

Dear ~~Sir~~ *Laundra*

We are residents in Jefferson Park and find it is unfit and unsafe for our children and other tenants living here because of the over population of dogs living in here. They are now out of hand and have taken over Jefferson Park. It is a disgrace for human beings to have to live like this when there is no need for it. You would have to live here to believe it. Not only is it unfit and unsafe it is also unsanitary. You would think we are living in a "Dog Kennel".

We signed our lease like these other tenants did and we feel we have our rights too. After all they broke their lease and are also breaking the law by letting these dogs run wild. That is because the laws are not enforced when they should be. Dogs are nice in their own place so why should they be pushed on other people? There are families here that own as many as two and three dogs and they are as big as ponies. These dogs run in packs of nine and twelve at a time because I have counted them.

How would you feel if you or your little ones had to face that every day? Our children as well as other tenants live in fear every time they go out. What a way to have to live. The dog situation is so bad we could use a dog officer in here 24 hours a day. The tenants claim they have these dogs to protect their apts. then why aren't they made to keep them in their apts. These dogs should be leashed or muzzled when living in a place where there are so many children. After all we have nothing to protect us or our children. We don't want to have to wait until such tragedies as the little girl from Quincy or the little boy from Roosevelt Towers, where there is positively no need for it. We are human beings not animals. Can you imagine how you would feel if you were the parents of these children? I know how I would feel. These children will be marked for the rest of their lives because of a few ignorant people. I have to laugh when these dog owners say, "Oh he won't bite" and before you know it you are off to the hospital for shots or to be stitched up.

Our children are not able to go out and play like they should because of the dogs, chasing, mauling jumping and knocking them down. The owners think this is funny and I have seen them laugh and say the dog is only playing. Well we don't want our children playing with dogs so why should they be forced on our children? My boy is allergic to dog fur and some days he comes in and his eyes are closed and will have to stay in for two or three days until they are cleared. When it is mating time it is the most sickening and disgusting sight for children or anyone to have to put up with. These owners know nothing about mating time and should not be allowed to own dogs.

We live in an area that is supposed to be a play area for children but are unable to play because of the dogs. There is a sandbox that little ones cannot and should not be allowed to play in because it is a health hazard and has turned into a dog box. Parents would get into fights because the dog owners would bring their dogs to this box while children would be playing in there. Now the dogs have taken it over and the odor is so bad it is sickening, and are unable to keep windows open in the summer time. We are unable to hang our clothes on our lines because these dogs wet all over them besides pulling and ripping our sheets and spreads all over the place. We have had a lot of children bitten by dogs. There is a girl that was bitten so badly in the face she will be marked for life, a boy received six stitches when bitten near his eye, another boy was jumped by a German Shepard and has claw marks all over his back, the owner happened to be there at the time

thank God or he may have been killed, another girl was attacked by a German Shepard and was unable to walk for a while. Our mailman and maintenance men have been attacked or bitten by these dogs also.

Our friends or relatives cannot visit us unless they come in here armed with sticks. They very seldom visit now unless they have a ride in and we have to be on the lookout for them. Isn't that nice? Our children had a vacation the week of February 18 and had to spend most of the time in the house, because they were afraid to go out.

The summer is coming and the children will have to stay inside because of the dogs taken over. We used to have cookouts in the summer but had to give them up. We would be cooking or playing games and all of a sudden we would have to run inside to get away from the dogs. The next thing we would come out and our food would be gone. These cookouts are one of the few pleasures we have and now this is taken away. It is almost like being in prison. We cannot even sit out on our chaise lounge because a woman was sitting out when a dog came and wet on her leg, we are unable to take walks like we used to or even go to the store unless we are armed with something because you never know where these dogs will be. I had to call the Police a few mornings so my boy could go to school. He missed five days last year because of dogs. We have called the Dog Officer many times but there isn't much he can do unless you are bitten or torn apart. We don't want to have to wait for this to happen when there is no need for it. We would like something done about this problem now, not when it is too late.

We also have the problem of hallways that are a disgrace and sickening because of dog mess. We the tenants have to clean up after these dogs because the owners claim it wasn't their dog. We have had to throw away many a pair of shoes and sneakers because of dog mess and are fed up because we have had it. Don't you think so?

Dorothy Katin 21 Jefferson Park

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Mary Jane Reed

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Mary Ann Ray

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John Curran

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Beth H. Hannan

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Barbara Mair

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Virginia Anderson

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Edna B. Brown

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William R. Campbell

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Edna B. Brown

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Edna B. Brown

1 Dorothy Katin
2 Coralia J. Harkins

3 Peggy Roberts

4 Mary Ravanis

5 Bill Cochran

6 Betty Cochran

7 Joan Shannon

8 Percy + Dolores Green

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133
Comm. from the residents of the Jefferson
Park relative to the roaming dogs in that
area.

In City Council,

April 1, 1974

22 Madeline Wallace
23 Estelle Dyer