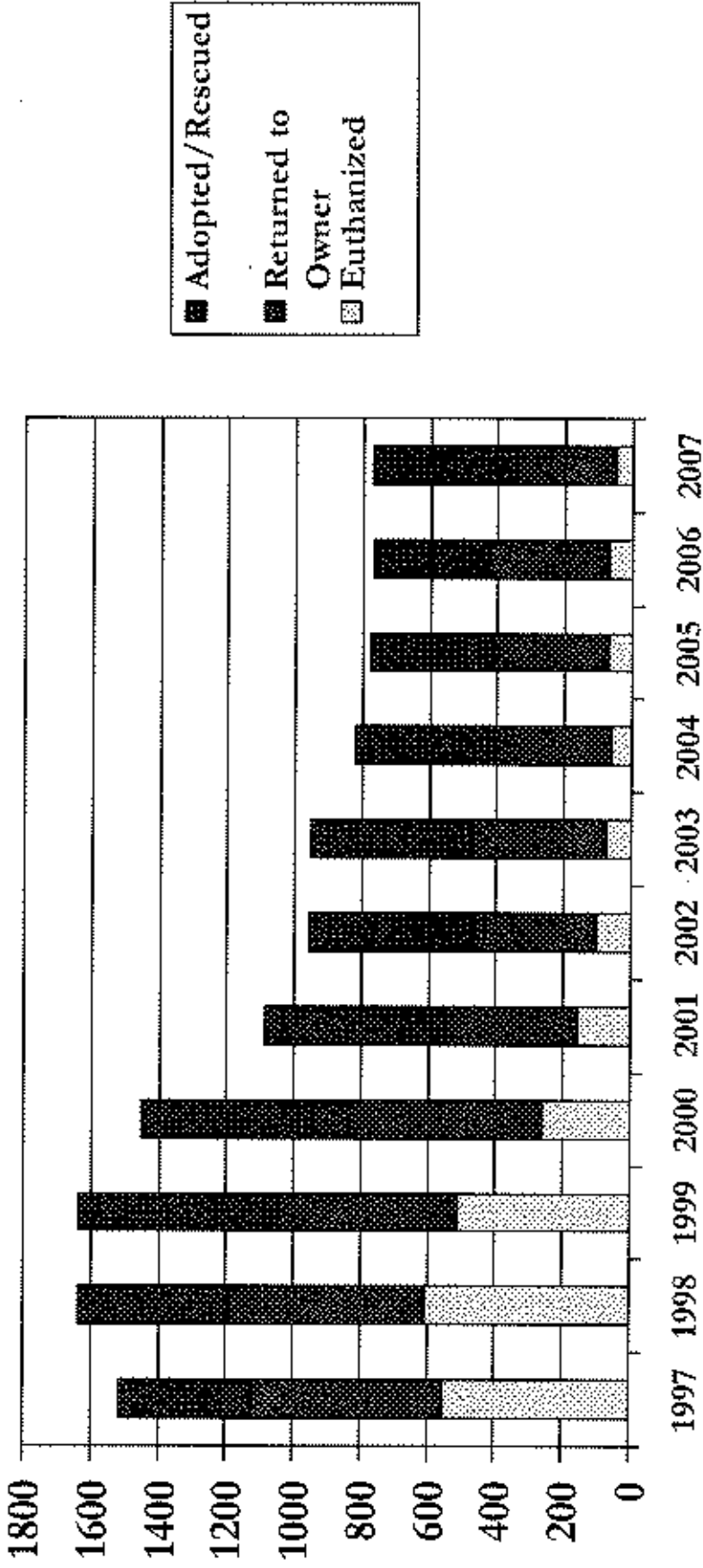
This was all done without restrictive laws

- No Breed Specific Legislation
- No Mandatory Spay/Neuter
- No Pet Limit Laws
- Over 150 dedicated dog off-leash areas
- 90+% licensing compliance
 - Enables animals to return home
 - Provides revenue for animal control
- Microchip scanners in every vehicle
- Dogs that enter the shelter system have pictures online within 15 minutes of arriving at the shelter
- Shelter open until 7:00 all weekdays, and 12 total hours on weekends
- Is 100% self funded (\$3.7 million operating budget)

**And a state of the art, \$3.5 million
facility capacity for 160 animals that
has never been full**



Berkeley California



- Aggressive low-cost voluntary spay/neuter programs
- Aggressive adoption programs with strong support from volunteers
- Strong owner education programs

Source: http://www.badrap.org/rescue/img2/BACS_Stats.jpg

These results are possible in your community by using policies with a proven track record of working

- Voluntary low-cost spay/neuter programs
- Strong licensing rates (improves return to owner numbers)
- Aggressive adoption programs
- Strong enforcement of stray/off-leash dogs
- Plenty of opportunities for dogs to socialize naturally
- Free/low cost training opportunities for high-risk owners

**What is inherently wrong
with other types of
ordinances...**

Breed Specific Laws

- Are both over-inclusive and under-inclusive
 - Not all 'pit bulls' are problems
 - Not all problem dogs are 'pit bulls'

**“Pit Bull” restrictions or
bans are based on myths
and urban legends about
certain types of dogs**

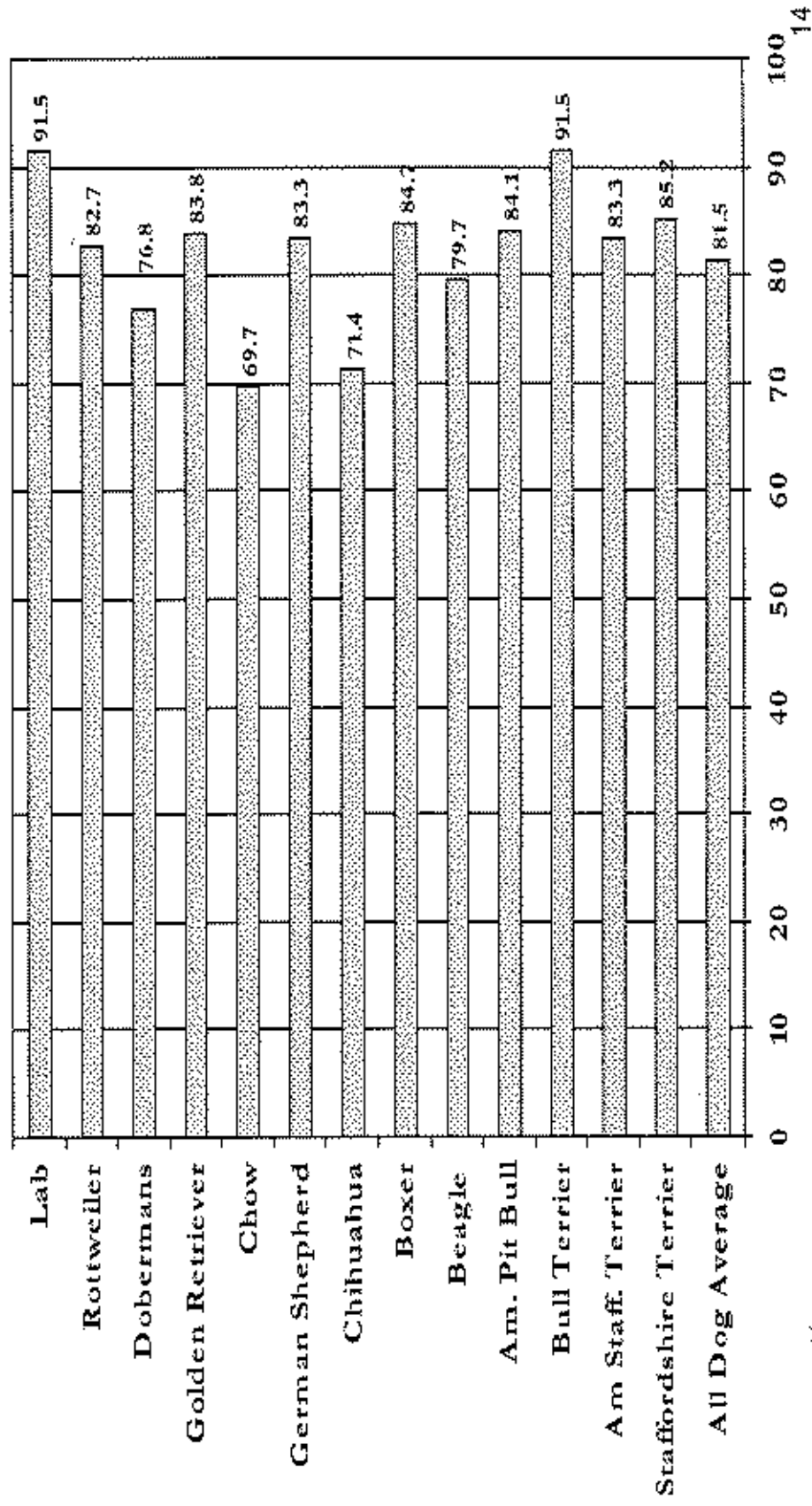
Definition of “Pit Bull”

A “Pit Bull” is a group name for four (and sometimes more) different breeds of dogs

- American Staffordshire Terrier
 - Staffordshire Bull Terrier
 - American Pit Bull Terrier
 - Bull Terrier
- And is usually applied to any dog with a “square” head that “resembles” one of the above breeds

“Pit Bulls” score very well on national temperament tests

- According to the American Temperament Test Society, all “Pit Bull” breeds passed Temperament Tests at a higher percentage than the all dog average – as did most large breed dogs:



Certain myths about ‘pit bull’ bite pressure and locking jaws are the work of science fiction

- Pit bulls do not have locking jaws
 - Pitbulls are “no different than any other breed of comparable size and build” and “there is no existence of any kind of locking jaw mechanism unique to the structure of their jaws and/or teeth.” Source: Dr. Lehr Brisbin, Ph.D., Animal Behavior Scientist, US Department of Energy
- Pit bulls do not have ridiculous jaw strength bite power (sometimes stated as high as 2000 or 3000 psi)
 - In a 2005 bite force study, a German Shepherd, American Pit Bull Terrier, and Rottweiler were tested. The American Pitbull Terrier had the least amount of bite pressure of the 3 dogs tested. Source: Dr. Brady Barr, National Geographic
 - Most dogs have around 300-350 psi bite pressure

Many different types of dogs have the ability to kill people

- **Nationally, 36 different breeds have been responsible for fatalities in the past 37 years.**
- **In MO, there have been 8 dog bite related fatalities and 8 different breeds were responsible.**
- **In KS, there have been 9 different dog bite related fatalities and 7 different breeds were responsible.**
- **In Iowa, there have only been 2 dog bite fatalities, 1 Husky and 1 “pit bull type” dog**
- **Each story a “perfect storm” of irresponsible ownership practices.**

Center for Disease Control

- **Adamantly opposed to BSL**
- **Admits Statistics are Flawed**
 - **Breed information was pulled from newspapers and periodicals; Pit bulls were disproportionately and often inaccurately reported in the media.**
 - **Breed identification issues have affected statistics as “even experts may disagree on the breed of a dog.”**
- **Stopped collecting dog bite statistics by breed in 1998 because there was no way for them to be accurately & scientifically gathered**

**But “Pit Bulls” are only
owned by thugs anyway**

Actually, there are many doctors, lawyers, regular Joes and celebrities everywhere who own Pit-Bull type dogs. Some famous celebrities include:



Mel Brooks



Jon Stewart



Brett Favre



Michael J. Fox



Rachel Ray

**But, we see pitbull
attacks on TV all the
time**

Attacks by Pitbulls are reported FAR more than any other breed:

A day in the Life of the Media (June 9, 2006):

- 3 yr old boy attacked by Golden Retriever in Virginia. Reported in only two local Virginia newspapers.
- 3 yr old girl attacked by Labrador in Colorado. Reported four times and only in Colorado media sources.
- Woman and her dog attacked by German Shepherd in Indiana. Reported in only one local Indiana newspaper.
- 11 yr old girl attacked by a pitbull in California. Reported in over **ninety one national and international newspapers**, Forbes, FOX News, Washington Post, LA Times, Chicago Tribune, and dozens of other major news organizations.

In all of these stories, the victims received serious injuries.

The only difference was the breed of dog involved

A second example – four attacks in four days

- August 18, 2007 - A Labrador mix attacked a 70-year-old man sending him to the hospital in critical condition. Police officers arrived at the scene and the dog was shot after charging the officers.
 - This incident was reported in ONE (1) article and only in the local paper.
- August 19, 2007 - A 16-month old child received fatal head and neck injuries after being attacked by a mixed breed dog.
 - This attack was reported TWO (2) times by the local paper only.
- August 20, 2007 -- a 6-year-old boy is hospitalized after having his ear torn off and receiving severe bites to the head by a medium-sized mixed breed dog.
 - This attack was reported in ONE (1) article and only in the local paper.
- August 21, 2007 - A 59-year-old woman was attacked in her home by two pit bulls and was hospitalized with severe injuries.
 - This attack was reported in over two hundred and thirty (230) articles in national and international newspapers, as well as major television news networks, including CNN, MSNBC and FOX.
- "Clearly a fatal attack by an unremarkable breed is not nearly as newsworthy as a non-fatal attack by a Pit bull," says Karen Delise, researcher for the National Canine Research Council.

Local Examples of the Media Driven Hysteria:

Earlier this summer when two pit bulls bit two men (who were treated on the scene), the *Kansas City Star* ran two pages of coverage of the event with photos. When a Lee's Summit boy was bit in the face – causing permanent scarring -- by an Akita/Shepherd mix, there was barely any coverage and was not reported until nearly a week after the incident.

It is not uncommon for newspaper stories about aggressive 'pit bulls' to be accompanied with photos of Boxers, Bull Mastiffs, and even Boston Terriers. This happened earlier this year when a "pit bull" attacked someone and a picture ran on the KCTV5 website next to the story with a dog that was obviously not a pit bull. Upon receiving complaints, the site took down the photo but left the story headline the same.

More than one local reporter has mentioned that their station will only cover dog bites if a pit bull is involved.

Between May 1, 2006 and September 15, 2006, the *Kansas City Star* ran over 200 articles and editorials about pit bulls, but only six stories regarding attacks by other breeds even though pit bull bites made up only a small number to the overall bites in the metro

**But it seems like everyone
is in favor of BSL**

Every organization involved in human/canine interaction is against BSL

- American Veterinary Medical Association
- Missouri Veterinary Medical Association
- Kansas City Veterinary Medical Association
- Center for Disease Control
- Humane Society of the United States
- Humane Society of Greater Kansas City
- National Animal Control Association
- American Kennel Club
- National Canine Research Foundation
- ASPCA
- No More Homeless Pets – Kansas City
- Kansas City Dog Advocates

Quotes:

AVMA

“Following a severe attack, there is usually an outcry to do something, and the something that is done often reflects a knee-jerk response. Only later do officials realize that the response was not effective...”

“Singling out one or two breeds for control can result in a false sense of accomplishment [and] doing so ignores the true scope of the problem and will not result in a responsible approach to protecting a community’s citizens.”

“Concerns about “dangerous” dogs have caused many local governments to consider supplementing existing animal control laws with ordinances directed toward control of specific breeds or types of dogs. Members of the Task Force believe such ordinances are inappropriate and ineffective.”

U.S. Center for Disease Control

“Because of difficulties inherent in determining a dog’s breed with certainty, enforcement of breed-specific ordinances raises constitutional and practical issues”

“Generic non-breed specific, dangerous dog laws can be enacted that place primary responsibility for a dog’s behavior on the owner, regardless of the dog’s breed. . . . targeting chronically irresponsible owners may be effective.”

“We learned breed-specific legislation is not the way to tackle the issue of dog bites. Instead, we should look at the people with those dogs responsible for the bites.” Julie Gilchrest, CDC Injury Center, Atlanta

Humane Society of the US

“Restrictions placed on a specific breed fail to address the larger problems of abuse, aggression training, and irresponsible dog ownership.”

“Breed Specific Legislation (BSL) is a common first approach that many communities take. Thankfully, once research is conducted most community leaders correctly realize that BSL won't solve the problems they face with dangerous dogs.”

“If the goal is to offer communities better protection from dogs who are dangerous, then thoughtful legislation that addresses responsible dog keeping is in order. Legislation aimed at punishing the owner of the dog rather than punishing the dog is far more effective in reducing the number of dog bites and attacks. Well enforced, non-breed-specific laws offer an effective and fair solution to the problem of dangerous dogs in all communities.”

National Canine Research Council

“Pit bulls fatal attacks are not substantially different in pattern, victim profile or in contributory risk factors than other breed attacks.”

“In other words, the same type of scenario is seen in fatal Pit bull attacks as with other breeds of dogs, namely: intact/breeding dogs, chained dogs, unsupervised children, ...”

“So while Pit Bulls and aggression grab the headlines, these other... victims go virtually unnoticed in a climate of breed hysteria...”

Animal Legal & Historical Center

“Breed-specific legislation is not an effective approach... The bans carry with them too much potential for arbitrary or improper enforcement: inaccurate breed identification by officials, difficulty enforcing breed bans against mixed-breed dogs, animal control, and court system overload, and the potential for not identifying a genuinely ‘dangerous dog’ as such because it doesn’t fall into the specified breed categories.”

“Government officials at the local and state level should focus on the problem itself - dangerous canine behavior - and concentrate their efforts on dogs’ and owners’ conduct.”

And Dog Whisperer Ceasar Millan



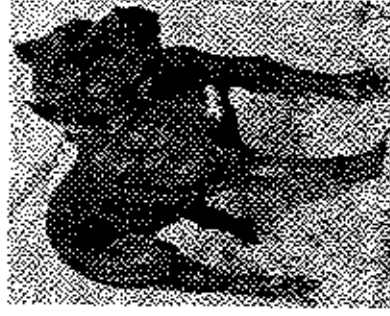
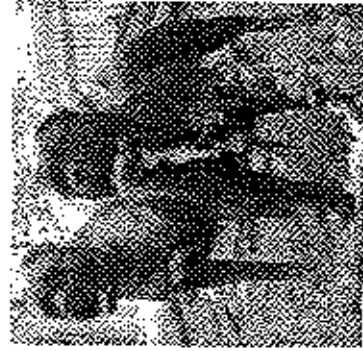
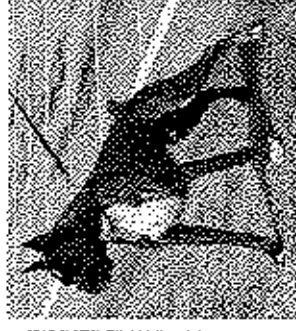
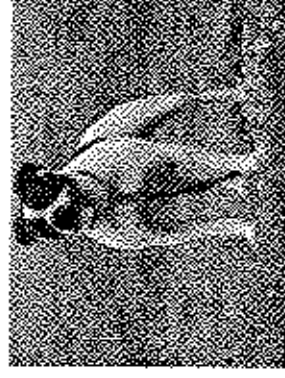
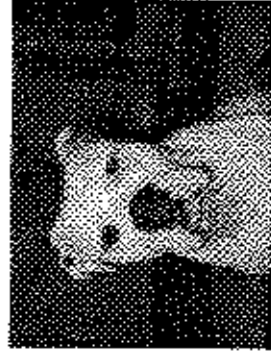
“Pit bulls aren’t inherently bad, people treat them badly....Educate the human. Don’t ban anything. That only creates fear and ignorance. We don’t solve the problem by banning breeds. People are the problem.”



**BSL then creates
problems beyond your
wildest imagination**

Breed Identification makes BSL impossible to enforce:

- Which dogs are Pit Bulls?



The answer is: None of them.



American Bulldog



Bull Mastiff



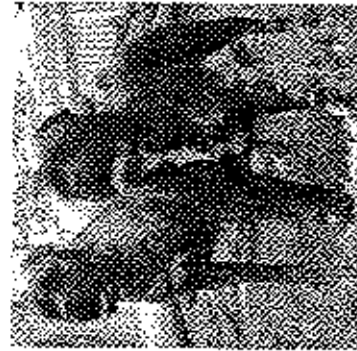
Alpha Blue Bulldog



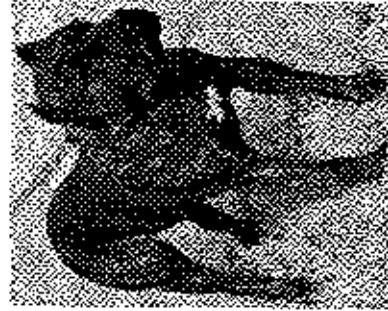
Boxer



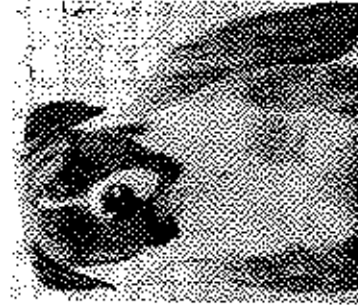
Alpha Blue Bulldog



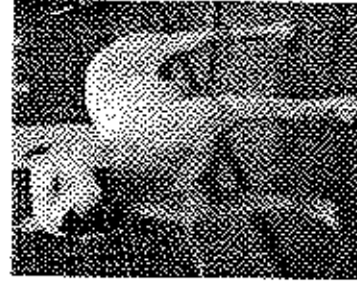
Cana Corso



Presa Canario

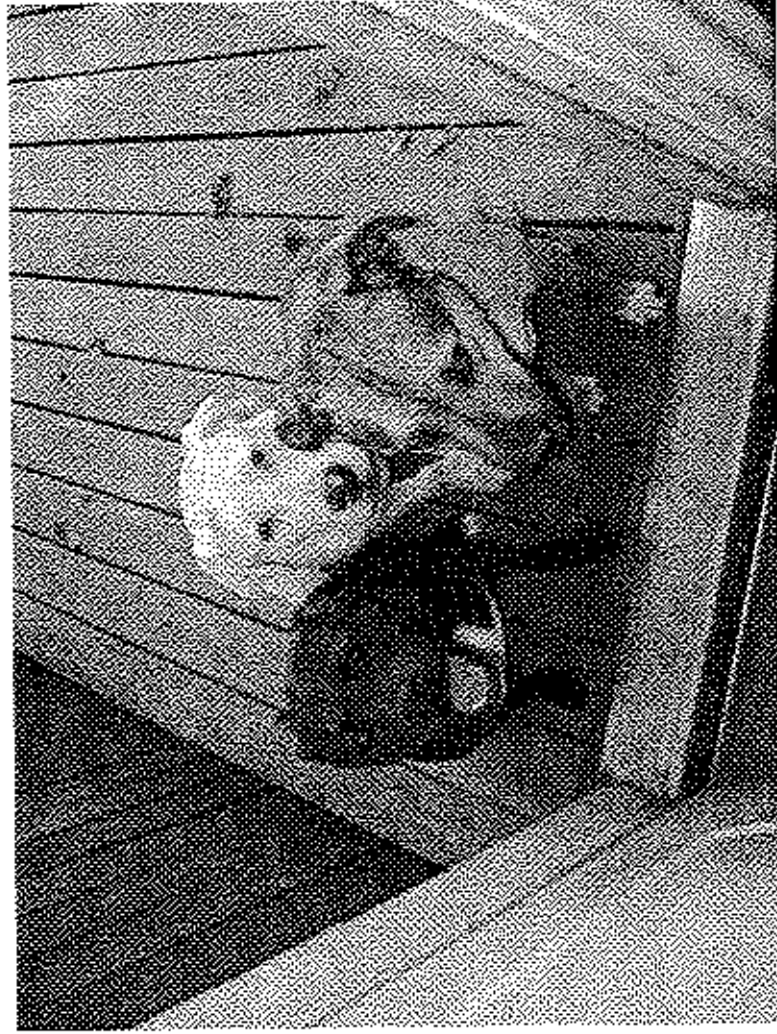


American Bulldog



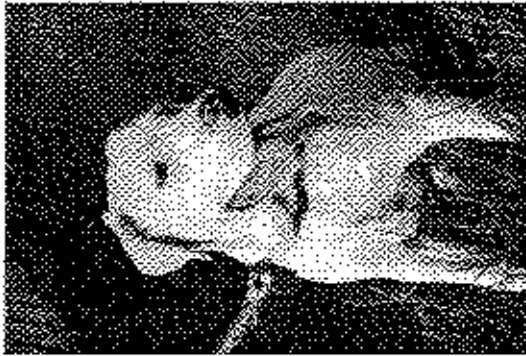
Dogo Argentino

“Pit Bulls”?



Sweet P, Dagwood, and Grommit

Dagwood:



**Great Dane/American
Bulldog Mix**

Grommit:



Identified by one vet as a
“Pit Bull”/German Shepherd Mix
and by another vet as a
Boxer/German Shepherd Mix

Sweet P:



“Pit Bull”

Registered Catahoulas Show Dog - frequently harassed in Kansas City, KS:



“Lady” is a registered Catahoulas show dog that lives in Kansas City, KS. Her owner has to carry her registration papers if they take her anywhere because they have been harassed by Animal Control so often. If she were not a registered show dog with absolute proof of her breed, there is no doubt that she would have been confiscated.

Most “Pit Bull” Ordinances contain language such as...

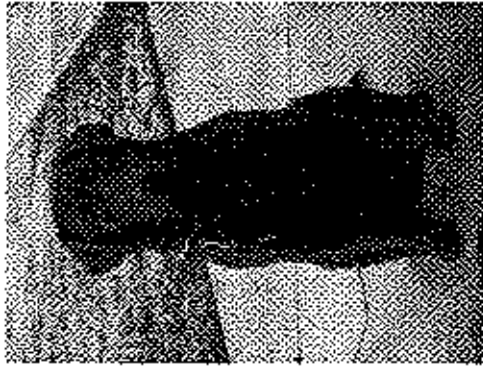
*...any dogs of mixed breed which has the appearance or
characteristics of being predominantly*

“Pit Bull”

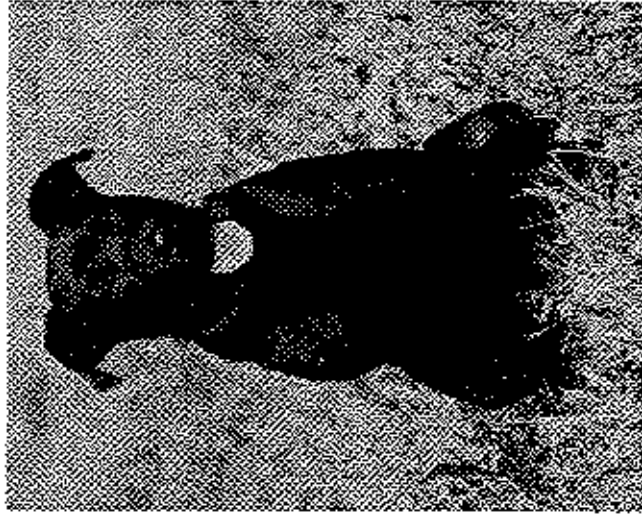
Breeds with similar characteristics as “Pit Bulls”

- American Bulldog
- Australian Cattle Dog
- Boston Terrier
- Boxer
- Bull Mastiff
- Cane Corso
- Catahoula Leopard Dog
- Dogo Argentino
- Dogue De Bordeaux
- English Bulldog
- French Bulldog
- Greater Swiss Mountain Dog
- Presa Canario
- Rhodesian Ridgeback
- Shar Pei
- Vizsla
- Many Mix Breed Dogs

Does Sugar have more Lab or Pit Bull characteristics?



Purebred Black Lab



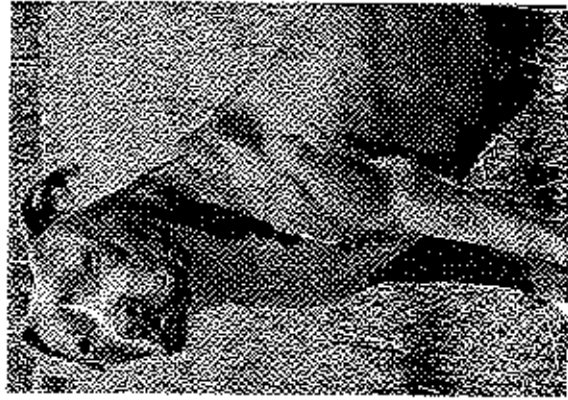
“Sugar” is a **Black Lab/Pit
Mix** available for adoption at
Animal Haven



“Pit Bull”

Shelter ID# 46457b

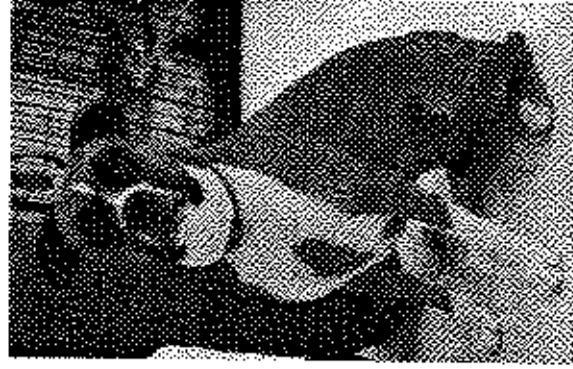
Does Roman have more Boxer or Pit Bull characteristics?



“Pit Bull”



Roman is a **Boxer/Pit Mix**
available for adoption at Animal
Haven



Purebred Boxer

The Difficulty with Identifying Puppies...

A puppy which does not look much like a pitbull may exhibit more "pitbull characteristics" after it becomes fully grown and part of the family.

Owner thought she was adopting a “Pit Bull” Puppy...

Baxter as a Puppy



Identified by Vet as a “Pit Mix”

Baxter as an Adult



Vet recently Changed Identification to
“Hound Mix”

Boxer or Pit Puppy?



Lab, Pit, or Border Collie Puppy?



Identified as “Terrier Mix”

The AKC recognizes 27 different “Terrier” breeds...



Lee's Summit Shelter ID #22427
September 2006

Which breed will this 3 month old girl grow up to be?

It is very common for any dog with Brindle Coloring to be labeled a “Pit Bull”

Even though there are many other breeds that have Brindle Coloring including:

- American Bulldogs
- Boxers
- Boston Terriers
- Corgi’s
- Dachshunds
- French Bulldogs
- Great Danes
- Greyhounds
- Mastiffs
- English Bulldogs
- Plott Hounds

Some dogs are just “mutts”...



Identified as:

“Pit Bull/Beagle Mix”

Lee’s Summit Shelter

September 2006

Shelter ID# 22201

Another brindle "mutt" ...



Identified as:

"Pit Bull/Lab Mix"

Lee's Summit Shelter

September 2006

Shelter ID# 22385

Breed ID Issues

Local Shelters



Identified as:

“Vizsla Mix”

Lee's Summit Shelter
August 2006

Shelter ID# 21886



Identified as:

“Pit Bull”

Mid America Bully Breed Rescue

January 2007

“Deuce”



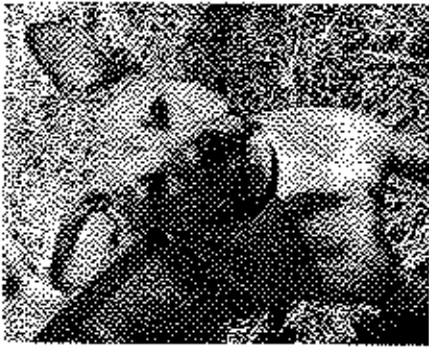
Identified as:

“Lab/Shepherd Mix”

Animal Haven

January 2007

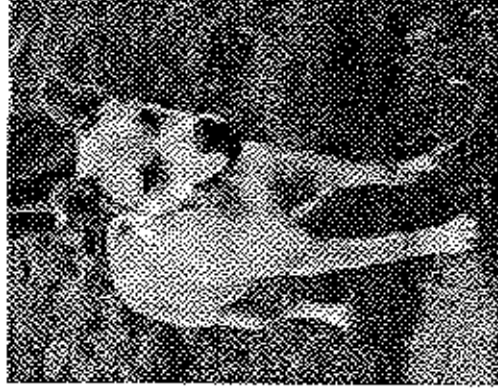
“Agness”/Shelter ID#47766



Identified as:
"Shepherd/Terrier Mix"
Animal Haven
"Hilary"
January 2007
Shelter ID # 47871



Identified as:
"Pit Bull"
Friends of Parkville Animal Shelter
"Auggie"
January 2007

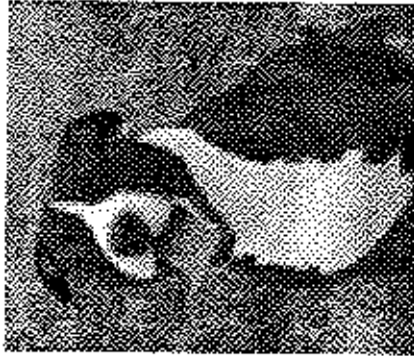


Identified as:
"Lab Mix"
Lee's Summit Shelter
September 2006
Shelter ID# 22258



**"Labrador Retriever/Boxer
Mix"**

Animal Haven
January 2007
"Canella"/Shelter ID#48254



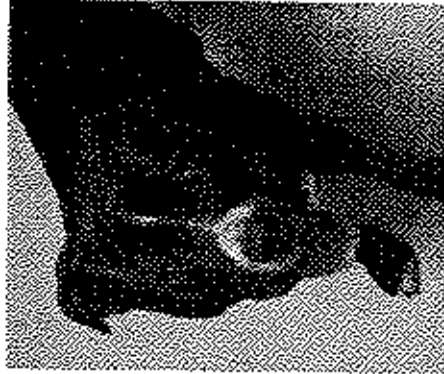
"Pit Bull"

Mid America Bully Breed
Rescue
January 2007
"Gunner"



"Shar Pei Mix"

Independence Animal Shelter
January 2007
Shelter ID# 996016



**"American Bulldog/English
Bulldog Mix"**

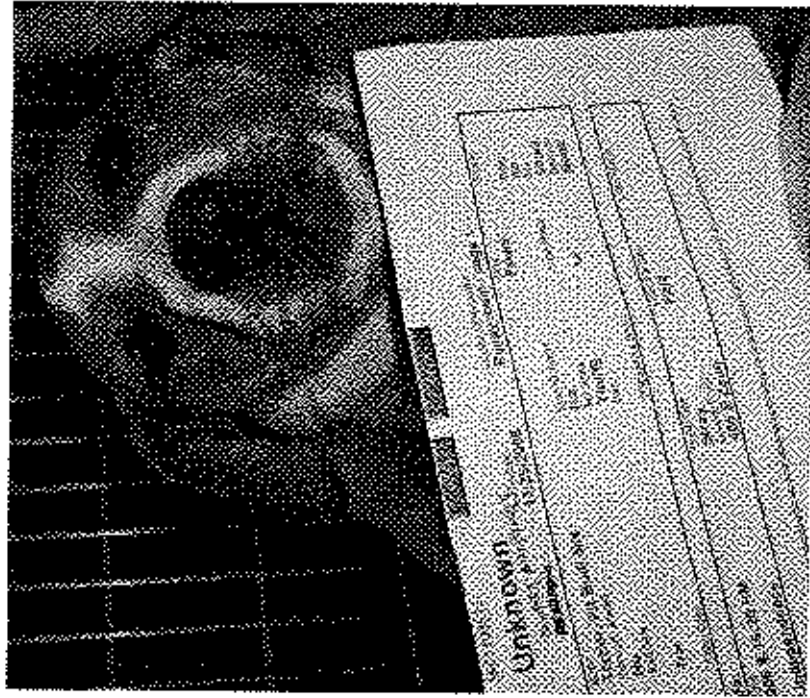
Mid America Bully Breed
Rescue

January 2007

"Kojak" 18

Penalty for Misidentification:

Death by Lethal Injection...



**Beagle Pup
MISIDENTIFIED as a :**

“Pit Mix”

Independence Animal Shelter

November 2006

Shelter ID #1606513

And, on another day...



Identified as:

“Beagle”

Independence Animal Shelter

May 2007

Shelter ID #2417169

**Families that have no idea
their dog might be ID'd as a
“Pit Bull” are affected the
most often ...**

**Spend limited resources on
court costs & attorney fees,
trying to keep their family
pet...**

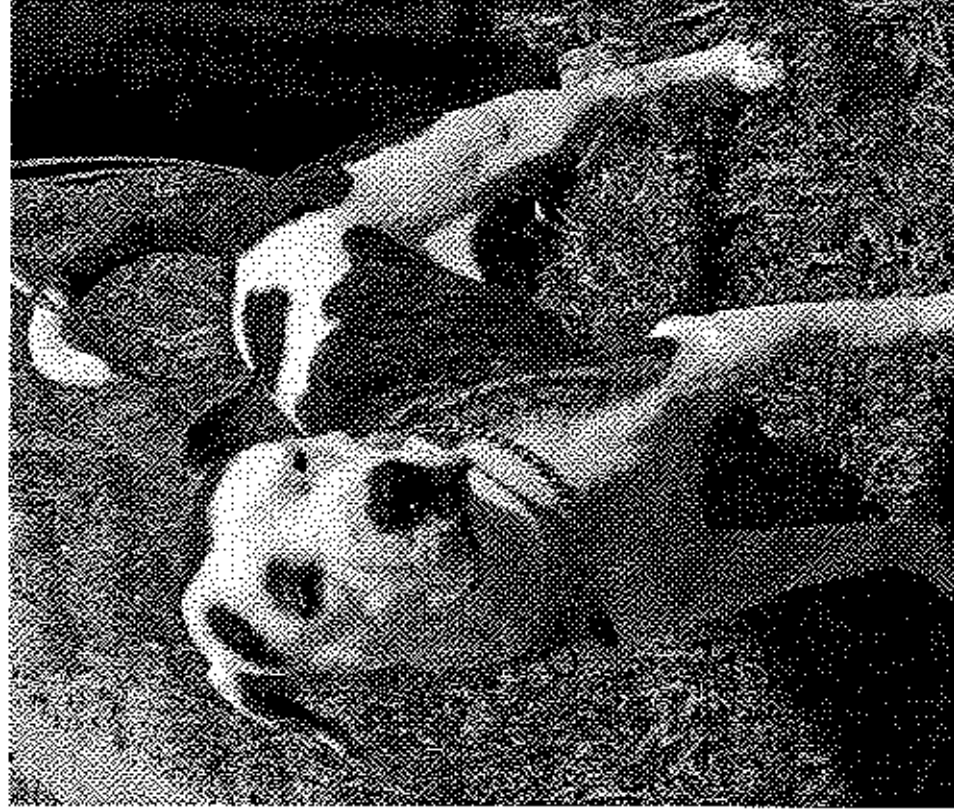
“Mattie” in Grandview...



- Boxer Mix
- Single Woman on fixed income
- Summer 2007: AC showed up at door after someone had reported Mattie to be a Pit Bull
- AC ordered Mattie be removed from the city based on her appearance
- Owner was forced to spend rent money defending her dog

**Are forced to file law
suits against the city to
keep their pet...**

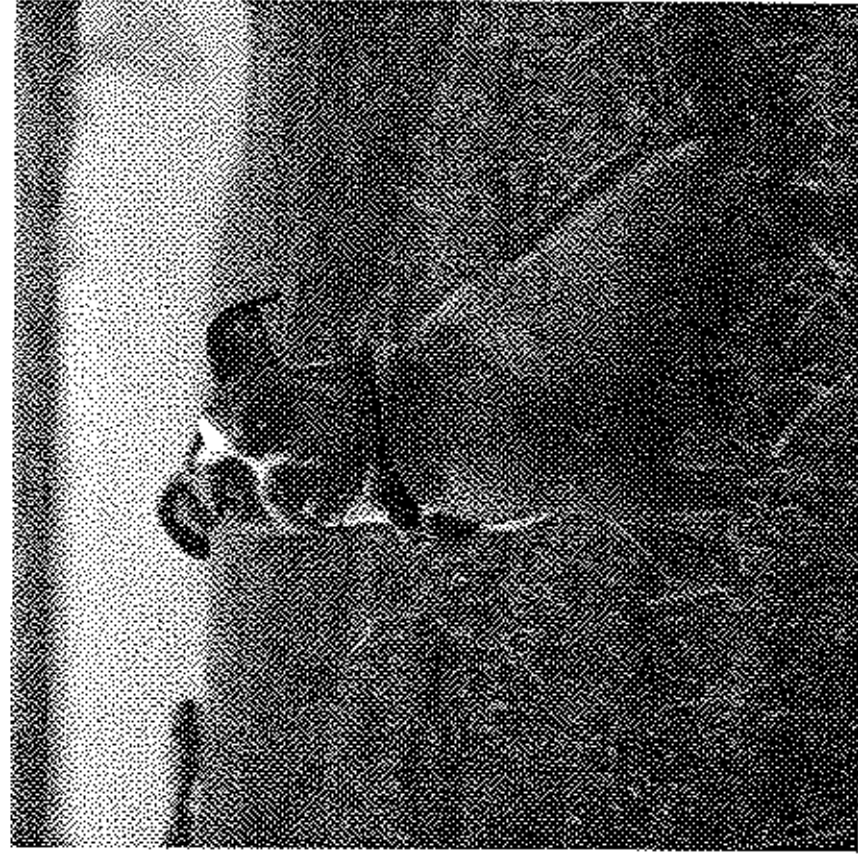
“Fleas” in KCK...



- Mix Breed Dog
- Mom was a Shar Pei & Dad was a Boxer mix
- Confiscated by KCK AC in Spring 2007
- Owner recently widowed
- 8 Year Old Son
- Charged with harboring a dangerous animal based on Fleas' appearance
- Fought the city and won

**Move in order to keep
their pet...**

“Lollipop” in Overland Park...



- 22 Pound Boston Terrier Mix
- Owner is Vice President of an upscale Dinner Theatre
- Two young children
- Harassed in Overland Park because of Lollis’ “appearance”

Lolli's family moved to Lawrence...



**Lose their family pet because
they are not equipped with the
resources to move or engage in
a court battle.**