

Worksheet 8/30/2023

Some common types of fallacies:

- A. Appeal to popularity
- B. False cause
- C. Appeal to ignorance
- D. Hasty generalization
- E. Limited choice

In the following arguments, identify the premise(s) and conclusion, explain why the argument is deceptive, and, if possible, identify the type of fallacy it represents.

1. I ate oysters for dinner and later that night I had a nightmare. Oysters caused my nightmare.
2. There are approximately 40,000 Chinese restaurants in America compared to about 14,000 McDonald's. Therefore, Americans prefer Chinese food to hamburgers.
3. All the nurses in Belvedere Hospital are women, so women are better qualified for medical jobs.
4. The governor wants to sell public lands to an energy exploration company. But he's an untrustworthy opportunist, so I oppose this land sale.
5. My uncle never drank alcohol and lived to be 93 years old. That's how I know that avoiding alcohol leads to greater longevity.
6. The state has no right to take a life, so the death penalty should be abolished.
7. Miguel de Cervantes's book *Don Quixote* is popular because an estimated 500 million copies have been sold since it was published in 1612.
8. Claims that fracking causes earthquakes are ridiculous. I live near an oil well and have never felt an earthquake.
9. An audit of the last charity I gave to showed that most of the money was used to pay administrators in the front office.
10. Responding to Republicans who want to reduce government regulations, a Democrat says, "Republicans don't think that government can improve society."