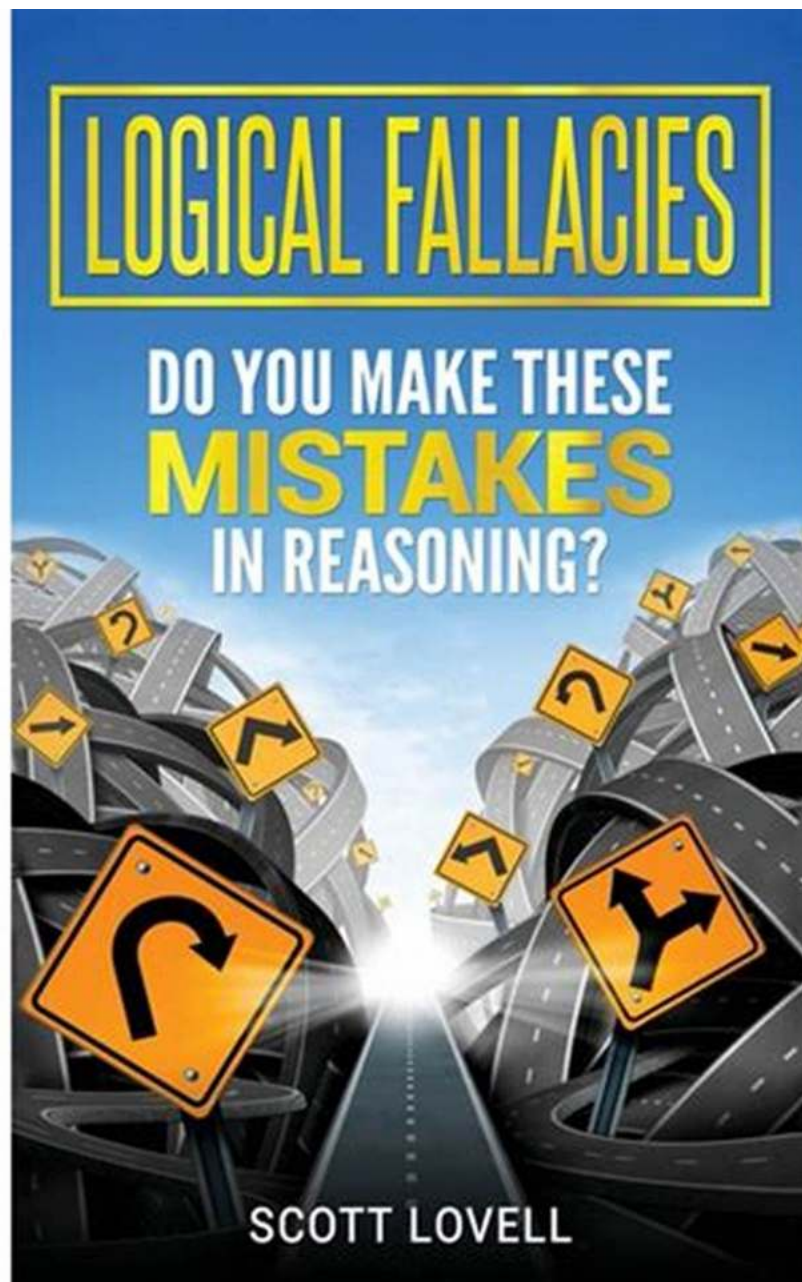


# Do You Make These Mistakes In Reasoning?



Reasoning is an essential cognitive ability that helps us make sense of the world around us. However, even the most intelligent individuals can fall victim to common mistakes in reasoning. These errors can lead to flawed decision-making, biased perspectives, and ineffective problem-solving. In this article, we will

explore some of the most prevalent mistakes people make in reasoning and how to avoid them.

## 1. Confirmation Bias



### Logical Fallacies: Do You Make These Mistakes in Reasoning? by Scott Lovell (Kindle Edition)

★★★★☆ 4.1 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 3517 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 70 pages  
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Confirmation bias is the tendency to search for, interpret, and remember information in a way that confirms our preexisting beliefs or hypotheses. Imagine you're presented with two contradicting arguments. Instead of objectively evaluating both sides, confirmation bias leads us to selectively favor information that aligns with our initial beliefs. This hinders our ability to see the bigger picture and can lead to a distorted understanding of reality.

## 2. Hasty Generalization



# Hasty Generalization

By: Samantha Hammer  
&  
Trevor Baise

Hasty generalization occurs when we draw sweeping s based on insufficient evidence or a small sample size. For example, let's say we meet a few lazy individuals from a particular group, and we hastily conclude that everyone from that group is lazy. This fallacy disregards the complexities of human behavior and can perpetuate stereotypes and discrimination.

### 3. Ad Hominem Attacks

**AD HOMINEM**

Using personal insults to attack the opponent as an individual rather than addressing the argument itself.

Often used as a last ditch effort to maintain control of a conversation once a person has run out of logic.

You're just a communist.

Your information is incorrect.

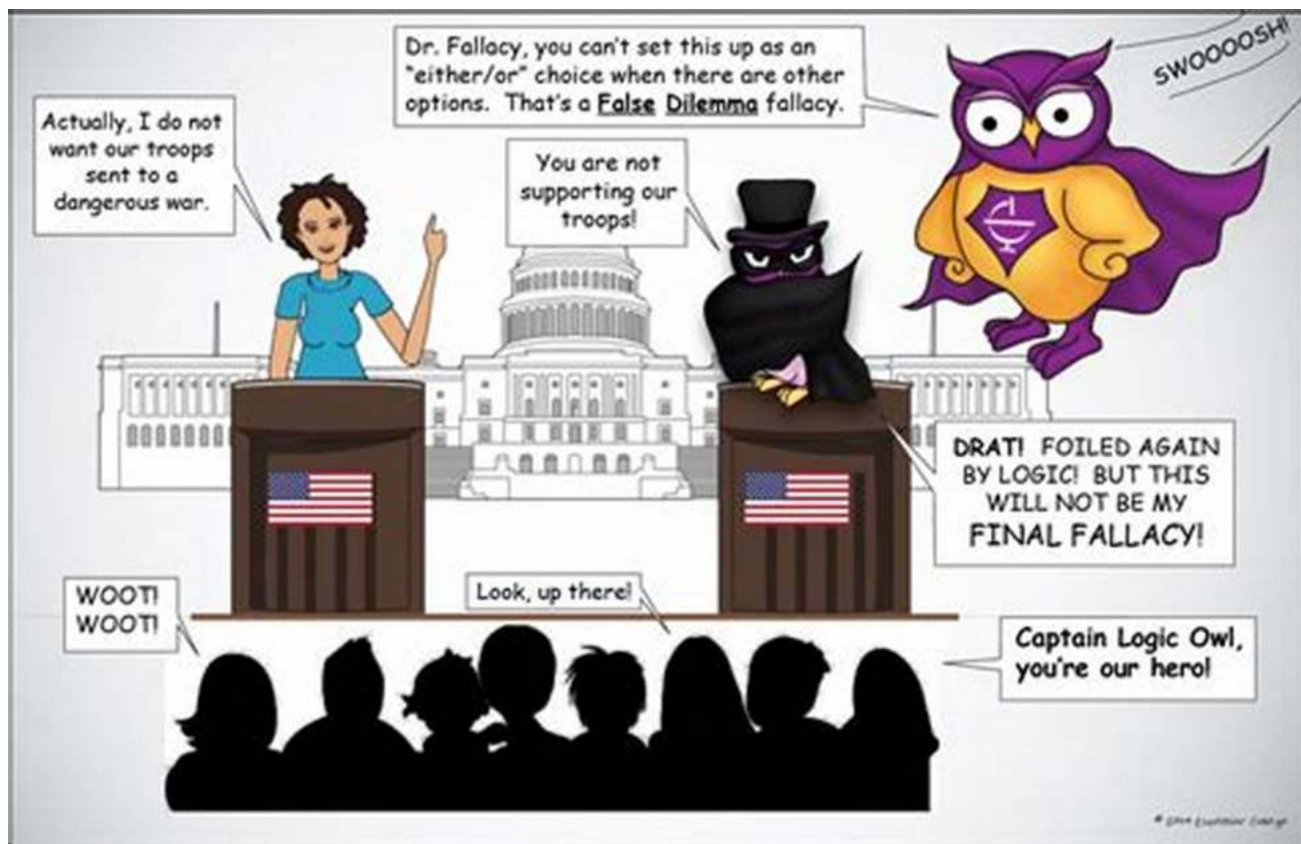
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The infographic features a dark teal background with a pattern of small white dots in the corners. The title 'AD HOMINEM' is written in a light purple, sans-serif font and is underlined with two horizontal lines. Below the title, the definition is written in a light blue, sans-serif font. A second line of text, explaining the tactic's purpose, is written in a light purple, sans-serif font. At the bottom, two white stick figures are shown. The figure on the left has a speech bubble that says 'You're just a communist.' The figure on the right has a speech bubble that says 'Your information is incorrect.' The URL 'https://findingpropaganda.com' is written in a small, white, sans-serif font at the bottom center.

An ad hominem attack is an attempt to discredit an argument by attacking the person making the argument instead of addressing the argument itself. This tactic relies on personal attacks, name-calling, and character assassination to divert

attention from the actual issue. Ad hominem attacks sidestep logical reasoning and create a hostile atmosphere, hindering productive discussions.

#### 4. False Dilemma



A false dilemma occurs when only two options are presented as choices, while, in reality, there are more possibilities. This fallacy limits our ability to explore alternative solutions and forces us into an either-or scenario. False dilemmas often oversimplify complex problems and prevent us from finding optimal and creative solutions.

#### 5. Appeal to Authority



Appeal to authority occurs when an argument is presented solely based on the testimony or opinion of an authority figure. While expertise and credible sources are vital in reasoning, blindly accepting claims without critical evaluation can lead to the propagation of misinformation. It is important to question and examine evidence before accepting it as true.

## **6. Post Hoc Fallacy**

# Post Hoc Fallacy

## Definition

Assuming that an event must have been the cause of a later event because it happened earlier.

## Example

"The rooster crows always before the sun rises, therefore the crowing rooster causes the sun to rise."

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The post hoc fallacy, also known as correlation does not imply causation, wrongly assumes that if two events occur in succession, the first event caused the second. Just because two events happen one after the other does not mean they are causally related. This fallacy can lead to incorrect s and prevent us from identifying the actual cause of an event.

## 7. Circular Reasoning



Circular reasoning is a logical fallacy where the is included in the premise. It creates an endless loop of reasoning with no real substance. For example, stating "I know it is true because I believe it" is circular reasoning. This type of flawed reasoning fails to provide any evidence or logical support for a claim.

## **8. Sweeping Generalization**





## Sweeping Generalization

- Absolute statements involving words such as *all, always, never, and no one* that allow no exceptions.

- Examples:

People who live in cities are unfriendly.

Californians are fad-crazy

Women are emotional

Men can't express their feelings

[These are often considered stereotypes]

Sweeping generalization occurs when we make broad statements about a whole group based on limited or specific instances. This fallacy overlooks individual differences and treats everyone within a group as having the same attributes or behaviors. Sweeping generalizations can reinforce stereotypes and perpetuate discrimination and unfair judgments.

By becoming aware of these common mistakes in reasoning, we can improve our critical thinking skills and enhance our ability to reason effectively. Taking the time to evaluate our own thought processes and seeking diverse perspectives can help us develop a more balanced and rational approach to decision-making. Let us strive to be mindful of these reasoning errors and make logical, well-informed choices that lead to better outcomes in our personal and professional lives.



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**If you want to avoid making a fool of yourself then keep reading...**

“Everybody argues; not everybody knows how to argue.”

This phrase is incredibly accurate. You see, logical fallacies are everywhere. They can be used to manipulate people or turn an argument sour, derailing it from the get-go.

This book will give you the tools to fight logical fallacies and make your arguments completely bulletproof logically.

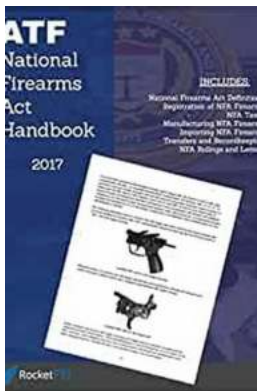
Moreover, if you want to be a great debater, it will help you learn all the ins and outs of logical fallacies so you can laugh (inside) as your opponent gets stuck in them.

This will most likely be a revolutionary read for you, and once you are finished, your critical thinking skills will have grown tenfold.

Logical Fallacies: Do You Make These Mistakes in Reasoning? contain three sections:

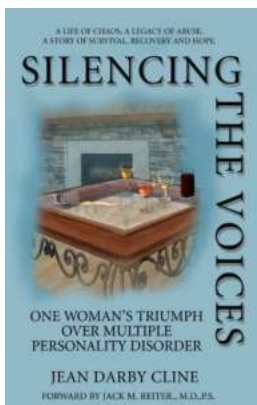
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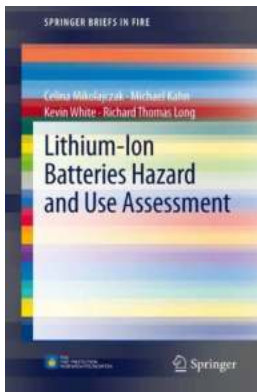
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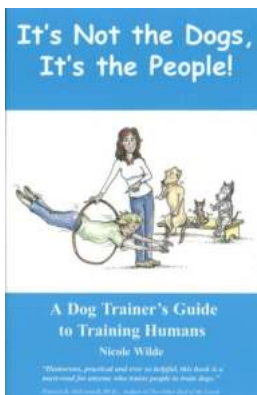
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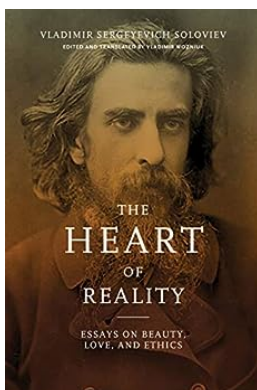
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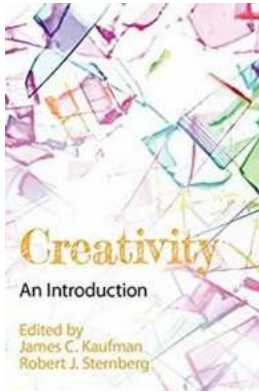
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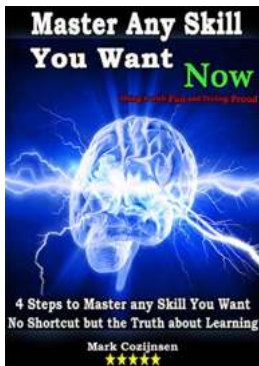
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