

# DOES PERPETUATING CERTAIN RACIAL CONFORMATIONS, IMPLY ANIMAL DAMAGE?

## INTRODUCTION

Selective breeding, the process of choosing animals with desirable characteristics for reproduction, is increasingly focused on the physical appearance and "popularity" of these breeds.

There are no legal definitions that allow us to consider whether selective breeding can get to be animal damage or not.

Only British experts established that conformation-related disorders, inherited diseases, inappropriate husbandry and owner knowledge, are welfare problems with strategic priority.



## EXECUTIVE PLAN



Action of the veterinarian about **lawsuit**:

- At the individual level
- Through Professional Veterinary Associations

Action of the veterinarian about the **offer**:

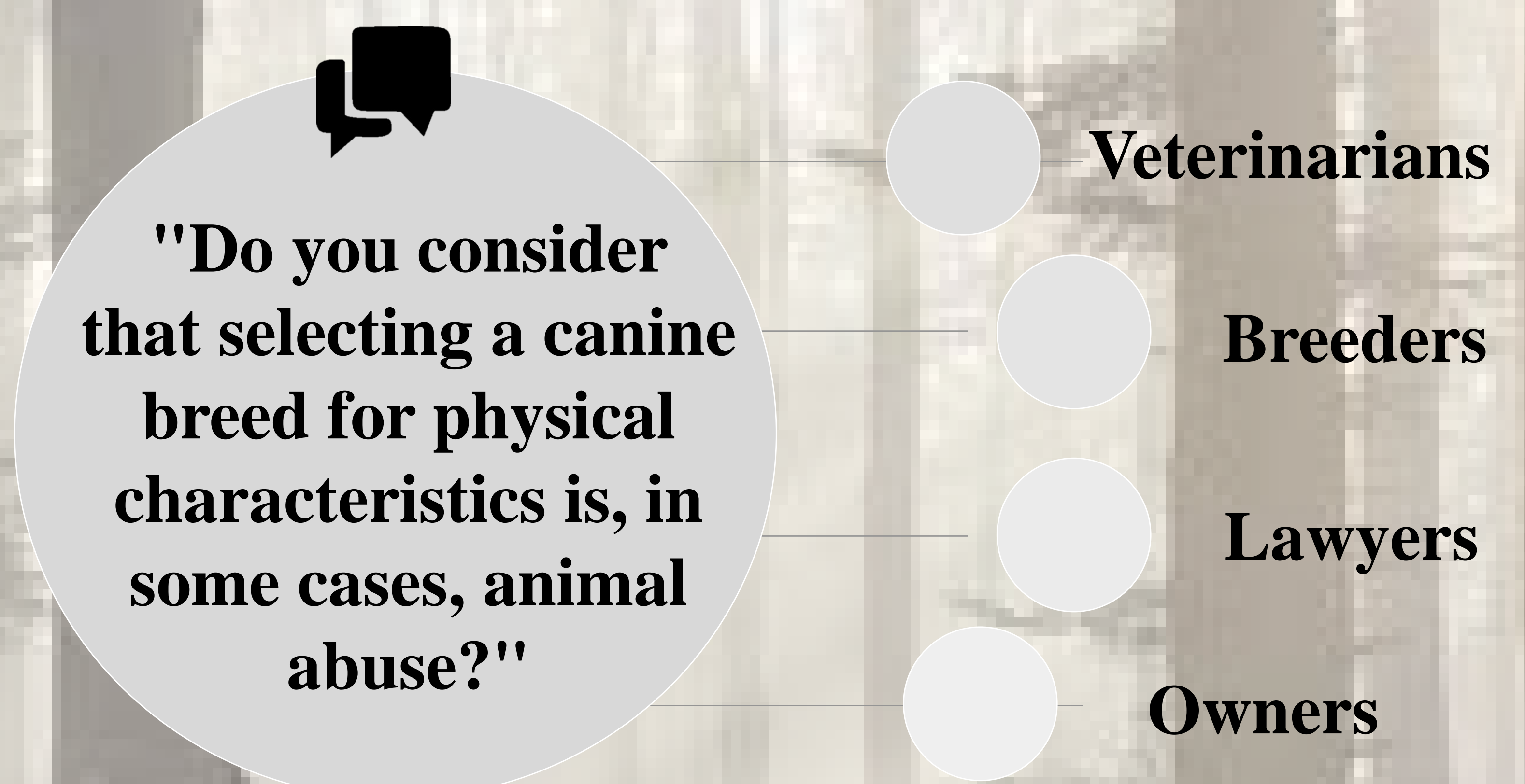
- Review the standards
- Perform protocols
- Update the legislation

## REFERENCES

Buckland EL, Corr SA, Abeyesinghe SM, Wathes CM. 2014. Prioritisation of companion dog welfare issues using expert consensus. Anim Welf. 23(1):39-46.

## OBJECTIVES

- To know the opinion of the different groups related directly with these breeds.
- Determine if allowing the breeding of animals with extreme conformations or inherited diseases is an act of animal abuse.
- Design an executive plan in accordance with the conclusions of the investigation.



## CONCLUSIONS

- There is no consensus among veterinarians and they do not know how to act in this regard, they conclude that there is a need for more research.
- Among breeders there is lack of knowledge and formation.
- More than half of the owners do not know the problems associated with the race of their pet.
- Legally, it is not clear that it is abuse, due to the great extent and little precision of the legal definitions.
- It is necessary to standardize the meaning of animal abuse.
- In Spain there are laws that address some of the mentioned needs but there is no strict regulation.
- All surveyed groups are concerned about the need for legislative measures that regulate the breeding of canine breeds under welfare standards.