



IACP Position on Puppy Mills

The International Association of Canine Professionals (IACP) opposes mass commercial breeding of puppies (“puppy mills/farms”), where profit is given priority over the well being of the dogs. These commercial breeding facilities where dogs are mass-produced in overcrowded and unsanitary conditions continue to exist, at least in part, because of the sale of dogs in pet stores.

“Puppy mills/farms”, are large-scale breeding facilities that do not encourage proper health, husbandry, socialization, or veterinary care and dogs are maintained in conditions regarded as inhumane. These operations have historically shown a lack of knowledge of proper breeding practices to avoid perpetuating genetic diseases; and the practice of safe and healthy breeding practices. Adults and puppies kept in these facilities often suffer from lack of social skills, proper socialization and neglect of emotional needs that can lead to ongoing behavioral and health issues.

The IACP seeks to promote awareness of the plight of dogs in “puppy mills/farms”, and encourages consumers to become educated about where dogs come from and strongly suggest that consumers perform due diligence in their source selection and work with reputable breeders, shelters and rescues when seeking to purchase a dog.

Approved by the IACP Board of Directors on May 9, 2019