

## Chicago, IL



# Lincoln Park pet store "Pawsh Puppies" denies buying from puppy mills? (Proof)



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Almost all pet store puppies come from puppy mills. Ask the pet store employee to show you the paperwork identifying the puppy's breeder and origins...you may notice that the puppy has been shipped from out of state, often by a "broker" service...The bottom line is that responsible breeders do not sell their puppies to pet stores... -Humane Society of the US

Pawsh Puppies is a dog boutique in the Lincoln Park neighborhood of Chicago, and also in Northbrook, owned by Laurence Portnoy, who in several media statements has denied buying from puppy mills. The problem is, Portnoy, Alex Gershbeyn, and Pawsh Puppies, Inc. may have a different definition of "puppy mill" than exists in the dictionary!

Assuming they do not have handy access to a dictionary, or cannot read a book, here is the [www.Dictionary.com](http://www.Dictionary.com) "**Puppy Mill**", noun, "a place where puppies are bred for profit." That sounds completely accurate. It does not make mention of lack of care, numbers, or any hard set definition, but is simply a term for a place where puppies are bred for profit. (OPRAH VIDEO BELOW)

According to a *second* dictionary, Merriam-Webster Dictionary, a "Puppy Mill" is defined as "a **commercial farming operation in which purebred dogs are raised in large numbers**," so once again, by that definition, Pawsh Puppies *does* deal with puppy mills. Only in this case, the dogs are not purebred, as Pawsh Puppies sells a lot of mutts and randomly mixed breeds. There is no rhyme or reason to the puppy farm's breeding of mutts, other than to profit off ignorant consumers without regard to the genetic quality of the dog. *Turns out they are not so "pawsh" after all.* You do not get the quality you would get from a reputable hobby breeder who shows and titles dogs, and does necessary health screenings pre-breeding.

So can Pawsh Puppies employees use a dictionary? More likely is they want to sell their products, so they don't want the accurate term "puppy mill" being used, due to its *percieved connotation*. The dictionary definition is something they cannot deny. They try to mask the truths by the appearance and "posh" image of their store. Should we instead refer to them as "puppy supplier"? In that case, consumers should know what their out-of-state puppy supplier is like. Anyone want to hop on the next plane to rural Iowa or Missouri? (OPRAH VIDEO BELOW)

USDA standards, discussed in another article, are very minimum standards of care. Very bare bones, such as providing certain size of cages with 6" head room, shelter, food, water, and identifying animals with tags, tattoos, or microchips. The exercise requirements are very minimum, too, and females with litters are not required to have any exercise at all, so a dog may spend its *entire life* in a cage. With such minimum requirements, it is *pathetic* that

some kennels, like one Pawsh Puppies purchased from, still incur violations.

Here is just one dealer who has supplied puppies to Pawsh Puppies, Inc.

Their name is "Pick Me Puppies," owned by Steve "Tommy" Campbell, located in Iowa, and they are a USDA class A licensed animal dealer (breeder). They are licensed to sell to research facilities or other outlets such as pet shops. In the past 3 yearly USDA inspections, they have had 3 violations. Here are two violations from chilly November (2007), detailed as "the outdoor shelters did not have wind and rain breaks or bedding. The outdoor shelters need to have bedding provided when the ambient temperature is below 50 deg. F..." As well as 20 unidentified dogs on the premises in 2008. [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/Inspection\\_Reports//B%20-%20DEALER/IA/TOMMY%20CAMPBELL%20-%20%2042-B-0253.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/Inspection_Reports//B%20-%20DEALER/IA/TOMMY%20CAMPBELL%20-%20%2042-B-0253.pdf)

Furthermore, one of their breeders, who supplies Bulldogs to "Pick Me Puppies", Lazy T Bulldogs, also has USDA license, therefore reports are also available. The reports state 68 breeding dogs on the property upon inspection. This breeder also has 3 violations on her USDA inspection, including "piles of scrap boards and pipe" in the one exercise pen the 68 dogs share. [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal\\_welfare/Inspection\\_Reports//A%20-%20BREEDER/MO/PATSY%20THOMPSON%20-%20%2043-A-4735.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_welfare/Inspection_Reports//A%20-%20BREEDER/MO/PATSY%20THOMPSON%20-%20%2043-A-4735.pdf) Is 68 breeders large enough of a number to fit the definition from Webster Dictionary? Are we to believe that someone who owns 68 dogs on a farm and breeds them for profit is giving each and every one of them the attention and stimulation that a pet dog deserves? Or are they just "meeting the minimum standards" by law.

*Why should the breeder care if you (the buyer) get an unhealthy, genetically defective dog? They don't even know you! They don't care who you are. They don't have any idea where their puppies could end up.*

**Please watch the episodes below, where Oprah exposes puppy mills. This vid is tame compared to the reality that some dogs live in.** Besides Pawsh Puppies, there are several other pet shops in the Chicago area that sell puppies, please make a more educated choice than a pet shop: Let's Pet Puppies, Pocket Puppies, Animal Kingdom, Top Dog's Puppy Store, Happiness Is Pets, and Petland. Remember, reputable breeders never sell to pet shops.

What should you do? Educate yourself. Not all breeders are bad. Find a *reputable* breeder and visit the **premis** where the dogs live, or adopt a dog from a shelter.



<https://feed.examiner.com/examiner/admin/EntryController.cfm?data=d285Ty80RnIEcWxxYVZiak5QK1d2OEINdGdkWjN2KyswaU5qSUJNM1lhRT0%3D>

OPRAH EPISODE EXPOSES PUPPY MILLS \*\*\*Disclaimer: The related "Oprah" video, and photos related to this article, serves as purely informational in regards to different animal facilities and practices, and does not state or imply any direct or indirect relation of the practices or kennels affiliated with Pawsh Puppies.