

# Valley

Los Angeles Times

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ALSO: LOS ANGELES COUNTY NEWS, EDITORIALS, WEATHER

## Restraining Pit Bulls

■ Re "Pit Bull Kills Dog," July 12.

As evidenced by two recent incidents in Canoga Park, neither innocent humans nor helpless pets are safe from pit bulls—not even in their own yards. While we still want to believe that "it is not the dog, just the owner," we must finally admit we are faced with an entirely different strain of dog now—one that is being inbred, abused and/or trained into a frenzied insanity. A few years ago an attack on a human by a pit bull was almost unheard of, but today [the dogs] are being bred for viciousness. It is time to acknowledge that what once were loving pets are being mutated into lethal weapons.

Thank goodness California legislation is being formulated to impose responsibility and liability where it belongs. It is time to give relief to the law-abiding citizens, loving pet owners and hard-working taxpayers who are being victimized and held hostage in their homes and [who are] paying a \$100-million-per-year statewide animal control budget.

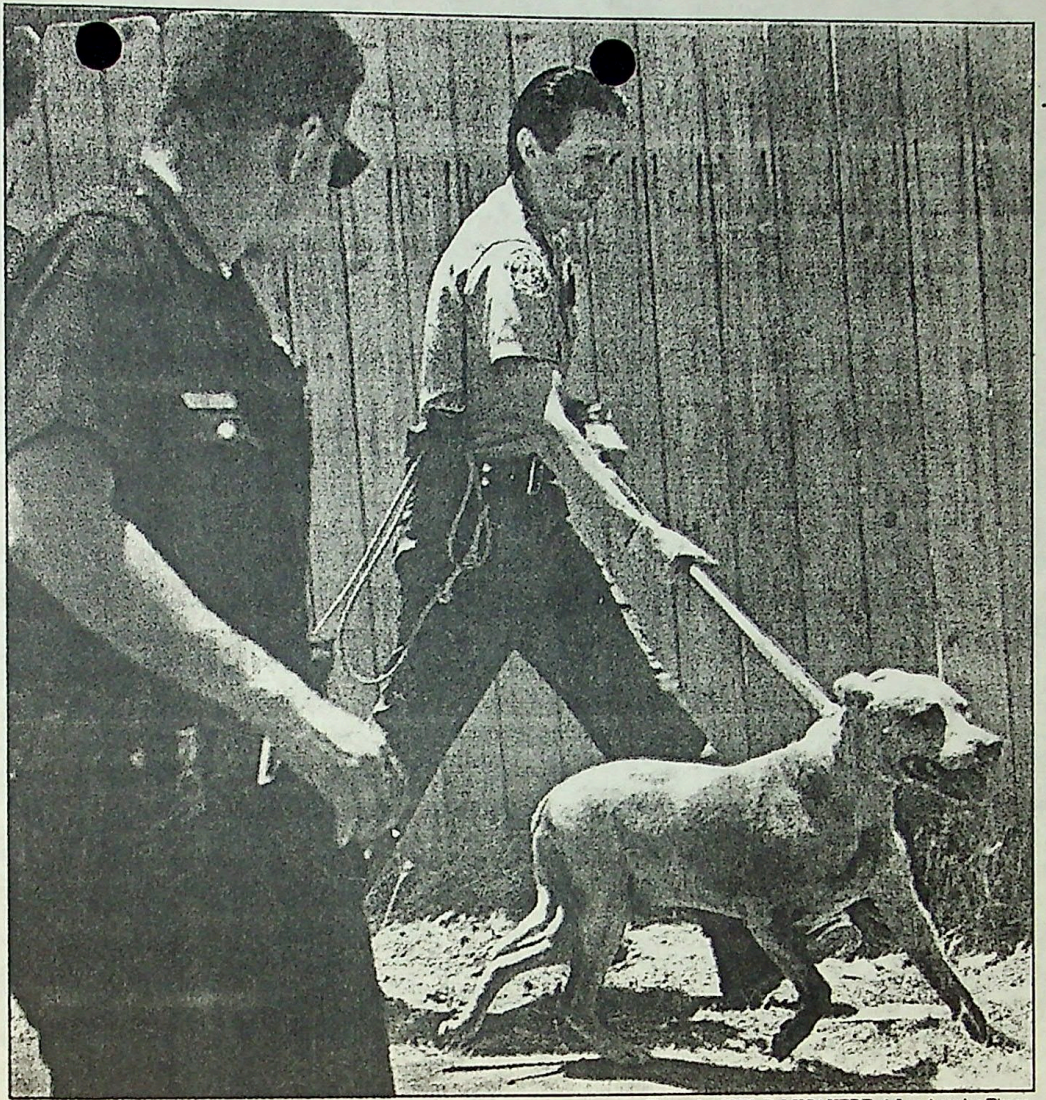
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## LETTERS TO THE VALLEY EDITION



JOEL P. LUGAVERE / Los Angeles Times

Authorities remove a pit bull from a Canoga Park yard last month after it killed another dog. A boy, 8, was attacked in a separate incident.



Photos by JOEL P. LUGAVERE / Los Angeles Times

## Pit Bull Kills Dog

Animal control officer Alex Rico stands on police car to see into the yard of Rudy Rios in Canoga Park, where a stray pit bull attacked and killed one dog and wounded a puppy. Rico walks the pit bull from the yard. Rios covers 4-month-old puppy with a blanket before taking it to a veterinarian.

