

As a veterinarian, I certainly respect and thrive on scientific reports and studies. My testimonial is based on my own experiences with my pets, and I will not mention the names of the behaviorists from which I sought advice. I went to Tyler Muto with my dog Jesse Mae as a last resort. If he were unable to help me control her dog aggression, I would have to euthanize her. I'd already contacted two behaviorists and had only seen worsening in Jesse's aggression over the past few years. While in school, I met with a behaviorist to discuss Jesse. We sat in an office, discussed her reactive behavior, and little information on behavior modification was given. A month after the appointment, I received an email filled with copies of chapters, discussing how to treat aggression toward humans (which she does not have), target training and clicker training. The clicker training and target training alone were not useful – she would still react and become uncontrollable in the presence of other dogs – treats and clicker or not. There was no follow up. I emailed another behaviorist a few years later asking for advice concerning Jesse's aggression, Leila (my other dog) and her fear aggression toward dogs, as well as the inter-dog aggression in my home and even possible medicating protocols. I asked if an appointment should be set up – a quick vague response was given, with no help or direction. Jesse's behavior continued to escalate. I then called K9 Connection. Tyler immediately returned my call, and we set up an evaluation with both Leila and Jesse. My dogs both attended boot camp, and have electric pulse collars. Now three months after the initial visit, I cannot thank Tyler Muto and his staff enough for their help with my girls. Leila's less fearful. Both Jesse and Leila attend socialization classes regularly, and no longer show the terrifying reactivity they had previously. They do not fear their collars, nor are these collars cruel. These tools work – and with the proper training, they've helped perform miracles with my girls. My dogs make better choices every day, and I've learned how to help my girls make better choices as well. I'm now able to walk both dogs together, they enjoy being out more, and our bond is stronger. Jesse and Leila get along better at home together. Based on my personal experience as a veterinary professional, and seeing the results my own clients have seen, I continue to refer clients to K9 Connection to help mend and build a better human-animal bond. I have yet to find another source as beneficial as the services they provide.

-Dr. Ashley L. Erick, DVM