

WHAT WE KNOW ABOUT DOGS?

Study of the relationship between people and dogs, 2016

Raúl Hueso Miguel¹, Sandra Sánchez Muñoz², Nuria Embid Marco³

¹Dog Trainer, ²Psychologist and ³Social Worker

ESPACIO ÍTACA, Zaragoza, España.

For thousands of years, men and dog have achieved a mutual benefit with their coexistence, but the relationship between them is not balanced and human needs are imposed on dogs.

ESPACIO ITACA is a Psychology Health Center, settled in Zaragoza, Spain, Experts in Animal-assisted Interventions and dog training.

During the first half of 2016 we carried out a stage called "What do you know about dogs? it involved 14 workshops. Initially, they were a series of surveys between the people involved, a first part to know the profile of the public, and a second specific part with questions linked to the main topic of each workshop in order to evaluate the relationship between people and dogs.

The sample of the study was composed of 181 people: 9.94% professionals, 34.25% of them collaborate in an animal protection organization and 85.64% have a dog at home.

Some of the study results

- 55% declared that the knowledge they have about dogs has been acquired through television
- Only 21.05% of people who have had a puppy was separated from the mother at the right age. Protocols animal protection should be improved to avoid it.
- 75% don't brush the dog regularly
- Canine communication
 - Only a 22.7% understand the communication with their dog.
 - 100% of people do not understand other dogs communication during the walks.
 - 31.8% have been marked by a dog.
- Only 30% of people enjoy the walks with their dog.

- 43.75% declared have got along with a dog with separation anxiety. Only the 37.5% of them use a professional.
- Only a 37.5% believe that they cover the needs of their dogs.
- 100% of people consider they do not have the expected relationship.
- 87.5% say they can't teach something to their dog

The information obtained shows a high grade of ignorance by society about the behavior, characteristics, communication and welfare of dogs.

The results should lay out the necessity of educate people in order to make them to understand and improve the knowledge about dogs. This would be the path to improve our coexistence and reduce the lack of welfare and the abandonment of animals.

In Espacio Ítaca we are committed to this, with a multidisciplinary team with professionals from the human and animal field to get what we call "CANVIVENCIA" which will benefit all of us mutually.



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www.espacioitaca.com
info@espacioitaca.com