

GRETA.

By Jane Gore

In March of 2019, a 16-year-old teen from Sweden was nominated for this year's Nobel Peace Prize. This young candidate is Greta Thunberg, who has introduced herself on Twitter as a "16 year old climate activist with Asperger." Greta is known for her Fridays for Future movement, where students from all over the world miss school on Fridays to protest climate change. This all began in August of last year when Greta's first school strike was held in front of the Swedish parliament building (Belkhyr, 2019). This single event sparked the movement that has her skipping school nearly every Friday.

These absences are for a good cause, though; as Greta has had many opportunities to advocate for change on large, public platforms. She gave a TED Talk in November 2018 and was a speaker at the UN Climate Talks in December 2018 and the World Economic Forum in January 2019 (BBC, 2019). With these accomplishments came many accolades for the young activist. For her first performance at TEDxStockholm, she received Germany's Golden Camera Award (Belkhyr, 2019). Aside from her Nobel Peace Prize nomination, Greta has also been nominated for France's Freedom Prize. Greta has been widely recognized for her commitment to climate change, but fame and honor are not what she is fighting for.

Greta, who the press has coined a "climate change warrior," says she became motivated to make a difference because she could not stop worrying about our planet's future (Watts, 2019). This worry sent her into a depression that only authentic discussions about the reality of the situation could improve. After many long talks with her parents, she realized the power of persuasion and was confident that she could make a difference. Ever since, she has been turning her worries into will power: "I don't want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. And then I want you to act" (Watts, 2019). Greta Thunberg is just a girl who cares about our planet; but unlike most of us on this earth, she is actually doing something about it.

References

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Pinkbulls are the Newest Accessory

By Jiva Jimmons



Photo by Rebekah Nemethy

Pitbulls are the “poster child” for aggressive dogs. They are characterized to maul and injure innocent victims; society has blamed their genetic makeup for their behaviors. We have instilled this negative stereotype by creating restrictions and laws impose on this specific breed in many public areas.

Petco and Petsmart are two of the most common pet store companies. At Petsmart’s Kennel hotel, pitbulls must be placed in their own individual kennel and have a separate play time from the rest of the dogs. Only siblings of a pitbull can be with them in the same area and time. Other than that, pitbulls are isolated from other dogs. However, at both Petsmart and Petco, they are welcomed in the store and are upheld to same standards as any dog that comes into the store. An employee told me that any dog in the store, simply must be on a leash and not be aggressive towards a person or another dog. Also, muzzles were not necessary for pitbulls, at both stores.

I spoke with Charice King, one of the founders of Shamrock Rescue Foundation, a grassroots 503© non-profit company. They rescue animals from kill shelters and those in need of medical attention. They find them foster homes and try to get them adopted by a forever family.

King felt that pitbulls are not an aggressive breed; if the owner is responsible, making sure they know their dog is safe. She believes a pitbull’s capability to be aggressive is determined on how the owner treats and raises the dog. These tendencies are not genetic but nurtured by the owner over time. For any dog to behave, she says takes, “time and effort”, ensuring these dogs are safe to other people.