残酷なビジネスペットショップ

日本では誰でもペットショップを経営することができます。免許制度や検査のシステムもありません。中には純粋に動物を愛している経営者もいるでしょうが、ほとんどは単にペットを売るだけの金儲けのための商売です。動物は単なる商品なのです。

もっとひどいやり方で金を得る経営者もいます。彼らは望まれずに生まれた雑種の子犬や子猫を、新しい家庭を見つけると称して2000~3000円の手数料を取って引き取ります。そして製薬会社などに実験用動物として売るのです。彼らには両方から金が入るというやり口です。

他にも、今飼っているペットを"下取り"して、新しいペットを売り付ける経営者もいます。人々は前のペットを店に置いていき、新しいペットを買って帰ります。以前のペットはすぐに殺されるために、保健所に連れて行かれます。

○血統証付きのペットがほしいときは、 まずブリーダー協会などに連絡を取り、 信頼できるブリーダーを紹介してもら いましょう。

◎タイプや性格をチェックするために、 血統証付きのペットを買う前は、必ず その両親を見せてもらいましょう。本 当に良いブリーダーなら、喜んで見せ てくれるはずです。 ◎雑種を飼うことを考えましょう。雑種は純血種より健康で丈夫です。たくさんの捨てられた動物が、愛してくれる家庭を望んでいます。雑種はユニークな性格も多く、飼い主に変わらぬ忠

アークではブリーダーやペットショップを規制する法律を制定するよう、政府に働きかけています。悪質なペットショップなどをご存じの方は、ぜひアークに情報をお知らせください。



Errata-Newsletter No.9
There has been no case of rabies in Japan for over years, not 50 years as stated in "Dog Poisoning Illegal" article.

◇ 訂正 前号No.9の「野犬の毒殺 は違法」の記事中の「アライグマ」 は「タヌキ」の誤りでした。

PET SHOPS - A CRUEL BUSINESS

Few people can resist the appeal of puppies and kittens in pet shop windows. Pet shops thrive on impulse buying and ignorance of consumers. People looking for a pet should steer well clear of them. Most of the animals sold in pet shops are rejects or surplus from a profit oriented breeding industry. Breeding females are kept in small, often filthy cages throughout their short lives. They are bred continuously so that they are burnt out within five years. When their teeth rot and their ability to breed slows down, they are dumped or killed or sent to the hokensho. The puppies, taken from their mothers at one month or less, are transported and sold under inhumane stressful conditions. In their short lives they suffer from lack of veterinary care, affectionate and attentive human care and normal socialization necessary for a dog or cat. Apart from inbred genetic defects and health problems, many develop into neurotic, aggressive unhealthy adults.

Anyone can open and operate a pet shop in Japan. There is no licencing or inspection system. While some pet shop owners may genuinely love animals, the majority are just selling pets as a money-making business. The animals are merely commodities. Many make money by even worse methods. They accept unwanted mix-breed puppies and kittens for a fee of \(\frac{42}{2}\),000 to cover 'costs' for finding them homes - within a day these are sold off to laboratories as experimental animals. The pet shop owner makes money both ways for doing nothing. Others encourage people to buy a new pet by offering to dispose of their old one. People leave their old pet at the pet shop where they buy a new

puppy or kitten. The old pets are of course taken to the hokensho to be destroyed.

- Anyone considering buying a pedigree pet should first contact the national breed society and ask them for an introduction to a reliable breeder.
- Never buy a pedigree animal without seeing one or both of its parents in order to check their type and character. Reputable breeders should be happy to let you look over their premises and animals.
- Consider adopting a mixed breed. They are healthier and hardier than pure breeds and many are abandoned and in need of loving homes. They often have unique personalities and rewayou with endless loyalty and love, demanding little in return.
- If you find abandoned animals, try to find new homes for them yourself by advertising in local newspapers. Make sure you check people and their homes carefully. Have them vaccinated and neutered if possible and make sure in the case of young puppies and kittens the new owners will take responsibility for neutering. Keep checking afterwards.
- Never pass on animals through a third party unless they are well known to you. Personally go to see the home and the family before you give away an animal.
- Never leave abandoned animals in the care of pet shops or give them to children unless you have checked with the parents first.

ARK is now gathering data on breeders and pet shops to try to get laws to control this disgraceful trade. We would be grateful for any information on badly run pet shops.