

Good evening.

My name is Dr. Frank McMillan and my address is 5142 Golfside Dr, Lebanon, Ohio.

I'm a veterinarian who began my career in private practice, then became a clinical professor of medicine at the Western University College of Veterinary Medicine. Following that I became a researcher at Best Friends Animal Society studying psychological trauma in animals, publishing dozens of scientific papers and writing the textbook *Mental Health and Well-being in Animals*, now in its 2nd edition.

In collaboration with the University of Pennsylvania, we conducted two large-scale studies of dogs from high volume commercial breeding establishments –
– the adult breeding dogs as well as the puppies sold through pet stores.

The evidence from these studies showed that these breeding facilities are highly injurious to both groups of dogs, resulting in severe, extensive, and long-term harm to the dogs' psychological and behavioral well-being.

The adult breeding dogs showed high levels of fears and phobias, compulsive and repetitive behaviors such as spinning in tight circles and pacing, as well as many other unusual and abnormal behaviors.

Our results suggested that the mental harm occurs in modern, clean, and hygienic facilities as well as those poorly maintained.

We concluded that current state and federal laws are inadequate to protect dogs from the psychological harm resulting from confinement in commercial breeding establishments.

To close I'll note that the reason dogs suffer psychological damage in these breeding facilities is not a mystery. During domestication dogs were selectively bred over the last 15,000 years to be not just social animals, but *companion* animals – which has created heightened psychological and emotional needs for social companionship. Quite simply, unlike many farm animal species, dogs are not, and never have been, production animals.

Thank you.