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Learning with Purpose

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# TOUGH LOVE

A MEDITATION ON DOMINANCE AND DOGS

AN ANCHORHOLD FILMS & TOWER HILL FILMS PRODUCTION

Traces the history of the **“alpha dog”** concept from its origins in 1940s wolf studies to its current popularity among ordinary dog owners, pondering themes of family, hierarchy, and power along the way.



It's a commonly accepted idea that dogs are **“man's best friend”**. We give them a special place in our lives and they are, in turn, loyal companions. At the same time, many modern dog owners also believe that they are supposed to establish themselves as the **“alpha dog”** in relation to their pets.

Yet the notion that cherished **“best friends”** are meant to strictly obey our will is something of a paradox. How can we reconcile feelings of respect and even love with expectations of submission and compliance?

Is dominance a **“tough love,”** something dogs actually want and need?

Screening Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Location: \_\_\_\_\_ Time: \_\_\_\_\_