



Dogs West Member Submission on
STOP PUPPY FARMING



Name	Shirley Friday
Email address	[REDACTED]
Prefix or Member #	[REDACTED]
Breed(s)	Fox Terrier (smooth)
Phone Number	[REDACTED]
Years involved	40+
Family involved?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
<p><i>My thoughts on:</i> Transition pet shops to adoption centres (can only sell dogs sourced from rescues).</p>	<p>I do not condone this suggestion. For over forty years I have bred dogs and taken full responsibility for my breeding program. I have always taken great care when placing dogs into homes to ensure there was a life-long commitment to the puppy, through its adult life and, ultimately during its later years. On the rare occasion when people could no longer keep a dog I would support them by assisting in finding another home (not usually difficult as we have a waiting list) or by taking back the dog until a home could be found.</p> <p>It is well known that pet shops have never undertaken the above and I certainly agree that they do not deserve to sell puppies because of that and also because their only reason for being involved is purely about making money from people who have not done their research. The worst owners of all, the ones who buy without thinking it through.</p> <p>Why would making pet shops a conduit between rescues, shelters and fosters even resemble a good idea, I cannot fathom it. It is like putting Dracula in charge of the blood bank, as they say.</p> <p>To add to this there are so many rescue and shelters organisations that it is beyond difficult to work out the genuine ones any more. I know that some of them are trading in puppies. Some are negotiating the release of pregnant bitches from communities under the banner of 'rescue' then they are selling puppies for profit. How does this even align with what you're trying to do? Pet shops sourcing pups from shelters who are getting them from irresponsible back yard breeders? Did you even think this one through???</p> <p>I support the concept of rescues, shelters and fosters being accredited but across the board, not just so they can deal through pet shops. You almost have a good idea here, great start! You really need to look into this space, it is where the dangerous dogs are coming from. There are many good rescue groups and also many that are just bad news. Sort it out and you will be on the right track. Some puppy farmers are calling themselves 'rescues' to fly under the radar. Did you know that?</p>
<p><i>My thoughts on:</i> Introduce mandatory dog de-sexing.</p>	<p>I have always encouraged my puppy buyers to de-sex their dogs when they have reached an age of maturity. In the past I have given a refund for owners who provide a sterilisation certificate from their vet. Not a lot of people claimed the refund, it was difficult to manage. I have stopped doing that now as it is so easy to forge these documents with fancy software and scanning via computers.</p> <p>I provide good advice on the pros and cons on de-sexing but I do not want to see puppies I have carefully bred compromised by being de-sexed to early. There is so much evidence that supports this as being a bad idea. Urinary incontinence for life - how would you like to live with that? Urine leaking non-</p>



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	<p>stop, scalding your skin, causing unnecessary discomfort and pain. Then bones growing artificially long because the required hormones to assist in closing growth plates are absent. So now my puppies are deformed, their limbs are too long and they cannot put down enough muscle to provide a strong support for the frame, look out, here come the joint and soft tissue injuries. Let me tell you the cost of repairing those types of injuries is horrific. A rupture cruciate ligament will cost in the ball park of \$2500 to \$6000 per leg, if one leg goes the joy is that the other leg will usually rupture, same cost all over again. I do not want my puppies lives put at risk because of the expense of repairing an injury that your legislation has largely contributed too. I also do not want people, who love their dogs having to fork out that much money, because you could not be reasonable enough to let the dog grow on until it was appropriate for it to be de-sexed. A decision best left to the Vet and the owner. Not you, sitting behind your desk, most likely never having bred a litter of puppies, let alone invested a life time in doing so. You, who is clearly ignoring current science. You, who have filled your proposal paper with ill-founded untruths about this matter. Show some integrity and review your thinking on this. You have now been told by well credentialed Veterinarians who specialise in the field of Canine reproduction, please listen to them. Please listen to the members of Dogs West who have years of experience. This is a matter of animal welfare, not politics.</p>
<p><i>My thoughts on:</i> Introduce a centralised registration system and Council registration to be Breeder.</p>	<p>My dogs are already registered with the council. I do not want to have to apply to be accepted as a 'registered' breeder' with you. Can you please deliver on your suggestion, Lisa Baker, that Dogs West has set the Gold Standard and that our breeders will be automatically accepted.</p> <p>Can you please not use the term Registered breeder, that term should only apply to Dogs West members, not anyone with dogs that are entire, intact, unsterilized. If you use that terminology you will see a ground swell in people calling themselves 'Registered Breeders' and this will cause confusion and scope for deception from those horrible puppy farmers.</p> <p>Also, a lot of our members have dogs placed in loving homes on breeder's terms. This is a win win solution for many members who cannot house more than 2 or three dogs. It protects limited gene pools, gives breeders time to assess puppies and have health tests completed. Please build into your systems some scope for dogs on breeder's terms for Dogs West members. This should be unique to us.</p>
<p><i>My thoughts on:</i> Introduce mandatory standards for dog breeding, housing, husbandry, transport and sale.</p>	<p>Please present us with something to comment on. To tell you the truth I have spent an enormous amount of money building kennels that meet the standards of our local Government. I have been subjected to yearly inspections, always passing with flying colours. I want you to take into consideration the expense, time and effort already invested by me in my infrastructure.</p> <p>Why is this part of the process not yet available for comment? Why was it a 'small writing group'? Why wasn't Dogs West represented from the start? Why does this feel like a total set up?</p> <p>I can only pray that you use common sense but really common sense comes with experience and you have only consulted academics, not sign of people</p>



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who have actually been doing work in this space. Spending time building appropriate housing, exercise facilities, grooming rooms, whelping areas, home offices etc.

You will probably get this one wrong as you have failed to be ask people who could help.

My advice to you is try to think broadly, not one size fits all. What is needed by a farmer who needs to expose puppies to livestock early will be different to a kennel that breeds guide dogs, show dogs, family pets, detector dogs, guard dogs, hunting dogs etc etc.

My honest opinion is that this legislation is motivated to make you feel good. You actually could have been 'stopping puppy farming' by prosecuting those who indulge, instead you have written a paper and spent money that could have been used in investigation, prosecution and perhaps slightly modifying current legislation. Your paper is way beyond its scope, it is about stopping dog breeding full stop.