

Name: _____

Per. _____

English 2010

Argument: Rhetorical Analysis

Fallacies, Practice 2

Directions: Analyze the following statements to determine which are fallacious statements, and what types of fallacies (bifurcation, loaded question, false analogy, false cause) are demonstrated.

1. We should not divert the Colorado river from its course any more than we should divert an artery from the human heart; each is our lifeblood.
2. More students are graduating from high school than ever before, while juvenile crime is increasing also. Clearly, our schools are not doing enough to build good character in our children.
3. We should teach only what students are interested in. After all, consuming knowledge is like consuming any other product in our society; it is the buyer's choice.
4. The rate of teen pregnancy is high in Utah; therefore, we should be teaching teens that abstinence is the only way to avoid pregnancy.
5. Why are the students at Desert Hills more intelligent than at Hurricane High?
6. You can't make an omelet without breaking a few eggs; so if a few people lose a little privacy, it's the price to pay to keep air travel safe for the millions of people who fly.

Directions: Analyze the following statements to determine which are fallacious statements, and what types of fallacies (*ad hominem*, mob appeal, dogmatism, scare tactics, appeal to pathos, epithets, slippery-slope arguments) are demonstrated.

7. The institution of marriage is as old as human history and thus must be considered sacred.
8. "Please, officer, you shouldn't give me a ticket. My parents will take away my car, and I won't be able to get to work."
9. That candidate would make a terrible president; I mean, look how he cheated on his wife!
10. We should continue the DUI checkpoints; after all, it could be your daughter or son killed next!
11. We should not vote for any bill supported by Planned Parenthood, which supported eugenics in the 1930s.
12. Teachers! Don't let the right-wing ideologues steal your right to organize and unionize!
13. If Mitt Romney wins the presidency, prepare for the LDS church to rule America.
14. Barack "Hussein" Obama is a Muslim, so no wonder he is being wishy-washy about ISIS.
15. The Second Amendment should be examined in light of history and the intent of the framers of the Constitution.