Alexandria Roberts

SPCH 2713

12/5/2011

Persuasive Speech Over Puppy Mills

Topic: Puppy Mills

Purpose: To persuade people to stop puppy mills via adopting or buying from breeders, instead of from pet shops.

Thesis Statement: In order to stop the greed and damage of puppy mills, society must stop buying from pet shops- stop giving them a reason to restock on puppies from said mills- and instead buy from local breeders or adopt puppies.

I.) Introduction

A.) Who has had a puppy? How many of you know where that puppy came from?

B.) For almost fifteen years I have been a dog owner. I have grown up with dogs and around dogs for practically my whole life.

C.) In order to stop puppy mills, the public must stop buying from pet stores who have contracts with said puppy mills; this stop in demand for puppies puts puppy mills out of business. Instead of giving this demand to pet shops, consideration of buying from local breeders, or even better- give another animal a second chance, and adopt should be implemented. (Frequently).

Transition: By stopping the need for puppy mills, a major problem in the U.S. can be discontinued.

II.) Body

A.) Establish the need to stop puppy mills.

1.) Puppy mills are a problem all across America. People establish puppy mills do so strictly for the profit, not for the well being of the animal. These dogs are housed in unsuitable conditions, treated poorly, and suffer from inhumane hands. (11).

2.) Other than the fact that puppy mills have no regard for the wellbeing of the animals in their care, society might want to consider the economical toll of puppy mills. Many people buy these puppies at pet shops for hundreds to thousands of dollars. Then, a huge percentage of these people take their new addition of their family home to find out that their animal is in ill health. Upon taking the animal to the vet, the new owners find out that the puppy has a malicious disease or genetic mutation due to the poor environment it was raised in or the way it was bred. Most procedures to cure these ailments costs hundreds of dollars, on top of the already steep price of the puppy itself. In multiple cases, sadly enough, the condition of the puppy is too far gone or deadly enough that the puppy does not make it. If the basic belief of puppy mills being inhumane to animals is not enough to make it a serious problem, then perhaps the sum total amount of money thrown towards this industry merits attention. Especially in this economy, puppy mills are not a viable source to waste American's hard earned money on. (Puppymills).

3.) There are over 4,000 federally licensed breeding kennels in the United States. This does not even account for the hundreds of puppy mills out there that are unlicensed. Around 3,500 pet stores in America sell puppies, and around 500,000 puppies are sold within a year in the United States. Due to improper breeding practices, multiple genetic disorders occur throughout puppy mills, many of which can be passed on. Many future generations of dogs will be effected via these genetic mutations. The seriousness of the welfare of animals even implemented the Animal Welfare Act of 1966, which many authorities use to uphold commercial breeders to some legalized standards. However, due to the sheer size of puppy mill operations, many mills are not checked on and not all mills follow these regulations. (Animal).

4.) The dogs in these puppy mills, as well as their offspring, are directly affected by puppy mills. The conditions that they are kept in, and the handling (or lack thereof) that they receive are atrocious, and can scare these animals physically and emotionally. In addition, those who buy puppies from these commercial breeders are likewise effected. If the puppy happens to die, or has to live with certain health conditions, due to where it was manufactured the owners are effected with this outcome. Also, as mentioned earlier, the gene lines of these dogs are severely strained and misused, resulting in multiple problems in generations of dogs to come. (Mills).

Transition: These present and future problems created via puppy mills can be stopped by implementing simple methods.

B.) Satisfying the need to stop puppy mills.

1.) The simple solution for stopping puppy mills is to run them out of business. This is done by shutting off the demand of puppies from pet stores. The demand for pet stores to have pets stops when people stop buying puppies from pet stores. If people do not give in, and stop the demand for pet stores to supply puppies, then the stores have no reason to 'stock' puppies. If the stores do not need to supply the puppies, then there is no need for the pet stores to buy from puppy mills, and the puppy mills run out of business. (Mill).

2.) This demand can be stopped by society finding other means of supply. In other words, other places where they can get puppies. Such places include local breeders, which are great for specific breed selections, and even better local shelters. (Mills).

3.) State, or even cities, can encourage their citizens to stop the horrors of puppy mills and adopt a pet instead, or buy from breeders. Local animal shelters have all the information on proper pet selection and have varieties of dogs or puppies to choose from. Local breeders usually have ways to promote people to buy from them. Breeders hand raise their puppies, and usually have selected very carefully when breeding their dogs- because it is not only their passion, but also they build reputable names for themselves.

Transition: By following these encouragements, society can ensure a future without puppy mills.

C.) Visualizing the results of a puppy mill free world.

1.) When society chooses to buy from accredited breeders, or adopt from animal shelters, this in turn will decrease the number of puppy mills. The demand for puppies from these institutes will force them to shut down, and the number in dogs in these cruel commercial businesses will decline exponentially.

2.) On the other hand, if society ignores the encouragement of buying from well known breeders, or they refuse to give perfectly normal animals from shelters a second chance at life, then puppy mills will live on. Puppy mills will thrive off of the demand created via this society and continue to treat dogs in unjust ways.

Transition: Allowing puppy mills to continue on is not in the best interest for this country.

III.) Conclusion

A.) Puppy mills are a disgrace for any country. They treat their animals horridly and with little adherence to simple regulations. Dogs in our country deserve better treatment. There are proper methods of how to deal with this problem, if only the public would be compelled to follow these methods.

B.) I urge you to reconsider buying your beloved next pet puppy from a commercial franchise, and instead try to adopt or buy from local breeders. Without business, these puppy mills would crumble and fail.

C.) By making a stand, and putting your foot down, you can stop these unjust commercial breeders.