

Submitted by email to the Canadian Transportation Agency

Subject : EMOTION SUPPORT ANIMALS

On a recent flight I asked the flight attendant for some peanuts. I was told they no longer carried peanuts because of potential nut allergy with some passengers. No peanuts but dogs, no problem.

On one flight pack from Phoenix there were five (5) dogs on board. It was not a very large plane and it smelled like a dog kennel. I was coughing the entire time. The whole concept of an "emotional support" is very dubious. The 5 people with dogs did not look like they were suffering from anything. And how much "emotional" support do you get from an animal in a small carrier stuffed under the seat in front of you?

Let's be honest here. This whole emotional support animal thing is just a great, big, scam! You know it, everyone else knows it but unfortunately nobody has the courage to stand up and yell, "Hey, the emperor is naked! (If you don't understand that reference, look it up and then read the book. If you do any research on the history of "emotional support" animals you will find that this all started some years ago when war veterans were returning from Afghanistan. Many were suffering from PTSD so bad that the only way they would sit in an airplane for the return flight home is to have a small pet on their lap. Trust me, none of the 5 women on my "dog kennel flight" were suffering any form of PTSD.

The only kind of animal that should be allowed on an airplane is a certified service dog with specialized training, period.

Regards,
Leo (Removed)