



BARK TO BASICS: AVOIDING AND ADDRESSING PROBLEM BEHAVIORS THROUGH MEETING THEIR FUNDAMENTAL NEEDS

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SYMPTOMS OR CAUSE?

What should we focus on?



A close-up photograph of a light-colored dog, possibly a golden retriever, looking through the rusty metal bars of a cage. The dog's eyes are visible through the grid, and its pink nose is pressed against the bars. The background is dark and out of focus.

SYMPTOMS?

**Barking, lunging, growling, snarling, snapping, biting,
compulsive behaviors, destructive behaviors**

CAUSES?

**Pain/discomfort, frustration, arousal, fear,
stress, anxiety, anger/rage?!**

TREATING SYMPTOMS?



Punishment

Suppression

Relying on tools

Confinement

“Obedience”

Excessive Exercise

TREATING CAUSES!

Enrichment

Meeting Breed Needs

Environmental Changes

Understanding Emotions and Motivations

Addressing Medical / Medication

Social Experiences



WHAT'S YOUR WHY?

- **Breed**
- **Enrichment**
- **Social**
- **Medical**
- **Environment**
- **Emotions**
- **Experiences**



BREED









ENRICHMENT

FORREST



- **Understanding maladaptive behavior**
- **Frustration and arousal**
- **When management can be “bad”**





SOCIAL

Miller





- “Introvert, extrovert, or ambivert?”
- Realistic expectations
- Move at the dog’s pace

MEDICAL









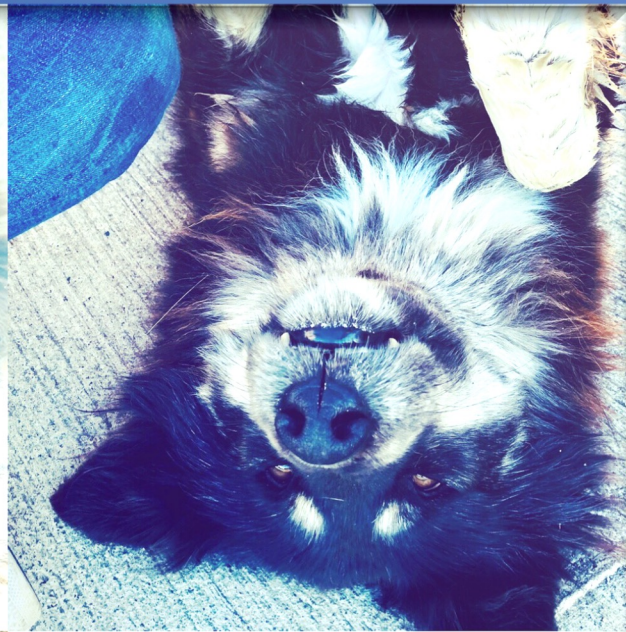


- **If you see something, say something**
- **You may be the only set of eyes**
- **Behavior is telling!**

ENVIRONMENT



“BUDDY”



- Consider dog's POV
- Provide safety
- All the stressors!





EMOTIONS



“IZZY”



- Assessment – how?
- Choose appropriate plan



EXPERIENCES



“SALLY”





HOME OF THE POLARIS
FALCONS
VISITOR
NO. 010
DOOR 7833 BULL DR





- Change the picture
- Safety over everything
- Celebrate the journey

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