



## Avoiding Dog Bites

**RISE:** DID YOU KNOW THAT MORE THAN FOUR AND A HALF MILLION PEOPLE ARE BITTEN BY DOGS EVERY YEAR? I'M RISE JILL MILLER.

A STUDY BY THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO SHOWS THAT YOUNGER CHILDREN MAY BE MOST VULNERABLE TO DOG BITES WHEN LEFT ALONE -- EVEN WITH A FAMILY PET.

NATIONAL DOG BITE PREVENTION WEEK IS HERE AND THE AMERICAN VETERINARY MEDICAL ASSOCIATION WANTS TO HELP THOSE WHO OWN DOGS -- AND EVEN THOSE WHO DON'T -- REDUCE THE NUMBER OF DOG BITE INJURIES.

VICTORIA STILLWELL, STAR OF "IT'S ME OR THE DOG" ON ANIMAL PLANET

**VICTORIA:** ANY DOG CAN BITE. EVEN THE GENTLEST DOG CAN BITE IF IT'S IN PAIN, FEELS THREATENED, OR IS PROTECTING ITS FOOD, TERRITORY, PUPPIES OR FAVORITE TOY. IT'S IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND HOW DOGS BEHAVE, BUT IT'S JUST AS IMPORTANT TO UNDERSTAND HOW OUR BEHAVIOR MAY BE INTERPRETED BY A DOG. UNDERSTANDING HOW YOUR BEHAVIOR MAY TRIGGER A DOG BITE IS ONE OF THE SECRETS TO DOG BITE INJURY PREVENTION."

**RISE:** FOR MORE INFORMATION ON HOW TO AVOID DOG BITE INJURIES, VISIT [A-V-M-A DOT ORG.](http://A-V-M-A.DOT.ORG)

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