

# Logical Fallacies In Politics

## **Logical Fallacies in Politics: Unmasking the Spin and Deception**

### Introduction:

We're bombarded daily with political rhetoric – promises, accusations, and debates. But how often do we critically examine the logic behind these pronouncements? More often than we'd like, political discourse relies on logical fallacies – flawed reasoning that can manipulate our emotions and cloud our judgment. This comprehensive guide will dissect common logical fallacies frequently employed in the political arena, equipping you with the tools to identify and resist manipulative tactics. We'll explore examples from real-world political scenarios to illustrate how these fallacies are used to sway public opinion and influence policy decisions. By understanding these techniques, you can become a more informed and discerning citizen.

### H1: Common Logical Fallacies Exploited in Political Discourse

#### H2: Ad Hominem Attacks: Attacking the Person, Not the Argument

The ad hominem fallacy avoids addressing the substance of an argument by instead attacking the character or motives of the person making it. Instead of refuting a policy proposal, for example, a politician might claim the proposer is "corrupt" or "unpatriotic." This distracts from the actual merits or flaws of the proposal itself. Consider a debate on healthcare reform: instead of engaging with the specifics of the proposed plan, an opponent might attack the proponent's personal life or past statements, hoping to discredit the entire argument through personal attacks.

#### H2: Straw Man Fallacy: Misrepresenting the Opponent's Position

This fallacy involves misrepresenting or simplifying an opponent's argument to make it easier to attack. A politician might distort their opponent's stance on a complex issue, creating a "straw man" – a weakened and easily refutable version of the original argument. This allows the politician to appear to win the debate without actually addressing the opponent's genuine position. For instance, if a candidate advocates for gradual tax reform, their opponent might falsely claim they want to abolish taxes altogether, a much more easily attacked position.

#### H2: Bandwagon Fallacy: Appealing to Popularity Instead of Reason

The bandwagon fallacy suggests that something is true or good simply because it's popular. Political campaigns often exploit this by highlighting the widespread support for their candidate or policy, implying that this popularity is evidence of its validity. However, popularity does not equate to truth or effectiveness. A policy might be incredibly popular but ultimately harmful or ineffective.

#### H2: Appeal to Authority: Relying on Authority Figures Without Supporting Evidence

While expertise can be valuable, this fallacy misuses authority. It involves accepting a claim as true simply because an authority figure stated it, without providing independent evidence or critical

evaluation. Politicians might cite a respected figure to lend credibility to their claims, even if that figure's expertise is irrelevant to the issue at hand. For example, quoting a renowned scientist on matters of economic policy might be an appeal to inappropriate authority.

## H2: False Dilemma (Either/Or Fallacy): Presenting Only Two Options When More Exist

This fallacy limits choices to only two alternatives, ignoring other possibilities. Politicians often frame debates as simple "either/or" choices, forcing voters into a false dichotomy. For instance, they might argue that either we drastically increase military spending or face national insecurity, neglecting the possibility of alternative approaches to national security.

## H2: Slippery Slope Fallacy: Claiming a Series of Negative Consequences Without Sufficient Evidence

This fallacy asserts that a particular action will inevitably lead to a chain of negative consequences, without providing sufficient evidence for each link in the chain. A politician might argue that a small tax cut will lead to uncontrolled government spending and ultimately economic collapse, even if the connection between these events is unsubstantiated.

## H2: Hasty Generalization: Drawing Conclusions Based on Insufficient Evidence

This fallacy involves reaching a general conclusion based on limited or biased evidence. Politicians might generalize about a group based on a small sample or anecdotal evidence, making sweeping statements without supporting data. For example, claiming all immigrants are criminals based on a few isolated incidents is a classic hasty generalization.

## H1: Identifying and Resisting Logical Fallacies in Political Discourse

Developing critical thinking skills is paramount to navigating the complexities of political rhetoric. Ask probing questions: What is the evidence? Are there alternative explanations? Does the argument rely on attacks against the person instead of addressing the issue? By actively challenging claims and seeking diverse perspectives, we can significantly reduce the influence of misleading arguments. Remember, understanding logical fallacies empowers you to make informed decisions and hold politicians accountable for their statements.

## Article Outline: Logical Fallacies in Politics

Introduction: Defining logical fallacies and their prevalence in politics.

Chapter 1: Common logical fallacies (Ad Hominem, Straw Man, Bandwagon, Appeal to Authority, False Dilemma, Slippery Slope, Hasty Generalization) – detailed explanations with political examples.

Chapter 2: Identifying and resisting logical fallacies – practical strategies for critical thinking and media literacy.

Conclusion: The importance of logical reasoning in political engagement and responsible citizenship.

(The detailed content for each chapter is provided above in the main body of the article.)

FAQs:

1. What is the most common logical fallacy used in politics? The Ad Hominem fallacy is arguably the most prevalent, as attacking the person is often easier than addressing the substance of their arguments.
2. How can I improve my ability to spot logical fallacies? Practice critical thinking, seek diverse viewpoints, and question the evidence presented.
3. Why are logical fallacies used in political discourse? They are used to manipulate emotions, simplify complex issues, and avoid addressing substantive arguments.
4. Are all political statements containing fallacies intentionally deceptive? Not necessarily. Sometimes fallacies are unintentional, reflecting poor reasoning or lack of information.
5. Can the use of logical fallacies be considered unethical? While not always intentionally deceptive, the use of fallacies in an attempt to mislead the public can be considered ethically problematic.
6. How can I effectively counter someone using a logical fallacy in a debate? Point out the fallacy, explain why the reasoning is flawed, and refocus the conversation on the actual merits of the argument.
7. What role does media literacy play in identifying logical fallacies in politics? A high level of media literacy helps individuals analyze information sources critically and identify bias or manipulation.
8. Are there specific types of logical fallacies more prevalent in certain political ideologies? While all ideologies can employ fallacies, some might lean towards certain types (e.g., appeals to tradition or authority).
9. How can education help mitigate the impact of logical fallacies in political discourse? Education focused on critical thinking and logical reasoning is crucial in equipping individuals with the tools to resist manipulative rhetoric.

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**logical fallacies in politics: An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments: Learn the Lost Art of Making Sense (Bad Arguments)** Ali Almossawi, 2014-09-23 "This short book makes you smarter than 99% of the population. . . . The concepts within it will increase your company's 'organizational intelligence.' . . . It's more than just a must-read, it's a 'have-to-read-or-you're-fired' book."—Geoffrey James, INC.com From the author of An Illustrated Book of Loaded Language, here's the antidote to fuzzy thinking, with furry animals! Have you read (or stumbled into) one too many irrational online debates? Ali Almossawi certainly had, so he wrote An Illustrated Book of Bad Arguments! This handy guide is here to bring the internet age a much-needed dose of old-school logic (really old-school, a la Aristotle). Here are cogent explanations of the straw man fallacy, the slippery slope argument, the ad hominem attack, and other common attempts at reasoning that actually fall short—plus a beautifully drawn menagerie of animals who (adorably) commit every logical faux pas. Rabbit thinks a strange light in the sky must be a UFO because no one can prove otherwise (the appeal to ignorance). And Lion doesn't believe that gas emissions harm the planet because, if that were true, he wouldn't like the result (the argument from consequences). Once you learn to recognize these abuses of reason, they start to crop up everywhere from congressional debate to YouTube comments—which makes this geek-chic book a must for anyone in the habit of holding opinions.

**logical fallacies in politics: Bad Arguments** Robert Arp, Steven Barbone, Michael Bruce, 2018-10-29 A timely and accessible guide to 100 of the most infamous logical fallacies in Western

philosophy, helping readers avoid and detect false assumptions and faulty reasoning You'll love this book or you'll hate it. So, you're either with us or against us. And if you're against us then you hate books. No true intellectual would hate this book. Ever decide to avoid a restaurant because of one bad meal? Choose a product because a celebrity endorsed it? Or ignore what a politician says because she's not a member of your party? For as long as people have been discussing, conversing, persuading, advocating, proselytizing, pontificating, or otherwise stating their case, their arguments have been vulnerable to false assumptions and faulty reasoning. Drawing upon a long history of logical falsehoods and philosophical flubs, *Bad Arguments* demonstrates how misguided arguments come to be, and what we can do to detect them in the rhetoric of others and avoid using them ourselves. Fallacies—or conclusions that don't follow from their premise—are at the root of most bad arguments, but it can be easy to stumble into a fallacy without realizing it. In this clear and concise guide to good arguments gone bad, Robert Arp, Steven Barbone, and Michael Bruce take readers through 100 of the most infamous fallacies in Western philosophy, identifying the most common missteps, pitfalls, and dead-ends of arguments gone awry. Whether an instance of sunk costs, is ought, affirming the consequent, moving the goal post, begging the question, or the ever-popular slippery slope, each fallacy engages with examples drawn from contemporary politics, economics, media, and popular culture. Further diagrams and tables supplement entries and contextualize common errors in logical reasoning. At a time in our world when it is crucial to be able to identify and challenge rhetorical half-truths, this book helps readers to better understand flawed argumentation and develop logical literacy. Unrivaled in its breadth of coverage and a worthy companion to its sister volume *Just the Arguments* (2011), *Bad Arguments* is an essential tool for undergraduate students and general readers looking to hone their critical thinking and rhetorical skills.

**logical fallacies in politics: Mastering Logical Fallacies** Michael Withey, 2016-06-21 If I have learned anything in ten years of formal debating, it is that arguments are no different: without a good understanding of the rules and tactics, you are likely to do poorly and be beaten.—HENRY ZHANG, President of the Yale Debate Association Your argument is valid and you know it; yet once again you find yourself leaving a debate feeling defeated and embarrassed. The matter is only made worse when you realize that your defeat came at the hands of someone's abuse of logic—and that with the right skills you could have won the argument. The ability to recognize logical fallacies when they occur is an essential life skill. *Mastering Logical Fallacies* is the clearest, boldest, and most systematic guide to dominating the rules and tactics of successful arguments. This book offers methodical breakdowns of the logical fallacies behind exceedingly common, yet detrimental, argumentative mistakes, and explores them through real life examples of logic-gone-wrong. Designed for those who are ready to gain the upper hand over their opponents, this master class teaches the necessary skills to identify your opponents' misuse of logic and construct effective, arguments that win. With the empowering strategies offered in *Mastering Logical Fallacies* you'll be able to reveal the slight-of-hand flaws in your challengers' rhetoric, and seize control of the argument with bulletproof logic.

**logical fallacies in politics: Adios, America** Ann Coulter, 2015-06-01 A National Bestseller! Ann Coulter is back, more fearless than ever. In *Adios, America* she touches the third rail in American politics, attacking the immigration issue head-on and flying in the face of La Raza, the Democrats, a media determined to cover up immigrants' crimes, churches that get paid by the government for their charity, and greedy Republican businessmen and campaign consultants—all of whom are profiting handsomely from mass immigration that's tearing the country apart. Applying her trademark biting humor to the disaster that is U.S. immigration policy, Coulter proves that immigration is the most important issue facing America today.

**logical fallacies in politics: Informal Logical Fallacies** Jacob E. Van Vleet, 2021-01-28 Critical thinking is now needed more than ever. This accessible and engaging book provides the necessary tools to question and challenge the discourse that surrounds us—whether in the media, the classroom, or everyday conversation. Additionally, it offers readers a deeper understanding of the

foundations of analytical thought. **Informal Logical Fallacies: A Brief Guide** is a systematic and concise introduction to more than fifty fallacies, from anthropomorphism and argumentum ad baculum, to reductionism and the slippery slope argument. This revised edition includes updated examples, exercises, and a new chapter on non-Western logical fallacies. With helpful definitions and relevant explanations, the author guides the reader through the realms of fallacious reasoning and deceptive rhetoric. This is an essential guide to philosophical reflection and clear thinking.

**logical fallacies in politics: Multimodal Communication in Political Speech Shaping Minds and Social Action** Isabella Poggi, Francesca D'Errico, Laura Vincze, Alessandro Vinciarelli, 2013-11-08 This book constitutes the thoroughly refereed post-conference proceedings of the International Workshop on Multimodal Communication in Political Speech: Shaping Minds and Social Actions, held in Rome, Italy, during November 10-12, 2010. The 16 regular papers were carefully reviewed and selected from 33 submissions and presented with three key-notes. The purpose of the Political Speech workshops is to provide a forum for discussing research areas of persuasive agents and social signal processing. This book covers topics on multimodal aspects of political communication, including persuasion, fallacies, racist discourse, as well as music, autobiographic memories, metonymies, dominant postures, rhetorical strategies, interruptions, intonation, and voice appeal.

**logical fallacies in politics: Give Them an Argument** Ben Burgis, 2019-05-31 'Ben Burgis understands that in order to persuade people to join a political movement, you have to master the techniques of rigorous argumentation. He masterfully exposes the cheap sophistry of right-wing 'philosophy' and shows why there's still a place for logic and reason in political discourse. This is a crucial handbook for those who want to 'crush' and 'destroy' the Ben Shapiros of the world.' Nathan Robinson, Editor, Current Affairs Many serious leftists have learned to distrust talk of logic and logical fallacies, associated with right-wing logicbros. This is a serious mistake. Unlike the neoliberal technocrats, who can point to social problems and tell people trust us, the serious Left must learn how to argue and persuade. In *Give Them an Argument*, Ben Burgis arms his reader with the essential knowledge of formal logic and informal fallacies.

**logical fallacies in politics: Logical Fallacy Monsters** Blique, 2017-07-23 Logic seems like a simple thing. And yet, somehow, mistakes in logic happen all the time. But how do these mistakes, these fallacies, happen? Maybe they are caused by a lack of knowledge. Maybe they are caused by a lack of critical thinking. Maybe they are caused by small monsters that live in people's heads, encouraging them to believe someone's lies, or maybe pick the easy, deceitful way to win a difficult argument. This book is about those monsters.

**logical fallacies in politics: The Fallacy Detective** Nathaniel Blueborn, Hans Blueborn, 2015-04-04 The Fallacy Detective has been the best selling text for teaching logical fallacies and introduction to logic for over 15 years. Can learning logic be fun? With The Fallacy Detective it appears that it can be. I thoroughly enjoyed this book and would recommend it to anyone who wants to improve his reasoning skills.--Tim Challies, curriculum reviewer Cartoon and comic illustrations, humorous examples, and a very reader-friendly writing style make this the sort of course students will enjoy.--Cathy Duffy, homeschool curriculum reviewer I really like The Fallacy Detective because it has funny cartoons, silly stories, and teaches you a lot!--11 Year Old What is a fallacy? A fallacy is an error in logic a place where someone has made a mistake in his thinking. This is a handy book for learning to spot common errors in reasoning. - For ages twelve through adult. - Fun to use -- learn skills you can use right away. - Peanuts, Dilbert, and Calvin and Hobbes cartoons. - Includes The Fallacy Detective Game. - Exercises with answer key.

**logical fallacies in politics: Arguments about Arguments** Maurice A. Finocchiaro, 2005-07-25 This book brings together essays by one of the pre-eminent scholars of informal logic.

**logical fallacies in politics: Falsehood and Fallacy** Bethany Kilcrease, 2021 Falsehood and Fallacy emphasizes that in our politically divided landscape, we all need to be able to read and research more critically in order to make well-reasoned arguments.

**logical fallacies in politics: Economic Facts and Fallacies** Thomas Sowell, 2011-03-22

Thomas Sowell “both surprises and overturns received wisdom” in this indispensable examination of widespread economic fallacies (The Economist) Economic Facts and Fallacies exposes some of the most popular fallacies about economic issues-and does so in a lively manner and without requiring any prior knowledge of economics by the reader. These include many beliefs widely disseminated in the media and by politicians, such as mistaken ideas about urban problems, income differences, male-female economic differences, as well as economics fallacies about academia, about race, and about Third World countries. One of the themes of Economic Facts and Fallacies is that fallacies are not simply crazy ideas but in fact have a certain plausibility that gives them their staying power-and makes careful examination of their flaws both necessary and important, as well as sometimes humorous. Written in the easy-to-follow style of the author's Basic Economics, this latest book is able to go into greater depth, with real world examples, on specific issues.

**logical fallacies in politics: Crimes Against Logic: Exposing the Bogus Arguments of Politicians, Priests, Journalists, and Other Serial Offenders** Jamie Whyte, 2004-10-03 Uncover the truth under all the BS In the daily battle for our hearts and minds--not to mention our hard-earned cash--the truth is usually the first casualty. It's time we learned how to see through the rhetoric, faulty reasoning, and misinformation that we're subjected to from morning to night by talk-radio hosts, op-ed columnists, advertisers, self-help gurus, business thinkers, and, of course, politicians. And no one is better equipped to show us how than award-winning philosopher Jamie Whyte. In Crimes Against Logic Whyte take us on a fast-paced, ruthlessly funny romp through the mulligan stew of can, folderol, and bogus logic served up in the media, at the office, and even in your own home. Applying his laserlike wit to dozens of timely examples, Whyte cuts through the haze of facts, figures, and double-talk and gets at the real truth behind what they're telling us. An incisive philosopher. --Sunday Telegraph

**logical fallacies in politics: Fallacious Trump** Jim Cliff, 2018-02-16 I used to lose every argument, then I read this book and now I win them all! It's that good. This is a tremendous book, and I should know - I have a PhD. Most of the other books on logical fallacies are written by Americans, so they can't be any good. These made up quotes are all logical fallacies - the kinds of common errors in reasoning that we all make from time to time. Fallacious Trump: The Donald J. Trump Guide to Logical Fallacies describes many common logical fallacies, explains why they are invalid, and helps you to spot them in your own arguments as well as other people's. Every fallacy is illustrated with real-life examples drawn from the tweets, speeches and interviews of the King of Logical Fallacies, Donald J. Trump. Fallacies contained in the book include: Ad Hominem Straw Man Post Hoc Ergo Propter Hoc Argument from Popularity Texas Sharpshooter Cherry Picking Equivocation Tu Quoque Red Herring Argument from Ignorance Hasty Generalization Begging the Question Genetic Fallacy Poisoning the Well Moving the Goalposts Slippery Slope Argument from Personal Incredulity Non-Sequitur and many more!

**logical fallacies in politics: Collective Illusions** Todd Rose, 2022-02-01 Drawing on cutting-edge neuroscience and social psychology research, an acclaimed author demonstrates how so much of our thinking is informed by false assumptions—making us dangerously mistrustful as a society and needlessly unhappy as individuals. The desire to fit in is one of the most powerful, least understood forces in society. Todd Rose believes that as human beings, we continually act against our own best interests because our brains misunderstand what others believe. A complicated set of illusions driven by conformity bias distorts how we see the world around us. From toilet paper shortages to kidneys that get thrown away rather than used for transplants; from racial segregation to the perceived “electability” of women in politics; from bottled water to “cancel culture,” we routinely copy others, lie about what we believe, cling to tribes, and silence people. The question is, Why do we keep believing the lies and hurting ourselves? Todd Rose proves that the answer is hard-wired in our DNA: our brains are more socially dependent than we realize or dare to accept. Most of us would rather be fully in sync with the social norms of our respective groups than be true to who we are. Using originally researched data, Collective Illusions shows us where we get things wrong and, just as important, how we can be authentic in forming opinions while valuing truth. Rose

offers a counterintuitive yet empowering explanation for how we can bridge our inference gap, make decisions with a newfound clarity, and achieve fulfillment. **\*\*National Bestseller\*\*** **\*\*Wall Street Journal Bestseller\*\*** **\*\*Named Amazon's 2022 Best Book of the Year in Business, Leadership, and Science\*\***

**logical fallacies in politics:** Bernoulli's Fallacy Aubrey Clayton, 2021-08-03 There is a logical flaw in the statistical methods used across experimental science. This fault is not a minor academic quibble: it underlies a reproducibility crisis now threatening entire disciplines. In an increasingly statistics-reliant society, this same deeply rooted error shapes decisions in medicine, law, and public policy with profound consequences. The foundation of the problem is a misunderstanding of probability and its role in making inferences from observations. Aubrey Clayton traces the history of how statistics went astray, beginning with the groundbreaking work of the seventeenth-century mathematician Jacob Bernoulli and winding through gambling, astronomy, and genetics. Clayton recounts the feuds among rival schools of statistics, exploring the surprisingly human problems that gave rise to the discipline and the all-too-human shortcomings that derailed it. He highlights how influential nineteenth- and twentieth-century figures developed a statistical methodology they claimed was purely objective in order to silence critics of their political agendas, including eugenics. Clayton provides a clear account of the mathematics and logic of probability, conveying complex concepts accessibly for readers interested in the statistical methods that frame our understanding of the world. He contends that we need to take a Bayesian approach—that is, to incorporate prior knowledge when reasoning with incomplete information—in order to resolve the crisis. Ranging across math, philosophy, and culture, Bernoulli's Fallacy explains why something has gone wrong with how we use data—and how to fix it.

**logical fallacies in politics:** Nonsense Robert Gula, 2007 Nonsense is the best compilation and study of verbal logical fallacies available anywhere. It is a handbook of the myriad ways we go about being illogical—how we deceive others and ourselves, how we think and argue in ways that are disorderly, disorganized, or irrelevant. Nonsense is also a short course in nonmathematical logical thinking, especially important for students of philosophy and economics. A book of remarkable scholarship, Nonsense is unexpectedly relaxed, informal, and accessible.

**logical fallacies in politics:** Logic and Mr. Limbaugh Ray Perkins (Jr.), 1995 Logic and Mr. Limbaugh is both an entertaining introduction to the elements of logic and a serious critique of the practical logic of a major conservative propagandist. Professor Perkins takes 50 examples of logical reasoning from Rush's statements, identifies the logical arguments, and points out fallacies.

**logical fallacies in politics:** Fallacies and Argument Appraisal Christopher W. Tindale, 2007-01-22 Fallacies and Argument Appraisal presents an introduction to the nature, identification, and causes of fallacious reasoning, along with key questions for evaluation. Drawing from the latest work on fallacies as well as some of the standard ideas that have remained relevant since Aristotle, Christopher Tindale investigates central cases of major fallacies in order to understand what has gone wrong and how this has occurred. Dispensing with the approach that simply assigns labels and brief descriptions of fallacies, Tindale provides fuller treatments that recognize the dialectical and rhetorical contexts in which fallacies arise. This volume analyzes major fallacies through accessible, everyday examples. Critical questions are developed for each fallacy to help the student identify them and provide considered evaluations.

**logical fallacies in politics:** Emotive Language in Argumentation Fabrizio Macagno, Douglas Walton, 2014-02-24 This book analyzes the uses and implicit dimensions of emotive language from a pragmatic, dialectical, epistemic and rhetorical perspective.

**logical fallacies in politics:** **Political Fallacies** George Junkin, 1863

**logical fallacies in politics:** Ethics in Psychotherapy and Counseling Kenneth S. Pope, Melba J. T. Vasquez, 2016-01-26 The ethics book no psychology student or professional should be without. Thoroughly updated and expanded to include recent research findings, landmark legal decisions, the Hoffman Investigation Report, and changes in the ethical guidelines of the American Psychological Association and the Canadian Psychological Association, the new 5th edition of Ethics in



Psychotherapy and Counseling covers the latest developments in ethical thinking, standards, and practice. You'll learn how to strengthen your ethical awareness, judgement, and decision-making. Distinguished Emeritus Professor Don Meichenbaum described the 5th edition as 'a MUST READ book for both beginning and seasoned clinicians' and Professor David H. Barlow wrote, 'A stunningly good book. . . . If there is only one book you buy on ethics, this is the one.' Covers the many changes and challenges brought about by new technology, EHRs, videoconferencing, and texting, as well as practicing across state and provincial borders Discusses moral distress and moral courage Includes 5 chapters on different aspects of critical thinking about ethical challenges, including a chapter on 'Ethics Placebos, Cons, and Creative Cheating: A User's Guide' Deals with complex issue of culture, race, religion, sexual identity, sexual orientation, and politics Provides steps to strengthen ethics in organizations Offers guidance on responding to ethics, licensing, and malpractice complaints—not to imply that you'll need to after reading this book! Keeps the focus on practical, creative approaches to the responsibilities, challenges, and opportunities encountered by therapists and counselors in their work.

**logical fallacies in politics: Persuasion** Charles U. Larson, 1989

**logical fallacies in politics: The Book of the Fallacy** Madsen Pirie, 1985

**logical fallacies in politics: Conquer Logical Fallacies** Thinknetic, 2021-11-08 If you don't know who to trust, keep making stupid mistakes, and question your own judgment...Then keep reading Why do employers judge candidates on the first impression they make, even though they know it's wrong and often misleading? Why do people smoke, drink to excess, and eat things they know are bad for them? How do normally intelligent people wind up believing fake news stories? To find out, let's take a trip back in time to Victorian England. A famous story from the Victorian days is that women had to wear corsets. It's debated how commonplace corsets actually were, but they squeezed a woman's body like a snake - making the waist look smaller. Corsets worked but they were so tight, they caused internal damage to women. They also caused a woman's lower back to atrophy. In fact, corsets were so restricting that women often fainted wearing them! But here's the kicker... Fainting from wearing a corset was actually considered to be a good thing! It was thought to be a sign of good breeding. Or so the story goes. Historians debate how often corsets were actually used. But they're a testament to the power of a cognitive fallacy. Poor reasoning, inability to tell facts from fiction and flawed decision-making cause these kinds of fallacies. They're the reason most people never live up to their potential. Even the smartest people in the world are prone to unconscious bias. A Nature.com study in 2015 (First results from psychology's largest reproducibility test) examined over 100 psychology studies to see if they could be reproduced. Only around a third of the studies could be replicated! Researchers found a full two-thirds of the studies had been skewed by errors or unconscious biases. They couldn't be trusted. It's not that most people are stupid; they just don't know how to see biases and fallacies. That's why we wrote this book. Inside, you'll find: The false beliefs that led to Aztec human sacrifice, and how they're STILL common today The ultra common fallacy you've probably already been exposed to in your DARE class The easy-to-follow five basics steps of critical thinking. Apply them and you'll make every decision with confidence! Rats spread pestilence and plague - but in India, a Temple of Rats was constructed because of this false belief How to make yourself dumb because smarter people are HARDER to teach Why you should be skeptical of anyone quoting an authority figure Historic Islamic banking projects, and what they can teach you about false logic Why the supersonic Concorde jet flew so long - even though it was a MASSIVE money loser! Conquer Logical Fallacies explains the major cognitive biases and fallacies people encounter. It goes over arguments and how to tell facts from fiction. You might be thinking Do I really need this? If you want to build stronger arguments, make more confident decisions, and spot logical errors - then yes. If you have to work with a wide range of other people or analyze information, you'll find this book INVALUABLE. And you might be stunned by how many false biases you're already carrying around. They bleed into your professional and personal life. Do you want to have confidence in your decisions? Then grab this book and upgrade your brain. Scroll up and click Add to Cart.

**logical fallacies in politics: Laziness Does Not Exist** Devon Price, 2021-01-05 From social psychologist Dr. Devon Price, a conversational, stirring call to “a better, more human way to live” (Cal Newport, New York Times bestselling author) that examines the “laziness lie”—which falsely tells us we are not working or learning hard enough. Extra-curricular activities. Honors classes. 60-hour work weeks. Side hustles. Like many Americans, Dr. Devon Price believed that productivity was the best way to measure self-worth. Price was an overachiever from the start, graduating from both college and graduate school early, but that success came at a cost. After Price was diagnosed with a severe case of anemia and heart complications from overexertion, they were forced to examine the darker side of all this productivity. Laziness Does Not Exist explores the psychological underpinnings of the “laziness lie,” including its origins from the Puritans and how it has continued to proliferate as digital work tools have blurred the boundaries between work and life. Using in-depth research, Price explains that people today do far more work than nearly any other humans in history yet most of us often still feel we are not doing enough. Filled with practical and accessible advice for overcoming society’s pressure to do more, and featuring interviews with researchers, consultants, and experiences from real people drowning in too much work, Laziness Does Not Exist “is the book we all need right now” (Caroline Dooner, author of The F\*ck It Diet).

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causation, and examine the susceptibility of science to modern bullshit. We have always needed people who call bullshit when necessary, whether within a circle of friends, a community of scholars, or the citizenry of a nation. Now that bullshit has evolved, we need to relearn the art of skepticism.

**logical fallacies in politics: Eat Meat... or Don't** Bo Bennett, PhD, 2019-07-20 Roughly 95% of Americans don't appear to have an ethical problem with animals being killed for food, yet all of us would have a serious problem with humans being killed for food. What does an animal lack that a human has that justifies killing the animal for food but not the human? As you start to list properties that the animal lacks to justify eating them, you begin to realize that some humans also lack those properties, yet we don't eat those humans. Is this logical proof that killing and eating animals for food is immoral? Don't put away your steak knife just yet. In *Eat Meat... Or Don't*, we examine the moral arguments for and against eating meat with both philosophical and scientific rigor. This book is not about pushing some ideological agenda; it's ultimately a book about critical thinking. But moral facts shouldn't be confused with ideology. When it comes to moral choices, there are better ones, and there are worse ones. If you act rationally and ethically and have adopted a good moral framework, you might come to the justified conclusion that eating meat is unethical... or you might not. Regardless of your conclusion, you will almost certainly realize that eating less meat is a fantastic idea for your health, the environment, and especially animals, and it's an easily achievable goal that will change your life for the better.

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