



Dr Quixi Sonntag  
BVSc Hons PGCHE MEd  
Lecturer: Community engagement, animal welfare  
and veterinary professional life skills  
Orchid ID

## Summary CV

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Dr Sonntag worked in private practice as a veterinarian from 1986, developing a clinical interest in animal behaviour and a passion for animal welfare and community engagement, before joining academia. From 2008 to 2019, she was a lecturer in animal behaviour and welfare in the Department of Companion Animal Clinical Studies where she established the Onderstepoort Behaviour Clinic. Quixi was appointed Community Engagement Coordinator for the Faculty of Veterinary Science in the Department of Production Animal Studies in January 2020. She teaches veterinary science and veterinary nursing students in community engagement, animal welfare, wellness and communication skills. She is passionate about ensuring that young veterinarians are well prepared for their world of work once they graduate from the university.

### Publications:

Sonntag, Q., & Overall, K. (2014). Key determinants of dog and cat welfare: Behaviour, breeding and household lifestyle. In: *Animal Welfare: Focusing on the future*. Ed: D.J. Mellor. OIE Scientific and Technical Review, 33(1):213-220.

Sonntag, Q. (2009). SOS Dog – the purebred dog re-examined, Johan and Edith Gallant, book review. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Association*, 80(2):102.

Sonntag, Q. (2003). Pets and our mental health – the why, the what and the how, Johannes Odendaal, book review. *Journal of the South African Veterinary Association*, 74(3):60.

Sonntag, I. (2018). Utilising participatory reflection and action to facilitate rabies control in a rural community in South Africa. University of Pretoria. (Master's degree dissertation).

Sonntag, Q. *Complete Puppy School* (2006) New Holland Publishers

Sonntag Q. *Good Dog* (2007) New Holland Publishers

## Research Expertise/Interest

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Quixi has always had a keen interest in the relationship between humans and animals. She became the first veterinarian in South Africa to establish a veterinary practice dealing exclusively with behaviour disorders in pets, where she learned that dealing with humans is a big part of fixing a pet's behaviour problem. This interest in the human side of veterinary science, further led to an interest in community veterinary work and Dr Sonntag established the Winterveld Community Veterinary Clinic under the auspices of the South African Veterinary Association in the early 2000's. In her current position as Community Engagement Coordinator at the Faculty of Veterinary Science, University of Pretoria, Quixi has a research interest in assessing the impact of community engagement activities undertaken by Faculty staff and students.

Having completed a master's degree about veterinary community engagement facilitating rabies control, Quixi has now commenced with her PhD which involves animal welfare and collaboration between countries in the Southern African Development Community to facilitate awareness of animal welfare at all levels of society as well as compliance with international standards of animal welfare. Dr Sonntag is the team leader for the accreditation process of the Faculty of Veterinary Science as an OIE Collaborating Centre for Animal Welfare - the first in Africa.

## Postgraduate Students

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None