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Exploding The MYTH of Dangerous Reptiles

According to statistics, in the year 2014 there were approximately 8 million reptiles and amphibians kept as pets in the UK, compared to around 9 million dogs.

The MYTH

We have all seen stories in the media about “attacks” by “dangerous” reptiles, principally snakes, which is often used as an excuse to introduce restrictions or bans on keeping. Perceived danger to humans has been seized upon by groups that want to restrict pet keeping, but what is the reality?

The FACTS

A report by the H.S.C.I.C. (Health and Social Care Information Centre) lists external causes for hospital visits in the year 2013-2014. This shows that reptile-related incidents were a paltry **82**, with dog-related incidents standing at a rather more significant **6,885**. Putting this into context, reptile inflicted injuries stood at just **0.04%** of incidents involving dogs, despite very similar numbers of animals being kept.

The figures don't lie! It is abundantly clear that propagating the myth that pet reptiles pose a significant danger to humans is irresponsible scaremongering with absolutely no basis in truth and that reptiles are actually the second safest pets to keep (fish just take the number one slot).

Let your MP, MEP, PPC know that Reptiles don't just make GREAT pets, they also make SAFE pets.

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