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Dogs do smile and we see emotions in their eyes.

For many years watching my dogs experience and communicate a full range of emotions evidenced by the expressions on each dogs face - from happiness, and joy to concern, concentration, pain, tension, consternation, and much more.

This topic runs very deep in my heart as teaching people to read their dog's face and body other body language - in order to facilitate an understanding of what their dog is really communicating is a very important and an integral part of training people to understand just how amazing and intelligent dogs truly are.

Dogs do smile.

Below, is an excerpt from their article - the portion relevant to dogs smiling [to quote]...

“Professor Nicholas Dodman, head of animal behavior at the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts School of Medicine and a regular on Animal Planet’s Dogs 101 and Cats 101, until recently, scientists have generally underestimated the emotional range of animals.

He says that today it is widely understood by scientists that mammals do experience primary emotions such as fear, sadness, anger, and happiness and even some secondary emotions like jealousy and embarrassment—and they communicate them.

Dodman says that dogs even have a sense of humor and laugh with a kind of huffing sound.

He describes a study that examines how playing recordings of this laughing sound actually calms shelter dogs”.

“As for dogs’ smiles... “Note that the lips horizontally retract into what’s called a ‘submissive smile’ – a sign that a dog is non-threatening. It’s an expression that disarms possible aggression, much like the human smile.”

As far as I know, scientists still do not know everything about how animals use their senses and what other senses animals may use that we humans are still unaware of.

New discoveries are made all of the time, even so, it is believed that we will never know everything.

Scientists still do not know the full range or depth of a dog’s primary or secondary emotions.

Scientists may perform studies upon studies - but all is done from a human point of view.

How can we, as humans ever really judge the entirety of what we know about another species abilities?

We are limited by our own abilities, our own senses and most importantly - our own intelligence which becomes limited and narrowly focused by our own emotions, base instinct and ultimately our selfishness.

Dog owners have known for a long time- firsthand experience with our animals - that dogs have distinct facial expressions - including smiles!
They also talk to us with their eyes.