

READERS' FORUM

Dogs Found A Good Home

28/9/88

To the Editor:

My reaction to the story of the shih tzu dogs left abandoned and starving in an apartment in midsummer and of the comment by Mrs. Kiso (who took care of them after their rescue) that she would like to return them to their callous owners, was also of indignation. (Corky Reutter's letter, MDN Readers' Forum, Sept. 13, or 14 in some areas.) However it seems that, like many newspaper stories, some of the facts got distorted.

Any animal lover, and Mrs. Kiso is one of them, would never contemplate returning an animal to its abusers. Her comments were clearly misreported and she has confirmed this. Readers may like to know the true ending to the story. The dogs have now found a good home with a police-woman (unrelated to the case) and her father in Toyonaka. After checking out several people who wanted to adopt the dogs, Mrs. Kiso together with Mrs. Fuku-

da (a member of Osaka JAWS) decided that this home was the most suitable and that they would be loved and well-cared for.

It's a pity that only a few "newsworthy" stories get into print. Many cases of neglect and ill-treatment go unseen, certainly unrecorded. Too often people notice an animal in distress but fail to take action or rather don't know what to do. Unfortunately the police are apathetic to the plight of animals unless they are causing a public nuisance, while a great many veterinarians are reluctant to put animals to sleep (partly on ethical grounds partly because a sick or injured animal is a potential source of income).

Anyone coming across cases of cruelty, neglect or abandonment can contact JAWS (Japan Animal Welfare Society) 0798-71-8053 or me directly, 0727-37-0712.

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