

# The Pit Bull Dilemma

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# What is the Pit Bull Dilemma?

Webster's defines "dilemma" as...

**3 a** : a problem involving a difficult choice <the dilemma of "liberty versus order" -- J. M. Burns> **b** : a difficult or persistent problem <unemployment ... the great central dilemma of our advancing technology -- August Heckscher>

The Pit Bull Dilemma can be defined as...

**1 a** : the problem of misinformation and misunderstanding and how to combat the persistent problems facing the breed.

Problems like:

1. Over population due to back yard breeders, puppy sellers, professional breeders and hobby breeders.
2. Lack of formal education for owners about the breed.
3. Lack of Pit Bull specific raising, handling, and training information available to owners.
4. Sensational media reports.
5. Misidentified dogs being labeled, "Pit Bulls" in sensational media reports.
6. Owners lacking the tools and knowledge they need to get involved.
7. Owners who do not care to get involved and have only their own ego and "problems" on their minds.

All of these problems contribute to the Pit Bull Dilemma in one way or another. Some of them contribute more than others, but they are all persistent problems we face as Pit Bull owners and breed fanciers.

## What Caused the Pit Bull Dilemma?

The Pit Bull Dilemma started in the early 80's and for those who were around and involved with the breed during that time can recall how quickly the "vicious" Pit Bull was made popular.

News reports, irresponsible owners, poorly bred dogs, and public fear of the dogs are the seeds that planted the Pit Bull problem tree and now, in 2006, the tree is a mighty oak that appears to be growing even stronger, it's roots digging deeper into the ground and making it extremely hard for us to stop the carnage.

# Calling all Pit Bull Fanciers and Owners!

When you became a Pit Bull owner, whether you like it or not, you signed an invisible contract that states, *"I will do my best to represent the breed in the best possible light that I can and I will do my part to help solve the problem they are facing."*

Now you may not want this responsibility, I didn't, but it goes without saying that the problem's solution starts with me and you.

If you deny the fact that you are part of the community and you act as if the problems facing the breed "won't happen to you" or believe statements like, "I'm not doing anything to add to those problems." You are part of the problem.

We (Pit Bull owners) need all the help we can get and without constant support from the community we will crumble under the pressure and the breed we love with all of our hearts will fade away into obscurity.

Your level of involvement doesn't have to be 100% head first into the pool.

No, it can be as simple as getting your Pit Bull some high quality obedience training so they are well behaved in public and when people you know come by your home they are met by a well behaved Pit Bull. This alone can change the stereotypical views of the "vicious man-eater."

You can spay/neuter your dog and that is helping the dilemma because now your dog will not have any more pups. Puppies are a huge part of the problem and until we reduce the amount of APBT puppies on the streets, the problem will continue to grow.

## A Word about Breeders, Puppy Sellers, Hobby Breeders and Down Right Greedy Morons

This report is a personal report. I am not objective and I am not trying to be. I am however open minded and I am not against breeding. Not completely anyway.

I am however against the over breeding, poor breeding, and money grubbing morons who I have the unfortunate pleasure of talking with on an almost daily basis.

For the past two days I have received several, "I want to breed my dog, how do I do it?" type questions.

One question was from a **13 year old girl**.

Another question was from some one wanting to breed their female dog they **adopted from the SPCA**.

A few others were generic, but they all follow the same vein in their quest to breed their dogs.

When I receive emails like this I wonder why people want to breed. What purpose does it serve?

On the following page I've listed the only reasons I can think of that would cause people to want to breed. Let's take a look shall we?

I can only come to three conclusions:

1. They want to better the breed (in reality this is about 1/10<sup>th</sup> of the breeding populations reasons)
2. They want to boost their ego by creating puppies from their "wonderful pet" dog.
3. They have a house payment due and need the extra money.

I have asked these people why, they never really give me a straight answer.

Well, I think they are wonderful and I just want too... is how the normally respond.

I did have one person explain how the joy of the APBT was such a great breed, they "couldn't deny people the joy of owning one of these dogs because it would be a **crime** against them."

Now here's the rub.

When I talk with these people they usually say I'm "hard headed" or "close minded" or "an a&\*hole" or some other negative thing because I don't see it like they do.

When I offer them a 100% logical reason why they **shouldn't breed** they get upset and they usually stop emailing me.

They want people to experience the wonders of the breed, why not foster and adopt out a wonderful purebred dog from a Pit Bull rescue or a shelter?

Why not work with Pit Bull rescues to train, house, and help find homes for the **hundreds of thousands of adult, young adult and puppies** that are in desperate need of a home?

None of these people respond, they shuffle off to their own corner of the world and continue to do what they want to, because hey, that's their right.

# **If You Learn Nothing Else from this Report I Hope You at Least Grasp the Core of the Concept...**

When you peel back the layers of The Pit Bull Dilemma three things jump out at you and these are the core reasons our breed is in the state it's in.

1. No training.
2. Over breeding/Poor Breeding
3. Irresponsible owners.

This is the most effective 1-2-3 punch combination for knocking out a breed if ever one existed.

You, yes you, are part of the solution or you are part of the problem.

Which one do you choose to be a part of?

## **Time to Step Up or Time to Hide Your Head in the Sand...The Choice is Yours**

You can either step up to the plate and start doing your part (even if it's a small part that only effects people in your local area) or you can play Ostrich and stick your head in the sand pretending you have nothing to do with this "Pit Bull Dilemma" thing.

You can swing a big stick and make big changes, or you can sit idle and watch as the world around you crumbles to the ground.

I deal with a lot of owners, media, general public, and dog owners around the world. I will be the first to tell you that being a breed advocate is not easy. Sometimes our lives get in the way and I have wanted to abandon ship on more than on occasion.

But I didn't. Why? Because if we (Pit Bull lovers, owners, and fanciers) do not stand up for the breed who will? Who will say, "I'm sorry but you can't kill these dogs because they were born anymore!" Who will fight for their right to live if we don't?

The American Pit Bull Terrier's future lies with us, the people who share our lives with them. If we don't stand up and say enough is enough then our breed will disappear forever.

My friend it is only a matter of time before the dilemma knocks at your door. Are you going to wait idly by hopping it misses your house or are you going to go out and take the fight to the opponent?

The choice is yours...

On the next page you will find a list of organizations that need our help. Won't you take a minute and visit them?

# Organizations that Need Your Help

1. <http://www.BadRap.org> – Bay Area Dog Lovers Responsible About Pit Bulls is a Pit Bull rescue out in California that does wonderful work with the breed. They are without a doubt a model to go by if you plan on starting a Pit Bull rescue.
2. <http://www.pitbullproject.org> – Pit Bull Project is a Pit Bull Rescue out in Seattle that helps owners find high quality APBT's for their homes. Again, if you want a role model for a rescue organization, this is another program you should look to for help.
3. <http://www.workingpitbull.com/recycle-a-bull.htm> - The Author of, "The Working Pit Bull" Diane Jessup started Recycle-A-Bull and along with providing training they have programs in place that are working to put Pit Bulls in law enforcement for drug and bomb sniffing. Incredible program that needs your support.
4. <http://www.spindletoppitbullrefuge.org/> - Spindle Top is one of the original rescues. They are located in Texas and do wonderful things for the breed.
5. <http://www.understand-a-bull.com> – Want to know if breed specific legislation is coming to your town? Want to know how to fight BSL that is in place there already? Visit Understand-A-Bull for more information.
6. <http://www.loveabull.org/> - General Educational web site that I highly recommend.

I know there are hundreds of thousands of web sites out there and people who are in need of help. If you find something you want to see added to this list, please email the link or address to me at [Jason@PitBullLovers.com](mailto:Jason@PitBullLovers.com)

Thank you for taking the time to read this report. If you found it insightful or helpful won't you pass it to a friend or someone you know who would benefit from it?

Best Regards,  
Jason, Angel, Honey and Mr. Patches

