

DOGS OF EXTINCTION

DNA testing and fossil examinations show that dogs originated possibly as far as 150,000 years ago. Paintings of the Pharaoh Hound date way back to 3000-4000 B.C. Dogs were around in Bible days because they are mentioned in bible passages. There is evidence that thousands of years ago man had already selected different breeds distinguished by their size and morphology. Thus making it clear that man has been raising different kinds of dogs according to what he needed for hunting, shepherding, herding, defending, guarding, sledding, pulling or just to play with his children. The genetic structure of the dog has been manipulated for thousands of years by man who is searching for the perfect dog that matches certain needs. Breeders work hard to improve health, physical structure, quality, temperaments and intelligence. Lately it seems that the only people who care about the future of the purebred dogs are the breeders who raise them. We have somehow revolutionized into a generation where many feel we no longer have a need for dogs, therefore the purebred dog is in great danger of extinction. Realistically it has taken thousands of years to create our 300+ breeds, so the thought that it will only take 10-15 years to undo all of this work is astonishing. **What a shame it is to think that there may no longer be purebred dogs and that 300+ gorgeous breeds will not be available to choose from.** Why you ask? What is this crazy lady talking about? Well, it seems that the animal rights movements taking place each and every day want to make it illegal for people to breed dogs. This law not only affects our purebred dogs but it affects you as an individual. Most people do not think about what the world would be without their beloved canine companion, do you? Do you not admire the many gorgeous breeds of dogs in our world today? Well of course, whether you are honest enough to admit it or not, you really know that you do. Let's take a short trip into our future: sit back in your chair and imagine our world 10 years from now when most of our beloved pets have crossed that rainbow bridge. Would you be looking for another soon? They say 2 out of every 3 people will add a new canine to their family less than one month after losing their loved one. This leaves 1 out of every 3 persons the rest of their life to add another canine and do you know that more than half of them will add a dog to their family within a one year time frame. Dogs make people happy! So why is it that the people in the United States of America seem to be pushing so hard to make it illegal for us to have and raise our dogs? **More than 59% of all homes have at least one dog, and only 35% of US households have children under the age of 18. Don't you love your dog? Of course you do, you wouldn't have your dog if you didn't-they are a member of your family that you love dearly.** Even if you are not a dog lover, I'm sure you know many people who would give up almost anything for their beloved canine companion. Having Rover come greet you at the door when you get home from that hectic job, where you only put in your time for the paycheck, just makes you feel special doesn't it! Dog breeders are continually beat down and put at fault by the Animal Rights organizations. They have put anyone who raises a litter of puppies all into one class, and labeled as "BAD PEOPLE." Think about this now-what is a 'bad person'? Bad people should be those that abuse their children, their pets and /or others..There are many things that make a person bad but why is it that dog breeders are labeled as bad? Let me tell you what my answer to this question is: **"for lack of public knowledge"**. You as the potential adopter and care giver "to be" of this animal should be doing your research, your homework, and you should know exactly what you are getting into before you accept the responsibility of adopting this pet. You should ask questions and educate yourself to learn all you can *before* the adoption of any species, not after. Do not buy on

impulse just because it's cute and snuggly, after all, it's going to grow up someday! This sweet snuggly and cute somebody is going to take endless hours of work, commitment and responsibility. Pets are surrendered to shelters by people who have spent up to thousands of dollars on them because they did not do their homework prior to purchase or adoption. Animal shelters are an easy way out when the adopter is in a bind or tires of their dog, and breeders are the ones blamed for this! Did the breeder put the dog in the shelter? **It has been estimated that 8 million dogs are surrendered to shelters each year, where more than ½ are euthanized.** What a shame to think that the puppies breeders work endless hours raising, go to new homes with the possibility that they will be dumped into a shelter and then put to sleep later. Animal shelters and rescue organizations make a hefty profit from keeping this misconception of the truth going. Shelters are sometimes funded by a city or state and all are funded by donations, volunteers and adoption fees. There are thousands of jobs created paying wages ranging from \$20,000 to as high as \$500,000 per employee, yet most of these organizations claim to be non-profit. Some might wonder who are the good guys really are when you think this shelter cycle through. Some shelter facilities are million dollar facilities with all brand new vehicles and equipment. How many breeders have you visited who have these luxuries? Studies show that the top reasons dogs are dumped into shelters are: 1) the owner has tired of the extra work required, 2) moving, 3) landlord issues, 4) personal problems, 5) lack of time, 6) lack of money-and all these reasons all go back to repeat, "you as the potential adopter and care giver "to be" of this animal should be doing your research, your homework, and you should know exactly what you are getting into before you accept the responsibility of adopting this pet." In our new generation, the breeder's hard work and dedication to the past 150,000 years seems to be forgotten. Has the public forgotten that 'dog breeders' have provided almost all the funding for research into canine health? The more breeders support these cutting-edge canine health organizations, the more all dog owners and dog lovers benefit, even you! Breeders have made healthier, happier dogs with longer life spans. Without them, all dogs would be mixed breed mutts, *not the cute little mutts that come from crossing 2 purebreds*, but the scroungie looking mutt that possibly resembles a wolf or dingo or who knows what! **Without breeders, would we have dogs at all?** Thanks to breeders, dogs have evolved with us through time. Unfortunately for dogs, they have gone from being our work companions, our guardians, our hunters and our pets to quite possibly being no longer needed in our society today. In the near future, we will most likely see that dogs will be illegal to breed. Are people saying that we have not future need for dogs? Are they saying that we have no need for love and companionship from our canine friends? If this is so, than I am afraid of what our future generations hold. Everyone needs love and companionship, even you! No one ever wants to admit that they are wrong, even the animal rights organizations. This finger pointing to blame someone else is a common problem in our world today. **Have you heard about the new laws that are up for review? Do you know what your state laws are in regards to dogs? These are the issues that most individuals who have 3 or fewer pets know nothing about.** Please think about what I have said in this article and take a few moments out of your busy day and write a letter to support our freedom of expression in regards to our canine companions! Send your letter to Congress! I want my future grandchildren, great grandchildren and all of their children to be able to have a special canine in their life some day, don't you?

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