



## SUMMER ISSUE 2018

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**Chief Scientific Officer:** Dr. Nicholas H. Dodman,

**Executive Director:** Chris P. Janelli

**Research Associates:** Barbara Dwyer, Donna Gleason, Vivian Zottola

**Scientific Advisory Board:** Dr. Marc Bekoff, Dr. Sheila D'Arpino, Dr. Brian Hare and Dr. James Serpell

**Technology:** Ian Dinwoodie

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## Letter to Our Readers

Dear Friends of CCBS,

Summer is here, and the dog days are upon us. Needless to say, we here at CCBS continue to work hard on a number of projects. Most importantly - because we are a center for behavior studies - is pouring over the results of Phase 1 of our second large study. With the *Animal Ownership Interaction Study* behind us, and published in the PLOS One journal, we are busy analyzing the second study's data provided by over 3,500 participants. If you remember, this study was to get a 2018 perspective on the type and number of behavior problems our members are reporting. All members were asked to participate – problem “fur child” or not – so that we could calculate the incidence of problematic behaviors as a whole. Taking all comers, the prevalence of problematic behaviors was actually 90%.

Next we will look at the prevalence of specific types of behavior problems. Already a picture is beginning to emerge with aggression and fearful behaviors topping the list. Repetitive behaviors (compulsive behaviors) that no one has really had a good handle on before (prevalence-wise) are more prevalent than you might think being in excess of 10% of the total population of dogs with behavioral issues. This is a much higher figure than was previously reported.

The next stage is to look at correlations – what travels with what and underlying themes. Some of this data has yet to be analyzed but we do know that the triad of fearful behavior – separation anxiety, noise phobia, and storm phobia – are intimately related, indicating a generally fearful disposition in affected dogs. We have also found that anxiety underpins canine compulsive behaviors, as it does in humans.

Phase 2 is our next challenge. This is where we look at whether owners of problem dogs with various behavior problems sought any outside help in managing the problem. Was it a trainer (if so, how credentialed), was it veterinarian, a non-veterinary behaviorist (e.g. CAAB) or veterinary behaviorist? What recommendations were made and how well do they work? Was medication involved? And so much more. With the help of these results we should be able to guide owners to the right professional to help with their dog's specific problem, recommend the generally most effective behavior modification program, and advice regarding the usefulness (or not) of medication for specific issues.

As you can see, we have our work cut out. All this plus increasing our user base and our availability to other scientists who many want to ask questions of our growing community along the lines of citizen science. We are also trying to attract corporate sponsors to help us in our mission and are contemplating other fund-raising opportunities. Although we are “not for



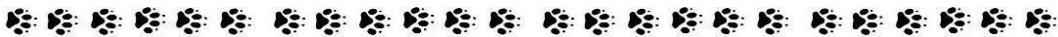


profit” and all want to do good work for dogs to help ensure they remain in the same home for life, it takes resources to make our world go round. Raising funds is a necessary part of our endeavors because studies cost money to run and our website and other electronic enterprises all cost money. Sad but true. I encourage you to visit our website and learn all the different ways you can donate to CCBS thus becoming a critical force in helping us to continue our cutting-edge research.

I want to wish all our readers a very happy and safe summer. Remember not to leave your dog in the car during the hot weather, as on a summer day the inside temperature of your vehicle can become deadly within a few minutes. Finally, when playing outside with your dog, make sure you have plenty of fresh water available and take frequent breaks in the shade to rest.

Stay safe and have fun with your dog days of summer.

**Dr. Nicholas H Dodman**  
**Editor in Chief**  
**Center for Canine Behavior Studies**



## CCBS Studies Update

**By Chris P. Janelli, Executive Director**



2018 is a year of significance for our mission to pursue human-canine studies and you should know about it.

In 2014, Mark and Linda Greenberg’s love for companion animals led them to establish a scientific research division—the Center for Canine Behavior Studies—within The Simon Foundation, Inc (TSF). TSF is Connecticut’s 2<sup>nd</sup> largest **private** 501(c)(3) animal rescue and shelter. In early June, it was decided that TSF’s research would best be pursued through a new and independent **public** 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

The rationale for this decision was clear. Financial support for The Simon Foundation - Center for Canine Behavior Studies was primarily from individuals—the public. Its human-canine research was for the public good and its research findings were freely available to the public. Another key decision factor

was many animal welfare foundations and grant making organizations have Bylaws prohibiting financial support to **private** 501(c)(3) non-profits.

Based upon these criteria, on June 14th the Connecticut non-profit **Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc** was incorporated. On July 6<sup>th</sup>, an Application for Recognition as a **public** 501(c)(3) was filed with the Internal Revenue Service and on July 17<sup>th</sup> the IRS confirmed our status as a 501(c)(3) corporation thus allowing donors to deduct their contributions that support our research. We were also confirmed to be a public charity.

# CENTER FOR CANINE BEHAVIOR STUDIES



Over the past 4 years as part of The Simon Foundation, Inc, much has been learned that is the cornerstone upon which to move forward in building the **Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc** (the, “Center”) and to build it into a nationally recognized human-canine research organization that:

- a) has a growing database of dedicated [Citizen Science](#) dog lovers who will share information about their dog(s) and themselves.

Citizen science is sometimes described as "public participation in scientific research," and [participatory action research](#) (PAR). “PAR is an approach to research in communities that emphasizes participation and action. It seeks to understand the world by trying to change it, collaboratively and following reflection. PAR emphasizes collective inquiry and experimentation grounded in experience and social history. Within a PAR process, "communities of inquiry and action evolve and address questions and issues that are significant for those who participate as co-researchers".

- b) operates as a [Virtual Company](#), which is defined as “An organization that uses computer and telecommunications technologies to extend its capabilities by working routinely with employees or contractors located throughout the country or the world.”
- c) more specifically, operates as a [Virtual Research Environment](#) (VRE), which is defined as an online system helping researchers collaborate (also referred to as a "collaborative e-research community"). “VREs have become important in fields where research is primarily carried out in teams which span institutions and even countries: the ability to easily share information and research results is valuable.”

The team knows the newly established Center can support **university quality** human-canine studies at less cost by virtue of being a **Virtual Company** and **VRE** and not having to support a costly brick & mortar infrastructure. For example, not including The Simon Foundation’s significant investment in software and program development to support its first *Animal Ownership Interaction Study* (AOIS), the academic cost alone was budgeted at \$125,000.

In contrast, the two recent studies, *The Prevalence of Behavior Problems in Owned Companion Dogs* and *The Effectiveness of Treatment Methods for Behavior Problems* that will be carried through to analysis by the Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc will each cost less than \$25,000.

The Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc will continue to focus its research on canine behavior problems and human-canine bond issues that are major factors *leading to the surrender* of dogs to shelters and pounds. While this may not appear as urgent and heart breaking as a dog needing to be rescued, placed in a home, or saved with an operation, it’s a critical component to saving tens of thousands of canine lives. Like America’s chronic illness epidemic, *America’s canine euthanasia epidemic requires PREVENTIVE action* as a vital component of the No Kill Mission.

**Canine euthanasia can be prevented by maintaining the human-canine bond.** We know the advice that can be offered as a result of the Center’s behavior research will help many dogs remain in the same home for life and indirectly reduce shelter-based euthanasia.

The findings from the AOIS are not sitting idle on a shelf, but are being integrated into a [human adopter – canine rescue matching program](#) that will facilitate better adoption matches resulting in better compatibility on numerous fronts, which will also indirectly reduce abandonment, surrender and relinquishment of dogs to shelters and pounds.

Concurrently with the launch of the Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc, we are investigating two significant initiatives:

- 1) The Human-Canine Collaboratory Project™ that will seek to build a substantial database of registered dogs and owners to 25,000+ PAR friends who are prepared to invest a small amount of time to participate in a

# CENTER FOR CANINE BEHAVIOR STUDIES



study. While 25,000 represents a major challenge, it represents only 0.000238% of the 89.7 million dogs living with owners in America. With your help, we can achieve this—and potentially more.

- 2) We are looking at how the new Center can support other qualified canine researchers who have study proposals that fit within the Center’s Mission. While many studies are done with a small cohort of participants, to date thousands of dog owners have participated in our studies. The majority of participants are from the USA, Canada (which has approximately 6 million dogs) and the UK (which has approximately 10 million dogs).

With a bigger database of willing PAR friends, the Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc could help organize more precise and detailed cohorts of owner-dog participants for future studies.

- 3) Per pt. 2, a Research Proposal Review Board would be formed to review study proposals. A proposal would have its own funding and do their own data analysis. Non-profit study findings would be for the public good and after scientific publishing posted to the Center’s website. The Center would require collaborative recognition for the study.

The establishment of the Center for Canine Behavior Studies, Inc, and implementing the aforementioned plans, are not without cost. However, the Center believes that moving towards becoming a **public** 501(c)(3) is a major step in the right direction to attract support not just from individual donors, but from grantors and foundations that don’t support **private** non-profits.

In closing, we know that the Center’s findings will contribute to saving the lives of our beloved best friends. Our support in helping save numerous dogs “at the end of their tether” because of behavior issues has not gone unrecognized. In fact, the Center has already received a bequest that will eventually go into an endowment fund to support future “canine lifesaving” research.

As a benefactor shared with us, “Although one doesn't like to think of one's demise (little attempt at some humor), this gives me great peace of mind...truly.”

My friends, that sums up why this journey and challenge is so worthwhile.

Please remain a friend of your newly incorporated Center for Canine Behavior Studies, remain ready to participate in a study, give what you can to support our efforts, and tell all you dog friends to jump on board.

Thank you,  
Chris P. Janelli  
Executive Director

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## Links to resources

Citizen Science: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizen\\_science](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Citizen_science)

PAR: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Participatory\\_action\\_research](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Participatory_action_research)

Virtual Company: <https://www.pcmag.com/encyclopedia/term/53904/virtual-company>

Virtual Research: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual\\_research\\_environment](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Virtual_research_environment)

HowIMetMyDog.com: <https://www.howimetmydog.com/register>

Statista : <https://www.statista.com/statistics/198100/dogs-in-the-united-states-since-2000/>



## **FUN QUESTION**

Earlier this year, we sent out two fun questions to all our friends. Here are the questions and the response from CCBS.

1. **Does your dog circle before lying down?** Of the 320 respondents anonymously surveyed, 236 or 73% said “yes” their dogs did circle and 84 or 26.2% said “no”.

### **Here's what Dr. Dodman says:**

Almost 3 out of 4 dogs in our survey circled before lying down. I am surprised it is not 100%! The theory goes that dogs’ ancestors circled to flatten the grass before they lay down -- making a nest, so to speak, or at least making a comfortable place to rest. Apparently, this measure had survival benefits and became genetically hard-wired. We did not examine breeds in our “fun fact” question but it would be my guess that dog breeds closer to the wild type (their ancestral kin) – like huskies, malamutes and foxhounds – would be more likely to retain this characteristic whereas those who were more extensively bred for artificial traits, like the short-nosed dogs and toy breeds, would be more likely to have lost the trait in the sands of modern evolutionary time (by artificial human selection)

2. **Does your dog sleep on your bed?** Of the 320 Respondents anonymously surveyed 209 or 65.3% said “yes” their dogs did sleep with them on the bed and 111 or 34.6% said “no”.

### **Here's what Dr. Dodman says:**

Two of three owners said “yes” to this question – but then our audience is super dog friendly! Having a dog sleep with its human pack seems like a very good idea, keeps the pack united at bedtime just as it happens in nature. However, some people do not allow their dogs on the bed. One reason might be that having a dog sleep on the bed disrupts their human sleep cycle. People also worry that they might get bitten by a flea and/or tick while slumbering with their pet. Having your dog on a veterinarian approved flea and tick preventative will minimize this from occurring. I have also heard that some people worry about germs that dogs may spread to their human caregivers when in such close proximity. This concern is not particularly valid as very few of the germs dogs carry can be spread to humans. My opinion is, as long as you can get a good night’s sleep, your dog is on a flea/tick preventative, and receives regular veterinary care, I say let sleeping dogs lie – on your bed.



Are you curious about dog behavior? Let us know what your questions are, and they might be included in our survey!

[Click here](#) to submit a question.

### **This Month’s Fun Dog Behavior Questions**

Does your dog ever scoot on his rump over the floor?

Does your dog react to animals or other dogs when watching them on the TV?

[Click Here](#) to answer this month’s Fun Dog Behavior questions.







## **IN THE NEWS**

### **The Puppy Protection Act - H.R. 4693**

**Introduced on December 20, 2017 by Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Charlie Crist (D-FL) and is currently still In-House committees for discussion.**

This bill — known as the Puppy Protection Act — would establish housing and treatment standards that dog dealers must abide by, which include mandatory exercise and interaction periods for the dogs in addition to limitations on breeding. The bill would also require that appropriate and nutritious food be fed to the dogs in an amount to keep them healthy at least twice per day, and continuous access to potable water that's free of contaminants.

In terms of the dogs' housing, the bill would require:

- Completely solid flooring;
- Enough space to allow the tallest dog to stand on his or her hind legs without touching the enclosure's roof;
- Temperatures appropriate for the age, breed, and condition of the dogs that's between 45 and 85 degrees when dogs are present;
- Enclosures that aren't stacked or placed on top of or below another enclosure; and
- At least 12 square feet for each dog up to 25 inches long; 20 square feet for each dog between 25 and 35 inches long; and 30 square feet for each dog 35 inches or longer.

To ensure adequate exercise, dogs over the age of 12 weeks would be required to have unfettered access from their enclosures during daylight to an enclosed, outdoor area that's at ground-level and a solid surface, controlled for the dogs' safety, and twice the space required for their housing.

Dogs would have to have at least 30 minutes of meaningful socialization with humans and compatible dogs that includes positive interactions such as petting, stroking, grooming, playing with, or other touching that's beneficial to the dogs' well-being. Veterinary care wouldn't count toward that requirement, but dogs would have to receive a hands-on veterinary exam at least once per year along with core vaccinations, and medications as needed.

Female dogs would be prohibited from producing more than two litters in any 18-month period or more than six litters in that dog's lifetime. Breeds weighing less than 40 pounds when mature couldn't be bred before the age of 18 months or after the age of 9 years. Larger breeds weighing over 40 pounds when mature couldn't be bred before the age of 2 years or after the age of 7 years. Dealers would be required to make all reasonable efforts to find humane placement for retired breeding dogs, which couldn't include placement with another breeder for breeding purposes or selling at auction.

Within 18 months of this bill's enactment the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA) would be required to issue final regulations implementing standards for the care of dogs in dealer facilities.

### **Argument in Favor**

Puppy mills are insidious. Reputable breeders have no problem meeting these minimal standards which protect the health of the animal (no parvo, no genetic disorders from inbreeding, and no socialization and psychological issues) and the purchaser's expectations in not supporting cruel and inhumane treatment. Please pass this legislation.



## Argument Opposed

This bill goes too far in setting standards for dog dealers' care of their canines, and these regulations could be better handled at the state level.

**Also introduced on December 20, 2017 by Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA) and Charlie Crist (D-FL) and still In-House committees for discussion.**

## The Woof! Act ("Welfare of our Friends) - HR 4691

This is a bill to amend the Animal Welfare Act to prohibit the issuance of licenses to certain individuals connected to dealers of dogs who have had licenses revoked, and for other purposes.

The *WOOF! Act* would prohibit the USDA from issuing commercial breeding licenses to individuals or shell companies directly connected to dealers of dogs who have had their licenses suspended or revoked. This common-sense legislation prohibits those who have violated the *Animal Welfare Act* from using loopholes continue selling animals commercially.



## BOOK REVIEW

### **Cesar Milan's Lessons from the Pack**

Book By, Cesar Milan with Melissa Jo Peltier  
National Geographic Partners, Inc. (2017)

**By, Barbara Dwyer, BS, CPDT-KSA, CBCC-KA, CTC**

Mr. Milan's *Lessons from the Pack* is based on his life experiences which he believes can help dogs and humans build authenticity, confidence and respect for leaders. He emphasizes his childhood experience growing up in a stern, patriarchal, Mexican, farming family. "In a cooperative community like my grandfather's farm," he says, "making a mistake is a big deal, and the consequences can be severe." Praise and rewards were few. Cesar admired his grandfather's use of power to control the farm community. He incorporated many of the lessons learned at his grandfather's knee in his philosophy of dog training. His training methods are ego-centric.

He continued his "self-made man" saga through immigration, marriage, divorce and raising his sons. He says that, "I've raised a lot of perfect dogs, but I'm still not sure how to raise a perfect child. On reflection, I sometimes feel that my ex-wife and I didn't give our boys enough rules and limitations. My wife and I often disagreed about how to raise and discipline our kids." They came from different cultures, he on a farm in Mexico and she in Los Angeles.

In the section on the "hierarchy of respect," he describes a pack of dogs as having three positions – "the front, the middle and the back. What matters to dogs is that everyone does his job and honors their place in the pack." Mr. Milan is wedded to the basic theory that dogs have a linear pack hierarchy with a strong, no nonsense alpha at its head who controls the pack.



In Mr. Milan's analogy, a mother dog picking up a two-week-old pup by the nape or nudging them with her nose, he concludes, "they are doing something the mother disapproves of." Certainly, a behaviorist, \* a title that Mr. Milan uses, would know that two-week old pups can't walk, hear or even see. What could they have done to deserve punishment? Why do mother dogs carry their pups or nudge them? Well, to move them so that they can eat, be cleaned or stay warm. These are nurturing not disciplinary behaviors.

Mr. Milan was investigated by authorities and chastised by the public for the methods he used to attempt to rehabilitate Simon and Simon, a swine killer, ("Simon and the Pig" - 2016 National Geographic). Toward the end of the book, Mr. Milan talks about how thrilled he was when he and his Dog Psychology Center charges of animal cruelty were dropped. He defends his "rehabilitation" work with Simon, a pig killing French bulldog, without a blink. Being cleared of animal cruelty charges does not absolve him from the responsibility for the danger and trauma that the pigs (and Simon) in his training video experienced. His methods are diametrically opposed to the humane methods espoused by the experts whom he quotes like most positive, minimally aversive, least intrusive which certainly wasn't the case when Simon was tied to the terrified pig.

The best parts of *Lessons from the Pack* are pieces that he has inserted directly from the writings of Marc Bekoff, Jessica Pierce, Frans de Waal, Alexandra Horowitz, Temple Grandin, Brian Hare and Vanessa Woods all experts in their fields. His life lessons for readers are based on what he has learned from dogs and his knowledge as the "most sought after dog behaviorist\* in the world" as he is described on the book jacket. Mr. Milan is not a behaviorist. \* Dr. Bekoff was surprised when asked if he knew that Mr. Milan quoted him repeatedly. He sent me a long list of links to articles he has written in opposition to Mr. Milan. In one essay for *Psychology Today* (6/9/2012), Dr. Bekoff says,

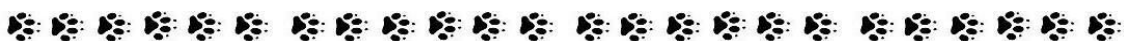
### **Cesar Millan's Last Hurrah: National Geographic Cancels the Dog Whisperer Series**

In a previous essay I asked "[Did Cesar Millan Have To Hang the Husky?](#)" I was referring to a highly controversial video called "[Shadow Turns Blue](#)" in which Mr. Millan rather violently lifts a husky off the ground to discipline him. The essay turned out to be very popular and while the comments were a mixed bag most people concluded that this sort of "training" method, based on abusive domination, was unnecessarily harsh and that there was no reason at all to treat Shadow or any other dog in this manner, ever.

To view the video (3/7/16) follow this link -<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pw3glB4qQPY>

The book is designed to teach people how to use the author's acquired learning from working with dogs into their own lives. Unfortunately, the book fails to give the reader either a better understanding of dogs or meaningful life skills.

\* "Behaviorist" is a term used to designate those certified by the Animal Behavior Society who have earned either a PhD or DVM or for board certified veterinary behaviorists. Mr. Milan is neither.







## **PRODUCT REVIEW**

**Product Review: The Treat & Train (a.k.a. Manners Minder)**

**By, Vivian Zottola, CBCC**

As a dog mom and professional dog trainer with no time to spare, I was delighted to learn about the *Treat & Train* product several years ago. The battery operated remote controlled food dispensing unit comes with a very thorough and easy to use training DVD which I highly recommend going through regardless of your level of training and knowledge. This is a simple and fun tool that is worth the cost. Ideal for frustrated owners and professional trainers alike and most important nearly all dogs I've trained using it all love it!



The light weight portable unit can be used to feed your dog meals while training. It dispenses food or tasty treats and is controlled either by a hand-held remote-control device or, may be preprogrammed to automatically dispense kibble. The positive reinforcement product was originally designed, tested and marketed around 2009 by Dr. Sophia Yin and then years later purchased by the PetSafe company.

The benefit of using the unit is that it allows you to reward your dog from a distance. With the dispensing reward system, you can teach your dog to improve challenging behaviors and learn alternative behaviors. As for example, instead of jumping up on people as they enter your home or barking at the doorbell when it rings, you can use the unit to train the dog to “go to their place” (rug or bed) at the sight of person entering or upon hearing the bell. The unit can be used to engage a young dog to learn to make positive associations in their crate or,

confined in an area of the home while you get ready for work.

Setting the unit to dispense on a timed variable schedule, you could manage your dog practice longer and longer down stays on their bed or rug a few feet away from you and guests or in another room while you cook dinner. If you have a busy household including a new born child crawling around the home, you could have the dog safely behind a baby gate in another part of the house or room practicing a down stay at a distance. The unit can be used to help keep the dog occupied, everyone safe and feeling included. And, if you have multiple dogs in the home you could split up training drills to help manage. For example you could be working stationary skills (sit, down) by hand with dog A while working targeting with dog B using the dispensing unit to reward dog at a distance. There are so many simple and creative ways to use this remote-control unit. It truly is a wonderful and helpful set of additional “hands”. For more information about my pick of the month product please see links below:

[Manners Minder](#) by Dr. Sophia Yin YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BDOiJsjaLTA>

[Pet Safe Treat & Train Remote Reward System lowest price sold at Chewy.com](#)

Contact [vivian@vivianzottola.com](mailto:vivian@vivianzottola.com)

Website: [www.vivianzottola.com](http://www.vivianzottola.com)



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## ASK DR. DODMAN

**Question:** My veterinarian suggested chemical castration as an option for neutering my dog. What are your thoughts on this subject? Emily M - Connecticut

**Dr. Nicholas Dodman:** Although in people, chemical castration of, say, serial rapists (which has been done in some countries) involves treatment with an aphrodisiac drug, such as a progesterone derivative, in dogs it usually involves the injection of a spermicidal chemical – zinc gluconate- directly into the testes. The idea is to halt the development of sperm and render the dog infertile. Although the testes may shrink following the intra-testicular injection and infertility is usually achieved, production of the male hormone testosterone is barely touched so male behaviors, like roaming, urine marking and humping remain virtually unchanged. The upside of employing chemical castration of young puppies by this method is that it is inexpensive, quick, and does not require anesthesia. The downside is that it is ouchy, the chemical can sometimes produce a painful localized reaction, and does little to control unwanted male behaviors. Also, there is sometimes a local reaction to the chemical causing irritation and inflammation, which has to be painful.

I must say that in balance, I am not in favor of this type of chemical castration for the downside reasons above, but I know there is always another point of view. As a veterinary student I was appalled at the use of elastrators – a tight rubber band applied to the neck of a male lamb’s scrotum – to cause the lamb’s testes to wither from lack of blood supply. I always thought... that’s got to hurt. I was also against the use of burdizzos – clamps designed to crush the neck of the scrotum to the same effect. Watching such procedures at veterinary school made me wince. I feel much the same about chemical castration by injection into the testes.

The other form of chemical castration, by oral or intramuscular injection of synthetic progesterone and/or antiandrogen is more acceptable but I do not believe such treatment is readily available in the United States. The upside of this method is that it does not involve painful injection into the testes, that it dulls libido, seriously reducing unwanted male behaviors, and has effects similar to surgical castration. However, it is not permanent, lasting maybe 3 months. Also, serious medical problems related to the prolonged use of synthetic progesterone, meaning that it should really only be for a short-term, one-time treatment. In that respect, it can be useful for a questioning owner to assess how his/her dog will behave following “real” surgical castration. It’s a look-see technique, if you will.

Call me old fashioned but I’m all for the real thing – surgical castration. It does the job, is relatively quick, and does not seem to cause much, if any, post-operative pain. OK, so it requires short-term anesthesia but that is not dangerous and complete and rapid recovery from it can be virtually guaranteed as well as the desired result of producing a less aggressive dog exhibiting, with less urine marking, less humping, less aggression, and less likelihood of wandering miles away in search of a bitch in heat. Also, the possibility of unwanted pups from accidental breeding is completely obviated, contributing less surrender and thus less euthanasia of unwanted offspring. Birth control by this means is really important and, for good reason, has been the edict of shelters adopting out dogs for many years. Why take a chance? If you do not intend to breed your dog, have it neutered.





## **SCIENTIFIC TRACK**

### **JEALOUSY IN DOGS**

**By, Dr. Nicholas H. Dodman**

That dogs experience and display jealousy is obvious to anyone who has spent any time with dogs – yet jealousy remains controversial in academic circles perhaps because of what it implies. Jealousy is a secondary emotion as opposed to the more reflexive primary emotions. No one doubts that dogs have primary emotions but secondary emotions, which derive from primary emotions, imply complicated analytical thought processes, computing and placing value judgements on the internal emotion experienced. This level of thought implies self-awareness, which in turn leads to the ability to project that others have thoughts, desires, feelings, information, and intentions that may be different from their own. The ability to think with this level of sophistication – to possess “theory of mind” – has been considered a uniquely human ability, the last bastion of defense for those who believe humans to be distinctly unique from other mammalian species. Because animals’ thoughts are impossible to access, this jaded view has been permitted to survive to the point that even many of today’s cognitive scientists feel they risk their reputation by giving credence to animals like dogs being capable of secondary emotions like guilt, shame, resentment or jealousy.

I stuck my neck out in 1995 by writing a chapter about jealousy in one of my books, *Dogs Behaving Badly*. Later a large study of 1000 or so dogs out of Portsmouth, England showed that dogs went through all the motions of jealousy – but they could not prove what they were thinking. Then came Harris and Prouvost’s findings in 2014 which provided clear empirical evidence of domestic dogs’ aggression in response to a friendly interaction of their caregiver with another dog.

Along comes Dr. Cook and colleagues and along comes functional brain imaging techniques to resolve the issue – or at least add to the building evidence for dogs (and other species) being capable of sophisticated thought. The Cook study employed 13 dogs that were trained to lie awake in an MRI donut and watch what transpired in front of them while the MRI’s magnet whizzed around and scanned areas of their brain that might or might not become more active depending on the sensory input received. They found that when a dummy dog was fed treats, as opposed to treats being placed in a bucket, that an area of the study dog’s brain called the amygdala “lit up.” The amygdala is an area with the emotional cortex referred to as the limbic system. The functions of the amygdala are numerous, but it appears to be involved in fear learning, anxiety, obsessive-compulsive disorder, PTSD, and aggression.

What particular emotion was being stimulated when the attendant fed the fake dog versus dropping food in the bucket is a matter of opinion, but because dogs with higher ratings for aggression toward other dogs showed more amygdala activation, it was suggested that aggression was the emotion being kindled. Becoming aggressive when a strange dog (statue) was being fed, the authors thought, meant that feeding the other dog made them angry – a form of jealousy perhaps. Why not me, the dog appeared to be thinking?

This may well be the right interpretation and I for one hope it is. At the very least, this study is another brick in the wall toward the inevitable conclusion that dogs are self-aware and possess secondary and even tertiary emotions. That is, like us, they possess theory of mind and are sentient, worrying, sometimes jealous, sometimes happy, sometimes sad, thoughtful beings. I never doubted it!





Published: April 18, 2018  
<https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0194577>

## *Pet dogs' behavior when the owner and an unfamiliar person attend to a faux rival*

### *Abstract*

*While dog owners ascribe different emotions to their pets, including jealousy, research on secondary emotions in nonhuman animals is very limited and, so far, only one study has investigated jealousy in dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*). This work explores jealousy in dogs one step further. We conducted two studies adapting a procedure devised to assess jealousy in human infants. In each study 36 adult dogs were exposed to a situation in which their owner and a stranger ignored them while directing positive attention towards three different objects: a book, a puppet and a fake dog (Study 1: furry; Study 2: plastic). Overall, the results of both studies do not provide evidence that the behavioral responses of our dogs were triggered by jealousy: we did not find a clear indication that the fake dogs were perceived as real social rivals, neither the furry nor the plastic one. Indeed, dogs exhibited a higher interest (i.e. look at, interact with) towards the fake dogs, but differences in the behavior towards the fake dog and the puppet only emerged in Study 2. In addition, many of the behaviors (protest, stress, attention seeking, aggression) that are considered distinctive features of jealousy were not expressed or were expressed to a limited extent, revealing that dogs did not actively try to regain their owner's attention or interfere with the interaction between the owner and the faux rival. Finally, a differentiated response towards the attachment figure (the owner) and the unfamiliar person (the stranger) did not emerge. Differently from what reported in human infants, dogs' behavior towards the attachment figure and the stranger interacting with the potential competitor (in this case, the fake dog) did not significantly differ: in both studies dogs paid attention to the owner and*

*the stranger manipulating the fake dog to the same extent. In conclusion, we do not exclude that dogs could possess a rudimentary form of jealousy, but we suggest that research on this topic should require the use of a real social interloper (conspecific or human) and more naturalistic procedures.*

<http://journals.plos.org/plosone/article?id=10.1371/journal.pone.0194577#ack>





## EASY READING

“The Dog Song”, Nellie McKay

[https://www.ted.com/talks/nellie\\_mckay\\_sings\\_the\\_dog\\_song](https://www.ted.com/talks/nellie_mckay_sings_the_dog_song)

I'm just a walkin' my dog  
Singin' my song  
Strollin' along



Yeah it's  
just me  
and my  
dog  
Catchin'  
some sun  
We can't  
go wrong

My life was lonely and blue  
Yeah I was sad as a sailor  
I was an angry 'un too  
Then there was you

Appeared, when I was entangled  
With youth, and fear, and nerves  
Jingle jangle  
Vermouth and beer  
Were gettin' me mangled up

But then I looked in your eyes  
And I was no more a failure  
You looked so wacky and wise

And I said, lord I'm happy  
'Cause I'm just a walkin' my dog

Singin' my song  
Strollin' along  
It's just me and my dog  
Catchin' some sun  
We can't go wrong  
'Cause I don't care 'bout your  
hatin' and your doubt  
And I don't care what the  
politicians spout

If you wanna companion  
Well just go right to the pound

And find yourself a hound  
And make that doggie proud  
'Cause that's what it's all about

My life was tragic and sad  
Yeah I was the archetypal loser  
I was a pageant gone bad

Then there was you on time  
And wagging your tail  
In the cutest mime  
And you was in jail  
I said woof, be mine  
And you gave a wail

And then I was no longer alone  
And I was no more a boozier  
We'll make the happiest home



And I said lord I'm happy  
'Cause I'm just a walkin' my dog  
Singin' my song  
Strollin' along  
It's just me and my dog

Catchin' some sun  
We can't go wrong  
'Cause I don't care 'bout your  
hatin' and your doubt  
And I don't care what the  
politicians spout  
If you need a companion  
Well just go right to the pound  
And find yourself a hound  
And make that doggie proud

'Cause that's what it's all about  
That's what it's all about

That's what it's all a bow, wow,  
wow, wout  
That's what it's all about







## **FRIENDS CORNER**

### **Papillon and Phalenes– Setting Hearts A-Flutter**

**By, Robyn Youl - Bacchus Marsh, Victoria Australia**

The Papillons and Phalenes are described as *light, dainty and little toy dogs!* During its illustrious history it was known as *the Dwarf Spaniel, Royal Toy Spaniel and Little Squirrel Dog.* Titan, Velazquez, Giotto and Rubens depicted Papillon- like little dogs in their paintings. Owners of modern Papillons and Phalenes may ponder how ever they sat so still so long to be captured in oils for posterity.

The great popularity of Papillons and Phalenes in the court of Versailles established the breeds as we know them today.



Those with down drooping ears, like their larger spaniel cousins are *Phalenes* - the French word for **Moth**. No English Spaniel boasts, however, the fabulous fringing that adorns those ears.

The ones with the butterfly, angled erect ears are Papillons.

The size belies this Toy breed's great heart, high intelligence, stamina and amazing dexterity. This *Toy Spaniel* that is so ethereal in the show ring is an Einstein in obedience trails and acrobat extraordinaire in agility. Watch Ginger Rogers and Fred Astaire outclassed in the latest challenge,

### **Dancing with Dogs!**

For those of us who are not so agile, Phalenes and Papillons have wisdom and empathy to adapt and thrive with a disabled owner. Here, two Papillons exercise with their owner on extenda lines. They know never to cross in front of a strollator unless told its O.K. Papillons and Phalenes are light enough to pick up safely and do not take up too much space sleeping with you at night. After all, it's a Royal Tradition. King Henry III, King of France 1560-1574, slept with his.

If a disabled or a not-so-nimble Senior Citizen, you may be fortunate enough to be able to access a performance or obedience club that caters for Senior Citizens and disabled owners. As our population ages, there are many owners who are beyond competing, but still love socializing with kindred *doggy spirits*. Enjoy being with a training group that has enormous fun confronting and overcoming physical difficulties with a dog beside them. The terrain may require a 4 wheeled strollator to navigate, but the social benefits outweigh the difficulty. Papillons love the challenge of working with the *big league*. Guard them carefully against rough, boisterous big-uns. Broken Papillons don't mend easily.

They are living entities, not toys.



The Papillon is the first breed ever to be recorded as a Therapy Dog. It is said Marie Antoinette took one of her Papillons with her to the guillotine, handing it to her executioner just before she was beheaded. Papillons had comforted this young woman during that hideous wait for the unimaginable.

Modern Papillons still uphold this proud tradition. *Rusty – Gremlinz Red Rust* (4y.o.) and his apprentice *QED – Torabella Questio Quid Jurius* (15 mos.) continue the ancient heritage of being a source of courage, love and joy in dark times.

**Scoliosis and Rheumatoid Arthritis** were not on my *Living Well Agenda*. Rusty and QED are able assistants in my pain management and mobility program. They are trained to stay out from underfoot. They infuse the human world with their zest for living and giving.



The Geelong U3A Dog Handling Skills Group is a group of 20 senior and/or disabled citizens who know that if you *don't use it you lose it*. We connect the other owners who believe in **Dogs Against Dementia**. Dementia is the most hideous fatal disease of modern times. At present there is no prevention or cure for most forms of dementia. They rob loved ones of memory, of personality. Gradually the sufferer becomes comatose as brain function is destroyed.

I am a tutor for interspecies connection. My goal is to provide fellow humans with skills to connect ethically with a canine companion. We do not own dogs. We ask them to walk with us on life's journey. We understand they need to stop and send "pee mails" along the way. It is the journey that counts not the destination.

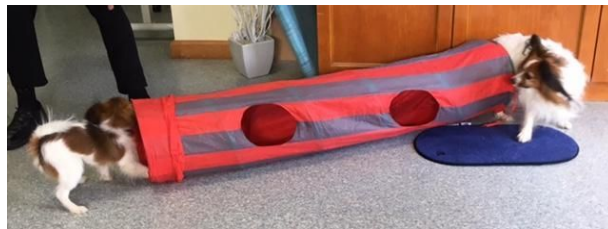
**Form your own social class or walking group.** Have fun.

Papillons are the ultimate clowns. A small space in an aged care facility, such as this one in *The Haven* at **Grant Lodge High & Palliative Facility** becomes a circus arena. Residents greet Rusty and QED rapturously. QED, the pup is currently the highlight. Senior Clown Rusty gazes on benevolently. Rusty knows he is **The Maestro**



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## **TRAINING AND BEHAVIOR**

### **Dog Training - Who's the Teacher?**

**By, Barbara Dwyer - BS, CPDT-KSA, CBCC-KA, CTC**

If an animal does something and they like the result, they'll do it again. The consequence reinforces the behavior that preceded it. Interestingly, dogs often use their behavior in order to get us to change ours – for THEIR benefit. Behaviorists will tell you that a change in behavior is evidence of learning. Hmm, are they teaching us?

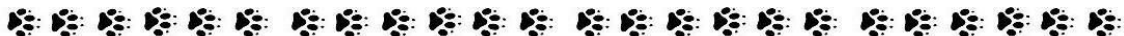
Dogs' impressive ability to read human body language, recently reported to exceed that of chimpanzees, and the power of reinforcement combine to make them talented trainers. Like many great teachers, their students often don't realize what they've learned. I'm speaking of those often-unnoticed skills they've acquired. For example, your dog stands by the back door and whines; you open the door for him to go out. This is a win-win for both of us. The dog gets to go out, and we don't have to clean-up a puddle. We'll both repeat that behavior!

As social creatures, attention is diabolically reinforcing. For example, a dog puts his muzzle on your knee when he wants petting. You can't resist the impulse to touch! Most of us prefer this technique to its more common alternative, jumping. Unfortunately, jumping, though annoying to us, works for the dog. We look; we speak; we touch. The dog gets it all. He doesn't care that you said, "No! Get down, you stinky mutt!" Jumping will increase.

Whether reinforcement is intentional or not, it works with all animals. Pity the poor mother standing with her 5-year-old in the checkout line? If his loud pleas to buy a package of M&M's, just this once, works and mom breaks down and buys them, begging in line will get worse. If the reinforcer is huge and surprising, like hitting the jackpot on the slots, it's unstoppable. The winner will feed quarters into the machine for years to come. It's that old saying, "Hope springs eternal." These behaviors are pesky, rather like fleas. Anything that pays off big but only occasionally persists relentlessly.

To exterminate these devils, you must be more relentless in your response to them than Spot is in his quest for the payoff. This is excruciatingly difficult for a behavior like barking. You must do two things. First, never again respond to Spot's demands with anything he wants. Do the opposite -- turn your back and walk away. Don't look; don't speak; don't touch. Next, identify the dog's reason for the behavior. What does he want? Then, find a less offensive way for him to get his needs met. Teach an alternative behavior.

Here's an example. If your dog sits by the kitchen table when you eat and begs for scraps, he may want food, attention or both. Don't feed, look, speak or touch. Away from the table, teach him to go to his bed for a treat. Then, teach him to stay there. Next, send him to his bed while you are sitting at the table. When he goes, give him a treat on his bed and tell him to "stay." After a couple of minutes, go over and give him a treat to reinforce staying. Finally, practice it during a meal. What should you do if he gets up and comes to the table? Nothing! You must never again give him attention, contact or treats when you are at the table. By the way, if you have kids who constantly drop food on the floor, this probably won't work! Sorry.



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