

Rhetorical analysis theme essay



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Like any human being, a dog lives, breathes, and can experience a whole *pallet* of emotion. So why is it that dogs are treated as property and we are not? Is it simply because we have the ability to talk? Surprisingly, a dogs brain works similarity to that of a human’s – which brings up the concern as to why dogs are treated as disposable objects. In his article “ Dogs Are People, Too”, Gregory Burns uses scientific research, personal opinion, and an intellectual tone to support his claim that dogs are similar to human beings and should therefore have their rights extended.

Berns begins his article by describing how his research team managed to study the brain function in dogs by training various canines to go into an MRI scanner. After *describing* the experiment, Berns explains, “ Although we are just beginning to answer basic questions about the canine brain, we cannot ignore the striking similarity between in both the structure and function of a key brain region: the caudate nucleus...[which] sits between the brain stem and the cortex” (Berns 2). Albeit there is no numbers included in the statement, the realization from Berns’ experiment presents itself as factual information nonetheless.

Therefore, Berns uses logos in his article when explaining the conclusion of his experiment. Additionally, Berns uses logos once again when reciting the functions of the caudate nucleus in the brain. Berns insists that, for humans, “ the caudate plays a key role in the things we enjoy, like food, love, and money” (Berns 2) and that, for dogs, “ activity in the caudate increased in response to hand signals indicating food...[and]activated to the smells of familiar humans” (Berns 2).

The experiment resulted in research that suggests the neurological similarity between humans and dogs. Berns' respect towards canines is undeniable and, throughout his article, he uses ethos as he proves his opinion to be professional and credible. The first words of his article are, " For the...