Hailee May

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What’s Up?

Time-Share Dog

1.

Proliferating- To increase in number or spread rapidly and often excessively.

Subsidiary- Secondary in importance; subordinate.

Perks- To become lively, cheerful, or vigorous.

Altruistic- Unselfishly concerned for or devoted to the welfare of others.

2. I think all pet sharing agreements differ depending on the people in the deal. Some people may not be structured enough to make rules for sharing the dog—but some might be. It all depends on the variables in the situation.

3. I think it’s good for the dog. It gives them a chance to get out of the shelter. Although they may not want you to leave them back at the shelter, I’m sure they enjoyed the time that they were out.

4. I think that in comparison to joint custody, this is better on the dog than joint custody is on the kids. Most cases of divorced parents with joint custody end fairly bitterly. Most cases that I’ve seen the two parents always try to out-do the other one by buying nicer, more expensive things for the child. I’ve even seen situations where the parents drill things into their kids about the other parent to try and get the kid to like one more than the other. Therefore, when it comes to sharing a dog, you’re doing it because you want to, and not because you were put in a position where you had to. I think that it would work well unless it was obvious the dog wasn’t happy with it; I also think it’s necessary to have rules like the example in the podcast. Where the dog has everything the same at both houses.

5. I’ve never heard of renting a baby but I think that it’s much different. When babies start growing, they become very familiar with the mother particularly, but the fathers scents, voice, skin, and movement. If a baby were to be passed around to all kinds of different people and lifestyles, it would grow up to be very confused and I think it would be lonely without anyone who’s been there since birth to call mom and dad. Dogs on the other hand, meet thousands of people in their life and love most of them. I’m not saying a new owner once a week for the rest of its life would be good for the dog, but I think it would be easier for a dog in the long ran that it would be for a child.

6. I think that any time spent with a dog helps him/her. It’s kind of like a vacation—what human would turn down a vacation? It’s a chance to escape from their day-to-day life, get out, and have some fun.

7. I think that the dog’s psychological needs are more important than the humans. Humans can find another source of companionship that doesn’t put the dog’s psychological needs at stake. Some dogs may not mind the vacation, but I’m sure they would like something a little more long term. It’s like they’re being used as a shelf dog—use them when you want to, and then put them on the self when you’re done.