



Shelter Pets vs. Bred Pets

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Originally published by email October 29, 2013

Have you seen the headlines all over the media that discourage people from buying a puppy directly from a breeder? The popular trend now says that it's unethical to buy a puppy that has been deliberately bred. Why? Because so many dogs are dying in shelters every day. Let's consider this in a balanced way...



There is a strong movement right now to ban the sale of kennel-bred puppies and kittens in stores and to require stores to sell only shelter pets. Several US cities have already enacted this legislation. *But there is no evidence that the number of dogs entering pounds and shelters would decrease if we stopped breeding quality animals.* In fact, there is probably very little correlation at all.

United All Breed Registry supports people buying the puppy of their choice from a qualified breeder, for several reasons:

- There are a lot a great dogs in shelters, but rarely are they young enough to be properly socialized at the critical time (8-12 weeks)
- Many first-time pet owners and those with young children in the home are wise not to bring home a dog with an unknown history
- While some dogs in shelters will prove to be appropriate family pets, many are randomly bred and were in the possession of people who do not understand or cannot afford, the responsibilities of dog ownership. This can result in many health and behavioral problems.
- Many pet owners know precisely what type of dog they want, from what lines, with what traits, etc. and there is no reason for them to take a chance on an unknown animal from a shelter.

In support of every American's right to own and breed dogs, we favor measures like the following for reducing the number of animals that



must be euthanized in shelters every year:

- Education programs for responsible dog ownership, especially in pet stores
- Subsidized spay/neuter programs for low income families
- “Pet Friendly” housing rentals
- Licensing of pet breeding operations
- Statewide pet breeder associations and continuing education
- Prevention of pet sales to minors
- Appropriate regulation of the conditions in pet stores
- Careful interview/screening of prospective pet buyers by all sellers

Organizations to Follow

These folks are defending your right to breed animals

[Protect the Harvest](#)

[HumaneWatch](#)

[Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council \(PIJAC\)](#)

[American Agriculture Alliance](#)

[Attorney/Advocate Frank Losey](#)