1

Owner Guarding?

2

Assessment

- Antecedent arrangements!
- Thorough behavior history
- Appropriate behavior change strategies

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Common Characteristics

- Body placement between owner and stimulus
- Behavior only happens when owner is present
- When other dog approaches owner or enters space

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Typical Body Language and Behaviors

- Stiff legs
- Ears forward
- Weight shifted forward
- Shoulder stance
- Hard stare
- "Intensity" or "arousal"

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Typical Body Language and Behaviors

- Shoulder swipe (marking)
- Agonistic pucker
- Lowered head (sometimes)
- Growling
- Freezing

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Typical Body Language and Behaviors

- Sitting on feet
- Leaning into owner
- Laying over or paws over
- Staring at or "tracking" other dog

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Aggression to GAIN Access to a Resource

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Does it look like this?

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Does it look like this?

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Proactivity...Not Reactivity

- Management
- Proactive cueing
- Stationing

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Key Concepts for Behavior Change

- Operant or classical?
- Distance
- Intensity
- Observation

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Dog to Dog Owner Guarding

At least "four hours of separation"

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Dog to Dog Owner Guarding

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Adding in Movement of Owner

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Initial Stages

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Adding in Problematic Scenarios

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Building Duration

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Generalizing

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Differential Reinforcement

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Decreasing Distance

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Upping Criteria

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Generalizing

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CERs!

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Generalization

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26