

## **The leash is for your safety and my peace of mind!**

By: [Kie de Boehmler](#)

As an owner of a dog who reacts and can get aggressive especially when a male dog stares him down: I understand why the leash laws are important. As a trainer who works with aggressive dogs I can say with a professional opinion it is a great law: For your safety and my peace of mind.

Even with all the training in the world dogs can still be aggressive, but even aggressive dogs need to walk too. It makes it difficult for me to safely walk my clients' dogs or even my dog when others don't want to follow a simple leash law.

***"MY DOG IS FRIENDLY, IT'S OK!!"*** Shouted out from half a block away.

I would be paying bills with how many times I have been told this. Your dog might be friendly but maybe not mine. I don't know about you but I do not like every person I meet so why should my dog. We as human learn to tolerate being around people we do not like; this is what training does for the dog. It teaches them to handle themselves around the things that upset them, but you have to be the parent to understand what makes your dog tick.

I have never liked every person I have met, so it is impossible to make your dog like every dog they meet. Pay attention and over time you will start to see what sets your dog off and how to proactively react to teaching your dog to respond to you in those moments of need.

I understand in some cities there is not many dog friendly parks to go to, but if your dog is as friendly you say then go to a dog park if you have one nearby. If you know your dog is aggressive stay away from dog parks and just walk your dog responsibly and use proper training techniques to keep your dog under control. If you do not know how to control your dog then a professional knowledgeable trainer will gladly help teach you proper and safe techniques so that you can enjoy your walk like many others. Just look online or go to your local vet as they might have someone to recommend help you and your dog.

Just because your dog might be friendly doesn't mean everyone else's is, keep your dog safe while I keep mine under control. It makes the walks pleasant for

everyone. If you have this law in your city abide by it. If you want your dog to run free find a local dog park or friendly off leash park, but when you go for walks in your neighborhood be mindful to others and keep the leash on. For your safety and our peace of mind.