



It's about animal instincts

IT'S disappointing and ridiculous to note that dogs only attack when provoked "People influence how dogs behave" (*The Star*, March 23).

I wonder how a little girl riding her bicycle can provoke a dog?

The little girl was its target and the dog had obviously no time to choose another victim. I suppose the dog was defending itself then?

Perhaps the writer has not had the experience or trauma of being attacked by a dog and has accepted the fact that a dog's behaviour is largely caused by humans.

He has forgotten that they are still animals and any animal's temperament cannot be read and is not based on just a person's

behaviour alone. I wonder what steps the owner will take to correct the dog's behaviour.

I dread to think that a person who has gone amok is influenced by the behaviour of others around him.

I do, however, agree that any animal kept as a pet should be given due care and affection and be always a part of the family.

I have reared dogs before and although they are disciplined, you cannot control a dog when the gates are open.

Perhaps the writer has forgotten about the tourist who was mauled by two dogs in an orchard in Penang or the boy who was

attacked by three dogs while he was playing football leaving him with 20 stitches.

Feeling hurt isn't going to help anyone and if there are really dog lovers out there, please round up all the strays and find a shelter for them or at least complain to the local council for further action.

As a start - do yourselves a favour by reducing the number of strays and make life a little pleasant for others.

Dogs will always be dogs unless you've had the privilege of knowing Lassie, who wouldn't even hurt a fly! No provocation required.

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