



Hi Joyce,

Last August, I had the pleasure of attending Cesar Milan's seminar in El Paso, Texas. I have been his fan for a long time

After living happily together for two years, my two female Airedales started fighting with each other. Watching Cesar's show, I realized that the older of the two dogs did not have a job and did not get enough exercise. The younger dog was active in therapy dogs and agility. I started walking the two of them together EVERYDAY: good long walks. After dealing with fights for seven months, we have been fight free for an equal amount of time—no fights at all for seven months.

I know now that I was not fulfilling the needs of the older girl. I also know that the two of them pick up on the excitement of my other dogs. We are a pack of eight. I do use caution with our pack and I always will: I do not let them all get excited because that can trigger a fight. My husband and I now realize that happy dances at the door were for us not for them. Now, the dogs remain calm and don't get up when we get home: They wait for us to greet them on our terms.

Cesar made me do a lot of thinking. I have a mobile grooming service, and I have to finish a dog in two hours. I thought about why all the dogs behave when I groom them. I think it is because I have to take charge because I don't have time to not take charge. Likewise, some dogs used to give me a problem when I trimmed their toenails: now that I realize how important my attitude and energy are, I take charge and I no longer have those problems.

I am so proud to walk down the road with my two Airedale girls. We walk past lunging dogs, curious horses, grazing goats, and dogs running loose. We have no problems. Sometimes I take my shelties along with them. People are amazed to see me walking so many calm dogs all together with no problems.

Cindy Blanton  
El Paso, Texas