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„Finding the perfect school dog“

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1. Zusammenfassung

Viele Studien zeigen den positiven Einfluss den Tiere und insbesondere Hunde auf Menschen und besonders Kinder haben können. Diese positiven Effekte machen den Einsatz von Schulhunden zu einer erstrebenswerten Idee. Jeder Hund ist ein Individuum, das unterschiedlich gut für den Schuleinsatz geeignet ist. Daher scheint eine Evaluierung der Mensch-Hunde Dyaden, die zukünftig an Schulen arbeiten wollen erstrebenswert. Ein Test, der einige Situationen die im Schulalltag vorkommen können, simulieren soll wurde wissenschaftlich begleitet. Sowohl Hunde als auch Menschen gaben eine Speichelprobe ab, die zur Bestimmung des Stresshormones Kortisol vor und nach der Testsituation dienen sollte. Ein instruierter Beobachter führte eine quantitative Bewertung der Dyaden nach Verhaltensanzeichen von Stress durch. Die Hundeführer gaben an, wie sie die Testsituation für sich selbst und für den Hund bewerten würden. Ältere Hunde hatten am Ende der Tests signifikant weniger Kortisol im Speichel als jüngere. Insgesamt konnte aber weder bei Menschen noch bei Hunden ein signifikant unterschiedlicher Kortisol Wert vor und nach den Test Situationen gefunden werden. Die Hundeführer bewerteten die Testsituationen als stressiger, wenn sie sie auch für ihren Hund als stressig empfanden und wenn sie ihren Hund als generell stressempfindlicher einschätzten. Die Hunde zeigten mehr Bindungsverhalten, wenn sie entspannter waren. Je synchroner die Dyade, desto mehr Bindungsverhalten zeigte der Hund und desto freundlicher reagierte er auf Interaktionen von Seiten des Hundeführers. Die Ergebnisse legen nahe, dass Hunde in Schulklassen kaum gestresst sein dürften. Dass der Interaktionsstil, die Qualität der Bindung und Beziehung zwischen Mensch und Hund einen großen Einfluss auf deren Auftreten als Dyade haben ist durch andere Studien bekannt. Zum Teil bestätigen die vorliegende Studie diese Ergebnisse. Zusammenfassend betrachtet legt diese Studie nahe, dass das Klassenzimmer ein geeigneter Arbeitsplatz für den besten Freund des Menschen zu sein.

2. Abstract

Many studies show the positive effects animals and especially dogs can have on humans. Especially children seem to benefit when being around a dog. Given this positive effects using dogs in school classes seems to be a good idea. Since every dog is an individual and therefore differently well suited for the possibly stressful environment of a school class, an evaluation of the human-dog dyads who will work in a school seems necessary. Therefore a series of tests were conducted which contained several situations simulating a school environment. Saliva samples from both, the human and the dog, were taken before and after the test situation to assess the concentration of the stress hormone cortisol in the saliva. An instructed observer rated the performance of the dyad and the dog handlers themselves gave information about how they perceived the test situation for themselves and their dog. Older dogs showed significant lower cortisol levels than younger ones after the tests. In general, the cortisol levels were not different before and after the test situations, neither for humans nor for dogs. The dog handlers rated the test situation more stressful for themselves, when they also rated it more stressing for their dog and when they stated that their dog was less stress resistant in everyday life. The dogs showed more attachment behaviour when they were more relaxed. The more synchronous behaviour the dyad showed, the more attachment behaviour was expressed by the dog and the friendlier the animal reacted towards interactions from the handler. All in all the results of the present study suggest that dogs are well suited for the presence in a school class. It is known, that the interaction style, the quality of the attachment as well as the relationship has great influence on the dyads behaviour. To a certain degree the results of this study confirm these findings.

3. Introduction

3.1 Human-dog history and why we understand each other

Dogs (*Canis lupus familiaris*) are often called “man’s best friend”. They emerged from Southeast Asian grey wolves (*Canis lupus lupus*) at least 16000 years ago (Ding et al., 2012; Lindblad-Toh et al., 2005; Ostrander and Wayne, 2005; Pang et al., 2009; Savolainen et al., 2002; Wayne and Ostrander, 2007). Newest findings show that the split of wolves and dogs occurred 32000 years ago (Wang et al., 2013). First associations between hominids and wolfs might even date back to 130 000 years before present (Vilà et al., 1997). This makes the dog the most ancient domesticated animal. Viewed from the point of evolution a vertebrates brain is rather conservative, all vertebrates share the same basic social brain structures and functions (Goodson, 2005). This commonalities lead to a similar social system based on common physiological and psychological characteristics like socialisation, bonding, learning and the two stress axis (hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal axis and the sympathico- adrenomedullary system) (Julius et al., 2012; Kotrschal, 2005; McEwen and Wingfield, 2003). The long shared history and physiological as well as psychological commonalities enable the formation of bonds, similar enough to human-human attachment models, to transfer them to human-dog dyads (Palmer and Custance, 2008; Prato-Previde et al., 2003; Topál et al., 1998; Voith, 1985; Zilcha-Mano et al., 2011; Zilcha-Mano et al., 2012). Dogs are able to understand human gestures, body language and attentional state to a certain degree: they are able to locate hidden food items through human gestures (Kaminski et al., 2009; Miklósi et al., 1998; Udell et al., 2008). Wolves and later dogs were selected for tameness and other attributes considered useful for humans. Therefore it might not be surprising that man’s oldest companion tends to perform better in tests of sensitivity to human gestures and social cues as his wild progenitor the wolf and also better than human’s closest genetic relative, the chimpanzee (*Pan troglodytes*) (Brauer et al., 2006; Gácsi et al., 2009; Hare and Tomasello, 2005).

3.2 The effects dogs can have on humans

A dog's presence can have various effects on humans, as an example it has been observed that pet ownership lowers blood pressure response to mental stress (Allen et al., 2001). Dogs are often regarded as full family members who can have an important supportive roll for their owners (Allen, 2003; Allen et al., 2002; Allen et al., 2001; Hart, 1995). Children who recently went through a surgery felt significant less postoperative pain when visited by a dog (Sobo et al., 2006).

It seems, that a dogs presence does not only have psychological effects on humans. It has been shown, that the presence of a dog can decrease the risk of allergic sensitization and atopic dermatitis in infants (Gern et al., 2004). Living together affects the human as well as the dog: owner personality, owner gender and dog sex and the owners attitude towards the dog affect dyadic interaction style, behavioural expression of the dog's personality, owner and dog stress modulation and the operational functionality of a dyad (Kotrschal et al., 2009; Wedl et al., 2010).

3.3 Stress

Stress is a potentially important factor when working in a class room. The term "stress" in the everyday diction is generally associated with negative consequences. Stress is a nonspecific physiological and behavioural response to establish homeostasis (Selye, 1955). In others words stress reactions are used to adapt individuals to a stimulus that is causing stress. Hence a stress response is the attempt of an individual to ensure homeostasis. In 2003 McEwen & Wingfield introduced the term "Allostasis", which is defined as the adaptive process of maintaining stability through change (McEwen and Wingfield, 2003). To maintain allostasis, catecholamines and glucocorticoids function as important mediators. Increased secretion of cortisol due to increased hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal (HPA) activation, leading to elevated circulating cortisol levels is a fundamental response to stressors. This activation can be determined via salivary sampling (Beerda et al., 1997). If balance cannot be

achieved in the process of allostasis, the chronic over-activation of the neuroendocrine system can lead to negative consequences for an individual's health (Goldstein and McEwen, 2002; Koolhaas et al., 1999; McEwen and Wingfield, 2003; Sapolsky et al., 2004).

3.4 Dogs as animal assistants

The close relationship between dogs and humans makes them ideal companions for animal-assisted therapy (Ford and Olbrich, 1997; Olbrich and Otterstedt, 2003; Otterstedt, 2008; Podberscek et al., 2005; Robinson, 1995). This closeness enables the dog to perform practical assistance as well as emotional support (Scheiber et al., 2005). Especially children seem to benefit from a dog's presence: for example children with an insecure or disorganized attachment pattern can get social support from a dog (Kurdek, 2008; Kurdek, 2009a; Kurdek, 2009b). Interestingly, this supporting effect is not received when being supported by a human (Beetz et al., 2011). Children who grew up in the presence of a dog, later in life developed into social more competent adults than other children (Endenburg and Baarda, 1995; Melson et al., 1998). Another study (Kotrschal and Ortbauer, 2003) showed that the presence of a dog in a school class can have positive effects on how the children behave towards the teacher and each other, in general promoting the social integration of children.

3.5 Aims of this study

To use dogs in schools seems a good idea, given the positive effects they can have on humans and especially on children. The present study accompanied a test setup which aims to find out how suited a dog is for the task of being present in a class. The setup was designed to simulate situations that can happen during everyday school life. These tests make sense, since a school can be a very stressful environment for an animal. Noise and being around many people is not well taken by just every dog. Dogs differ not only in their looks but every dog has a different personality as well and much of their responses towards the environment are related to their owners. These differences make them individuals and from these

individuals not every single one is equally well suited for the task of being a school dog. Furthermore the present study aims to find out how well dog handlers on one hand and an instructed observer on the other hand can judge the stress level of the participating animal. To get a clear view on the actual stress level of the animal, the cortisol concentration in saliva samples, taken before and directly after the test situations, will be analysed.

3.6 Hypothesis

Since the dog handlers as well as the dogs gave saliva samples, a possible stress transfer between the two could be indicated in a parallel increase of saliva cortisol. It will also be possible to see if various factors, like sex, age, level of training and interaction style of the dyad will affect the dogs and also the humans stress levels. If the dog is stressed, an increase in visible attachment behaviour should be observed.

The findings of this study will be useful when searching for the best suited school dog. A dyad which is not stressed by the tests will likely not be stressed by a school environment.

In general the results will give further insight in the life of man's closest companion. Additionally the results can help to make future tests for school dogs more convincing.

4. Material and Methods

4.1 Participants

In the present study three male and 25 female owners participated with their 28 dogs of which 8 were male and 19 female. From one dog the gender was not entered into the questionnaire. On the human side six participants stated that they were sick at the time of the testing, eight took medicaments and 13 took hormonal contraceptives. From the 28 dogs 19 were neutered and eight intact, one owner did not give this information. Various breeds participated, therefore they also differed greatly in their size and weight. The mean age of the human participants was 40,59 years (S.D. = 8,22, range = 22,26-54,17), the mean age of the dogs was 4,52 years (S.D. = 3,22, range = 1,00-13,75).

4.2 General procedure

Testing took place in two different locations, first on the 12th and 13th of October 2012 in Burgenland and second in Vienna on the 15th of December 2012.

First, every dog owner signed a consent form (Appendix 1). Then every dyad gave a saliva sample (owner and dog). Directly after that, the test situations, to assess the dyads suitability for the work at school, started. The test series consisted of 14 short situations which were designed to simulate situations that can occur during everyday school life. For an overview see table 1, for a more detailed description see appendix 1. Finally a questionnaire was completed. The procedure of the saliva samples and the contents of the questionnaire will be explained in the following.

Table 1: Overview and durations of the test situations.

Situation	Duration
1. Veterenarian checks dog	5-10 minutes
2. Greeting of dyad	1 minute
3. Stroking and touching of dog	2- 5 minutes
4. Lifting and touching of dog's paws	1-2 minutes
5. School dog staff members corner the dog	1-2 minutes
6. Feeding of dog	1 minute
7. Unfamiliar person leads dog through the room	1-2 minutes
8. Owner leads dog through the room	2 minutes
9. Owner gives commandos to dog	2 minutes
10. Owner plays with dog	5 minutes
11. Dogs reaction to unfamiliar sounds	1 minute
12. Reaction of dog to a wheelchair and a crook	5 minutes
13. Reaction of dog to various floor conditions	2 minutes
14. Reaction of dog to thrown objects	1 minute
Maximum duration of all test situations: 41 minutes	

4.3 Ratings

During the screening situations one observer (always the same person) monitored the dyad and scored their behaviour on a five-point scale relating to interaction style, synchrony, emotional state of the dog, manipulation of the dog trough the handler and cooperation of the dog (scale with definitions see appendix 3).

4.4 Saliva samples

All participants gave a saliva sample directly before and after the test situations. The dog handlers were asked to put a salimetrics oral swab under their tongue. At the same time the dog handler had to place an absorbent cotton stick (salimetrics children swab) in the dog's cheek pouch. The saliva sample of the dog was always collected from the handler. Both parts of the dyad had to keep the cotton stick in their mouth for at least 1 ½ minutes. To stimulate the dog's saliva production, the dog handler let the dog sniff on a

small piece of cheese (figure 1). Cheese was chosen, because Ligout and colleagues showed that it is not interacting with cortisol measurements (Ligout et al., 2009). To be on the save side, the cheese reward was given to the dog only after collecting the saliva sample.



Figure 1: Taking saliva sample from the dog. The dog is allowed to smell on the cheese in the closed hand.

4.5 Procedure of cortisol analyses

Cortisol levels were assessed from concentrations of the hormone in human and dog saliva samples. Between 25-1000 µl of saliva were collected with Salimetrics children's swabs SCS (Salimetrics Swabs, Newmarket Suffolk) for dogs respectively with Salimetrics Oral Swabs SOS (Salimetrics Swabs, Newmarket Suffolk) for humans before and after the testing situation. After collecting the samples were stored at -20 °C to avoid conversion by bacterial enzymes or fungi.

The concentrations of cortisol was quantified by a microtiter plate enzyme immunoassay (EIA) at the Laboratory of Behavioural Biology, University of Vienna, using procedures previously described in detail by Palme and Möstl (Palme and Möstl, 1997). In the laboratory the saliva was centrifuged for 5 minutes with 2500 rpm (Hettich, ROTIXA/RP). Thereafter the saliva was decanted into microcentrifuge tubes (microcentrifuge tubes, Simport Canada) and once again centrifuged for 10 minutes with 14 000 rpm (Hettich, ROTIXA/RP). For the cortisol analyses of the dog samples 50 µl of each supernatants clear phase was diluted 1:20 in assay buffer (4, 84 g

Trishydroxyaminomethan + 35, 8 g NaCl + 2 g Albumin + 2 ml Tween 80). For the human samples 100 µl of each supernatant was diluted 1: 50 with assay buffer.

To generate the standard curves 1250 µl of cortisol standard fluid (in Micro Test tubes, BIO-RAD Laboratories from Institut für Medizinische Biochemie, Veterinärmedizinische Universität Wien) were each separately mixed with 150 µl of assay buffer. Then the samples were diluted according to the standard rows (Hamilton Microlab 1000). The pools for the dogs and humans were created from 25 randomly chosen samples.

The microtiter plates (Institut für Medizinische Biochemie, Veterinärmedizinische Universität Wien) were prepared by washing them four times with a room-temperate washing buffer (Nunc-Immuno Wash 12). After all wells were completely dry the prepared components were added on the plate (Handy Step Electronic, Brand). For control purposes each saliva sample ran in duplicate for the assay. To perform non-specific bonding 150 µl assay buffer was placed in two wells. Here no further antibody was added. Total bonding was demonstrated with 50 µl assay buffer, 100 µl antibody and 100 µl enzyme label. Pool control was performed with 30 µl of the mixed samples and 20 µl assay buffer. Additionally 10 µl of each standard plus 40 µl assay buffer were deposited in the wells. Cortisol analysis was conducted with 30 µl of prepared saliva and 20 µl assay buffer. Except for the non-binding control each well was filled with 100 µl antibody and 100 µl enzyme label. The following antibodies were used for the cortisol assay: cortisol-3-CMO:BSA with enzyme label cortisol-3-CMO:DADOO-biotin.

The plates were preserved on a shaking device (IKA Schüttler electronic MTS4) at 400 rpm in a 4 °C fridge for at least 16 hours. After this incubation the plates were washed four times with 4 °C washing buffer (Nunc-Immuno Wash 12). Between each washing step the plates with the washing buffer were placed on a shaking device in a 4 °C fridge for 30 seconds. When dried the plates were filled with enzyme solution (30 ml

assay buffer + 0,001 ml Streptavidin-POD-conjugate) (Labsystem Multidrop). The plates were placed on a shaking device in a 4 °C fridge for 45 minutes. As described above the plates were washed 4 times using a 4 °C washing buffer. Afterwards 250 µl of substrate solution (30 ml substrate buffer + 500 µl 0.4 % TMB-solution + 100 µl 0.6 % H₂O₂) was pipetted to all wells. Again the plates were placed on a shaking device in a 4 °C fridge for 45 minutes.

After incubation the enzyme reaction was stopped by adding 50 µl of 2M H₂SO₄ to each well (Handy Step Electronic, Brand). Finally absorbance was measured at 450 nm (measuring filter) and at 620 nm (reference filter) on a plate reader (BioTek ELx808, Software Gen 5 2.00.18). As each sample was taken in duplicate to assay the values were controlled for less than 10,5 % deviation. Hormone concentrations are expressed as nanogram per millilitre saliva.

A “delta_Cort” Variable was calculated for further analyses by subtracting the saliva cortisol concentration before the test situation from the concentration after the test situation. This was done for both, humans and dogs.

4.6 Questionnaire

After the test situation the dog handler was asked to complete a questionnaire containing questions for some general information about the dog and himself, some medical information (to exclude possible interferences with the saliva samples due medicinal drugs) and information about training state of the dog. The training levels were “Welpenkurs” (puppy course), “Junghundekurs” (young dog course), “Begleithundebildung 1” (companion dog course 1), “Begleithundebildung 2” (companion dog course 2), “Jagdhundebildung” (hunting dog course) and “Schutzhundebildung” (protection dog course). The puppy course is for dogs from approximately 9-20 weeks of age and is a very basal training. The young dog course is for dogs from approximately five months to three years of age and consists of

basic training like the basic commandos “sit”, “lie down” and “stay”. The companion dog course 1 is for dogs with an age minimum of two years and contains various more advanced training procedures. The companion dog course 2 is more advanced than the first one. The hunting dog course is for hunting dogs and the protection dog course features contents like submission of the dog to the handler or guarding a certain area. The questionnaire also contained questions about how the handler would assess the stress and strain for his dog during the test situation. To do this they had a five stepped scale to choose from. (Questionnaire see Appendix 4).

4.7 statistical data analyses

Data was analysed using *Microsoft Excel 2010*, *Microsoft Access 2010* and *IBM SPSS version 21*. Most data was not normally distributed so only non-parametric tests were applied. Test used were: Mann-Whitney-U test, Wilcoxon test and spearman correlations. As significance level $p < 0,05$ was chosen. All significances are given two tailed.

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5. Results

Neither dog handlers nor their dogs showed a significant difference in their saliva cortisol concentration before and after the test situation (humans: Wilcoxon: $n=27$, $Z=-1,095$, $p=0,274$, dogs: Wilcoxon: $n=19$, $Z=-0,852$, $p=0,394$).

Since only three male handlers participated, testing for a sex difference on the human side was not possible. The dogs were more balanced considering the sex distribution but there was no significant difference in delta_Cort between the sexes (Mann Whitney-U: $n=15$, $Z=-0,490$, $p=0,624$).

Being intact or neutered had no influence on the dogs delta_Cort either (Mann Whitney-U: $n=15$, $Z=-1,414$, $p=0,181$).

Being sick, taking medicaments and taking hormonal contraceptives had no influence on the humans delta_Cort value (Table 2).

Table 2: Controlling for differences in humans delta_Cort when being sick, taking medicinal drugs and taking hormonal contraceptives.

Test Condition	Result (Mann Whitney-U)
Sick	$n=21$, $Z=-0,991$, $p=0,322$
Medicaments	$n=21$, $Z=-0,149$, $p=0,881$
Hormonal contraceptives	$n=21$, $Z=-0,634$, $p=0,526$

Next it was tested if different training levels affect the delta_Cort concentrations of the dogs. Only the puppy course, the young dog course and the companion dog 1 course were analysed, since very few to none participants absolved the other trainings with their dogs. The three training conditions showed no difference considering delta_Cort (Table 3).

Table 3: Controlling for differences in dogs delta_Cort considering different training levels.

Training level	Result (Mann Whitney-U)
Puppy course	$n=14$, $Z=-0,645$, $p=0,519$
Young dog course	$n=14$, $Z=-0,129$, $p=0,897$
Companion dog 1	$n=14$, $Z=-0,775$, $p=0,439$

It had no influence on the dogs delta_Cort value whether the person, who conducted the test situations with the dog, was the main attachment figure or not (Mann Whitney-U $n=15$, $Z=-1,042$, $p=0,298$).

The more stressful the dog handlers rated the test situations for themselves, the less stress resilient they rated their dog in everyday life ($r_s=0,423$, $p=0,028$) and the more they rated the test situation as stressful for their dog ($r_s=0,716$, $p<0,001$).

The observer rated the dog more relaxed when the handlers rated test situations less burdensome for their dogs ($r_s=-0,402$, $p=0,038$).

The friendlier the interaction from the handler to the dog was rated, the more the dyad interacted with each other ($r_s=0,479$, $p=0,001$), the more the dog cooperated with the handler without encouragement from the handler ($r_s=0,423$, $p=0,025$), the more the dog showed active attachment behaviour ($r_s=0,421$, $p=0,026$) and the more synchronous behaviour from the dyad was observed ($r_s=0,543$, $p=0,003$).

The dog showed more attachment behaviour, when the dyad interacted most of the time ($r_s=0,560$, $p=0,002$), when the interaction was initialized more by the dog ($r_s=0,523$, $p=0,002$) and less by the handler ($r_s=-0,585$, $p=0,001$). The dog also showed more attachment behaviour when cooperating with the handler actively without being encouraged to do so ($r_s=0,743$, $p<0,001$). The more attachment behaviour was shown, the more relaxed the dog was rated ($r_s=0,674$, $p<0,001$) and the more synchronous behaviour was observed. The friendlier the observer rated the dogs reaction on interactions from the handlers side the more synchronous behaviour was shown by the team ($r_s=0,464$, $p=0,013$) and the more relaxed the dog was rated by the observer ($r_s=0,377$, $p=0,048$).

The age of the dog had a significant influence on the saliva concentration after the test situations: the older the dog the less cortisol could be measured ($r_s=-0,537$, $p=0,018$).

6. Discussion

Although cortisol analysis revealed mainly negative results, this was evidently not the case for the subjective experience people had with their dogs in these test situations designed to check the suitability of the dyad for working at schools. The more stressful the dog handlers rated the test situation for themselves the less stress resistant in everyday life their dog was rated by them and the more stressful they rated the test situation for their dog. This may be a result of an emotional transfer from the owner to the dog, or possibly a projection of a relatively neuroticistic personality inventory (in the sense of the “Big Five”, Costa and MacCrae, 1992, see Borkenau and Ostendorf, 2008 for definitions). Dogs of owners who score high in neuroticism, view their dogs as social supporters and spend much time with them, but these dyads are not necessarily successful in operational tasks (Kotrschal et al., 2009). In contrast, owners high in extroversion regard their dogs as pals for joint activities and tend to communicate relatively clear with them. These dyads perform well in operational tasks, but the dogs have relatively high cortisol values (Schöberl et al., 2009). Hence, to find the best suited school dog, one should also consider the owners personality and interaction style.

The friendlier the interaction from the handler towards the dog was, the more the dyad interacted with each other, the more the dog cooperated actively without encouragement from the handler, the more attachment behaviour was shown by the dog and the more synchronous behaviour of the dyad was observed. According to Feldman and colleagues (2011) synchrony for the human-infant attachment is the temporal coordination between parent and infant affective behaviour. One partner starts with the behaviour whereas the other partner follows that behaviour with a similar behaviour, this synchronous behaviour can be an important indicator for a good relationship (Feldman et al., 2011). Attachment behaviour has the aim to promote and restore proximity and contact to an attachment figure, in humans such behaviours would be approaching, vocalising, clinging and crying (Ainsworth and Bell, 1970). In the present study the observer was

instructed to record if the dog was seeking contact, was being orientated and was remaining in close proximity to the handler. A friendly interaction from the handlers side seems to be an indicator for a good relationship in the dyad. The friendlier the observer rated the dogs reaction on interaction attempts from the handler the more synchronous behaviour from the dyad was observed and the more relaxed the dog was rated.

The observer rated the dog more relaxed when the handlers rated the stress through the tests for the dog lower. This could indicate, that the observer was capable to assess the stress strain, or rather the relaxed emotional state, for the dog correctly.

The dog showed more attachment behaviour when the dyad interacted most of the time and when the interaction was initialized more often by the dog and less by the handler. The dog also showed more attachment behaviour when cooperating actively with the handler without being encouraged to do so. This could mean that a considerable amount of the interactions consisted from attachment behaviour. Consequently that could mean, that the test situation was at least a little demanding on the dogs side, so the dog sought closeness to the handler and expressed attachment behaviour. This stress was not visible in cortisol measurements, because the expressed attachment behaviour and the reaction on the human side had a calming and stress dumping effect supported through oxytocin increase and cortisol decrease (Ainsworth, 1989; Bowlby, 1969; DeVries et al., 2003; Gunnar, 1998; Scheiber et al., 2005). This would also explain the observed correlation of attachment behaviour and a relaxed state of the corresponding dog.

Although some results indicate that the observer was able to assess the stress strain of the dogs correctly, further tests are necessary to see if an observer can be used to determine if a dog can be used as a school dog. During the first test day in the Burgenland, some dogs were confronted with several playing children who were allowed to touch the dog and play around and with him as they wished. This could be a more realistic scenario to simulate one of the most stressful parts for a school dog. This was done only

with a part of the dogs and after the tests were finished. Therefore it had no influence on the ratings and the saliva samples. If more realistic test situations can be included in future test setups, maybe some stress responses could be measured in the dogs. These responses could be used to see if for example training state of the dog or various other variables affect the stress response. If a stress response could be measured in saliva cortisol, this result could be compared with the ratings of the owners and the observer to see if they really are able to assess the dog's emotional state. If an observer is well trained and the ratings would concur with the saliva sample results, the observer could be used to assess some dog stress symptoms. Since stress in its physiological expression is not always expressed as behaviour, saliva sampling would still be necessary, but a well-trained observer would certainly help to make the test more meaningful. The results of this study should be seen in support of a positive school dog concept. Most dogs will hardly be significantly stressed when being in a class room. Also testing both parts of the dyad makes sense since studies show that for example gender, interaction style and personality of the owner have influence on the dog and therefore on the dyad (e.g. Kotrschal et al., 2009; Schöberl et al., 2009; Wedl et al., 2010)

Cortisol results were mainly negative: For dogs as well as for humans there was no significant different saliva concentration found considering the two measurement times before and after the tests. This indicates, that the test situation for either part of the dyad was not that stressful. This may be not that surprising since Haubenhofer (2005) showed that normal training situations are hardly stressful for dogs. Even difficult conditions do not necessarily provoke a physiological stress response, probably because the situation is neither unpredictable nor uncontrollable (Creel, 2001). All of the test situations may have occurred to the dyads in everyday life which makes them predictable.

On the human side being sick, taking medicinal drugs and taking hormonal contraceptives showed no obvious influence on the change of the

corticosterone value over the test. This is surprising since it is known that for example hormonal contraceptives can lead to an attenuated cortisol response (Kirschbaum et al., 1995).

Neutering a dog is a procedure which alters the dogs (sexual) behaviour and hormonal balance (Frank et al., 2003). It has been shown that male cats who were neutered gained more weight than intact ones, without increasing their food intake (Fettman et al., 1997). This suggests that their metabolism was altered which could also influence hormones linked to the catabolic system, like cortisol. In dogs it has been shown that being neutered has an influence on various hormones including cortisol (Frank et al., 2003). That the present study did not find a significant difference in cortisol considering being neutered or intact is surprising. Maybe if the test situation would have been more demanding a difference would have been found since the study by Frank and colleagues (2003) found a difference only after stimulating with Adrenocorticotrope hormone (ACTH).

The level of dog training had no significant influence on the cortisol concentrations. This might be explained when taking into account that the concentration was not different before and after the tests - the dogs were not stressed at all through the testing environment. A more stressful environment could lead to different stress responses which among other things could be explained through different training states.

No significant sex differences in the saliva concentrations in dogs was found. Female as well as male dogs seem equally well suited for the task of being a school dog. In 2005 Haubenhöfer and colleagues accompanied human dog dyads during training courses for animal assisted therapy. One result of that study was, that significantly more female dogs successfully finished the training (Haubenhöfer et al., 2005). In 2009 Kotrschal and colleagues found out, that male dogs were more tense and distant to strangers when being with a female handler (Kotrschal et al., 2009). Since the present study found a significant difference in saliva concentration after the testing situation considering the age of the dogs, namely older dogs had

a lesser concentration than younger ones, the perfect school dog could be an older female dog with a female handler. This should be followed up with further testing and a larger number of participants.

Since only three male dog handlers participated in this study the influence of the handlers sex could not be analysed. It is known that for example male dogs behave differently to their social surrounding depending on being with a male or female owner, also the saliva cortisol seems to differ in certain situations depending on the owners' gender (Kotrschal et al., 2009). Further tests with a bigger (male) dog handler sample size are required to test the influence of the dog handlers' gender.

That no difference in the saliva concentration was found when the handler is the primary attachment figure of the dog or not, is probably also explained due the not very stress-inducing test conditions. On one hand a secure attachment is related to a lower physiological stress response (Gunnar, 1998) and on the other hand a good relationship can have a stress reducing function (Scheiber et al., 2005). If future school dog test setups could include an attachment test and collect additional information about the relationship for example with the Monash Dog Owner Relationship Scale (Dwyer et al., 2006) or the Relationship scales Questionnaire (Griffin and Bartholomew, 1994), this additional information could help finding the perfect school dog, since the stress dumping effect of a secure attachment will certainly be beneficial for the dog as well as for the human part of the dyad.

When interpreting the results of this study one has to keep in mind, that there was only a relative small sample size available. The two test sites (Vienna and Burgenland) differed in their surroundings which certainly affected the dyads. For example in Vienna the dyads came one after another whereas in Burgenland many dyads were present at the same time in the same room. Even with these limitations some interesting results could be found which bring additional knowledge of the human dog relationship and

it's components to light. Future school dog testing may benefit from these results.

A success of the school dog system could lead to other application fields for dogs. For example in a recent study Datler and colleagues (2012) stated, that toddlers (age 10-33 months) that were in a day-care facility sometimes are under considerable stress that can also be measured in Saliva cortisol (Ahnert et al., 2004; Datler et al., 2012). This field of application is much more sensitive than the school dog concept, for example when it comes to the safety of the infants, but it could be another application field for dogs and their supporting function for humans.

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8. Appendices

Appendix 1: Information and consent form

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Informationen für die Teilnehmer an der Studie „Stress bei Schulhund-Lehrkraft-Teams“

Sehr geehrte Teilnehmerin, sehr geehrter Teilnehmer,

Im Zuge der Studie werden Sie gebeten, einen kurzen Fragebogen zu demographischen Daten über sich und Ihren Hund auszufüllen. Weiters werden von Ihnen und Ihrem Hund Speichelproben genommen, die zur Auswertung des Stresshormons Cortisol und des Geschlechtshormons Testosteron dienen.

Während der Entnahme der Speichelproben wird ausschließlich Käse zur Speichelanregung beim Hund und zur Belohnung des Hundes verwendet. Bitte geben Sie Ihrem Hund vor und während der Speichelproben keine anderen Leckerlis, da diese die Speichelproben verfälschen könnten!

Ihre Teilnahme an der Studie ist vollkommen freiwillig und mit keinerlei voraussehbarem Risiko verbunden. Sie können die Teilnahme an der Studie zu jedem Zeitpunkt, ohne Angabe von Gründen, abbrechen, ohne dass dadurch Nachteile für Sie entstehen.

Ihre Daten werden vertraulich behandelt und nicht an Dritte weitergegeben, sie werden anonymisiert analysiert, nach den üblichen Vorgaben der Datenspeicherung behandelt und ausschließlich für wissenschaftliche Zwecke verwendet.

Einverständniserklärung

Name:

Adresse:

Telefonnr.:

Email:

Rufname des Hundes:

Ich habe das Informationsschreiben gelesen und verstanden. Allfällige Fragen meinerseits wurden von der verantwortlichen Person über die Datennahme für die oben genannte Studie vollständig aufgeklärt.

Ich erkläre hiermit meine freiwillige Teilnahme an dieser Studie.

Ort, Datum

Unterschrift Teilnehmer/in

Appendix 2: screening situation plan of procedures

1. Veterenarian checks dog (conspicuous pain signs and inflammations)
 - a. Feel dogs back
 - b. Feel dogs hip
 - c. Look in dogs mouth
 - d. Look in dogs ears
 - e. Check eyes
 - f. Check vaccination record

Duration: 5- 10 minutes

2. Greeting of dyad by staff member of the school dog team

Duration: 1 minute

3. School dog staff member strokes and touches dog
 - a. Touch tail
 - b. Hug dog
 - c. General stroking of dog
 - d. Touching the unprepared dog from behind

Duration: 2-5 minutes

4. School dog staff member lifts and touches pawns of dog

Duration: 1- 2 minutes

5. Three to five school dog staff members move in a decreasing circle towards the dog until the stand next to it. The dog is allowed to escape this situation.

Duration: 1- 2 minutes

6. School dog staff member feeds dog
 - a. From the palm of the hand
 - b. From the fingers

Duration: 1 minute

7. School dog staff member leads the leashed dog once through the entire room.

Duration: 1- 2 minutes

8. Dog handler leads the leashed dog once through the entire room

Duration: 1-2 minutes

9. Dog handler gives the dog the commando “sit” or “down” and “stay”, then moves away several meters. Repeated use of the commandos is allowed.

Duration: 2 minutes

10. Short playing of handler and dog.
 - a. Handler should command the dog to give the toy back, besides that free playing.

Duration: 5 minutes

11. Reaction of dog to unfamiliar sounds
 - a. In a distance of 1,5 meters a crook or a chain was dropped to the floor.

Duration: 1 minute

12. Reaction of dog to a crook and a wheelchair
 - a. School dog staff member walks with crooks towards the dog until a distance of 1,5 meters.
 - b. school dog staff member picks up a crook in 2 meters distance to the dog and points towards the animal.

Duration: 5 minutes

13. Reaction of dog to various floor conditions. Dog is lead over:
 - a. Baking paper
 - b. Plastic
 - c. Carpet

Duration: 2 minutes

14. Reaction of dog to thrown objects. Two school dog staff members throw a gym bag back and forth between them (distance ~4 meters). Dog stands next to the two throwers.

Duration: 1 minute

Appendix 3: rater scale and definitions

Team-Beurteilung Definitionen

QUANTITATIVER INTERAKTIONSTIL

Häufigkeit der Interaktion zwischen Besitzer und Hund.

1. Hundehalter und Hund interagieren die meiste Zeit über.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

- 1. Kaum bis gar keine Interaktionen**
Hund und Besitzer interagieren nur sehr wenig bis gar nicht miteinander (weniger als 20% der Zeit). Sie ignorieren sich Großteils (min. 80% der Zeit).
- 2. wenige Interaktionen**
Hund und Besitzer interagieren wenig miteinander (weniger als 40% der Zeit). Sie ignorieren sich oft (min. 60% der Zeit).
- 3. Interaktionen ca. Hälfte der Zeit**
Hund und Besitzer interagieren ca. die Hälfte der Zeit miteinander (40-60% der Zeit).
- 4. viele Interaktionen**
Hund und Besitzer interagieren häufig miteinander (60-80% der Zeit). Sie ignorieren sich selten (weniger als 20%).
- 5. Sehr viele bis durchgehende Interaktionen**
Hund und Besitzer interagieren häufig bis durchgehend miteinander (min. 80% der Zeit).

RICHTUNG DER INTERAKTIONEN

2. Die Interaktionen gehen die meiste Zeit vom Hund aus.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. Interaktionen gehen größtenteils vom Besitzer aus

Die Interaktionen gehen größtenteils nur vom Besitzer aus (min. 80% der Interaktionen), während deutlich weniger/keine Interaktionen von Seiten des Hundes ausgehen.

2. Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Besitzer als vom Hund aus

Die Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Besitzer aus (ca. 60%-80% der Interaktionen), während aber auch einige Interaktionen von Seiten des Hundes ausgehen.

3. Interaktionen gehen gleichmäßig von Besitzer und Hund aus

Die Interaktionen gehen gleichmäßig von Besitzer und Hund aus (min. 40% vom Hund und min. 40% vom Besitzer).

4. Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Hund als vom Besitzer aus

Die Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Hund aus (ca. 60%-80% der Interaktionen), während aber auch einige Interaktionen von Seiten des Besitzers ausgehen.

5. Interaktionen gehen größtenteils vom Hund aus

Die Interaktionen gehen größtenteils nur vom Hund aus (min. 60% der Zeit), während deutlich weniger/keine Interaktionen von Seiten des Besitzers ausgehen.

3. Die Interaktionen gehen die meiste Zeit vom Besitzer aus.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

5. Interaktionen gehen größtenteils vom Hund aus

Die Interaktionen gehen größtenteils nur vom Hund aus (min. 80% der Interaktionen), während deutlich weniger/keine Interaktionen von Seiten des Besitzers ausgehen.

6. Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Hund als vom Besitzer aus

Die Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Hund aus (ca. 60%-80% der Interaktionen), während aber auch einige Interaktionen von Seiten des Besitzers ausgehen.

7. Interaktionen gehen gleichmäßig von Besitzer und Hund aus

Die Interaktionen gehen gleichmäßig von Besitzer und Hund aus (min. 40% vom Hund und min. 40% vom Besitzer).

8. Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Besitzer als vom Hund aus

Die Interaktionen gehen mehr vom Besitzer aus (ca. 60%-80% der Interaktionen), während aber auch einige Interaktionen von Seiten des Hundes ausgehen.

6. Interaktionen gehen größtenteils vom Besitzer aus

Die Interaktionen gehen größtenteils nur vom Besitzer aus (min. 60% der Zeit), während deutlich weniger/keine Interaktionen von Seiten des Hundes ausgehen.

QUALITATIVER INTERAKTIONSTIL

Umgangsart zwischen Besitzer und Hund.

Anmerkung:

streng:

strenge bzw. laute/aggressive Stimmsignale, meist in Kommandoform, Schimpfen; viele Verbote unterbinden unerwünschtes Verhalten; eher harscher Körperkontakt (klopfen, tätscheln, Klaps, Schnauzengriff, Ruck am Halsband,...); wartet nicht ab, bis der Hund freiwillig kooperiert, sondern zwingt Hund eher (fixieren, hochheben, zerren,...) ...

freundlich:

ruhige, freundliche Stimmsignale; unerwünschtes Verhalten wird durch Ablenkung unterbunden und erwünschtes Verhalten durch Lob und Belohnung, spielerische Motivation,... bestärkt; eher sanfter Körperkontakt (streicheln, kraulen, massieren, ...); eher geduldiges Verhalten gegenüber dem Hunde (z.B. abwarten/dem Hund Zeit zur Reaktion geben, Strategie evtl. auch anpassen/abändern, bis der Hund freiwillig kooperiert).

Erziehungsmethoden:

„Negativ“:

- positive Strafe: Der Besitzer bestraft den Hund, indem etwas Unangenehmes beginnt, Strafe durch Zufuhr von etwas Unangenehmen (z.B. Schimpfen, körperliches zurechtweisen, Leinenruck...)
- negative Verstärkung: Der Besitzer verstärkt ein Verhalten des Hundes, indem er etwas Unangenehmes beendet bzw. etwas Unangenehmes weggenommen wird (z.B. der Besitzer drückt/zwingt den Hund in eine Sitz-Position, damit der Hund diese Position einnimmt, wodurch das unangenehme Druckgefühl beendet wird; Leinenruck, wodurch Hund aufhört zu ziehen um dem Ruck zu entgehen....)

„Positiv“:

- negative Strafe: Der Besitzer bestraft den Hund, indem etwas Angenehmes aufhört bzw. indem etwas weggenommen wird, als Reaktion auf ein Verhalten des Hundes (z.B. Aufmerksamkeitsentzug – Hund springt rauf und wird darauf hin ignoriert, Beenden von Spiel, Spielzeug wegnehmen, ...)
- positive Verstärkung: Der Besitzer verstärkt ein Verhalten des Hundes, indem etwas Angenehmes beginnt bzw. etwas Angenehmes zugefügt wird. (z.B. Loben durch Leckerli, verbales Lob, positiver Körperkontakt wie Streicheln, Spiel,...)

4. Der Besitzer interagiert mit seinem Hund Großteils auf freundliche Weise und verwendet fast ausschließlich belohnende Erziehungsmethoden.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung

1. Streng

Der Besitzer interagiert mit seinem Hund Großteils auf strenge Weise und/oder verwendet fast ausschließlich negative Erziehungsmethoden (min. 80% der Interaktionszeit).

2. Eher streng

Der Besitzer interagiert mit seinem Hund oft auf strenge Weise und/oder verwendet oft negative Erziehungsmethoden (min. 60% der Zeit).

3. Gleichmäßig streng und freundlich

Der Besitzer interagiert mit seinem Hund gleichermaßen auf freundliche und strenge Weise und/oder verwendet sowohl negative, wie auch positive Erziehungsmethoden.

4. Eher freundlich

Der Besitzer agiert mit seinem Hund meist auf freundliche Weise und/oder verwendet meist belohnende Erziehungsmethoden (min. 60% der Zeit).

5. Freundlich

Der Besitzer interagiert mit seinem Hund großteils auf freundliche Weise und/oder verwendet fast ausschließlich belohnende Erziehungsmethoden (min. 80% der Interaktionszeit).

5. Der Hund reagiert freundlich und mit Zuwendung auf eine Interaktion des Besitzers.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. starkes Meideverhalten

Der Hund zeigt starkes Meideverhalten bis hin zur aktiven Flucht/Verstecken, wodurch eine direkte Interaktion seitens des Besitzers nur mit Einfangen und Festhalten möglich ist oder wäre. Knurren und Abwehrschnappen sind möglich, aber kein Muß.

2. mäßiges Meideverhalten

Der Hund zeigt mittleres bis leichtes Meideverhalten, indem er bei einer Interaktion wegweicht (aber keine Flucht/Verstecken), sich jedoch angreifen lässt bzw. Annäherung zulässt. Ausweichen ist eventuell auch als Übersprungshandlung erkennbar (z.B. leichtes spielerisches Wegspringen, eventuell Vorderkörpertiefstellung mit Spielaufforderung, ...). Knurren und Abwehrschnappen sind möglich, aber kein Muß.

3. passives Tolerieren

Der Hund toleriert die Interaktion, zeigt jedoch keine aktive Reaktion. Er ist passiv und verharnt ruhig (z.B. still stehend/sitzend/liegend) und lässt sich z.B. zerren, schieben, hochheben. Kein Knurren oder Schnappen.

4. mäßige Zuwendung

Der Hund reagiert freundlich/interessiert auf die Interaktion (z.B. Schwanzwedeln mit erhobener Rute, Beschnüffeln, Begrüßung, Abschlecken, Springen, ...), reagiert jedoch nur zögerlich oder wenig aktiv.

5. starke Zuwendung

Der Hund reagiert teils sogar überschwänglich freundlich/interessiert auf die Interaktion (z.B. mit Anlehnen, Spiel, Abschlecken, Springen, Arbeitsfreudigkeit bzw. Anbieten von Kommandos...). Übersprungshandlungen sind aufgrund der Aufregung möglich.

SYNCHRONY

Dieses Rating bezieht sich auf die Koordination von Bewegungen und Positionen einer Dyade bzw. deren Orientierung aneinander. Beispiele hierfür wären paralleles Gehen/Laufen, gleichzeitiges Hinsetzen, Aufstehen und sonstige Positionswechsel, Gleichzeitige oder hintereinander folgende ähnliche Verhaltensweisen von Besitzer und Hund (Gähnen, Kratzen, Blick abwenden, Lippen lecken, Wasser trinken...).

6. Besitzer und Hund sind miteinander synchron.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. Dyade wirkt „gegensätzlich“ synchron

Besitzer und Hund zeigen kaum/keine synchronen/parallelen Bewegungen. Es sind häufig sogar gegensätzliche Bewegungen erkennbar (z.B. Besitzer steht auf, Hund legt sich hin).

2. Dyade wirkt nicht synchron

Besitzer und Hund zeigen kaum/keine synchronen/parallelen Bewegungen (max. 10% der Beobachtungszeit), es sind aber keine gegensätzlichen Bewegungen ersichtlich.

3. Dyade wirkt kaum synchron

Besitzer und Hund zeigen selten bzw. manchmal synchrone/parallele Bewegungen (max. 20% der Beobachtungszeit), die nicht regelmäßig wiederkehrend auftreten.

4. Dyade wirkt mäßig synchron

Besitzer und Hund zeigen öfters regelmäßig wiederkehrende synchrone/parallele Bewegungen (max. 30-50% der Beobachtungszeit).

5. Dyade wirkt stark synchron

Besitzer und Hund zeigen sehr oft bis durchgehend regelmäßig wiederkehrende synchrone/parallele Bewegungen (min. 50% der Beobachtungszeit).

EMOTIONAL STATE OF DOG

7. Der Hund ist entspannt und zeigt kein Stressverhalten.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. Hund ist stark „gestresst“

Der Hund wirkt sehr gestresst und nervös und zeigt viel Stressverhalten (starkes Hecheln, Gähnen, Lippenlecken, nervös auf- und ablaufen, unkoordiniertes wirkendes Verhalten...). Die Körperhaltung ist Großteils unsicher (Definition nach der Konfiguration). Der Hund zeigt kaum bis gar kein Explorationsverhalten.

2. Hund eher „gestresst“

Der Hund wirkt gestresst und zeigt wenig bis mäßig viel Stressverhalten (starkes Hecheln, Gähnen, Lippenlecken, nervös auf- und ablaufen, unkoordiniertes wirkendes Verhalten...). Die Körperhaltung ist eher unsicher. Der Hund zeigt jedoch immer wieder Explorationsverhalten.

3. Hund passiv

Der Hund wirkt kaum gestresst (zumindest wenig Stressverhalten sichtbar), er wirkt eher apathisch bzw. passiv. Eventuell viel Richtung Türe orientiert, vor Türe liegen oder sitzen. Die Körperhaltung ist unsicher oder entspannt. Der Hund zeigt kaum bis gar kein Explorationsverhalten.

4. Hund eher „entspannt“

Der Hund wirkt kaum gestresst oder nervös und zeigt wenig Stressverhalten (starkes Hecheln, Gähnen, Lippenlecken, nervös auf- und ablaufen, unkoordiniertes wirkendes Verhalten...). Die Körperhaltung ist meist entspannt, eventuell aufgeregt, während der Hund exploriert. Der Hund exploriert vermehrt.

5. Hund total „entspannt“

Der Hund wirkt gar nicht gestresst oder nervös und zeigt kaum Stressverhalten (starkes Hecheln, Gähnen, Lippenlecken, nervös auf- und ablaufen, unkoordiniertes wirkendes Verhalten...). Die Körperhaltung ist meist entspannt oder selbstbewusst, eventuell aufgeregt, während der Hund exploriert. Der Hund exploriert die meiste Zeit.

8. Der Hund zeigt aktives Bindungsverhalten.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. Hund zeigt kein Bindungsverhalten

Der Hund zeigt gar kein Bindungsverhalten (Nahe beim Besitzer, Orientierung zum Besitzer, Kontaktsuche ...).

2. Hund zeigt manchmal Bindungsverhalten

Der Hund zeigt immer wieder für kurze Episoden Bindungsverhalten (Nahe beim Besitzer, Orientierung zum Besitzer, Kontaktsuche ...), jedoch weniger als die Hälfte der Zeit.

3. Hund zeigt die Hälfte der Zeit Bindungsverhalten

Der Hund zeigt die Hälfte der Zeit Bindungsverhalten (Nahe beim Besitzer, Orientierung zum Besitzer, Kontaktsuche ...).

4. Hund zeigt viel Bindungsverhalten

Der Hund zeigt mehr als die Hälfte der Zeit Bindungsverhalten (Nahe beim Besitzer, Orientierung zum Besitzer, Kontaktsuche ...), jedoch nicht durchgehend.

5. Hund zeigt durchgehend Bindungsverhalten

Der Hund zeigt durchgehend, während der gesamten Beobachtungszeit Bindungsverhalten (Nahe beim Besitzer, Orientierung zum Besitzer, Kontaktsuche ...).

EINWIRKUNG DES BESITZERS

Anmerkungen:

Fixieren: festhalten, fixieren, ziehen, führen, zerren, schleifen, heben, schieben, Schnauze zu halten...

Sichern: stützen, halt geben, Hand am Hund haben, sodass der Hund wenn er will sich anlehnen kann, aber auch jederzeit weg kann.

9. Der Besitzer hat auf den Hund NICHT physisch eingewirkt.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. Ständige Einwirkung

Der Besitzer hat den Hund dauerhaft fixiert (festhalten, hochheben, herumzerren...).

2. Viel Einwirkung

Der Besitzer hat den Hund mehr als die Hälfte der Zeit fixiert und teilweise nur gesichert.

3. Mäßige Einwirkung

Der Besitzer hat den Hund weniger als die Hälfte der Zeit fixiert und gesichert.

4. Kaum Einwirkung

Der Besitzer hat kaum auf den Hund eingewirkt und wenn, nur gesichert und nicht fixiert.

5. keine physische Einwirkung

Der Besitzer hat den Hund weder fixiert, noch gesichert.

KOOPERATION DES HUNDES

10. Der Hund kooperiert aktiv und von alleine mit dem Besitzer.

<i>trifft gar nicht zu</i>		<i>teils-teils</i>		<i>trifft sehr zu</i>
1	2	3	4	5

Beschreibung:

1. Gar keine Kooperation

Der Hund kooperiert gar nicht und verweigert vollkommen (z.B. unter Tisch legen und keine Reaktion mehr).

2. Wenig Kooperation

Der Hund kooperiert wenig freiwillig mit dem Besitzer und muss die meiste Zeit „motiviert“ werden.

3. Mäßige Kooperation

Der Hund kooperiert weniger als die Hälfte der Zeit freiwillig und muss teilweise vom Besitzer „motiviert“ werden.

4. Viel Kooperation

Der Hund kooperiert mit dem Besitzer mehr als die Hälfte der Zeit freiwillig.

5. Durchgehende Kooperation

Der Hund kooperiert mit dem Besitzer die ganze Zeit freiwillig.

Appendix 4: Questionnaire

Fragebogen zu demographischen Daten

Team:_____ **Datum:** _____ **Uhrzeit:** _____

Bitte füllen Sie folgende Fragen so gewissenhaft und ehrlich wie möglich aus.
Bitte füllen Sie alle Fragen nach Ihrem Gefühl aus.

Bitte kreuzen Sie je nach Art der Fragestellung den zutreffenden Punkt an oder kreisen Sie die entsprechende Zahl ein. Bitte beantworten Sie fallweise auch alle Unterfragen!

Falls Sie sich bei Ihrer Antwort geirrt haben, streichen Sie diese bitte deutlich durch und kreuzen Sie die passende Antwort an.

Wenn Sie mehr als einen Hund haben, wählen Sie für die Beantwortung bitte jenen Hund aus, mit dem Sie am heutigen Auswahlverfahren teilnehmen.

Bei Unklarheiten können Sie jederzeit den/die zuständige Person fragen, die Ihnen den Fragebogen überreicht hat!

Der Fragebogen wird anonym und vertraulich behandelt!

I) **Angaben zu Ihrer Person (im folgenden Hundehalter genannt)**

1. Geschlecht des Hundehalters: ☐ männlich ☐ weiblich

2. Alter und Geburtsdatum des Hundehalters zum Zeitpunkt der Datenaufnahme:

Alter: _____Jahre; Geburtsdatum (TT.MM.JJJJ): _____

3. Sind Sie die einzige Hauptbezugsperson des Hundes?

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn nein, wie viele Hauptbezugsperson des Hundes gibt es außer Ihnen noch:

_____Personen

4. Haben Sie in den letzten drei Monaten hormonelle Verhütungsmittel (Pille, Hormonspritze, Hormonspirale, Hormonimplantat...) genommen?
(relevant für die Auswertung der Speichelproben)

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

5. Nehmen Sie zum Zeitpunkt der Datenaufnahme Medikamente?
(relevant für die Auswertung der Speichelproben)

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn ja, welche Medikamente mit welcher Dosierung? _____

6. Leiden Sie zum Zeitpunkt der Datennahme an einer Krankheit?
(relevant für die Auswertung der Speichelproben)

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn ja, an welcher Krankheit leiden Sie? _____

II) **Angaben zum Hund**

7. Rasse Ihres Hundes: _____

8. Geschlecht Ihres Hundes: ☐ männlich ☐ weiblich

9. Ist Ihr Hund kastriert?

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

10. Alter und Geburtsdatum des Hundes zum Zeitpunkt der Datenaufnahme:

Alter: _____Jahre; Geburtsdatum (TT.MM.JJJJ): _____

11. Wie alt war Ihr Hund, als Sie ihn übernommen haben: _____

11. Wie alt war Ihr Hund, als Sie ihn übernommen haben: _____

12. Bekommt Ihr Hund zum Zeitpunkt der Datenaufnahme Medikamente?
(relevant für die Auswertung der Speichelproben)

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn ja, welche Medikamente bekommt er mit welcher Dosierung? _____

13. Leidet Ihr Hund zum Zeitpunkt der Datennahme an einer Krankheit?
(relevant für die Auswertung der Speichelproben)

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn ja, an welcher Krankheit leidet Ihr Hund? _____

14. Welche der folgenden Ausbildungen haben Sie mit Ihrem Hund absolviert?

Welpenkurs ☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Junghundekurs ☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Begleithundebildung 1 ☐ Ja ☐ Nein ☐ Prüfung bestanden

Begleithundebildung 2 ☐ Ja ☐ Nein ☐ Prüfung bestanden

Jagdhundebildung ☐ Ja ☐ Nein ☐ Prüfung bestanden

Schutzhundebildung ☐ Ja ☐ Nein ☐ Prüfung bestanden

Sonstige: _____

15. Haben Sie mit Ihrem Hund eine Therapiehundebildung absolviert?

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn Ja, wann haben Sie die Prüfung absolviert?

vor _____ Jahren und _____ Monaten

Wenn Ja, sind Sie mit Ihrem Hund aktiv im Einsatz?

☐ Ja ☐ Nein

Wenn ja, seit wann sind Sie mit Ihrem Hund im Einsatz?

seit _____ Jahren und _____ Monaten

III) Weitere Angaben

16. Für wie stressanfällig halten Sie Ihren Hund?

gar nicht mittel sehr

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

17. Wie viel schläft und ruht Ihr Hund innerhalb eines Tages (24 Stunden)?

1 = weniger als 8 Stunden

2 = 8-11 Stunden

3 = 12-16 Stunden

4 = 17-20 Stunden

5 = mehr als 20 Stunden

*weniger
als 8
Stunden*

*12-16
Stunden*

*mehr
als 20
Stunden*

Schlafen/ruhen	1	2	3	4	5
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18. Wie belastend empfanden Sie das heutige Auswahlverfahren?

gar nicht mittel sehr

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

19. Wie belastend, denken Sie, war das heutige Auswahlverfahren für Ihren Hund?

gar nicht mittel sehr

1	2	3	4	5
---	---	---	---	---

Danke, dass Sie sich die Zeit genommen haben, diesen Fragebogen auszufüllen!

9. Curriculum Vitae

Personal Information

Name: Stöger-Haselböck Philipp

School education:

09/1992 – 06/1996 Public elementary school Floridsdorf, Vienna.

09/1996 – 06/2004 Secondary School Schulschiff

Community service:

10/2004 – 09/2005 Neustart (probation service)

University:

Since 10/2005 Biology/Zoology studies at the University of Vienna