

ENDING BSL WITH RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

How a community fought against breed specific legislation

CAPTAIN



JUNE



ELLA



RAMBO



FOSTER BEAU





KARMA RESCUE

Aid • Educate • Advocate Kreate Karma



SIOUX CITY COUNCIL MEETING 10/28/2019



"STUBBY" WWIHERO



SERVICE DOGS







MONSTER MYTHS ABOUT PIT BULLS

Aren't Pit Bulls MEAN and VICIOUS?

Don't Pit Bulls have LOCKING JAWS?

Will a Pit Bull that shows aggression towards other animals go after PEOPLE NEXT?

They attack small pets.

They will turn on you.

FALSE!!

Media

August 18, 2007 -

A Labrador mix attacked a 70-year-old man sending him to the hospital in critical condition. Police officers arrived at the scene and the dog was shot after charging the officers.

This incident was reported in **ONE** (1) article and only in the local paper.

August 19, 2007 -

A 16-month old child received fatal head and neck injuries after being attacked by a mixed breed dog.

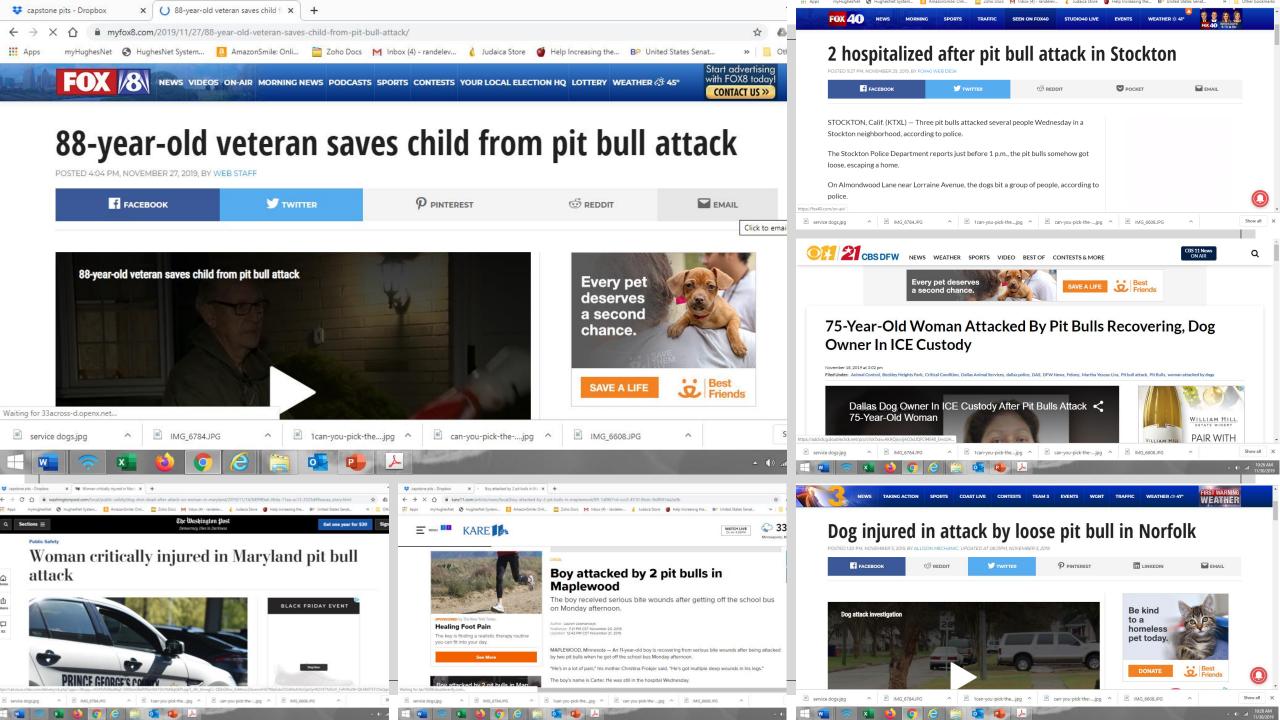
This attack was reported **TWO (2)** times by the local paper only.

August 21, 2007 -

A 59-year-old woman was attacked in her home by two Pit bulls and was hospitalized with severe injuries.

This attack was reported in over **two hundred and thirty (230)** articles in national and international newspapers, as well as major television news networks, including CNN, MSNBC and FOX.

Study done by National Canine Research Council http://www.prweb.com/releases/2007/08/prweb549276.htm





Breed Specific Legislation (BSL)

- Defined by the ASPCA: Breed-specific legislation (BSL) is the blanket term for laws that either regulate or ban certain dog breeds in an effort to decrease dog attacks on humans and other animals.
- https://www.aspca.org/an imalcruelty/dogfighting/whatbreed-specific-legislation

BSL is predicated upon VISUAL BREED IDENTIFICATION

- Research has consistently shown that visual breed identification is very often inaccurate
- Even experts have very little agreement when visually determining breed.

https://www.nationalcanineresearchcouncil.com/ineffective-policies/visual-breed-identification

• "Visual identification of mixed breed dogs is very unreliable." -DVM 360, a veterinarian publication.

http://veterinarycalendar.dvm360.com/dog-breed-identification-and-what-it-means-proceedings

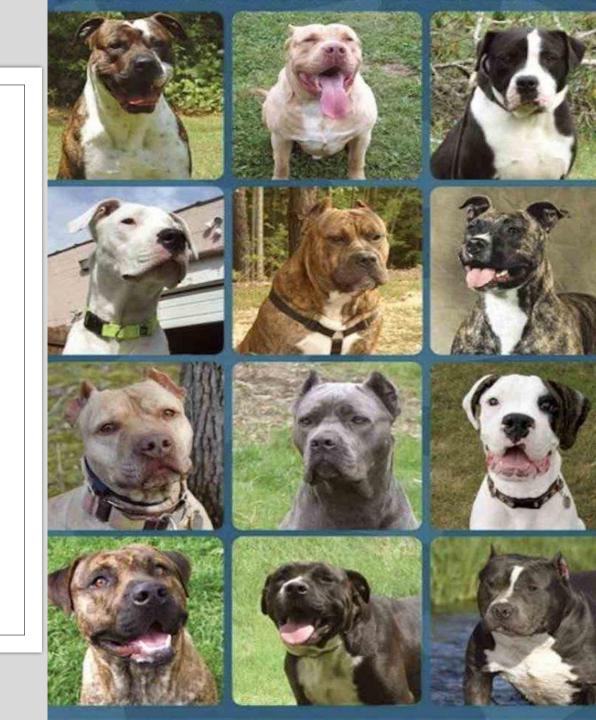
• Four Florida shelters did a study and out 120 dogs, 55 were identified as "pit bulls" by shelter staff, but only 25 were identified as pit bulls by DNA analysis. Animal "experts" were wrong 55% of the time.

https://www.maddiesfund.org/incorrect-breed-identification.htm



BSL IS FLAWED FROM THE START BECAUSE IT RELIES ON VISUAL IDENTIFICATION WHICH WE KNOW IS NOT ACCURATE!

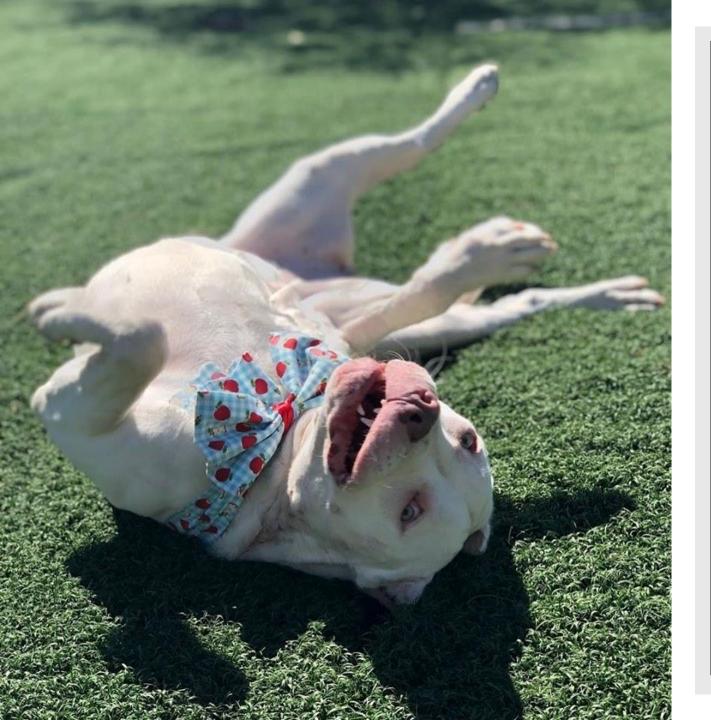
PICKTHE ONE "PIT BULL"



MANY BREEDS ARE MISTAKENLY IDENTIFIED AS A "PIT BULL"

https://www.k9rl.com/can-identify-pitbull/





So...What is a "Pit Bull?"

There are four distinct pedigree breeds that have the "pit bull" type look:

- American pit bull terrier
- American Staffordshire terrier
- Staffordshire bull terrier
- American bully

The term pit bull often also refers to dogs who simply <u>look like</u> they belong to one of those breeds — even if they share no genetic connection.

https://www.today.com/pets/what-pit-bull-it-s-not-actually-dog-breed-t118066

Violation of Constitutional Rights

Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution Section 1.

...nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law...

Question: How can you have due process if you cannot accurately identify the breed of the dog?



Our dogs are our "property" and they cannot be taken away from us legally unless it can be proven that they constitute a danger to the general public. "Pit Bull" type dogs are singled out for breed-specific legislation yet have *not* been proven to be inherently any more dangerous than any other breeds of dog despite what the media et al would have you believe.

ASK THEM TO PROVE IT!



Breed-Discriminatory Legislation in the City of Sioux City

Pets Impacted by Breed-Discriminatory Legislation in the City of Sioux City

Estimated number of dogs	20,654
Estimated number of pit-bull-terrier-like dogs	1,493

Costs Associated with Breed-Discriminatory Legislation

Enforcement	\$75,831
Kenneling and veterinary care	\$21,511
Euthanizing and disposal	\$2,612
Litigation costs*	\$14,852
DNA testing	\$13,930
Total estimated annual cost	\$128,736

EXPENSIVE

PUBLIC SAFETY IS THE ULTIMATE GOAL.

MONEY WOULD BE BETTER SPENTHIRING MORE ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICERS AND/OR POLICE OFFICERS.

http://bestfriends.guerrillaeconomics.net/

BSL DOES NOT WORK!

In Sioux City:

In 2015, 137 dog bites were reported, up from 110 in 2007, the year before the ban was passed, according to Siouxland District Health Department statistics.



 $\underline{https://siouxcityjournal.com/news/local/govt-and-politics/sioux-city-council-to-consider-repeal-of-city-wide-pit/article_64ac2845-4c93-5a40-ad2d-f831174410c4.html$



THE TREND IS TO REPEAL BSL

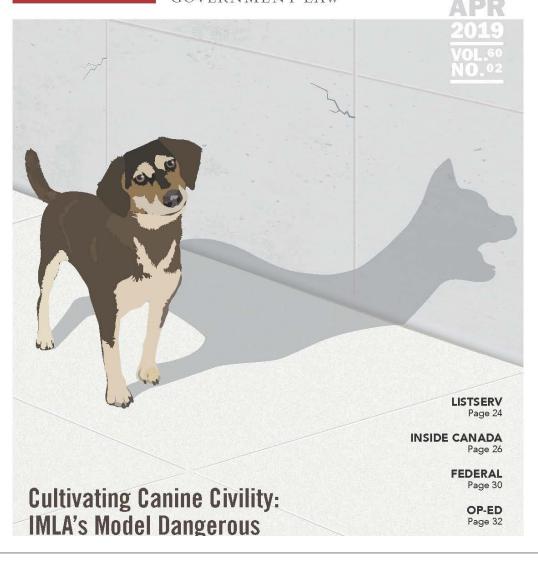
- Total Municipalities in the U.S.
- Total=39,044
- 369 Municipalities that still uphold a "pit bull" ban.
- 256 municipalities that have breed specific legislation (BSL) with restrictions that include the requiring certain handling restrictions such as muzzling, etc.
- Total= 625
- only 1.6% of municipalities that have some form of BSL

https://batchgeo.com/map/BreedSpecificLegislation

Solutions

Dog bites are a Public Safety issue, not a dog breed issue





Breed Neutral Ordinances

Clearly define what is meant by a "potentially dangerous," "vicious" or "dangerous" dog.

Establish the mechanisms that satisfy the dog owner's due process rights.

State the appropriate burden of proof (for criminal penalties, "beyond a reasonable doubt" applies.)

Specify the actions that a dog owner must take if the dog is declared dangerous at the end of a hearing or court proceeding and describe the applicable penalties if the owner does not comply.



Animal Control

Enforcement

- Leash Laws
- Licensing
- Anti-tethering laws

Adoption Programs

- Get dogs out of kennels
- Playgroups
- Help with dog selection
- Provide resources
 - Education
 - Training
- Work with humane groups



Spay/Neuter

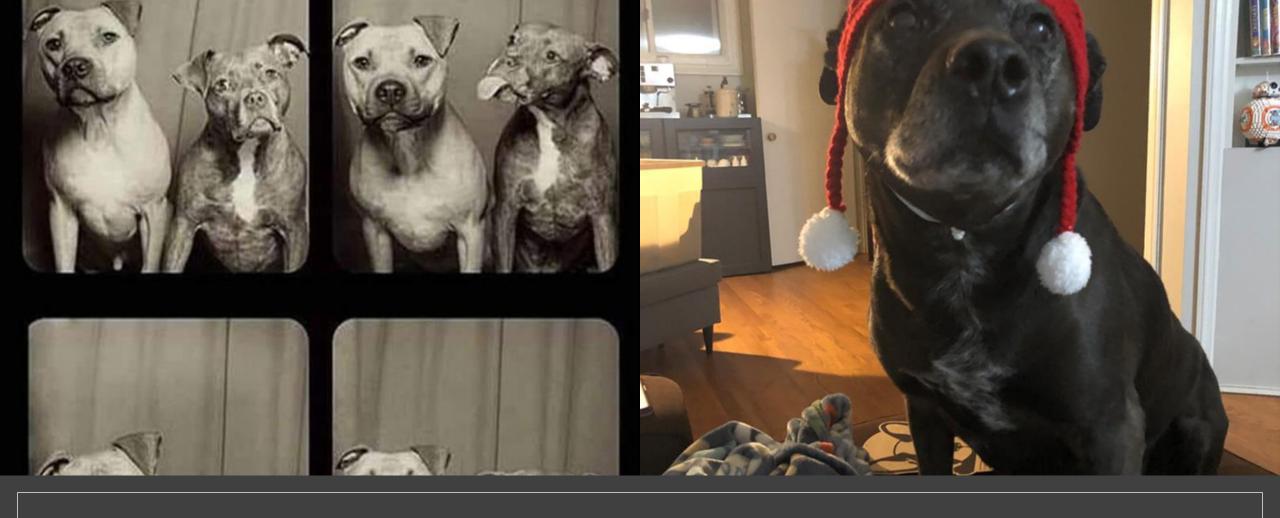
- Voucher programs
- Low-cost
- Free clinics

Fact: 70-76% of reported dog bite incidents are by intact males.

https://www.avma.org/Advocacy/StateAndLocal/Pages/dogbite-summary.aspx

Fortunately, when you meet a "pit bull" type dog, you are most likely to catch them in pictures like these:





CLOWNS OF THE DOG WORLD



YOU ARE 100% MORE LIKELY TO FALL IN LOVE WITH A "PIT BULL" THAN BE BITTEN BY ONE

