Judged and Misunderstood

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Staffordshire terriers (also known as pit-bulls) are a great but widely misunderstood breed of dog. Staffordshire terriers are extremely loyal dogs, which often makes them victims to people who enjoy fighting dogs or want attack dogs. They are often recognized as vicious dogs due to the way they are used by criminals. Criminals often use them as game dogs which fight to the death. Due to their reputation a pit-bull incident often receives more media than incidents involving other breeds. The Staffordshire terrier tested higher on the temperament test than many dogs that we acknowledge are safe family dogs. The difference is the wide range of dogs that are often considered this breed and the negligent training and abuse many dogs of this breed receive.

Staffordshire terriers are not born vicious dogs. Dogs just as people aren't born mean or vicious, they are taught this through their surroundings and influences. Since Staffordshire terriers tend to be very loyal dogs and have the ability to lock their jaws as no other breed can they are the preferred breed of dog fighters and those who train dogs for attack purposes. Unfortunately due to their strength and ability to lock their jaw, if a pit-bull does bite someone or something it can cause more damage than other breeds which makes many people concerned about the breed.

Pit-bulls can also be used for many things other than attack dogs and fighting dogs such as service dogs, search and rescue dogs, companion dogs, and therapy dogs. Many families also use them as family dogs. Staffordshire terriers are a low maintenance breed that is very intelligent. They can however be a little hard headed at first, and need a stern trainer, but are loyal to their owners.
There have been many reports of pit-bulls snapping at someone or attacking them. Yes, pit-bulls as well as other dogs do sometimes have issues. Pit-bulls already have a bad reputation, and can generally cause more damage, so they are much more likely to be reported to the media than other dog attacks. Also according to Marcy Setter (2005), pit-bull are often blamed for dog attacks that may very well have been caused by a different breed." The Understand-A-Bull site also offers a game to demonstrate how easy it is to mix up the breeds. The game can be found at http://www.understand-a-bull.com/Findthebull/findpitbull_v3.html. Did you know that there were that many breeds that looked similar to the pit-bull? Same as all other a pit-bull might attack, but most likely these attacks are by dogs that have been mistreated, neglected, or even fought for their lives. They are taught to be vicious dogs, and they are following what they are taught. As we all know there are many sides to every story, but because the Staffordshire terrier is just a dog their side is never heard, and the other side often tends to be exaggerated.

Throughout their fight to maintain their loving and loyal reputation the Staffordshire terrier has continued to prove that they are a great breed. According to the American Temperament Test Society (2011), 85.3% of the dogs classified as American Pit Bull Terriers passed the temperament test and 83.9% of the Staffordshire terriers passed. Only 83.7% of the German Shepherds which are in our country held in high regard passed, and only 84.6 % of the Golden Retrievers which are considered a good family breed passed. If you set aside all of the rumors and negative media regarding this breed and give them a chance you will see how good of a breed they really are.
References
