

PET SHELTERS AND ADOPTION CENTERS IN CATALONIA

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INTRODUCTION

Society has gone from seeing animals as work tools to seeing them as sentient beings

Government promote responsible ownership and adoptions in pet shelters to improve pet welfare but they haven't established protocols to evaluate the adopter

THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF ANIMAL RIGHTS



ANIMAL WELFARE: THE FIVE FREEDOMS



RESPONSIBLE PET OWNERSHIP

ABANDONED ANIMALS → ADOPTION SHOULD BE PROMOTED

WHERE?



➤ PUBLIC PETS SHELTERS

Town hall service

➤ COLLABORATING PET PROTECTOR

➤ Non-profit civil association [2]

HOW?

➤ 2/2008 LEGISLATIVE DECREE IN CATALONIA:

➤ HOST PROTOCOL

Identify the animal, locate the owner and custody in 20 days

➤ ADOPTION PROTOCOL

Microchip, sanitary treatment and pet information document

IN SPAIN → 7,6% OF ADOPTED DOGS WERE UNSUCCESSFUL ADOPTIONS [1]

OBJECTIVES

- ✓ To know how many pet shelters have an adoption protocol
- ✓ Make a questionnaire to unify data collection from pet shelters interviews
- ✓ Identify responsible ownership indicators
- ✓ Similarities and differences between public entities and collaborators

HOW TO EVALUATE THE ADOPTER?

1. QUESTIONNAIRE → Short questions about responsible ownership and adopter's lifestyle

2. PERSONAL INTERVIEW

3. MONITORING
ADOPTION

All pet
shelters?

CONCLUSIONS

- ✓ SPAIN → There isn't a legislation that regulates adoption protocols for abandoned animals
- ✓ CATALONIA → The Animal Protection Law generically regulates pet adoptions
- ✓ BARCELONA → Pet shelters develop its own adoption protocol
- ✓ A minimum regulation is necessary for pet adoption based on ownership.



REFERENCES

[1] Fatjó, J, Bowen J, García E, Calvo P, Rueda S, Amblás S, Lanza JF (2019). Affinity Foundation study "He would never do it" on the abandonment, loss and adoption of pets in Spain 2018

[2] Legislative Decree 2/2008, of April 15, approving the Consolidated Text of the Animal Protection Law. DOGC no. 5113, of April 17, 2008, art 16, 17 and 18.