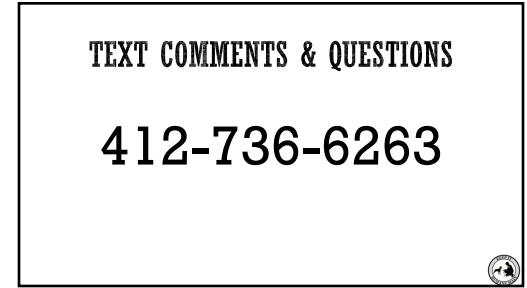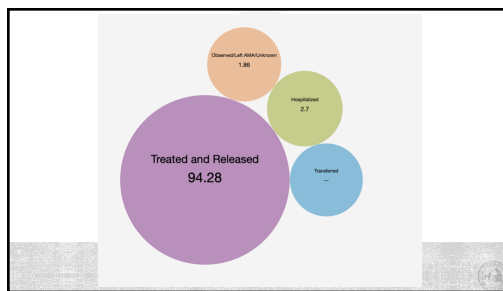1

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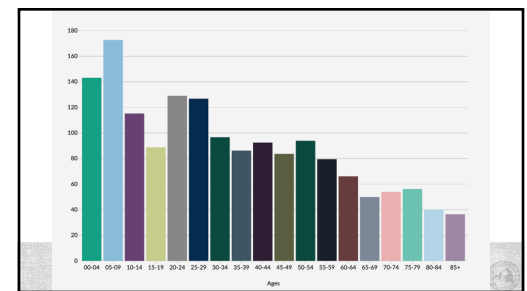## NUMBER OF INJURIES AND ASSOCIATED COSTS

2020
- Emergency Dept visits: 297,548
- Medical Costs: $956.93 M - $3,216 average per visit
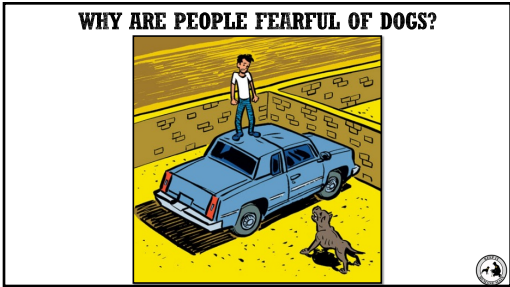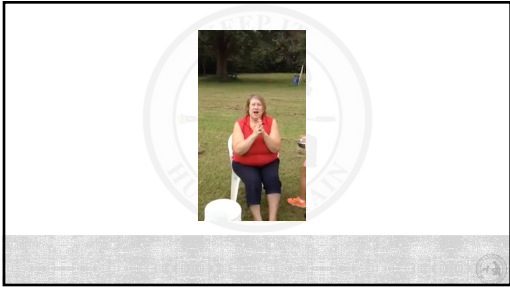
CDC/Wisqars Data

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WHY ARE PEOPLE FEARFUL OF DOGS?

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Little Red Riding Hood

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© YouTube

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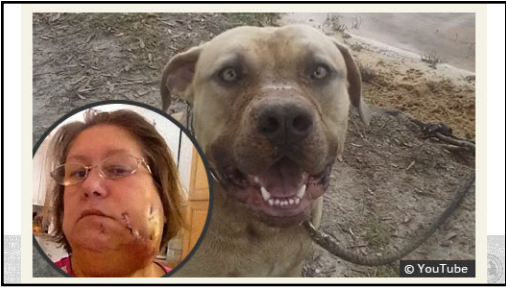|	
Incisors	Relatively small, located in the front of the mouth, and used for nipping
Canines	Long and sharp are used to stab and tear, and the teeth responsible for producing punctures and lacerations.
Premolars	Small, hooklike teeth used to hold prey
Molars	Small, cusp shaped teeth used for crushing
Carnassials	Specialized molar teeth. Carnassial teeth are cusped and when closed together form a scissors, used to sheer prey

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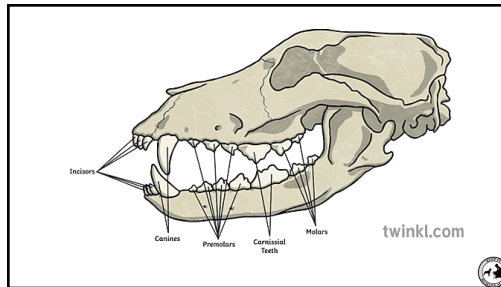
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Measurement of distance between canine teeth and corresponding bite marks on victim's arm

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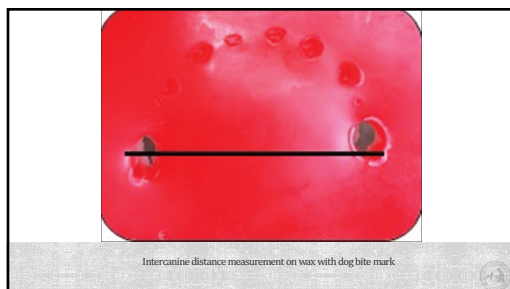
Intercanine distance measurement on wax with dog bite mark

16

Intercanine distance measurement on x-ray using Diagora software version 2.7.103.437
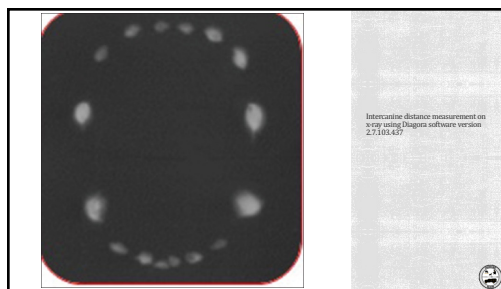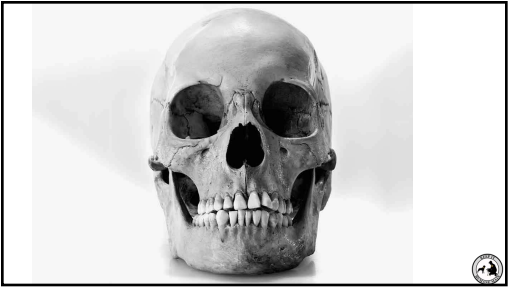
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INTER CANINE DISTANCE

When the four breeds of dogs were compared the arch shape, incisor and canine morphology appeared to be same but the difference was observed in the arch size with Pomeranian showing smallest and German shepherd dog showing the largest.

The ICD on wax as well as on x-ray showed increase in the measurement from Pomeranian to Doberman to Indian to German shepherd.
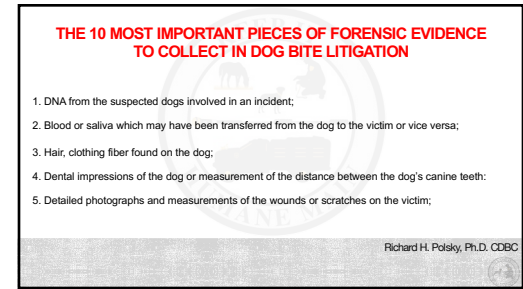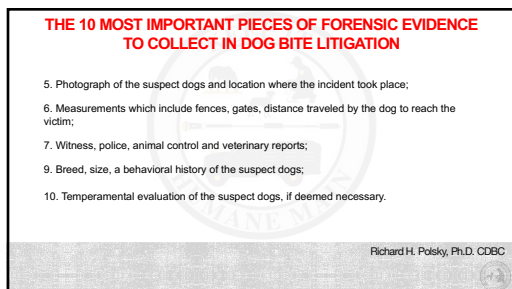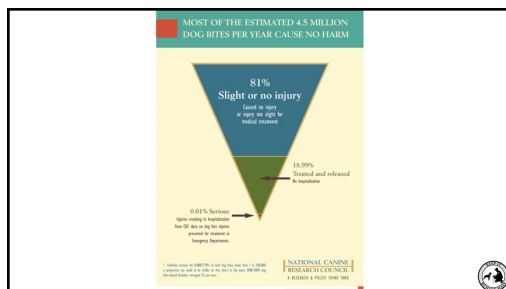
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THE 10 MOST IMPORTANT PIECES OF FORENSIC EVIDENCE TO COLLECT IN DOG BITE LITIGATION

1. DNA from the suspected dogs involved in an incident;

2. Blood or saliva which may have been transferred from the dog to the victim or vice versa;

3. Hair, clothing fiber found on the dog;

4. Dental impressions of the dog or measurement of the distance between the dog's canine teeth:

5. Detailed photographs and measurements of the wounds or scratches on the victim;

Richard H. Polsky, Ph.D. CDBC

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THE 10 MOST IMPORTANT PIECES OF FORENSIC EVIDENCE TO COLLECT IN DOG BITE LITIGATION

5. Photograph of the suspect dogs and location where the incident took place;

6. Measurements which include fences, gates, distance traveled by the dog to reach the victim;

7. Witness, police, animal control and veterinary reports;

9. Breed, size, a behavioral history of the suspect dogs;

10. Temperamental evaluation of the suspect dogs, if deemed necessary.

Richard H. Polsky, Ph.D. CDBC

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DOGS BITE FORCE PSI?

5. Rottie 328 PSI

4. Pitty 240-330 PSI

3. Mastiff 556 PSI

2. Cane Corso 650 PSI

1. (Turkish) Kangal 743 PSI

Honorable mentions: Wolf 400 PSI, Tiger 1050 PSI, Hippo 1820, Orca 19,000

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Slide 32

Dr. Ian Dunbar's Dog Bite Scale (Official Authorized Version)

An assessment of the severity of biting problems based on an objective evaluation of wound pathology

Level 1. Obnoxious or aggressive behavior but no skin-contact by teeth.

Level 2. Skin-contact by teeth but no skin-puncture. However, may be skin nicks (less than one tenth of an inch deep) and slight bleeding caused by forward or lateral movement of teeth against skin, but no vertical punctures.

Level 3. One to four punctures from a single bite with no puncture deeper than half the length of the dog's canine teeth. Maybe lacerations in a single direction, caused by victim pulling hand away, owner pulling dog away, or gravity (little dog jumps, bites and drops to floor).

Level 4. One to four punctures from a single bite with at least one puncture deeper than half the length of the dog's canine teeth. May also have deep bruising around the wound (dog held on for N seconds and bore down) or lacerations in both directions (dog held on and shook its head from side to side).

Level 5. Multiple-bite incident with at least two Level 4 bites or multiple-attack incident with at least one Level 4 bite in each.
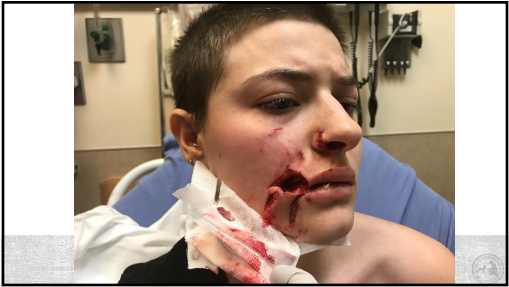
Level 6. Victim dead.

The above list concerns unpleasant behavior and so, to add perspective:

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Slide 33

LEVEL 1.

- Obnoxious or aggressive behavior but no skin-contact by teeth.

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Slide 35

LEVEL 2.

- Skin-contact by teeth but no skin-puncture. However, may be skin nicks (less than one tenth of an inch deep) and slight bleeding caused by forward or lateral movement of teeth against skin, but no vertical punctures.

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LEVEL 3.

- One to four punctures from a single bite with no puncture deeper than half the length of the dog's canine teeth. Maybe lacerations in a single direction, caused by victim pulling hand away, owner pulling dog away, or gravity (little dog jumps, bites and drops to floor).

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Hole and tear /teardrop in the direction from where the dog came from

DOG BITES

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY PERSPECTIVE

EDITED BY
DANIEL S. MILLS
CARRI WESTGARTH

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LEVEL 4.

- One to four punctures from a single bite with at least one puncture deeper than half the length of the dog's canine teeth. May also have deep bruising around the wound (dog held on for N seconds and bore down) or lacerations in both directions (dog held on and shook its head from side to side).

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LEVEL 5.

- Multiple-bite incident with at least two Level 4 bites or multiple-attack incident with at least one Level 4 bite in each.

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LEVEL 5 CASE REVIEW

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LEVEL 6.

- Victim dead.

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According to the CDC, about 30–50 people are killed by dogs each year in the United States. In 2020, 46 people were killed.

The number of deaths from dog attacks appears to be increasing. From 2018–2021, 226 people were killed from being bitten or struck by a dog. This represents a 131% increase in fatal dog attacks between 2018 and 2021.

The Pit Bull is responsible for the most fatal attacks in the U.S.. Over a 13-year period, Pit Bulls killed 284 people, which is 66% of total fatalities. However, Pit Bulls only account for 6.5% of the total U.S. dog population.

About 4.5 million Americans are bitten by dogs every year. Of these, more than 800,000 people per year report requiring medical attention for their dog bites.

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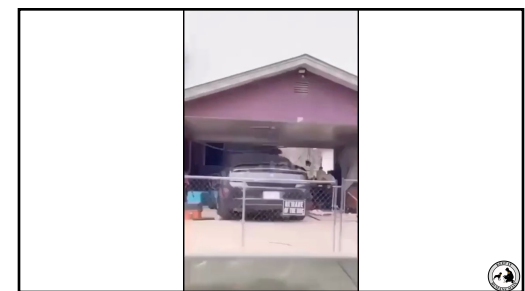
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MORE PSI

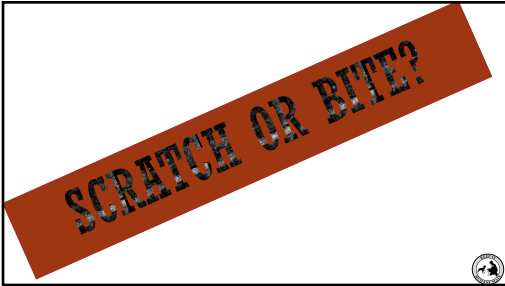- Domestic Cat 70

- Chihuahua 100 PSI

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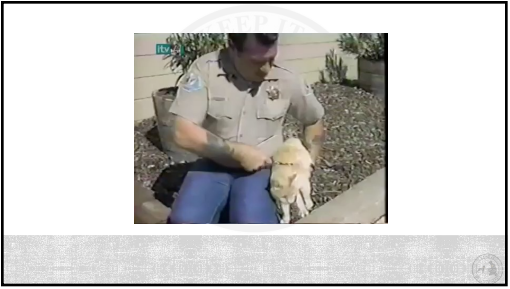
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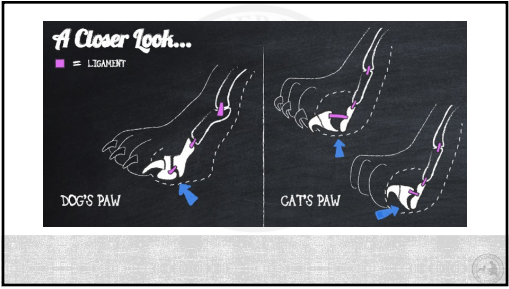
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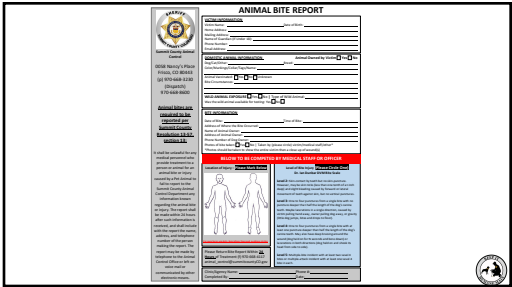SCRATCH   BITE AND SCRATCH

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