

# What is a Puppy Mill?

*And what you can do to stop them.*

*By Alison Dorsey*



## What's a puppy mill?

A puppy mill is a factory farm where dogs live in small cages, with female dogs being bred as frequently as possible. There are many Americans that are taking a stand against them, but there are still about 10,000 puppy mills in the United States.

## Where are puppy mill dogs sold?

Pet stores, websites (both sell mill-bred pets but classify them as being well-bred and lovingly raised), and classified ads.

## How can I fight to stop puppy mills?

Spread the word, tell family members, friends, and coworkers about the puppy mills and encourage them to adopt from a sanctuary or a shelter rather than a pet store or website. If they purchase an animal online, you are supporting (most likely) the puppy mill industry. Selling animals online is just one way puppy mills can get away with selling their dogs.

Support legislation that regulates and reduces breeding of animals

Speak out in your community (write letters to editors of newspapers about the puppy mills ads note any ads about selling animals in classified sections, compared to the shelters and sanctuaries that are overflowing with pets).

Raise awareness and/or donations. Host an awareness-raising or fund raising event in your community to educate them about puppy mills or raise awareness and funding for local rescue groups.