

## **OPERATION UNCHAIN**

Did you know that eight out of ten dog bites occur from chained, unneutered, male dogs. The CDC reports that chained dogs are 2.8 times more likely to bite.

We recommend alternative, humane ways to confine your dogs such as a dog kennel, fenced run, or secured fenced yare ensuring that water and shelter are available for the animal at all times.

### **Unchain the Dog Part II**

If we tried to invent the cruelest punishment for dogs, we probably couldn't come up with anything worse than "solitary confinement". Dogs are pack animals so it's important for them to be with others.

Here are 8 ways that you can improve your dog's life.

Let your dog inside! Unless you or other dogs are out there to share it with them, the backyard quickly loses its charm. Constant barking is really a cry for attention. If it has stopped, its not because your dog is content but because he has given up hope of rescue.

Build a fence! A 6-foot privacy fence is safest- its harder for dogs to escape and harder for hooligans to do bad things to your dog. If a fence is out of your budget, set up a running line so your dog can exercise without getting tangled. Use a harness instead of a collar so dogs can't strangle or hang themselves.

Provide lots of exercise! Dogs need to run and sniff and explore. Go for long walks daily. Bonus: Tired dogs are less likely to "misbehave".

Bring joy with toys! Imagine being stuck outside, alone, with nothing to do but watch the mud dry. Even a knotted towel or a tennis ball can provide hours of entertainment. Dogs love to chew, so be sure they have plenty of rubber bones and other things to gnaw on.

Take your dog to "school"! If your dog has been put outside because of behavior problems, confinement and isolation can only make them worse. A good dog training class will teach you how to communicate with your dog, who just doesn't understand what you expect.

Help your dog beat the "dog days" of summer! Dogs are more susceptible to heat than humans. Since dogs don't perspire, they can only cool themselves by panting and sweating through their paws. Short-nosed breeds like pugs and bulldogs are especially prone to heat stress. The same goes for Northern breeds like huskies, whose thick fur is designed for cold winters, not Jamaican summers. Let dogs inside during heat waves. And make sure they have access to shade. Plant trees: they can lower the ambient temperature by as much as 10 degrees.

Provide plenty of food and water! Water should be available at all times. Put water in a sturdy bucket and place inside a rubber tire to prevent tipping.

Spay or neuter your dog! A non-neutered dog is like a frustrated lover and is more likely to be aggressive to you and your children. Neutering and spaying also prevents cancer of the reproductive organs, common in older dogs. Dogs are also less likely to roam and bark incessantly. Bonus: you'll be helping to prevent unwanted dogs from being born.

### **A Chained Dog's Plea**

I wish someone would tell me  
What it is that I've done wrong.  
Why do I have to stay chained up  
And left alone so long?  
They seemed so glad to have me  
When I came here as a pup.  
There were so many things we'd do  
While I was growing up  
But now the Master "hasn't time"  
The Mistress says I shed.  
She doesn't want me in the house.  
Not even to be fed.  
The children never walk me.  
They always say "Not now".  
I wish that I could please them.  
Won't someone tell me how?  
All I had, you see, was love.  
I wish they would explain  
Why they said they wanted mine,  
And then left it on a chain.