

Let me explain the value of a lead dog!

Some people think we force the dogs to run. Try this simple experiment for me. Tie a loop at the end of a 64 foot rope and tie the other end to a tree. Now get a 4 year old child and ask them to hold onto the loop. Stretch out the line and stand 7 feet behind the tree, away from the rope. Now from that position, try to force the child to do something.

Next tie a loop in that rope every 8 feet. Get 15 more 4 year old children and have two of them grab every loop. Take the end of the rope off the tree, tie in a 7 foot board. You take the far end of the board and take the kids for a walk, with the kids in front of you. Try to turn corners, avoid traffic, and generally be safe, but cover some ground. Hmmm.

Now get your favorite 12 year old. The straight A student who thinks the world of you and always wants to help. Replace one of the front two 4 year olds with the 12 year old. Now try to take the kids for a walk, explaining to the 12 year old what you want. Much easier, eh?

Assume you run a day care and must walk 15 four year old kids every day. What is that 12 year old worth to you?

That is what having a good lead dog is like.

Keep 'em Northbound

Eric
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