

aren't those two religions,

Tokyo

Torture All Noisemakers

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To the Editor:

Why, oh why are our canine friends, who can't speak up in their own defense, the only ones accused of noise pollution? Don't they suffer enough indignities as it is?

Bought as status symbols and thrown away when the fashion wanes, or when the family budget can no longer keep pace with their growth (i.e. when they buy a Yorkshire terrier and it grows into a St. Bernard); kept in cages on chains.

Let me repeat that. Kept on chains inside cages, strong enough for a tiger, but always small enough to ensure the dog cannot stand up or turn around comfortably. Day in, day out, unexercised, unseen, naturally unloved... objects.

Of course they bark. What else can a demented prisoner do. How unfair that they are found guilty, while others, far worse, get off scot free.

Please, makers of these electric shock collars, apply your obvious talent to inventing more sophisticated devices, preferably with voltage to match the decibel volume, for all the real noise nuisances that

plague us.

How about special shock gloves, white of course, for would-be or have-been politicians? Or shock microphones for karaoke addicts.

After shocking these into silence, you could turn your attention to crying babies, screaming kids, juggernauts, muffler-less Kawasaki bikes, loudspeakers in schools, vendor vans, low flying helicopters, (yes, they spray us with pesticide from time to time), amplifiers in quiet (quiet?) Kyoto temple gardens... the list is endless. I can guarantee your products would sell like hot cakes.

And dogs? Please invent a barkless dog that gives its paw mechanically on demand, that likes being whacked kindly on the head, that enjoys a shampoo once a day and its hair tied up in pretty red bows. One that isn't stupid enough to show its trust, to pine or show it feels neglected or heaven forbid, bite.

And real dogs? Please leave them well alone.

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