

MUDDYPAWSCRIME started out as a plan to do a pet theft/animal welfare documentary to include stories from Stolen dog owners, addressing illegal breeding , animal welfare issues ,pet theft awareness and more.

The idea was originally from the directors belonging to many lost dog groups after seeing the situation was worsening. Due to the rise in pet theft they felt seeing dogs that had been missing for a number of months to years were being lost in trails of stolen dog groups and posts & felt these dogs very much still need to be out in the media and the owners given a voice.

Upon speaking to owners although there is generally initial help, the owners then do not know where to turn and many stolen dog cases are closed by the police or told it is a civil matter in some scenarios .when it is in fact criminal As weeks progressed owners started to contact Muddypawscrime begging for help and we were successful in one case where the police were closing a case even though they knew where the dog was and the dog was also still microchipped to the owner. We intervened and applied pressure and within 2 months the dog was reunited with its owner.

Following this we had other owners contact us and we explain we are not a lost dog group but if an owner has nowhere to turn and once facts are revealed, if we feel we can try and help with authorities or gaining evidence, we will do our upmost to help. I must state this is all done voluntary in our spare time.

Another owner we helped involved a rescue centre had re-homed their dog which then opened our eyes to issues within rescue centres and we found out rescue centres do not have to be licensed or regulated which means anyone can open a rescue and this can also open up many animal welfare issues. Due to many stolen dogs also having their chips removed or damaged there are also not enough checks done if stolen dogs end up at rescue centres.

We have a petition published for -Require Police to offer victim support for all victims of Pet Theft <u>https://petition.parliament.uk/petitions/611792</u> as it is evident upon helping many owners that victim support is required but not offered.

We see pet theft as a jigsaw puzzle from the theft of pets which could be for a number of reasons such as illegal breeding , hunting, dogfighting bait or dogfighting dependant on breeds. Many dogs are also transported to Europe and Ireland and there needs to be much stricter rules and checks at ports which is something we would like to address in the future. All these issues have to be addressed by authorities to make any difference for the unfortunate situation which is worsening.

Laws that are passed by parliament need to be adhered to as they are not being at present, Theft act 1968 already covers theft of a pet which is a criminal matter with a maximum sentence of 7 years but we see daily that this is not applied and we have to ask why? It is also heartbreaking for owners when authorities compare their beloved pets to an object stolen .This must change.

We hope to reach a wide audience for owners of stolen dogs. Also to educate people to not buy pets online as this is feeding thieves as this is where many dogs will pass hands and end up being sold. Also pups sold will often be from illegal breeders so come with many health issues and behavioural issues and some sadly pass away soon after being purchased. A lot of these pups are also taken away from their often sick mothers too soon. We want to bring pet theft awareness to the public and give tips to help keep them and their pets as safe as possible.

We will also endeavour to work alongside authorities to help produce evidence to stop what we call MUDDYPAWSCRIME.That is what it is - CRIME and should be addressed as such. We have now also set up Muddypawscrime IRELAND due to many issues being crossovers UK/IRELAND and MUDDYPAWSCRIME-Stolen Pet Owners Support (s.p.o.s) which is a private group owners only and we host FREE monthly zooms with a councillor for owners .

To contact Muddypawscrime or Leomina Productions Ltd please find us on Facebook https://www.facebook.com/muddypawscrime https://www.facebook.com/Leominaproductions https://www.facebook.com/muddypawscrimeireland EMAIL muddypawscrime@gmail.com or leominaproductions@gmail.com

MUDDYPAWSCRIME

