



2022 Annual Conference

October 18-21
Workshops, Power Hours
Science based sessions
Daytona, Beach Florida
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1




anxiety

within

Martina DeMartini

2




About me & Tina DeMartini
(and introducing Maybell)

3

Separation Anxiety – Today's Topics

- Separation Anxiety Review
- The Increase
- Media Awareness
- Guardian Awareness
- Population Explosion
- Attachment
- The Secret Sauce
- Two Buckets
- Does it Matter?
- Helping in the Now




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4

Separation Anxiety Review

“Over the past four decades, separation anxiety has been the most commonly discussed disorder in published studies of experimental research and retrospective research in the fields of applied animal behavior and veterinary behavior.”




Ogata, N. (2016) Separation anxiety in dogs: What progress has been made in our understanding of the most common behavioral problems in dogs?

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Separation Anxiety Review

“Undesirable behavior problems that occur during owner absence are published under various expressions, such as separation anxiety, separation-related problems, isolation anxiety, separation reactions, separation-related distress, and separation anxiety syndrome.”



Cannas, S., Frank, D., Minero, M., Aspesi, A., Benedetti, R., Palestini, C., 2014. Video analysis of dogs suffering from anxiety when left home alone and treated with clomipramine. Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research 9, 50–57.

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Separation Anxiety Review

"Separation anxiety is defined as problematic behavior associated with the anxiety that occurs exclusively in the owner's absence or virtual absence".



Cannas, S., Frank, D., Minero, M., Aspesi, A., Benedetti, R., Palestini, C., 2014. Video analysis of dogs suffering from anxiety when left home alone and treated with clomipramine. *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research* 9, 50–57.

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Separation Anxiety Review

"Problems involving destruction, self-inflicted trauma, vocalization, and house soiling by dogs that occur during the owner's absence are common and represent a significant portion of the caseload in behavioral practices, ranging from 5% to 40% in North America."



Cannas, S., Frank, D., Minero, M., Godbout, M., Palestini, C., 2010. Puppy behavior when left home alone: Changes during the first few months after adoption. *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research* 5, 94–100.

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Separation Anxiety Review

"Between 22.3–55% of the general dog population are believed to show these signs, and they make up between 14 and 40% of dog behavior referral cases."




de Assis Luciana S., Matos Raquel, Pike Thomas W., Burman Oliver H. P., Mills Daniel S., Developing Diagnostic Frameworks in Veterinary Behavioral Medicine: Disambiguating Separation Related Problems in Dogs. *Frontiers in Veterinary Science* Vol6 (2020) p 499

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Separation Anxiety Review

“Separation-related problems may therefore be underestimated if elimination does not occur, destruction is absent or minor, and if no one hears the dog vocalize.”



Palestrini, C., Minero, M., Cannas, S., Rossi, E., & Frank, D. (2010). Video analysis of dogs with separation-related behaviors. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science*, 124(1), 61-67. doi: 10.1016/j.applanim.2010.01.014

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Before Video of Akkuma

11

Later Video of Akkuma

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The Increase

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The Increase

“Overall, the prevalence of SRB in the population decreased from 22.1% to 17.2%, as did the time dogs were left alone for February and October 2020. However, 9.9% of dogs had developed new signs of SRB by the follow-up survey in October 2020.”

Harvey, N.D.; Christley, R.M.; Giragisson, K.; Mead, R.; Murray, J.K.; Sarret, L.; Upjohn, M.M.; Casey, R.A. Impact of Changes in Time Left Alone on Separation-Related Behaviour in UK Pet Dogs. *Animals* 2022, 12, 482. [↗](#)

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Media Awareness

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Guardian Awareness



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Population Explosion



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Attachment

Is my dog going to get too attached with me being home all the time?




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Attachment

"Some clinical reviews mentioned hyper-attachment as a causal factor of separation anxiety, when referring to dogs in a laboratory setting. **Simpson, however, indicated that hyper-attachment could exist in dogs with or without separation anxiety, and it is not a prerequisite or requirement for a diagnosis of separation anxiety.**"




Ogata, N. (2016) Separation anxiety in dogs: What progress has been made in our understanding of the most common behavioral problems in dogs? ©2022

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Attachment

"Foremost, SA should not be looked at as a disorder stemming from hyperattachment of the dog to the owner. This study shows that focusing on these behaviors may not be appropriate for diagnosis of SA."




Parthasarathy, V., & Crowell-Davis, S. L. (2006). Relationship between attachment to owners and separation anxiety in pet dogs (Canis lupus familiaris). *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research*, 1(3), 109-120. ©2022

20

Attachment

"Our results suggest that owners' attachment avoidance may facilitate the development of SRD in dogs. We assume that avoidant owners are less responsive to the dog's needs and do not provide a secure base for the dog when needed. As a result, dogs form an insecure attachment and may develop SRD..."



Konek V, Koutokányi A, Reiner W, Mutschler B, Heisband U, Mikósi Ádám (2019) Influence of Owners' Attachment Style and Personality on Their Dogs' (Canis familiaris) Separation-Related Disorder. ©2022

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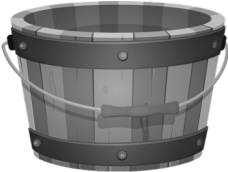
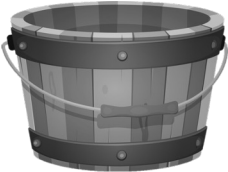
The Secret Sauce



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Two Buckets



Non-separation anxiety
(acclimation)

Separation anxiety
(desensitization)

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Does it Matter?



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Helping in the Now



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Helping in the Now



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Presentation Bibliography

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Harvey, N.D.; Christley, R.M.; Giragosian, K.; Mead, R.; Murray, J.K.; Samet, L.; Upjohn, M.M.; Casey, R.A. Impact of Changes in Time Left Alone on Separation-Related Behaviour in UK Pet Dogs. *Animals* 2022, 12, 482. [↗](#)

Parthasarathy, V., & Crowell-Davis, S. L. (2006). Relationship between attachment to owners and separation anxiety in pet dogs (Canis lupus familiaris). *Journal of Veterinary Behavior: Clinical Applications and Research*, 1(3), 109-120.

Konok V., Kozsoltányi Á., Rainer W., Mutschler B., Halsband U., Miklósi Ádám (2015) Influence of Owners' Attachment Style and Personality on Their Dogs' (Canis familiaris) Separation-Related Disorder.

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Time for questions!

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Anxiety Trainer



28
