



DECOY PRESENTATION

FAYETTE AREA DOG TRAINING, LLC

As of 12/12/2019

K9 DRIVES



Stimulation through
social interaction



SOCIAL DRIVE

PACK DRIVE

SEX DRIVE

HUNT DRIVE

Chase, catch, kill

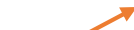


PREY DRIVE



FIGHT DRIVE (?)

Perceived threat



DEFENSE DRIVE

NERVES

- How does K9 *process* pressure?
- Adaptability

Halted → Incomplete → Cautious → Studied → Fluid



DRIVES VS. NERVES

- Drives = pressure perceived
- Nerves = pressure in progress

- Drive makeup will dictate presence of pressure while nerves while dictate how that pressure is managed.

- If pressure is not managed well ... K9 will enter pre-avoidance.



AVOIDANCE



- K9 is experiencing too much pressure and begins to **avoid** the situation/stimulus.
- Preceded by pre-avoidance/displacement behaviors.
- Examples: body language showing stress (tail tucked, ears pinned back, shaking, excessive panting, turning/running away from stimulus), K9 apparently “shutting down,” etc.

PRE-AVOIDANCE/DISPLACEMENT



- For decoy = WARNING SIGNS
- Examples: yawning, sniffing, hair on back standing up, rapid-paced defensive bark, looking away, biting grass, jumping/barking at handler, etc.
 - All in presence of a stimulus that we would expect to hold K9's attention.

DISPLACEMENT



- Similar to avoidance, but K9 is “**changing the subject**” instead of avoiding the stimulus.
- Jumping/barking at handler, chewing/playing with other object, untimely/seemingly misguided aggression, etc.
 - All in presence of a stimulus that we would expect to hold K9’s attention.

PRESSURE PERCEIVED TO AVOIDANCE



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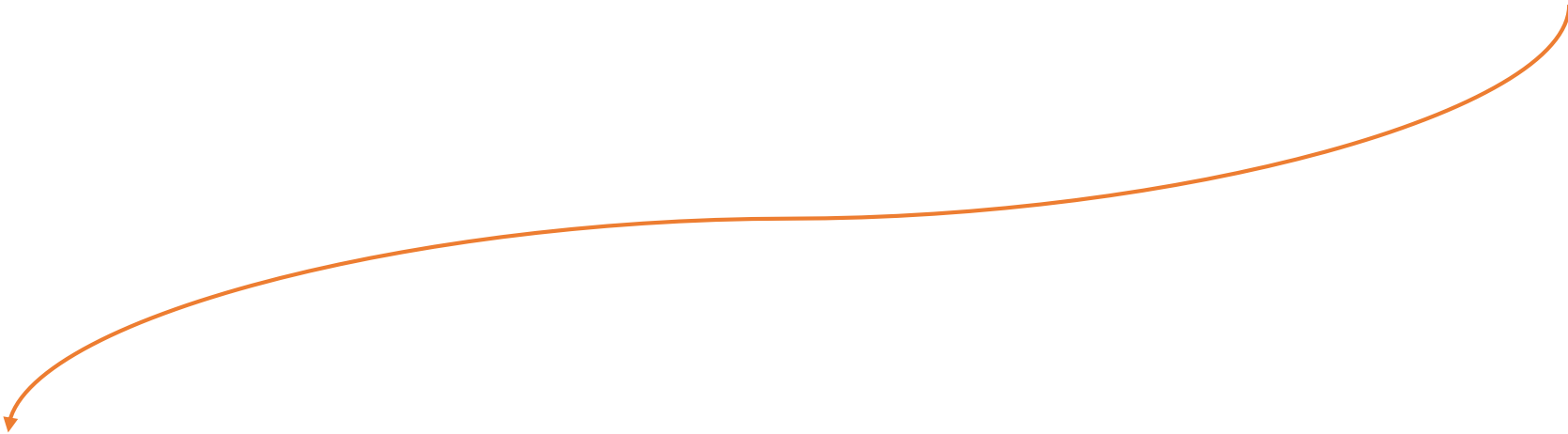
STIMULUS



PRESSURE
PERCEIVED
(see drive makeup)



PRESSURE IN
PROGRESS
(see nerves)



PRE-AVOIDANCE/DISPLACEMENT



TOTAL DISPLACEMENT



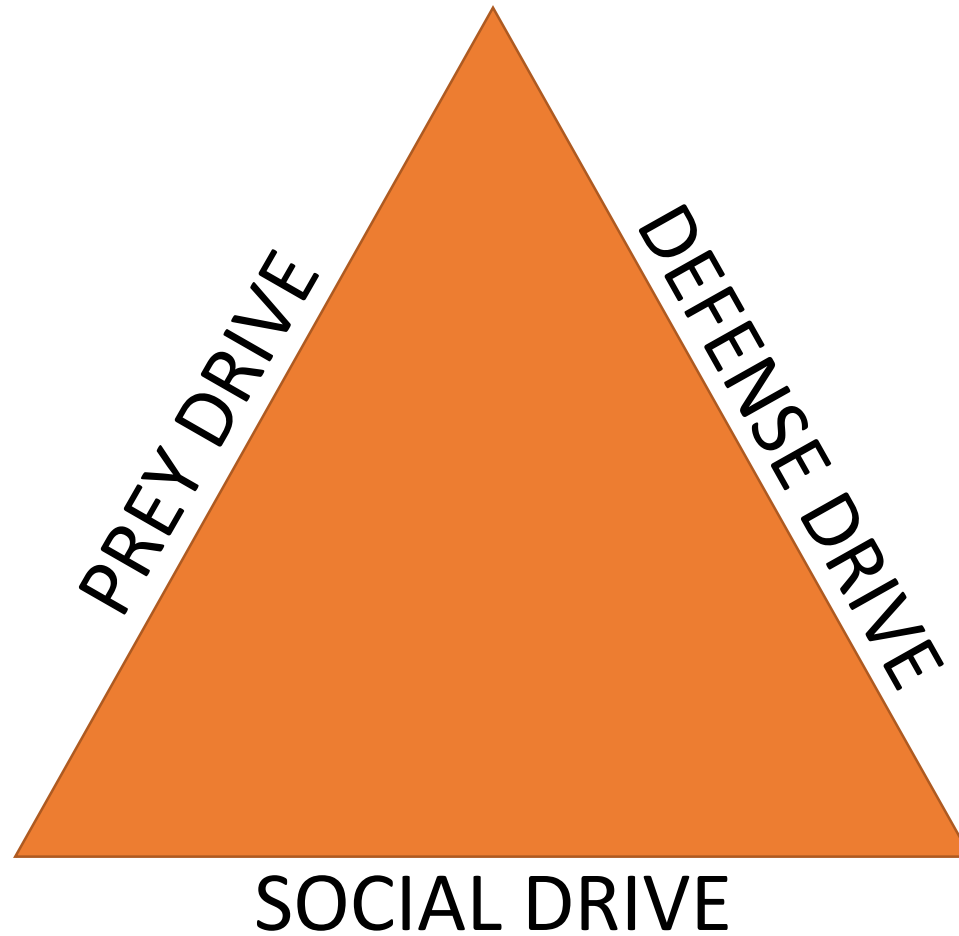
TOTAL AVOIDANCE

****STOP HERE AND RE-EVALUATE****

DECOY "DRIVE TRIANGLE" (F. ANGELINI)



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PREY POSTURE

- Purpose: provide K9 with sense of victory/calmness
- Examples: no eye contact, turn away from dog, minimize posture, whining, yelping, quick/jumpy movements
 - Notice this includes verbal, auditory, and tactile communication.
 - Visualize K9 killing rabbit.

DEFENSE POSTURE

- Purpose: introduce K9 to pressure, make him feel like he is not winning at this moment ... but the fight will ALWAYS change to his favor eventually.
- Examples: direct eye contact, facing front, maximize posture, slow/methodical stalking movements, growl/guttural “verbage”
 - Now picture K9 stalking rabbit prior to chase

K9 IN PREY MINDSET

- High pitched barking
- Tail high, wagging
- Quick, apparently happy movements

K9 IN DEFENSE MINDSET

- Deep bark
- Growl
- More methodical movements
- K9 faces front and prepares for serious fight
- May see pre-avoidance/displacement behaviors
 - Defense is inherently stressful, so use caution

PROPER BITING BEHAVIOR

- Full-mouth grip, proper countering (i.e. pushing grip), confident, possessive of decoy

DUTIES OF DECOY

- Always make K9 better
- K9 should learn that sometimes the fight will not be in his favor, but he will always come out on top
- Mark proper biting behavior
 - Decoy must show K9 that proper grip and countering is bringing him success in the fight
 - Decoy must provide feedback through various means of communication
 - Examples: whine/yelp, give K9 ground, look away, etc.

RESOURCES

- Books: “Controlled Aggression,” Jerry Bradshaw; “Decoys and Aggression: A Police K9 Training Manual,” Stephen Mackenzie.
- Podcasts (iTunes): *Controlled Aggression*; *Working Dog Radio*.
- *Patreon*: Jerry Bradshaw; Working Dog Radio.
- *Facebook*: “Canine Training Systems,” Franco Angelini.