

Respect, The Never Ending Breeder's Battle

The professional, USDA animal breeding industry has taken a few hits lately. Media has bought into "the Opera" image, as presented by PETA. You know the image...starving dogs in filthy conditions. It doesn't matter that many of those "images and videos" that have been shown are staged for the camera. Of course, nobody seems to be sitting back and figuring out that a multi billion-dollar industry could not have become a multi billion-dollar industry by selling substandard, unhealthy, unhappy, abused animals.

Let's look at Oklahoma for example:

Oklahoma is the second largest producer of puppy sales in the United States. Can you say 1.5 billion dollars in estimated gross revenue? That is just in puppy sales. That does not take into consideration the sales of puppy food and medicines and puppy carriers and veterinarians. It is a major industry.

Yet, for some reason, the USDA breeders and the quality breeders and kennels that produce that 1.5 billion dollars, who also follow U.S. Animal Welfare laws and USDA's strict inspections and guidelines, are the same breeders and kennels that sell animals with veterinarian health certificates and buyer guarantees. These are also the same breeders that invest an average of \$35,000 and up in kennels to support 35 or less dogs...and are being described as "puppy mills" by people that have never been to a kennel.

They are being called puppy mills by legislators that have no idea the basic guidelines that a USDA breeder must meet in order to be a...USDA breeder. They are being called "puppy mills" by people that have watched the nightly news as it shows some guy who is located by local police that is housing 100 dogs in his backyard...hardly ever fed, in unhealthy conditions, living in their own waste, etc.

PETA and other animal rights activists would like you and every legislative branch on planet Earth to think that all breeders and kennels are alike. They would have you believe that kennels are unhealthy, unfriendly, nasty places that house depressed, abused animals for the soul purpose of producing puppy after puppy after puppy for sale until the animal is no longer productive. At which time they would have you believe that the animal is killed.

Nothing could be further from the truth! Generally when an animal is no longer "productive", that animal is either kept by the breeder to live out his or her life in the breeder's home or the animal is found a new home to live out his or her life. Most quality breeders take great care in placing one of their "retired" animals and in many cases...it is a real tug on the old heart to let the animal go.

To assume to describe a professional, caring, animal breeder as a stereotyped image by referring to them as 'puppy mills'...is on the same scale of insult by referring to any African American in pre-civil rights, socially accepted terms. Envision years of a never ending media blitz to destroy the image of all African Americans...by expressing terms that constantly referred to them as uneducated and ignorant Americans today. Envision the constant usage and referral of an entire race of people by using the "N" word. It is no different in referring to today's modern, U.S. Animal Welfare, USDA regulated animal breeder when referring to them as a "puppy mill". The laws that are now being enacted in so many states regarding animals and animal rights are direct violation of "human rights". There is a never-ending argument regarding "animal rights verses animal welfare and human rights".

The argument is being waged by falsely accusing all breeders as being abusive and uncaring. That is simply a lie! The fact is that "puppy mills" do exist. The fact is that bigots and racists also exist. But just because there is an occasional abusive breeder hiding "underground" is no reason to condemn an entire industry with exaggerated definitions and over blown media

campaigns. Just as it would be unfair to refer to an entire race of peoples in raciest terms just because a small group represented themselves as converse to the morals of everyday society!

But the fact is that both definitions exist. And both are equally wrong.

Before you condemn an entire business community over the bad apple in the basket and before you support the entire bunch of apples...maybe you should first educate yourself to the REAL FACTS on both sides of the issue. Learn what a “puppy mill” actually is. Learn what a USDA and quality breeder is and what they must go through to produce a healthy and caring animal.

Because...uninformed and undereducated comments referring to an entire industry...are nothing more than arrogant insults by the bleeding heart, blindly led ignorant.