Puppy Mills Essay, Research Paper

Puppy Mills: What are They The answer depends on who you ask (Woolf) I agree wholeheartedly I had a puppy mill puppy and am and avid animal lover, so my description may vary greatly from someone who has never had a pet. I have done lots of personal research on the issue and will try to keep it brief and to the point. The word puppy mill or farm to many peoples represents an image of sweet little puppies, cared for and raised at the local family farm. (Lamb) This image could not be any farther from the truth. Many of us have seen footage of puppy mills on Dateline or 20/20, but haven t really looked and actually seen. We are so desensitized towards negative things that we no longer have any reaction. Here are a few very common definitions: number one, a place where many different breeds are raised and pups are always available. Number two, a dirty, trashy place where one or several breeds of dogs are kept in horrible conditions and puppies are always for sale. A puppy mill may also be a place where one breed of dog is raised in acceptable conditions but puppies are still always available. Any and all of these definitions are correct depending again, on who you ask. Puppy mills were introduced shortly after World War 2; farmers were desperate and searching for new ways to earn a living. The traditional crops had failed, so the US Department of Agriculture suggested a new crop, puppies. However, these new puppy farmers had little or no knowledge of canine husbandry; the breeding of dogs, and they often began their ventures with little money and very run down conditions (Woolf) So the term puppy mill is a post war American coinage, used to denote commercial breeding operations that mass-produce supposedly pedigreed dogs for sale in pet stores across the nation. These establishments first proliferated and were decried in the 1960 s. (McClintock) So the pet retail shops became very popular, convenient, and puppy production went into overdrive. In 1964 though Americas eyes were opened to a new horror of puppy mills. (Townsend) these years were a time of breeding puppies for human benefit. The dogs were breed exclusively to be sold to labs for experimentation and when not enough dogs were bred, stealing pets became an option. Animals, our pets being stolen right out of our back yards see (Sports Illustrated 11/65)Even today the term puppy mill elicits many responses from sensational to manipulative, but after a vivid description rows upon rows of dilapidated cages lined up out side of a barn (Lamb) no heat in the winter, no relief from the heat in the summer. Dogs crammed three or more to a small cage. These cages are elevated over mounds of feces and the stench is overwhelming. Imagine matted fur where they have fur (Lamb) Sandi Manetta whom I did an interview with out it like this most puppy mills that breed dogs to sell to pet stores do not do any genetic testing. They also do not remove dogs that show sings of illness. The dogs are a cash crop, like corn, and as long as they can produce they will. There are currently 5000 known puppy mills operating in the US alone and only education and speaking out will do any thing about this issue. Dedicated to Zeus: My puppy mill puppy 12/02/99-11/25/00 I love you, my sweet Brave boy! RIP babyPuppy Mills: What are They The answer depends on who you ask (Woolf) I agree wholeheartedly I had a puppy mill puppy and am and avid animal lover, so my description may vary greatly from someone who has never had a pet. I have done lots of personal research on the issue and will try to keep it brief and to the point. The word puppy mill or farm to many peoples represents an image of sweet little puppies, cared for and raised at the local family farm. (Lamb) This image could not be any farther from the truth. Many of us have seen footage of puppy mills on Dateline or 20/20, but haven t really looked and actually seen. 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