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Differences in stress and happiness between owners who perceive their dogs as well behaved or poorly behaved when they are left alone

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Title Page:

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Keywords: separation anxiety; separation-related problems; human-dog interaction; Peteffect; stress; happiness.

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Abstract:

This study was performed to identify differences between a group of 36 dog owners who reported separation-related behavioral problems in their dogs and a group of 40 dog owners who perceived their dogs as well behaved in their absence. The variables compared between these groups were attachment, trainability, human-dog relationship, owner-dog compatibility, happiness and stress. Dogs whose owners perceived that they were well behaved when left alone had more years within the household and higher scores in trainability; their owners also reported a better relationship with the dog and lower attachment scores than the group that perceived separation-related problems in their dogs. In addition, those owners who saw their dogs as well behaved when left alone showed higher perceived happiness and lower perceived stress. The equivalence in compatibility and the differences found in the mentioned variables suggest that owners and their dogs are compatible in activity preferences and in emotional variables such as anxiety or stress. It is possible that humans with higher levels of stress do not have a relaxed relationship with their dogs,

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