

BE AWARE OF



Sound for the Hounds

Puppy Mill Awareness Concert

5 million dogs are killed in shelters every year
5 million dogs are bred in puppy mills every year

NO PET SHOP + NO INTERNET SHOPPING = NO PUPPY MILLS
IF YOU DON'T BUY, THEY WON'T BREED

BEWARE OF WHERE YOU LOOK FOR A DOG OR PUPPY!

PET SHOPS

Reputable breeders DO NOT sell to pet shops and puppies in pet shops are probably the most cheaply produced companion animals on the market. Close to 99% of ALL pet shop puppies come from commercial breeding kennels (aka: puppy mills) and pet shops are required to provide consumers with paperwork showing where the pup comes from. If the paperwork indicates a kennel in Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa, Arkansas, Ohio, or in Pennsylvania this is more than likely a commercial breeding kennel.

Some pet shops now claim to offer "adoptions." If the puppy you're interested in comes with "papers" or if the adoption fee is in excess of \$300, BEWARE! This is NOT an adoption – it's a sale.

You can NOT rescue a dog from a pet shop; you only guarantee that a puppy mill dog will be bred again and that cage will be filled.

KENNELS/BREEDERS

Commercial breeders are smart! They know how to stage a setting so that consumers believe they are a "reputable" breeding kennel.

Quality breeders tend to breed only one type of dog, do NOT have puppies available year round and will not sell a puppy younger than 8 weeks of age and will always take a dog back regardless of age.

Puppies should be accompanied by a complete shot and worming record as well as an original health certificate completed and signed by a licensed veterinarian. Do NOT accept Xerox copies of signatures!

Ask to see both the mother and father of the puppies and expect to complete an application and possibly be placed on a waiting list.

INTERNET SITES AND NEWSPAPER ADS

Beware of telephone numbers with area codes for Missouri, Kansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Iowa, Arkansas, Ohio and Pennsylvania. Reputable breeders DO NOT ship dogs – they want to meet the people who are interested in purchasing one of their puppies. Keep in mind that internet websites can and do use beautiful pictures that many times DO NOT represent the actual kennel where the puppy is located.

Many people feel that if a dog has "papers" then the dog is a "good" dog. AKC papers DO NOT guarantee good health or sound temperament. The American Kennel Club is simply a registry for purebred dogs. And the American Canine Association (ACA papers) has routinely issued papers to breeders convicted of animal cruelty. "Papers" increase the asking price of a dog by \$300-\$500 and consumers mistakenly believe that these papers ensure they are buying a puppy free of disease and without behavioral or genetic problems. Unfortunately, this is not often the case.

RESCUES

Anyone may open a rescue. Look for rescues helping LOCAL dogs who have been pulled from LOCAL shelters. A reputable rescue will NOT adopt out a dog who is not spayed/neutered, they WILL require you to complete an application, they WILL perform a home visit and customary adoption fees fall into the \$100-\$300 range. More importantly, you'll know that your money is going to help other dogs versus helping a breeder to profit.

Shelter adoption fees are usually less.

Rescue dogs are a bargain! Usually up-to-date on shots, altered and many times housebroken, it's one of the best ways to immediately begin enjoying your new best friend!

You can end puppy mills by adopting your next dog instead of shopping at a pet store or an internet site.

Have Questions: Phone: 609-END-MILLS or e-mail: jacki@soundforthehounds.com

www.soundforthehounds.com visit www.Petfinder.com for future pets