

## Accepted Manuscript

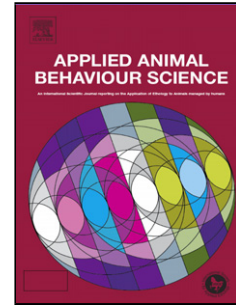
Title: Benefits of intraspecific social exposure in adult Swiss military dogs

Authors: Nastassja Gfrerer, Michael Taborsky, Hanno Würbel

PII: S0168-1591(17)30357-X  
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2017.12.016>  
Reference: APPLAN 4574

To appear in: *APPLAN*

Received date: 8-8-2017  
Revised date: 12-12-2017  
Accepted date: 17-12-2017



Please cite this article as: Gfrerer, Nastassja, Taborsky, Michael, Würbel, Hanno, Benefits of intraspecific social exposure in adult Swiss military dogs. *Applied Animal Behaviour Science* <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.applanim.2017.12.016>

This is a PDF file of an unedited manuscript that has been accepted for publication. As a service to our customers we are providing this early version of the manuscript. The manuscript will undergo copyediting, typesetting, and review of the resulting proof before it is published in its final form. Please note that during the production process errors may be discovered which could affect the content, and all legal disclaimers that apply to the journal pertain.

## Benefits of intraspecific social exposure in adult Swiss military dogs

Nastassja Gfrerer<sup>1</sup>, Michael Taborsky<sup>1</sup> & Hanno Würbel<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Behavioural Ecology, Institute of Ecology and Evolution, University of Bern, Wohlenstrasse 50a, 3032 Hinterkappelen, Switzerland

<sup>2</sup> Division of Animal Welfare, Institute of Veterinary Public Health, University of Bern, Länggassstrasse 120, 3012 Bern, Switzerland

Correspondence:

nastassja.rieder@iee.unibe.ch

### Highlights

- Socialisation training may act as social enrichment in kennel-housed dogs
- Temporary socialisation reduces their offensive and defensive behaviours
- Even short-term training during adulthood shows positive behavioural effects

### Abstract

Domestic dogs (*Canis familiaris*) are social animals and, therefore, social interactions with conspecifics are crucial for their welfare. However, in kennelled dogs, the ability to interact with conspecifics may be limited. Swiss military dogs, for instance, are kept individually without direct contact to conspecifics. Here we asked whether short-term exposure to conspecifics may be beneficial for dogs kept in isolation. The treatment lasted for eight weeks and consisted of one session weekly of three hours of social exposure. During social exposure, focal dogs were allowed direct contact with conspecifics but were supervised by the experimenter who intervened when necessary to prevent dogs from attacking one another. Immediately before and after the treatment phase, the dogs' reactions towards unfamiliar objects (including a dog

Download English Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/en/article/8882810>

Download Persian Version:

<https://daneshyari.com/article/8882810>

[Daneshyari.com](https://daneshyari.com)