HOW NOT TO GREET A DOG

Most people do this stuff and it stresses dogs out so they BITE!
I don’t care how cute you (or your kid) think Boogie is. Please show him some respect.

1. DON’T
   Lean over the dog & stick your hand in his face

2. DON’T
   Lean over the dog & stick your hand on top of his head

3. DON’T
   Grab or Hug him

4. DON’T
   Stare him in the eye (This is an adversarial gesture)

5. DON’T
   Squeal or shout in his face

6. DON’T
   Grab his head and kiss it (This is an invasion of space)

Doing this to a dog who doesn’t know you is like a perfect stranger giving you a great big hug and kiss in an elevator. Wouldn’t that creep you out? And wouldn’t you have the right to defend yourself?

THE CORRECT WAY:

* No Eye contact
* Let the dog approach you in his own time
* Keep either your SIDE or BACK towards the dog (non-threatening posture)
* Pet or stroke him on the SIDE of his face or body. Or on his back.

www.doggiedrawings.net
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Behavioral Medicine Service of North Carolina State University: http://www.ncsubehavior.com