

## "A Dog Loving Society: Best Practices and Perspectives" Vilnius 2017

Educational Activities of the Danish Kennel Club

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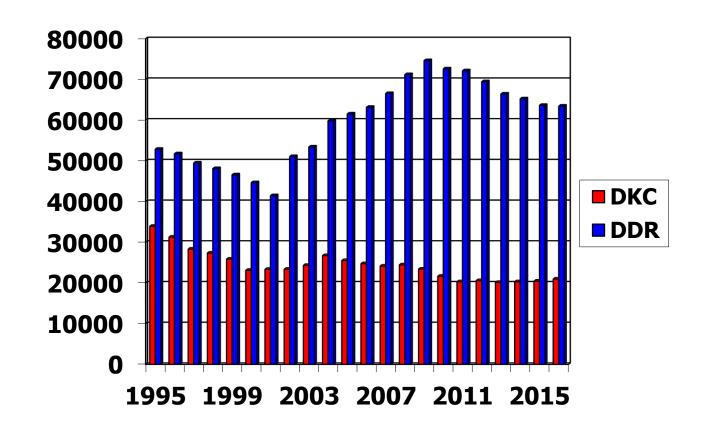
#### DKC and the Danish dog population

- Mandatory chip marking of all dogs > 8 weeks
  - Since 1992
- Central registration in the Danish Dog Registry (DDR)
  - Data not publicly available
- Average 60.000 new puppies enter the registry yearly
  - Dogs in 20% of all Danish households





# The Danish Kennel Club (DKC) versus the Danish Dog Registry (DDR)





### Development in DKC share

- Why?
  - New and unexperienced dog owners?
    - Less organized? in the Kennel Club/Breed clubs
    - Are informal fora's taking over? for instance Facebook
  - "Mixed breeds/non-pedigree dogs are healthier"
  - "Designer dogs" and fashion breeds
  - Adoption of "street dogs" from foreign countries
  - Breeding restrictions within the DKC
- Education/communication was needed



#### **Education/Communication**

- Goals:
  - Knowledge of DKC
  - Knowledge about dogs and dog behavior
  - Importance of choosing the right breed and the right breeder
- Indirect or a direct way
- Indirect: Through education of trainers, instructors, breeders etc.



#### Indirect education

- Internal educations for DKC trainers, instructors and judges
  - Obedience, Agility, HTM, Rally, Dog shows etc.
  - Canine Good Citizen instructors
  - Mentality assessment evaluators
  - "Children and Dogs" instructors
- External courses
  - "Dogley": Daycare and dog walkers
    Behavior, first aid etc.



DVD: Do you know a dog?



#### Focus on direct education/campaigns

- Information directly to present or future dog owners
- Cooperation with authorities and other organizations
  - Danish Veterinary Association
  - Ministry of Food and Agriculture
  - University (primarily the Vet School)
  - Animal welfare organizations
- Funding is important
  - DKC has received support from the Danish Animal Welfare Foundation



#### Where/how do we meet our "audience"?

- Communication 1.0
  - Written materials printed and online versions
  - DVD's for purchase and available from the DKC webpage
  - Arrange a course
- Communication 2.0
  - YouTube channel with short videos general dog behavior and problem solving
  - Social media: Facebook pages "DKC" and "A life with dogs"
  - Web campaigns and advertisements
- Communication 3.0
  - Interactive communication and E-learning
  - "Shareable" and "likeable" content
  - Facebook quizzes



#### Before the purchase

- Evening courses: "Before you buy a dog"
  - Motivate people to participate
  - The planning process has become shorter
  - People are even buying dogs on the internet....
- DVD "Are you acquiring a dog?"
- Booklet "Choose the right dog"







#### Web campaigns

- "Ready for a dog?"
  - Campaign in cooperation with the Danish Veterinary
     Association and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture

https://www.foedevarestyrelsen.dk/kampagner/Klartilhund/







#### Choose the right breeder

- "Check the puppy" focus on illegal import
  - Campaign in cooperation with the Danish Veterinary Association and the Ministry of Food and Agriculture
  - http://www.tjekhvalpen.dk/
- New DKC webpage: "Buy a dog"
  - Information about dog ownership
  - Information about the specific breeds
  - Breeders can advertise their litters
  - Blog following the entire process to produce a litter
    - www.koebhund.dk



#### New DKC webpage





#### Choose the right breeder

- Focus on the importance of responsible breeding
- Are you and "Basse" a good match?
- Newspapers and magazines
- New logo "Safety and Guarantee"
- New mandatory purchase contract









### **Event at Copenhagen Central Station**



En nuttet hvalpeoplevelse





https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B3z\_52ynOIA



#### Don't shoot the dog!

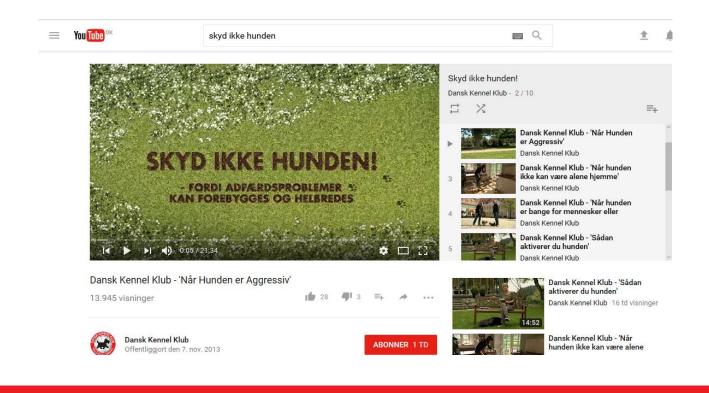
- Danish Veterinary
   Association, survey, 2014:
  - Behavior problems are the cause of 10 % of all euthanized dogs each year
- Mismatch of breed and owner
- Insufficient socialization etc.
- Lack of knowledge





#### After the purchase

- You Tube videos "Don't shoot the dog"
- 10 20 minutes long: The dog owners toolbox, When the dog barks, When the dog is aggressive, When the dogs is anxious etc.

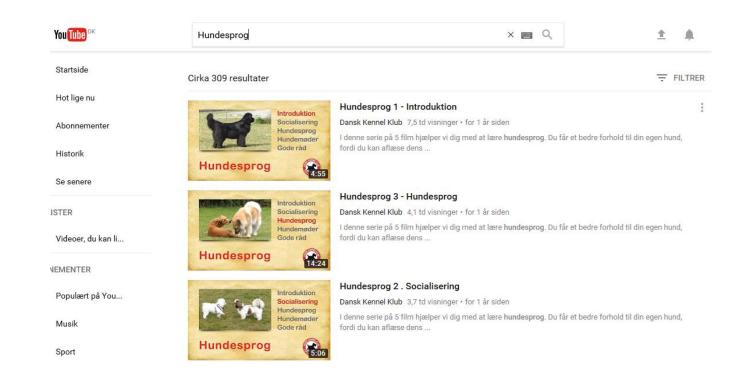






#### Every day life with a dog

- You Tube videos 5 15 minutes long
- Communication, socialization etc.





#### Communication 3.0

- Intensify the use of social medias in 2017
- Funding from the Animal Welfare Foundation
- Interactive quizzes
  - Based on materials already available
- Six modules "Test your knowledge about dogs"
  - Basic behavior, development, communication, learning process, daily care and legislation
- Share the results on Facebook, tag and challenge your friends



## Thank you for Your attention

