

Child Injury Laws *Blog*

Dog Owners Need To Remember To Use Common Sense When Bringing Children Around Their Home

By ***Jonathan Rosenfeld*** on August 08, 2011

Let's not forget that there are plenty of **dog-attacks** that take place everyday amongst well-behaved children and well-behaved dogs.

In these circumstances, the dog owners and child-care supervisors are really the ones who are to blame when a child is attacked by friendly dog.

The lack of basic common sense for many dog owners was well-articulated in a recent **article** by Penny Elms, entitled, "5 yr old child bitten by dog- where has common sense gone?"

In her article, Penny discusses a recent dog bite attack in Florida where a child was severely bitten in the face by a baby sitter's 85 pound Pit Bull.

Apparently, the baby sitter knowingly allowed the five-year-old to play unsupervised with the dog. It was after the boy attempted to ride the dog like a horse, he was attacked and bitten in the face in several areas.

In the aftermath of the dog attack, the young boy is expected to endure several facial reconstruction surgeries to repair his disfigured face and the dog may ultimately be euthanized. I agree with Penny in that this incident should have been prevented and that the dog's breed is pretty much incidental.

Jonathan Rosenfeld offers legal services relating to: birth injuries, medical malpractice, day care abuse, foster care abuse, swimming pool injuries, automobile accidents, school bus accidents, dog bites, food poisoning, product liability, amusement park accidents and clergy abuse. For more information please visit Child Injury Laws Blog (<http://www.childinjurylaws.com/>) or call Jonathan directly at (888) 424-5757. (www.rosenfeldinjurylawyers.com).

Any breed of dog could have caused similar damage to the child, if the owner fails to provide adequate supervision for both child and dog alike.

Penny makes some useful suggestions that both dog owners and parents should take note of to prevent similar dog attacks from occurring:

- Don't leave children unattended with dogs
- Don't let children ride dogs
- Keep children away from dog's bed and crate
- Keep children away from the face and mouth of a dog
- Don't let children play with dogs while the dog is eating or playing with a bone
- Help children understand that all dogs can have violent tendencies

As a **personal injury lawyer** who frequently represents **children in dog attacks**, I feel like this boy's parents would be able to pursue the dog owner for their son's medical expenses, pain, and any permanent disfigurement. A dog attack such as this would likely be covered under the dog owners home owners insurance policy-- where the insurance carrier typically pays the claim or judgment as opposed to the individual.

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