

He's living a life of lonely existence at the end of a chain. The good news is you can help!

1. Let neglectful neighbors know what needs to be done in a noncritical way.
2. If the owner is not receptive, check your state's anti-cruelty statutes for certain neglectful/cruel conditions that may apply to the chained dog.
3. If the situation is not illegal, try to befriend the dog's guardians. Do not criticize, as they will become angry. Ask permission to take the dog for walks, offer toys, treats, a sturdy water bucket, etc. all in the hopes of bettering this dog's existence.



*Fostering a sentiment of kindness to animals*

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# Life On A Chain

**Many** of us have experienced the love, companionship, and joy of sharing our homes and lives with a **companion dog**. Sadly, some people still do not realize or care that it is an utter act of cruelty to make a dog—a **sentient being** that innately craves social companionship—live out its **life** at the



end of chain. Dogs that are chained and forced to remain outside their entire lives are just as sensitive, loving, and desiring of comfort and happiness as other beloved indoor companion **dogs**. Unfortunately, because of their minimal territory space and lack of socialization, **chained dogs** often appear exceedingly hyper and/or aggressive.

Many of these poor creatures live out their lives connected to a **6-foot** (or shorter) metal chain. Under these static, cramped, and oftentimes filthy conditions, chained dogs are forced to eat, drink, and sleep. Through the boiling heat of summer and the bone-chilling winds of winter, **thousands of chained** dogs are denied socialization with humans and comfortable shelter. It makes one wonder—why have the **dog** in the first place?

Forcing a dog to live out its life on a chain may not appear to be an act of overt cruelty but it is, in fact, one of the cruelest of actions that can be exacted upon a dog. Being alone really goes against a dog's basic instinct. As a pack animal, dogs need companionship just as much as they need food and water. They want to be with the family, to receive attention from the humans they try to please. Most of these dogs will bark, whine and claw in their attempts to get close to humans. Some, after enough time goes by, seem to give up and become very sad and withdrawn in their behavior.

If you know of a dog on a chain, try speaking to the owner of the dog and respectfully ask if you might take the dog for a walk or jog, or, if you might offer the dog toys and treats. Often, this first glimpse of kindness from another person will allow a breakthrough and the owner may think twice about confining the dog to a life on a chain.

If you would like to help create a more humane world for animals in which no dog is chained, we encourage you to contact your city or county council members and request their help to implement an ordinance that would prevent the chaining of any dog as a primary means of confinement.

