

#### AMERICAN PIT BULL TERRIER GAZETTE



### REED SPECIFIC LEGISLATION LEADS TO UNSPEAKABLE CRUELTY

Great cruelty always follows upon the heels of any sort of ban. A perfect example is the inhumane treatment of the confiscated dogs in Denver, Colorado. The mind set behind the cruelty is, that the targeted breed/type of animal, or race/ethnicity of human being, is considered unworthy of life, it becomes a target for debasement, torture, even starvation, and eventually death. It starts with individuals, and ends with genocide. The target is no longer considered to be a member of its species, but an aberration that must be annihilated. Breed specific dog ordinances are today's legalized hate crimes.

Breed specific ordinances utilize very same tactics are to be found in every instance of prejudice that lead to abominable hate crimes. This time the targets are dogs that have been so vilified that they are no longer considered to be dogs, but some sort of mythological beasts. Breeders are portrayed as evil Dr. Frankenstein-like genetic manipulators. How it is that only the breeders of the targeted breeds are capable of mass producing cookie cutter-like monsters? That concept is incredibly

absurd, yet it is promulgated throughout society, and the media, it runs like a sewer through the thought patterns of otherwise intelligent people. Nobody ever questions the absurdity of the statements, or the belief system that foments breed specific legislation.

Euthanasia is accepted way to dispose of unwanted animals in our shelter systems. When euthanasia is ordered by law to be performed upon dogs that are loved. and wanted by their rightful owners, and is performed with a mind-set of hatred. bordering upon obsession it becomes a societal illness. Lucas County Ohio Dog Warden Tom Skeldon is an example of a person who has placed himself into a position that has allowed him to feed his overpowering need to annihilate all dogs that he determines are "pit bulls". His excuse is that it is his job. The truth is, that it is his obsession, and when he thought that his evil avarice was about to be curtailed, he went over the edge of sanity, and reason. Kory Nelson is the Adolph Eichmann of Denver dogs. His obsession has flowered like a contagion of hatred. He is spreading his vile disease of hatred across the continent. If either of these twisted individuals did not have animals to act out their murderous tendencies upon would they target human beings? People do not just fall into their professions. People choose the professions that bring them satisfaction.

Behind every dog is its owner. We all must become acutely aware that we are the true targets of this hatred. Society generally accepts that it is okay to target our dogs. It is strange, that those people who love their animals cannot conceive of the fact that we who own the targeted breeds love our dogs, too. Why are people open to believing that our dogs are not as worthy as their dogs? Why is it that people do not understand that we owners of the banned breeds have the same deep intense feelings for our animals, as they have for their animals? How is it in that our animals are unfeeling, unloving, ravening monsters, while their animals are loving pet? We are being excised out of mainstream society by our elected officials based solely upon the breed of dog that we choose to own.

The dog owners in Denver, or Ohio, or any other place that has enacted a breed

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^ Garrett's "Tab"

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^ Indicates DNA Profiled

Tant's "Andrea"

Weeks' "Ozark"

Durham's "Jeepette"

Brodt's "Ch"Ninja"

Roche's "Toot"

^ Garrett's "Tab"

St. Benedict's "Isis"

No Calls After

Tant's "Aaa"

Tant's "Kala"

# Contact: Brad Nelson (336) 593-8

or www.nelsonbredbulldogs.net

10pm EST ALL DOGS RAISED, BRED AND SOLD FOR LEGAL PURPOSES

specific ordinance will tell you that their X. Amendment - Rights of the States under lives have been ripped apart. They have Constitution: The powers not delegated to been violated beyond their wildest imaginthe United States by the Constitution, nor ing. This ban is no less an assault on their prohibited by it to the States, are reserved lives, than would be a rape, the murder of a to the States respectively, or to the people. family member, the invasion, and vandal-The more government is allowed to take ism of a home, a violent attack upon their through the quiet acceptance of the people, person. These victims of breed bans feel as the more it will take, until we are enslaved. though they have lost all control over their The ownership of dogs is a right retained lives. They certainly feel that they have through tens of thousands of years of tradi-

How can it possibly be legal for government to assault it's citizenry for owning a certain type of dog? Is there not enough crime that our legislators must create a whole new class of criminal, the dog owner? We cannot allow breed specific legislation to stand. Legislators who remove the rights of the citizenry should be recalled for violating the Constitutional rights of the citizenry. There is the argument that we do not have a Constitutional Right to own dogs. It does not hold up to scrutiny. All our laws are based upon English Common Law, and upon tradition. The Constitutions of the U.S. and of the fifty states do not enumerate all of our rights. It would be impossibility. The IX. Amendment -Rule of construction of Constitution: The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people. The

been the victims of cruel, and unusual pun-

It is important support the efforts of the Responsible Dog Owners of the Western States. RDOWS helps to set up RDO groups in each state to effectively fight breed specific legislation, mandatory spay/ neuter legislation, and any other laws that adversely affect responsible dog ownership. RDOWS was founded in Washington state October 15, 1989 following upon the heels of the American Dog Owners Associations loss in the Washington Supreme Court. The Chief Justice Keith Callow wrote the decision to uphold the breed specific ordinances in Yakima, Buckley, and et,al. Chief Justice Callow's term of office was near, and he would be running again in the November 1989 election. RDOWS rallied dog owning voters across the state. Voter registration booths were set up at dog shows. RDOWS threw its support behind a young attorney named Charles Johnson. He owned a Rottweiler, and he

only had a \$1,000.00 war chest. Charles Johnson was the dark horse in the list of candidates for the Washington Supreme Court. Charles Johnson, and RDOWS only had one month to defeat the sitting Chief Justice of Washington's Supreme Court. Election Day dawned. At the close of the polls Charles Johnson was the clear winner. Shock waves ran through the state, and the media. The Wall Street Journal covered the story. They declared it a fluke that Charles Johnson won. It was not a fluke. He is still sitting on the Washington Supreme Court. Dog owners comprise approximately 65% of the population. We are a strong, but untapped voting block. RDOWS has proven effective in combating poorly conceived laws that have been introduced by overly zealous elected officials. •

> By Cherie Graves, Chairwoman Responsible Dog Owners of the Western States http://www.povn.com/rdows